

**DEFIANCE IN EVAN OSNOS' NOVEL *AGE OF AMBITION: CHASING
FORTUNE, TRUTH AND FAITH IN THE NEW CHINA* (2014)**

THESIS

*Submitted as Partial Fulfillment for the Requirements
to Obtain Strata 1 (S1 Degree)*



**PUTRI RANCAK KARISGA
14019041/2014**

Advisor:

Desvalini Anwar, S.S., M.Hum, Ph.D

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG
2019**

HALAMAN PERSETUJUAN SKRIPSI

Judul : Defiance in Evan Osnos' Novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014)
Nama : Putri Rancak Karisga
NIM : 14019041/2014
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, 19 Agustus 2019

Disetujui oleh,

Pembimbing



Desvalini Anwar, S.S., M.Hum, Ph.D.
NIP. 197105251998022002

Mengetahui
Ketua Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris



Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd., M.Litt.
NIP. 19680301 199403 1 003

HALAMAN PENGESAHAN LULUS UJIAN SKRIPSI


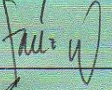

Dinyatakan lulus setelah dipertahankan di depan Tim Penguji Skripsi
Program Studi Sastra Inggris Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris Fakultas Bahasa
dan Seni Universitas Negeri Padang
dengan judul

Defiance in Evan Osnos' Novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014)

Nama : Putri Rancak Karisga
NIM : 14019041/2014
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : Bahasa dan Seni

Padang, 19 Agustus 2019

Tim Penguji

	Nama	Tanda Tangan
1. Ketua	: Dr. Muhd. Al-Hafizh, S.S., M.A	: 
2. Sekretaris	: Dra. An Fauzia Rozani Syafei, M.A	: 
3. Anggota	: Desvalini Anwar, S.S, M.Hum, Ph.D	: 



UNIVERSITAS NEGERI PADANG
FAKULTAS BAHASA DAN SENI
JURUSAN BAHASA DAN SASTRA INGGRIS
Jl. Belibis. Air Tawar Barat. Kampus Selatan FBS UNP. Padang. Telp/Fax: (0751) 447347

SURAT PERNYATAAN TIDAK PLAGIAT

Saya yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini:

Nama : Putri Rancak Karisga
NIM/TM : 14019041/2014
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris
Jurusan : Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris
Fakultas : FBS UNP

Dengan ini menyatakan, bahwa Tugas Akhir saya dengan judul *Defiance in Evan Osnos' Novel Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China (2014)* adalah benar merupakan hasil karya saya dan bukan merupakan plagiat dari karya orang lain. Apabila suatu saat terbukti saya melakukan plagiat maka saya bersedia diproses dan menerima sanksi akademis maupun hukum sesuai dengan hukum dan ketentuan yang berlaku, baik di institusi Universitas Negeri Padang maupun masyarakat dan negara.

Demikianlah pernyataan ini saya buat dengan penuh kesadaran dan rasa tanggung jawab sebagai anggota masyarakat ilmiah.

Padang, 19 Agustus 2019

Diketahui oleh,
Ketua Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris

Saya yang menyatakan,

Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd., M.Litt.
NIP. 19680301 199403 1 003



Putri Rancak Karisga
14019041/2014

ABSTRAK

Karisga, Putri Rancak. 2019. “Defiance in Evan Osnos’ Novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014)”. Thesis. Universitas Negeri Padang.

Pembimbing: Desvalini Anwar, S.S., M.Hum, Ph.D

Skripsi ini merupakan analisa dari novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014) oleh Evan Osnos. Permasalahan yang di bahas adalah sejauh mana novel ini merefleksikan proses perlawanan terhadap pemerintah dari karakter utama untuk mendapatkan kehidupan yang layak di dalam segala aspek kehidupan. Tujuan penganalisaan ini adalah mengungkapkan sejauh mana karakter utama mampu melakukan perlawanan terhadap pemerintah dengan menggunakan pengetahuan serta seberapa besar fungsi elemen-elemen fiksi seperti karakter, seting, konflik berpengaruh untuk memperlihatkan topik tersebut. Kajian ini juga dihubungkan dengan konsep *power/knowledge* oleh Michel Foucault. Hasil analisa ini menunjukkan bahwa ada dua hal yang dilakukan oleh karakter utama untuk melakukan perlawanannya, dengan menggunakan pengetahuan untuk memperkaya diri dan menggunakan media massa untuk melakukan perlawanan.

Kata Kunci: perlawanan, pengetahuan, media massa, *power*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah SWT, the most Gracious and the most Merciful. Praise to Allah SWT who has granted the writer knowledge and strength in finishing this thesis entitled *Defiance in Evan Osnos' novel Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014). Sholawat and Salam to Prophet Muhammad SAW as a leader for the human being.

The writer would like to express her deepest gratitude to her thesis advisor Desvalini Anwar, S.S., M.Hum, Ph.D. for guidance and invaluable advice during the accomplishment of this thesis. The writer deepest gratitude is also addressed to examiners: Dr. Muhd. Al-Hafizh, S.S., M.A., and Dra. An Fauzia Rozani Syafei, M.A. for their advice and critiques to this thesis. Furthermore, her gratitude is aimed at Dr. Kurnia Ningsih, M.A. for being her academic advisor. Then, she would like to express many thanks to the Head of English Department, Dr. Refnaldi, S.Pd, M.Litt., the secretary, Fitrawati, S.S, M.Pd., and all lectures and staffs of English Department. Thank you for all help which has eased her to face all of the procedures during the years of her study.

Finally, the writer dedicated her sincere love and appreciation to her beloved parents, Riswandi and Megawati for their unconditional love, support, and endless prayer. No words can actually describe her everlasting love to them. She owes a lot to them, they encouraged and helped her at every walk of her life. In addition, she also thanks her beloved sisters, Cahya Dewi Karisga and Aminatuzzuhria Karisga, and her grandparents, Chaidir Usman and Siti Ajir for giving support, prays and encouragement in finishing this thesis. The writer also thanks all of her friends in English Department and Literature 2014 and everybody who was important to the success in the realization of this thesis. She expresses her apology that she could not mention personally one by one. May Allah bless you all.

Padang, August 2019

Putri Rancak Karisga

TABLE OF CONTENT

ABSTRAK	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENT	iii
CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION	
1.1. Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 China in 21 st Century.....	3
1.3 Defiance.....	6
1.4 A Brief Description of the Author's Biography.....	6
1.5 <i>Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China</i> (2014).....	8
1.6 Problem of the Study.....	9
1.7 Purpose of the Study.....	9
1.8 Previous Study.....	10
1.9 Theoretical Framework.....	11
1.10 Methodology.....	15
CHAPTER II: DEFIANCE	
2.1 Using Knowledge for Self-Empowerment.....	16
2.2 Using Mass Media to Resist.....	22
CHAPTER III: CONCLUSION	30
BIBLIOGRAPHY	33

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

All human beings have desire to achieve a particular goal in their lives. No one wants to live without any achievements. This desire is also known as or called aspiration. Those who want to have achievement in life must work hard. In order to achieve aspiration, one needs the support of those who also aim at achieving the same target. People have the intelligence to resist and achieve the goal. The reason for they decide to do the resistance because they want have a better life. They want to have their freedom and rights come back as human being. There are some kind of people who wants to achieve the goal. There are some people who want to change to achieve the goal and some of them who do not.

To achieve the goal for people who want to change is through change in themselves. They will learn new things to keep up with the issue that are happening. If they do not follow the most recent issue that is happening, then the changes made will be in vain. They will take concrete action to counter the issues that occur. They will provide themselves with knowledge related to the issue. Basically, people are intelligent creatures to resist. The resistance that is done not necessary using violence but can be done through knowledge. Knowledge is basic to do resistance. Knowledge is a powerful thing for resistance.

In this case, the resistance is done by the citizens in China. The citizens want to have freedom in their lives. The government in China seem to understand and notion to bring economic and society into glory. In fact, the way the

government used the power in order to achieve this goal caused the citizens to lose access to get their aspiration. For instance, most of China's people live in limitation of rights and freedoms. The citizens live under tight censorship. They cannot get the information that they used to receive. The government hid the information. If the citizens break the rule, the government has no hesitation to use violence. The government shield their violent action toward the citizens. The government legalized their action by using the law. The implementation of the law often does not side the citizens. The law put the citizens in hard position. The government controlled all information given to the people and also the government limits the citizens' access to the internet. They limit the citizens' access toward the information related to the government. The government pretended to let citizen get proper education by building schools. In fact, the education provided is not evenly distributed. The education is made into a business that can only be enjoyed by wealthy people and those living among the government's circle. The citizens struggle to get proper education.

There are some references that can explain the meaning of defiance. According to Merriam Webster (2017), *defiance* refers to the act of showing resistance toward someone or something. Meanwhile, according to Stephen Gibson in his journal *Discourse, Defiance and Rationality: Knowledge work in the Obedience Experiments* (2018), *defiance* refers to a corrective to tendency to over-emphasize obedience and instead might be used to facilitate strategies for challenging unjust authority. In this analysis defiance refers to the acts of citizens to show their resistance or disobedience to the government.

The issue about defiance is interesting to be analyzed because this issue is about the resistance of China's citizens toward the government. The story is about the struggles of China's citizens to get their aspiration. The China's citizens do their resistance with power of knowledge to open up the depravity of the government. This sensitive issue is also exposed in a literary work entitled *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) written by Evan Osnos. This also becomes the main reason why this book is tempting. This novel reveals the story behind the struggle of China's citizens to resist the misuse of power by their corrupted and authority government. It exposes how the citizens resist their government arbitrary power.

This study analyses the acts of citizens in the novel to show their resistance or disobedience to the government. It is done because the lives of the citizens have been tormented with hypocrisies, lies and violence from the government. The result is China's people do not get their own aspiration. The government do not care with the citizens' struggles. As a result, the citizens are prompted to try harder to get their aspiration fulfilled. The government acts as if China as a nation were doing fine.

1.2 China in 21st Century

The citizens in China also have aspiration to have a better life. Even after China has changed; the citizens still do not get their aspiration. China in 21st century, the citizens still had no access to fortune, truth and faith. The party have taken control of freedoms that used to be governed almost entirely by others. China in 21st century lead leads by Xi Jinping. According to BBC News (2018),

“Xi Jinping has been front and center of China's push to cement its position as a superpower, while also launching crackdowns on corruption and dissent.” He changed policy about government tenure which was broadening his power and scrapping term limits. In 2012, he created the slogan *Chinese Dream*. As stated in New York Times (2013):

“Xi’s Chinese Dream is described as achieving the “Two 100s”: the material goal of China becoming a “moderately well-off society” by about 2020, the 100th anniversary of the Chinese Communist Party, and the modernization goal of China becoming a fully developed nation by about 2049, the 100th anniversary of the People’s Republic. The Chinese Dream has four parts: Strong China (economically, politically, diplomatically, scientifically, militarily); Civilized China (equity and fairness, rich culture, high morals); Harmonious China (amity among social classes); Beautiful China (healthy environment, low pollution).”

China has become more ambitious at the global stage. Beside, this has been followed by a re-juvenescence in patriotic nationalism. The citizens have outpaced the political system that nurtured their rise. The Party feel threatened with the changed of the citizen. The Party made policy about clampdowns on freedoms, from rising online censorship to arrests of dissidents and human rights lawyers. In case the citizens do not do something to attack the party. The citizens do not have freedom to do anything because the government limits their access. It forced the citizens to make efforts to improve their lives. This push the citizens to against the government. They reclaim their rights that are taken away from them. They fight for not being under the control of the government with the knowledge they have and efforts.

The present China is influenced by the old China. In the old China, the citizens had virtually no access to fortune, truth and faith because these three

things are denied by the country. China at this time was still led by Chinese Communist Party that was found by Mao Zedong. In Mao Zedong era, the leader started to change the rule of industry and society. All of industries and China's farmers began to live under state ownership. They were all taken by the party and considered as state property. As described in Encyclopedia Britanica (2018):

“His goals of combating bureaucracy, encouraging popular participation, and stressing China's self-reliance were generally laudable—and the industrialization that began during Mao's reign did indeed lay a foundation for China's remarkable economic development since the late 20th century—but the methods he used to pursue them were often violent and self-defeating.”

As stated above, it can be said that the aim of Mao's reign is to lift up China's economy condition. However, the government used violence to the citizens who did not follow. The citizens had no choice to build a business or indulge their desires. The citizens did not have freedom in everything because the government controlled all the rights of the citizens. No way to find moral aspiration outside the party. The citizens did the resistance but it did not work because the power of the government was absolute.

The differences between old China and the present China is the way the government action to hide the citizens' aspiration. The government in the old China is used overtly to prevent the citizens from getting their aspiration. The citizens do not have their freedom to access their rights. The way of the present China's government to eliminate the citizens' aspiration is in closed ways. The government do not directly openly obstruct access from the citizens. The government seem to provide access to the citizens to get their rights but behind all that the government have arranged fraud that they will commit.

1.3 Defiance

The novel *Age of Ambition Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) by Evan Osnos reveals the issue of defiance. According to Merriam Webster (2017), *defiance* refers to the act of showing resistance toward someone or something. Meanwhile, according to Stephen Gibson in his journal *Discourse, Defiance and Rationality: Knowledge work in the Obedience Experiments* (2018), *defiance* refers to a corrective to tendency to over-emphasize obedience and instead might be used to facilitate strategies for challenging unjust authority. In this analysis defiance refers to the acts of citizens to show their resistance or disobedience to the government.

1.4 A Brief Description of the Author's Biography

Evan Lionel Richard Osnos who was born December 24, 1976 is an American journalist and author. Osnos was born in London, when his parents, Susan (née Sherer) Osnos and Peter L.W. Osnos, were visiting the United Kingdom, where his father was assigned as a correspondent for the *Washington Post*. Osnos graduated from Greenwich High School in 1994. He graduated magna cum laude from Harvard in 1998 (Upclose, 2017).

Evan Osnos joined *The New Yorker* as a staff writer in 2008, and covers politics and foreign affairs. His recent subjects include a visit to North Korea during the nuclear crisis, China's strategy for navigating the age of Trump, and Silicon Valley billionaires who prepare for doomsday scenarios (The New Yorker, 2018). Previously, he worked as Beijing bureau chief for the Chicago

Tribune, where he was part of a team that won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting. Before his assignment to China, he worked in the Middle East, reporting mostly from Iraq. He has also contributed to *This American Life* and been a correspondent for *Frontline/World*. He has received the Osborn Elliott Prize and the Livingston Award for Young Journalists, and he is a three-time recipient of an Overseas Press Club Award (The New Yorker, 2018).

His first book, *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China*, based on eight years of living in Beijing, first appeared in the magazine. The book won the 2014 the National Book Award in nonfiction and was a finalist for the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in general nonfiction (Brookings, 2018). His book follows the lives of individuals swept up in China's radical transformation. China has remained a one party state intolerant of political opposition, even as it has encouraged private investment and overseen a period of economic growth that rivals any in human history. His book explores the tensions between China's rapid expansion and economic opportunity, and its enduring commitment to authoritarian rule. According to his interview to Fresh Air (2014):

“Chinese people embarked on this radical transformation. They basically set aside, in a sense, the scripture of socialism and they held on to the saints of socialism. Chairman Mao, for instance, whose portrait still hangs in Tiananmen square. But for people on the ground, the effect was transformative. All of a sudden they started to unravel the old collective farms and the factories, and people were basically told to go off on their own and begin to find work for themselves and begin to decide what they were going to do with the little bit of money that they were accumulating. I mean, for people it felt so elemental that the word they used in Chinese was, (Chinese spoken), which is to literally untie a prisoner or an animal. All of a sudden people felt that they had been unfastened from the system and were sent out on their own.”

The statement above shows that the novel presents that the China's government has big factor. The government has the purpose that is the pursuit of the China's dream. The government dedicates to a scientific outlook on development which nobody really understood at all. So the government decides instead to tell people that the purpose of the state is to help people achieve their China's dream. In fact, it is all about China Communist Party rule in China. It reflects and draws energy from this deep well of aspiration out there.

1.5 *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China* (2014)

The novel *Age of Ambition Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) by Evan Osnos, depicts the issue of defiance. In this analysis defiance refers to acts of protagonist shows he does not want to obey the government. The protagonist in the novel is Ai Weiwei who is representative of China's citizen. He is an artist in China. The protagonist found out that China's government still possess an absolute power over their citizens. The government have an arbitrary power. The protagonist wants to show the truth behind the government. The protagonist does his resistance to open the depravity that is done by the government. Defiance can be seen through two ways. There are using knowledge for self-empowerment and using mass media to resist.

In term of using knowledge for self-empowerment, the protagonist prepares himself with knowledge. He provides himself with knowledge about politics. He learns politics from community. He knows that knowledge is important and he wants to the citizen know that knowledge is important. He

understands that education is important and he makes project for the citizen can study abroad. He has skill to make artwork that criticize the government and exhibited worldwide.

In term of using mass media, the protagonist uses mass media to show his resistance. He wants to inform the people about the depravity that is done by the government. He speaks up about unfair government in interview that broadcasted worldwide. He writes on twitter about government's arbitrary power. He writes on blog about the information that the government hide.

1.6 Problem of the Study

This analysis is focused on the efforts made by China's citizen to get back their right in Evan Osnos' novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014). Therefore, in order to reveal defiance, research questions are formulated below:

1. How far does the whole novel expose the issue of defiance in *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014)?
2. To what extent do character, plot (conflict), and setting expose the issue of defiance in *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014)?

1.7 Purpose of the Study

The aim of this study is to find out how far Evan Osnos' novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) brings up

and reveals the issue of defiance through the analysis of the elements of character, plot (conflict), and setting in the novel.

1.8 Previous Study

This analysis of *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) that focuses on analyzing about defiance has not been found yet. However, there are two studies that relate to this analysis and give contribution and inspiration to the analysis process of the novel. First is the study of Juan Miguel Zarandona (2009), entitled *Defiance, A Postcolonial Novel by the Ethiopian Abbie Gubegna: The Rights of a Free People under Italian Fascism* and the second study by Chijioke Uwasomba (2006), entitled *The Politics of Resistance and Liberation in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's Petals of Blood and Devil on the Cross*.

The first study done by Juan Miguel Zarandona (2009), entitled *Defiance, A Postcolonial Novel by the Ethiopian Abbie Gubegna: The Rights of a Free People under Italian Fascism*, discusses about resistance against colonialism and imperialism. This study analyses *Defiance* novel by Abbie Gubegna. This study deals with the concept of postcolonial. It shows that unequal power relationship and the resistance strategies applied against it. The analysis focuses on the struggle of the Ethiopian people from their freedom against any invader. The result of this study shows that the struggles to resist an abusive and intruding power that must be added to the exercise of necessary remembrance. It shows how the Ethiopian people's struggle against the invader is the resistance that is important part of this analysis.

The second study was done by Chijioke Uwasomba (2006), entitled *The Politics of Resistance and Liberation in Ngugi wa Thiong'o's Petals of Blood and Devil on the Cross*, discusses about an effort toward the liberation of Africa from the claws and shackles of imperialism. This study analyses two novels; *Petal of Blood* and *Devil on the Cross* by Ngugi wa Thiong'o. The study focuses on politics, resistance and liberation. It sees politics as the authoritative allocation of resources. Politics sees as power which influence those who could determine outcomes. In this analysis, politics can be form two type: a politics that holds back the advance of humanity and enhances it for the benefit and improvement of humanity. Product of resistance is liberation. Liberation in this study is attained when people free in political and social. The result of this analysis is the resistance by the people and their struggle against the forces of law.

Both of those studies give contribution and inspiration in analyzing the topic defiance in Evan Osnos's novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014). The first study analyzed one novel, meanwhile the second study analyzed two different novels. Both studies show the resistance of people who get oppression by powerful organization or authority. It shows struggles to resist people's freedom. This studies focus on examining defiance as an expression of protest, as well as efforts to achieve what they deserve.

1.9 Theoretical Framework

The analysis about defiance in this novel is related to the concept of power by Michel Foucault. According to Foucault in Naraghi (2012:4), the

concept of power is omnipresent and it is practiced in all the relationships between individuals and institutes. It means there is power behind knowledge that happens because imbalances of power relation between people or between institution or states. There will be a production of knowledge. In this problem, the production of knowledge sets to positive impact. Knowledge is not dispassionate but rather a constitutional part of struggles over power. It can be said that in producing knowledge, one is also making a claim for power.

Power is in everywhere and an everyday. This condition is employed by some people to get personal gain. Power related to knowledge that directly imply one other. Foucault in his book *Power/Knowledge* (1980: 52) argues:

“Knowledge and power are integrated with one another, and there is no point in dreaming of a time when knowledge will cease to depend on power; this is just a way of reviving humanism in a utopian guise. It is not possible for power to be exercised without knowledge, it is impossible for knowledge not to engender power.”

Every situation in which power is exercised is also an instance of gathering knowledge. There is no power without knowledge, nor any knowledge that does not presuppose and constitute at the same time power relations. The use of knowledge affects the power obtained. This shows that knowledge and power are connected.

Knowledge is not only possessed by authority who gets power. It also can possess by people. It is less concerned with focusing on oppression but rather in foregrounding resistance to power. Foucault in Mills (2003: 35) explained that:

“Power must be analysed as something which circulates, or as something which only functions in the form of a chain ... Power is employed and exercised through a net like organization ... Individuals are the vehicles of power, not its points of application”

The quotation above show power is a system of relations spread throughout the society not only about between the oppressed and the oppressor. Individuals should not be seen simply as the recipients of power. Individuals are a place where power is constituted and the place is resisted. Mills (2003: 40) argues:

“Foucault is trying to argue in this model of power is that we should not see the way that power relations operate to be simply about the oppression of individuals by an institution or a government”

This quotation above show that resistance to oppression is much more affect than one would think. Foucault conducts to move away from viewing individuals as only passive recipients. Resistance is a fact about the existence in power.

In Foucault essay entitled “The Subject and Power”, he states:

“At the heart of power relations and as a permanent condition of their existence there is an insubordination and a certain essential obstinacy on the part of the principles of freedom, then there is no relationship of power without the means of escape or possible flight.” (Naraghi: 10)

The quotation above explains about the strategies of struggle or confrontation. The struggles fit to take the forms of resistance against different forms of power. These forms of resistance try to separate power relation. The anti-authority struggles some of resistance. They oppose the immediate sources of power which have the straight effect on them. They are against the government of individualization which means only think about each person’s needs. They fight with the power knowledge relations. This resistance happened in China. The citizens try to resistance not with rebellion but with power of knowledge. In this case, the government use power to do some what they want regardless of bad impact on society.

This analysis of the novel is supported by text and context based interpretation. Context based interpretation means that the analysis of this novel is not only focused on the text itself, but also involved the phenomenon that really happens in the real world. Meanwhile, text based interpretation is done by exposing the fictional devices of the text itself. Guerin (2005:64) says that this approach focuses on the analysis and the interpretation of the text itself. It focuses on character, plot (conflict), and setting.

Character is an important element to reveal the meaning of this novel. It is because the character is an important element to reveal the meaning in the novel. Comer (2009:79) says that a character may be defined as a verbal, representation of human being. In literary works, the characters help reader to understand and catch the meaning of the works. To analyzed the character, there will be focus on protagonist's action, thought, conversation to reveal the meaning in tension and conflict.

Another fictional device in order to analyze this novel is plot (conflict). There is conflict as important part to make up the plot. According to Abram and Harpham (2009:265), plot is constituted by its events and actions, as these are rendered and ordered toward achieving particular artistic and emotional effects. It shows how plot give contribution to reveal the meaning of the story by action and emotional effect.

The last device is setting. Setting is not only about time and place taken in the story. It relates to circumstances, location, and atmosphere of the characters in the story. Endriga (2003:85) says that setting has a way of drawing the reader into a piece of literature while facilitating understanding of the characters and

their action. The story takes place in the present China where the government still use power over everything as same the ancient China. The protagonist has action to reveal misuse of China's government power. The atmosphere of the story is the main reason of the protagonist to seek misuse of China's government power.

1.10 Methodology

The analysis of novel *Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth and Faith in the New China* (2014) by Evan Osnos is done through text and context-based interpretation. It is done by some part of fictional devices, such as; character, plot (conflict), and setting. Character and plot (conflict) are used to analyse character's reaction toward the conflict. The setting deals with the circumstances and atmosphere. It gives contribution in process of analysis by giving help in revealing the meaning. This analysis used the concept of power by Michel Foucault.