

## Exploring The Plot Analysis ‘Kami (bukan) Sarjana Kertas Novel’: Seeking for Characters’ Problems

**Ratih Saltri Yudar**

ratihsaltri34@gmail.com  
Universitas Lancang Kuning

**Nofita Sari Gowasa**

nofitasarigowasa@gmail.com  
Universitas Lancang Kuning

**Mutia Sari Nursafira**

mutyasari75@gmail.com  
Universitas Lancang Kuning

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**Abstract:** This research purposes to analyze the plot of novel written by Indonesian writer named J.S Khairen entitled “Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas”. Chooses this novel because the idea or main story of this novel related to how young people these days recognizing their own passions, how they struggling from many problems that come on their journey to reach their dreams. This analysis using qualitative research as its methodology to identify the plot of this novel. Novel as a part of prose in literature has two elements, such as intrinsic and extrinsic elements. However this study only focuses its analysis on the intrinsic elements. This study revealed the plot as a structure of events, which is as shown in the arrangement and presentation of the events to accomplish a certain artistic value. The plot is manifested through acts, manner, and attitude of story main characters based on Teori Pengkajian Fiksi proposed by Nurgiyanto (2012).

**Keywords:** Literature, novel, plot, intrinsic element

The etymology of literature comes from a Latin language word "Litteratura" that produced by translation of word "Grammatika" from Greek which means writing or letter. According to Sumardjo & Saini (1997: 3-4), literature is an individual expression of human experience, thought, feeling, idea, spirit, confidence in a concrete representation that stimulates fascination with language tools, and a literary work is a media used by the authors to deliver author ideas and experiences. Theory of literature according to Blesse (1994:7), "Literature is a work of imaginative or creative writings." Literature is divided into some types, such as poem, drama, non-fiction, media, and prose. There are some kinds of prose, include a short story, biography, essay, novel and etc.

Novel is a story which tells about someone life or narrative written literature in a story form without structural limitations. According to American College Dictionary by Abrams (2005:9), "Novel refers to a fictional prose story within a certain length, which represents the character, the motion, as well as scenes of real life. The word comes from the Italian word "Novelia" which means "A small new stuff", and then interpreted as a short story in prose." Henry Guntur Taringan (1984:164) said that novel is a story with long grooves filling one or more books that are cultivating the life of imaginative men and women. A novel has some intrinsic elements such as character, plot, setting, the point of view, and etc.

Plot is one of the intrinsic element in a novel that organized the arrangement of events and actions that build a story. Hancock in Strategies for Educational Improvement (2010) said a plot is a sequence of events that occur to characters in situations in the beginning, middle and at the end of a story. According to E.M. Foster books, "Aspects of The Novel" (1980:87), "A plot is a narrative of events the emphasis falling causality. The king died and the queen died of grief is not plot, the time sequence is preserved, but the sense of causality overshadows it." Meanwhile, Nurgiyanto in his book "Teori Pengkajian Fiksi" said, "Plot is a structure of events, which is as shown in the arrangement and presentation of the events to accomplish a certain artistic value. The plot is manifested through acts, manner, and attitude of story main characters"

This analysis will thoroughly address one of intrinsic element of novel, the plot that seeking for characters' problem from a novel entitled "Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas" written by Indonesian writer named J.S Khairen. J.S Khairen has released a few books before his release this novel, such as Karnoe (2014), Bunda Lisa (2015), Ninevelove (2016), and etc.

#### Methodology

This analysis using qualitative research as its methodology to explain or thoroughly address the plot of the novel "Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas" write by J.S Khairen. According to Sheman and Webb (1988), qualitative research is concerned with meaning as they appear to or are achieved by a person in lived social situations. Moreover, according to Bogdan and Biklen (1982), qualitative research is descriptive which the data collected in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers.

The analysis based on descriptive analysis of plot uses a theory by Nurgiyanto with the intention of adding more comprehensive explanation. In analysis process, takes some steps to collect data, such as categorizing, interference, and validating data. Categorization is grouping data based on predetermined categories according to the purpose of this analysis. And interference is the last step in data analysis activities. The next step is to make conclusion based on the results and discussion of the analysis. The validity data of this analysis is carried out by read the novel repetitively.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of this research are respectively presented conflict on which the plot turns, chief episodes or incidents that make up the plot.

### 1. Conflict in the Story

There are three kinds of conflict that proposed by Jones in Hardningsih (2001:15):

- Physical conflict

Physical conflict is a conflict between human being, environment and nature.

- Psychological conflict

Psychological conflict is a conflict between one person and others.

- Social conflict

Social conflict is a conflict between man and himself, his conscience, his guilt or simply trying to describe what he is going to do

In novel *Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas*, these three kinds of conflict made up the plot of this novel.

#### a) Physical conflict

Physical conflict is a conflict that occurs between human being, nature and the environment. In the novel "*Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas*" this conflict was found to occur between the UDEL campus (Daulat Eka Laksana University) and several lecturers such as lecturer Sugiono, lecturer Jaharizal and several other lecturers who thought about them. These lecturers tried to drop or make the UDEL campus closed by the ministry by looking for evidence that could bring down the UDEL campus faster, even to manipulate the evidence they got from many sources or evidence that they had collected for a long time.

This conflict grew even greater when lecturers Sugiono and his friends began to open one by one the evidence they had and gave difficult choices on the part of the campus if the UDEL campus did not want to be closed by the ministry.

*"Now we just keep on describing the right and weighty logic and argumentation. Data is complete. Over and over our statements have won. We also have to let this fireball continue to roll on its own. How? Call the reporter"*

The paragraph above shows how much the desire of lecturer Sugiono and his friends to drop the UDEL campus and try to make the campus closed, one of them is by calling reporters to make news about the UDEL campus which makes the image of UDEL campus worse in the eyes of the public.

#### b) Social conflict

Social conflict is a conflict that occurs between one person and another. In the novel "*Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas*", this conflict occurs in one main character, namely Gala and his father.

Gala was the only child in his family and his father was a successful businessman. Gala's father really wanted his son to continue the family business he had built from scratch, but Gala didn't want it. Gala had his own dreams, but his father's dreams were opposed.

Gala tried hard to oppose his father's wishes, one of which was to enter the architecture faculty at the UDEL campus. But Gala's father also did not give up, he allowed his son to enter the UDEL campus with various conditions that Gala did not like, one of them was by assigning two guards who followed Gala wherever he went.

When Gala tried to prove to his father that he could be tried to build a small business with his friends, Gala's father still did not trust or support him and instead underestimated the business run by Gala and his friends.

*"Yes, where can nuts business success. Make embarrassed! "*

*"So what? Do you want capital from your father? Helped, how come even refuse. Obviously, you can't do anything, that's the proof that it's already selling HP, it's already following office design, what's the last one? The street food business? Hababa, oh my God. "His father's laughter seemed insulting."*

The above paragraph is a form of response given by Gala's father for every effort and hard work of his son while trying to build and run his own business. This response shows how Gala's father did not believe in the abilities of his own children and that, of course, made Gala angry.

#### c) Psychological conflict

Psychological conflict is a conflict that occurs between a person and himself. In the novel "Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas", this conflict happened to the main character, Ogi

Ogi felt that he is not as smart as the others, but his parents wanted Ogi to go to college. Ogi, who was initially hesitant to go to college, finally entered UDEL after persuasion from his friend Ranjau and his parents who were willing to borrow money from their brother for Ogi's tuition fees.

After the semester exam results were announced, Ogi was screwed because the results of the exam were not as expected by his parents, Ogi felt that he had disappointed his parents, until Ogi fell into the world of suction-sucking illicit goods, even though he wasn't addicted. And a misfortune befell his family, Ogi's father went to face the creator when Ogi was not beside him, the state of Ogi's psychology was getting worse.

Ogi felt down because of his low test scores and his father passed away, Ogi thought of committing suicide. Thinking that suicide is the last way to get out from all of the problems he had so far.

*"Ogi walked weakly to his death pole. Ogi has prepared everything. "*

*"The big rope and the strong chair are waiting. He tried to calm his mind. Ogi sighs. Everything happened so fast. "*

The two paragraphs above show how frustrated Ogi was for all the problems and bad events that happened to him for some time, and suicide was an Ogi choice as a form of an answer to his problems. Luckily, not long after Ogi hung himself, his friends like Ranjau, Arko, and Sania came and rescued Ogi who had clung to the rope and moaned in pain because his neck had been wrapped around a rope.

## **2. Chief episodes of Incidents to Make Up the Plot**

As a chronology of events that has a cause and effect relationship, the plot consists of several events that build the story. Among these events, there are major events or events that are more important than others. In the novel "Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas, the main events are:

- a. The first meeting of Ogi, Ranjau (Randi Jauhari), and Arko in the counseling room with Mrs. Lira became the beginning of the story of togetherness. This figure became a friend and solved problems together.
- b. The meeting with Mrs. Lira, which became the way for the characters Ogi, Juwisa, Sania, and others to survive on the UDEL campus with every problem that slowly approached.
- c. The meeting of Ogi and Sania characters offers Ogi to try illicit items. The incident that made Ogi's character almost fall far into the world of black.
- d. The sudden death of Ogi's father. This incident made Ogi begin to feel the growing turmoil in him until he decided to commit suicide.
- e. The failure of Juwisa to get a scholarship he proposed in several companies, made Juwisa almost quit college because there was no cost to continue her studies and was finally offered to marry a child from her father's best friend.
- f. Gala's father fell sick and finally made Gala soften and realized that his father loves him and made Gala obey his father's wishes without coercion.
- g. Ogi's meeting with Miral's a character who made Ogi discover her true skills and brought Ogi to a success that he never imagined.
- h. Sucking on ill-gotten campus corners made Sania arrested and ended up in prisons.
- i. The anger of lecturer Sugiono and his friends was the beginning of UDEL's decline until it was almost closed by the ministry.
- j. Randi Jauhari's meeting with Anjali's grandmother's character and sharing the story he saw to social media became the open gate for the character of Randi Jauhari to find a job that suited him.

## **Strength**

The novel “Kami (Bukan) Sarjana Kertas” using the modern setting which matches for various types of readers from young to adult because this novel refers to things that happen in the real world today. This novel arranged with a simple theory which not made readers confused with the plot. The writer describing each episode with a simple explanation that can take readers to stories and the writer also make readers can imagine or feel what the characters in the story felt as well.

This novel has more than one main character and the good news is, the author presents a specific part for each character, such as a complex life story of character named Gala in part 14 from page 130 until page 137, or Ogi’s short journey in Bali: A way for Ogi to reach his dreams and success in part 24 from page 225 until page 232, and another part of each character stories. It makes readers can recognize the cause of some episodes that happen to the characters in a few parts. Almost in every part of this novel, the writer a few words of motivation, such as:

“Stop, step back, or keep going on? Don’t violate your dream rights. There is no story to get stuck in the middle especially to retreat backward.” (p. 178)

“We don’t know what the future holds for someone.

Never underestimate anyone. As long as the sky is still up and the ground can still be trampled on, anything can happen.”(p. 25)

The motivation above, could make readers who read this novel reach more spirit to not give up on what the readers have dreamed of before.

## **Weakness**

The unnecessary sentence in a few paragraphs that might be a reason the readers skip that paragraph and go to the next paragraph without do not know if there is an important part of story or explanation such as at the first part of page two in the seventh paragraph. Typo is a common mistaken that happen in many books, such in this novel there’re some typos of a few words that can confusing readers about the meaning of such words.

For some readers that unusual with some harsh words, it might be a reason readers lost their interest for a books or novels. This novel include some harsh words that can be a weakness of a novel because such words can greatly disturb the reader interest of this novel.

## **CONCLUSION**

If theme, characters’, setting, point of view, and others element hold an important role in a story, then plot hold the same role. Plot in a story should connected each other to avoid readers confusing and from the analysis, plot hold important role because plot make every

part, every accident, every feeling of the characters' that happened more clear and not make the readers confused.

Ogi, Gala, Juwisa and another characters of this novel tried to tell everyone, if someone have a dream, they should work hard and struggling from every problems that come on their dream journey. Each characters' also tell, everyone have to try to forgive every people that have given hurt and their self because get many hurt on life.

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