

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Intrinsic Elements

According to Wellek and Warren (1949:139), the primary starting point in literary analysis is the study of the literary work itself, this method focuses on the internal structures such as plot, character, setting, and theme.

2.1.1 Characters and Characterizations

Character can be defined as a brief description of a person who represents a specific trait, where they are portrayed as an example of a particular virtue or vice rather than as a unique individual (Holman, 1980:74). Characters are divided into two categories, namely the protagonist and the antagonist. These roles play a crucial part in shaping the plot's progression. The protagonist serves as the central figure who drives the story and engages the reader's attention and sympathy, regardless of whether their motives are heroic or imperfect (Holman, 1980:355-356). In contrast, the antagonist serves as the main obstacle to the protagonist, the direct rival or opponent who stands against them throughout the plot (Holman, 1980:25).

Characterization is the process of developing a fictional person within the world of the story, so they feel believable and completely real to the reader (Holman, 1980:75). Characterization is categorized into two methods, consisting of direct definition and indirect presentation. Through direct definition, a character's qualities are explicitly named, though this counts as direct

characterization only if it proceeds from the most authoritative voice in the text, on the other hand, indirect presentation focuses on showing rather than telling, instead of openly stating a trait, the narrative displays and exemplifies it through the character's actions, speech, thoughts, and interactions with the surrounding environment (Rimmon-Kenan, 2002:62-63).

2.1.2 Settings

Setting refers to the broader geographical location, historical period, and social environment that shape a story's narrative, while also pinning down the specific physical space where an individual scene or action takes place (Abrams, 1999:284). Setting consists of several elements that help create the background of a story. These elements include the place where the story happens, from large locations to small details inside a room, the time of the story, such as the historical period or season, it also shows the characters' daily lives, occupations, and the social environment around them, including their moral, religious, intellectual, and emotional conditions (Kenney, 1966:37).

2.1.3 Conflicts

Conflict can be defined as the tension that arises when two opposing sides clash and interact within the plot of a story (Holman, 1980:98). Conflicts can be classified into internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict occurs when a character struggles within themselves, facing a conflict against elements of their own nature, meanwhile external conflict occurs when a character is pitted against

outside forces, such as having a conflict against another person or group, or a conflict with broader environmental pressures such as physical nature, society, or fate (Perrine, 2017:98).

2.2 Topic Related Theory

2.2.1 Marxist Theory

Marxist Theory, also known as Marxism, is a theoretical and analytical framework developed by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels that examines society, economics, and politics based on the relationship between social classes and the means of production. According to (Burns, 1939:4), Marxism explains how the world and human society work, including the relationships between people, social classes, and economic systems. Literature always mirrors the society and economy of its time and cannot be separated from the historical and material conditions of its production. Marxist criticism studies literature by looking at the historical and social conditions in which it was created, while also considering the historical context that influences the criticism itself (Eagleton, 1976:4).

2.2.2 Class Struggle

According to Burns (1939:19), class struggle is the conflict between social classes that have different interests. This conflict develops from an economic system that divides society into different classes, where one group produces wealth through labor while another group benefits from that labor without participating directly in the production process. This imbalance creates an injustice, where people who do all the hard work receive the least, while those

who own the resources profit from other people's labor. Class struggle can be analyzed through three aspects:

2.2.2.1 The Depiction of Class Struggle

A depiction refers to the way in which the plot, characters, and conflict are presented in a narrative. The portrayal of class conflict does not always take the form of physical fights, it can also be seen in the unfair treatment, exploitation, and pressure applied by the upper class in search of profit, while the lower class struggles just to survive their harsh reality. The depiction of class struggle includes three main aspects:

1. Social Class Distinction

According to Marx and Engels (1848:13-15), society is divided into unequal social classes. The bourgeoisie holds the dominant level because it controls capital and economic resources. In contrast, the proletariat consists of workers who do not own the means of production and are forced to sell their labor to survive. Precisely this inequality in ownership makes the position of the bourgeoisie significantly more dominant compared to the proletariat.

2. Oppression

According to Marx and Engels (1848:13), the ruling class's dominance is maintained not only by economic power, but also through political and ideological means. The bourgeoisie exploits this power to keep the working class at the bottom of the social hierarchy. This control extends to every aspect of society, from labor conditions and compensation to the shaping of public opinion.

Ultimately, economic dependence leaves the proletariat in a vulnerable position, making it difficult for them to fight back.

3. Power Relations

The ruling class maintains its position by shaping the view that class differences are normal. Ultimately, the lower classes accept this condition. They accept their position not only out of fear, but also because they believe that this unequal social structure is simply the way things should be. Marx and Engels (1848:31), explain that power is not only about political position or the ability to control decisions, power is closely connected to economic ownership and social class.

2.2.2.2 The Factor of Class Struggle

Class conflict does not originate from personal friction or differences in moral values among individuals. This conflict traces back directly to the economic conditions of society, specifically how wealth and resources are allocated (Marx and Engels, 1848:9). The factors that cause class struggle include two main aspects:

1. Economic Determinism

According to Marx (1859:1), the concept of economic determinism shows that material conditions shape human consciousness and economic conditions ultimately dictate personal values and behaviors. Economic conditions play the biggest role in shaping society. Social relationships, political systems, and the way people think are influenced by economic factors, such as wealth, work, and control over resources rather than by personal ideas or spiritual beliefs.

2. Private Ownership of the Means of Production

Inequality between those who own and those who do not is created by the private ownership of the means of production. According to Marx and Engels (1848:11), the bourgeoisie gain power in society, when they replace traditional social relationships and systems with the new ones that are based on economic interests and capitalist values. People who own the means of production, such as businesses, land, or factories, have more control over wealth and economic power in society. Meanwhile, people who do not own these must work and sell their labor in order to earn money and survive. This unequal condition creates a clear division between social classes.

2.2.2.3 The Impact of Class Struggle

The impact of class struggle refers to the social and psychological effects experienced by individuals as a result of class conflict. The impacts of class struggle include three main aspects:

1. Alienation

According to Marx and Engels (1974:63), alienation describes how work becomes external and oppressive, turning both the worker and their relationships into commodities. There are four types of alienation, namely alienation from the product, alienation from the process, alienation from self, and alienation from others, where workers become alienated from the product because the things they create belong to the capitalist rather than to themselves, they are also alienated from the process of labor because their work is controlled by others and often becomes repetitive and exhausting, in addition workers may lose their sense of

identity and personal value causing alienation from self, and competition and inequality within capitalist society can damage human relationships and create alienation from others (Marx and Engels, 1974:64-74)

2. Exploitation

According to Marx and Engels (1974:21), exploitation in a capitalist system appears as an unequal struggle where the worker is reduced to a mere commodity who must struggle not only for physical means of subsistence, but also to get work, the possibility, the means, and to perform their activity, which finally reduces human life to a harmful, miserable existence. Meanwhile workers spend their time and energy producing goods or services, the owners of production receive most of the benefit. This unequal relationship creates social inequality between classes that strengthens the power of the upper class over the lower class.

3. Class and Social Injustice

According to Marx and Engels (1848:15), social injustice is created by capitalism by treating workers as commodities. The workers must sell their labor to earn a living because they do not own the means of production, which often reduces their value to the work they can provide rather than recognizing them as individuals. Social injustice is not a random moral failure or a matter of individual bad luck, it is an inevitable structural consequence of a class-based society. According to Burns (1939:19), society is shaped by conflict between classes with different interests, and this conflict often results in oppression and inequality for the lower class.