ABSTRACT

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Sign is something that stands for something else. Simply, Pierce distinguishes sign into three classes: icon, index, and symbol. Symbol in literature is described in this research. In addition, literary symbol is a word, a phrase that signifies an object or something that reference beyond itself. A symbol can represent human’s attitude like “evil”. The evil itself is divided into three: physical, moral, and metaphysical evil. This research concentrates to analyze the novel as one of literary works. The object that has been chosen in this research is William Golding’s novel titled Lord of the Flies. The problem analyzed in this research concerns identifying and interpreting the category of the symbol of evil in the novel through a process that is constructed by the relevant theory.

As the qualitative research, this research requires theoretical base and reasoning logic. In this case, the book of Northrop Frye; Anatomy of Criticism: Four Essays is taken, besides the other theories of symbolism. In this book, Frye divides symbol into four phases: symbol as motif and as sign, formal phase: symbol as image, mythical phase: symbol as archetype, and anagogic phase: symbol as monad.

In analyzing the subject of the materials, this research uses the structural analysis method. The structural analysis method is a method that focused on the structure itself, definitely not concerning to the writer’s analysis and view, the reader response, the relevant of the real world, and sign as the process of communication. While the data of this research is form and substance that contains word, phrase, and sentence identified as symbols: the conch shell, Jack Merridew, the Beast and the Lord of the Flies, with the technique of collecting data by using library research, and the steps of data analysis include 1) elaborating the symbols: recognizing the symbol and categorization, 2) identifying the symbols, and 3) making conclusion.

Then, the result of this research is that there are the different representations of those evil symbols: the conch shell as the symbol of evil’s thing, the character of Jack Merridew as the symbol of evil’s character, the Beast and the Lord of the Flies as the symbol of evil’s spirit. The conch shell represents the power of an evil authority, Jack Merridew signifies the evil inside the human, the beast may suggest the fear, panic, and hysteria of human’s evil side, the Lord of the Flies represents the great power of evil. The categories of symbol are also found. One category of those symbols are same, that is the whole evil symbols are included in the first category of Frye’s theory: descriptive phase (symbol as sign), however one symbol has two different categories, like Jack Merridew, and the Beast.

As the final conclusion, some elements are the symbols of evil that represent some meaning or reference and these symbols are categorized based on Frye’s theory.