

HUMANITY IN SCIENCE FICTION: ANALYZING NARRATIVE STRUCTURES IN KURT VONNEGUT'S SCIENCE FICTION SHORT STORIES

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

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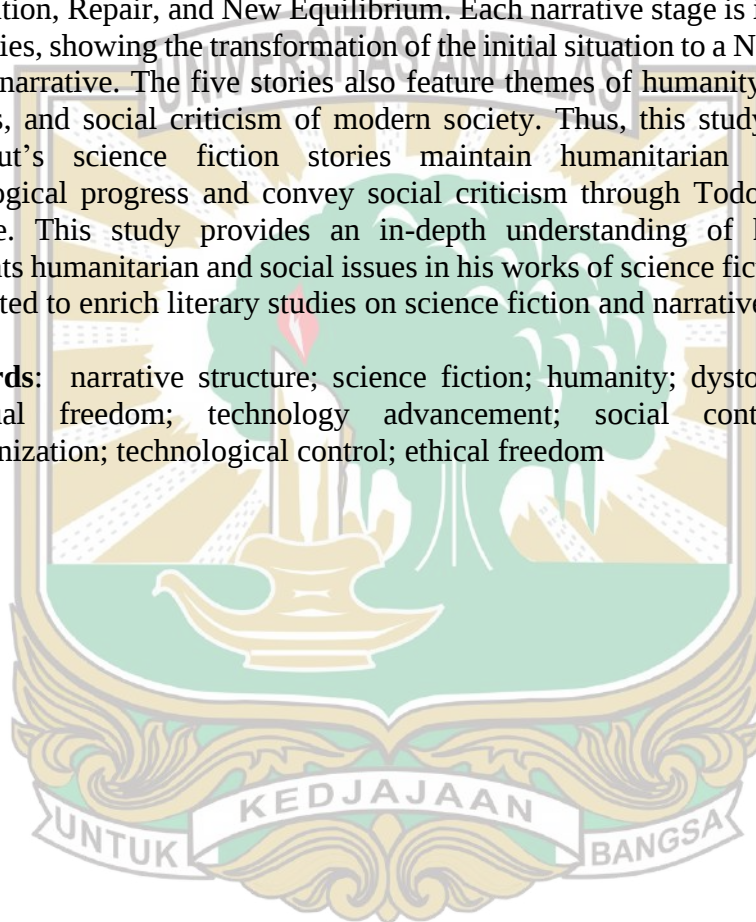
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ABSTRACT

This thesis aims to analyze the narrative structure based on Tzvetan Todorov's theory in five selected science fiction short stories by Kurt Vonnegut. The stories are found in the short story collection *Welcome to the Monkey House: The Special Edition*, namely EPICAC, Harrison Bergeron, Report on the Barnhouse Effect, Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow, and Welcome to the Monkey House. The research data are in the form of narrative texts from the selected five short stories. This study uses a descriptive qualitative method with literature study and text analysis techniques. The results of the overall analysis show that the selected stories follow Todorov's five narrative stages, such as Equilibrium, Disruption, Recognition, Repair, and New Equilibrium. Each narrative stage is identified in the five stories, showing the transformation of the initial situation to a New Equilibrium in each narrative. The five stories also feature themes of humanity, technological progress, and social criticism of modern society. Thus, this study confirms that Vonnegut's science fiction stories maintain humanitarian values amidst technological progress and convey social criticism through Todorov's narrative structure. This study provides an in-depth understanding of how Vonnegut highlights humanitarian and social issues in his works of science fiction. This study is expected to enrich literary studies on science fiction and narrative.

Keywords: narrative structure; science fiction; humanity; dystopian literature; individual freedom; technology advancement; social control; morality; dehumanization; technological control; ethical freedom



ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis struktur naratif berdasarkan teori Tzvetan Todorov dalam lima cerpen fiksi ilmiah terpilih karya Kurt Vonnegut. Cerita-cerita tersebut terdapat dalam kumpulan cerita pendek *Welcome to the Monkey House: The Special Edition*, yaitu EPICAC, Harrison Bergeron, Report on the Barnhouse Effect, Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow, dan Welcome to the Monkey House. Data penelitian berupa teks naratif dari lima cerpen terpilih. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif dengan teknik studi pustaka dan analisis teks. Hasil analisis secara keseluruhan menunjukkan bahwa cerita-cerita terpilih mengikuti lima tahap naratif Todorov, yaitu keseimbangan, disrupsi, pengenalan, perbaikan, dan keseimbangan baru. Setiap tahap naratif diidentifikasi dalam kelima cerita, yang menunjukkan transformasi situasi awal menuju keseimbangan baru dalam setiap narasi. Kelima cerita tersebut juga menampilkan tema kemanusiaan, kemajuan teknologi, dan kritik sosial masyarakat modern. Dengan demikian, penelitian ini menegaskan bahwa cerita fiksi ilmiah Vonnegut mempertahankan nilai-nilai kemanusiaan di tengah kemajuan teknologi dan menyampaikan kritik sosial melalui struktur naratif Todorov. Kajian ini memberikan pemahaman mendalam tentang bagaimana Vonnegut menyoroti isu-isu kemanusiaan dan sosial dalam karya-karya fiksi ilmiahnya. Kajian ini diharapkan dapat memperkaya kajian sastra tentang fiksi ilmiah dan naratif.

Kata kunci: struktur naratif; fiksi ilmiah; kemanusiaan; sastra distopia; kebebasan individu; kemajuan teknologi; kontrol sosial; moralitas; dehumanisasi; kontrol teknologi; kebebasan etis

