

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains a discussion of the background, statement of problem, research objective, research significances, definition of key terms, conceptual framework and then previous studies.

1.1 Research Background

A literary work is a human creation that has aesthetic value, generally in the form of writing. Literary works usually use language that tends to be beautiful. According to Sapardi Djoko Damono, literary work means explaining the meaning of the whole work of art whose medium is language (Damono, 2011). In addition, according to Terry Eagleton, literary works are beautiful writings that record something in the form of language that is internalized, elongated, and internalized by changing it through the means of language. The purpose of creating a literary work is to convey certain messages and intentions to readers and viewers of the literary work. Literary works are usually inspired by happenings in everyday life.

Literary works are also divided into several types, namely poetry, prose (romance, novels, short stories, history, criticism, reviews, essays) and drama. However, in this research, the author will focus on comparing the two literary works, namely novels and poetry.

A novel is a kind of prose literary work (Meiliana et al., 2022). The stories in novels are the result of the author's imaginative work about various things that are usually sourced from events that exist in everyday life. Examples of events raised in novels are also very diverse, ranging from romance, family, customs and culture, and so on.

According to Sumardi, poetry is a literary work with language that is compressed, shortened, and given a rhythm with a cohesive sound and selection

of ornamental (imaginative) words (Lafamane, 2020). William W. described poetry as the uncontrollably expressed outpouring of intense emotions. In other words, when a poem is created, all of the writer's sentiments and emotions are captured in it; a successful poem is one that evokes strong sensations in the reader. Poetry also employs exquisite and poetic language; the words are organized to produce a stunning literary piece. Naturally, poetry has particular aims and ambitions to communicate a message to the reader through visually stunning words, just like any other literary work.

There are other genres found in literary works, tragedy being one of them. Tragedy is something that depicts the fall from apparent evil, misfortune in the form of expected misfortune, the terror of misfortune that befalls someone like the fate that befalls us. Tragedy will not only have a moral effect, but also educational values in the form of understanding to the reader. A tragedy is one of life's numerous events. Since tragedy is occasionally unavoidable, we can also use this opportunity to reflect on ourselves and learn something. Another way to think of literary works as reflections of life is that we can gain moral lessons from them. Readers and lovers of literature can, of course, learn from tragedies found in works of literature to constantly be cautious in order to improve their chances of survival.

Tragedies happen because of certain reasons, one of which is the element of tragedy itself. Plot, character, diction, and thought are part of the elements of tragedy proposed by Aristotles. These elements are certainly very important because they build and strengthen the course of a tragedy-themed story. Plot is a storyline from the beginning to the climax of the story and then ends with the closing of the story or the sequence of events that occur in a story. Character is the attitude of the characters described by the writer or author in a story. Meanwhile, diction is the selection of the right words to convey ideas. The character development of each character in both the novel and the poem is also of concern to the author. How the characters are described before the tragedy and also after the tragedy.

In this research, the novel and poetry chosen are *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*. These two works are considered to have similarities in the genre, which is tragedy.

The novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* is a literary work written by Hamka and published in 1939. The novel is very popular today and was also filmed in 2013. The novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal van der Wijck* depicts a love story between two young people, Zainuddin and Hayati, who fall in love but are hindered by Minangkabau customary rules. Zainuddin is the son of Pandekar Sultan from Minangkabau and Daeng Habibah, a woman from Makassar. After his father's death, Zainuddin studied in Minangkabau and wanted to see his father's hometown. Zainuddin's arrival in Padang turned out to be an unpleasant experience for him. In Padang, he was considered a man without a tribe, an outcast, because he was born to a non-Minang woman. Zainuddin was disappointed with the villagers' reaction and decided to leave. When he was about to leave Minang land, Zainuddin met a Minang woman named Hayati. The two fell in love and established a relationship. Unfortunately, Hayati's desire to marry was thwarted by Hayati's mother who did not want to give her blessing. The reason is, Zainuddin is of unknown origin and does not deserve to be with Hayati who comes from a respected family. Following her family's wishes, Hayati decided to marry a respectable man from the same tribe as Aziz, whom she was set up with. Their marriage seems happy at first, but as time goes by, Aziz's true nature is revealed, he is someone who likes to splurge and likes to oppress his wife. Zainuddin, on the other hand, wanted to forget Hayati and decided to migrate to Java and start his career as a writer. As Zainuddin becomes more successful, Hayati and Aziz's lives deteriorate, prompting the couple to move to Surabaya. There, Hayati and Zainuddin are reunited. Aziz decided to commit suicide in a hotel because he felt he could not bear the burden of life, he also apologized through a letter to Zainuddin for marrying Hayati. Hayati and Zainuddin were reunited there. Tragedy after tragedy is often felt by Hayati and Zainuddin. Starting from loving each other but not getting the blessing of Hayati's parents until finally Zainuddin fell ill for several months because he was devastated by the news that Hayati married another young man who was

considered more appropriate than him, Hayati also apologized to Zainuddin because she had chosen another young man to be her husband, which actually Hayati was forced to accept the arranged marriage. However, Zainuddin's wound was too deep, he did not want to accept the woman back. He decided to send Hayati back to Padang. It was there that the painful events took place.

The poem *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* is the longest poem divided into seven parts. It was written by Samuel Taylor Coleridge in 1797-1798 and went into print for the first time in 1798. The poem tells the story of an ancient mariner and his crew who have just returned from a long journey. The story begins when the ship he and his crew are traveling on experiences a terrible storm that sends them to the South, to the American continent. In desperate conditions trapped in the icy sea and not knowing the way home, the sailor vaguely saw the shadow of an albatross, for a moment he thought if he followed the bird maybe they could survive and leave this place immediately. After discussing with his crew they agreed to follow where the bird was going, After a few days the thickness of the ice began to melt, the weather also began to feel warm, this was a good sign that they had survived the ice trap, meanwhile the albatross was also getting used to the ship following it, the crew often fed, and played with the albatross that had saved their lives. Sadly, their tranquility didn't seem to last long, when the sailor, who was getting bored at sea, suddenly picked up his crossbow and shot the bird dead. At first the crew were outraged by the sailor's behavior in killing their helper, but after nothing happened they forgot their anger. Meanwhile, the ship continued to move forward and all that time the curse silently enveloped them. After many days they had yet to find land. That was bad news because their stock of supplies was running low, water was running out, the crew was panicking and thirsty. Until they came to the conclusion that they were adrift at sea because of the sailor's sin, an agreement was made to atone for the sin, the sailor was required to drape the albatross carcass around his neck as a sign of remorse. When he had resigned himself to death for a moment he looked at the ocean. Surprised and amazed he saw various dolphins of aquatic animals living there. It was then that regret came to him, he realized that he had wasted life by killing a bird. Now it appears that

life is truly amazing, beautiful and should not be mistreated. Despite realizing the beauty of nature, the ancient mariner still had to endure punishment and curses. Even after he made it to land and survived the terrifying sea voyage, he was punished for his previous deeds by sharing his gloomy tale with others as a reminder to cherish the environment and show respect for all living things.

The prominent characters in the novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* are Zainuddin, Hayati, and Aziz. Zainuddin's character is described as a young man from Makassar who is kind and sincere. Hayati is described as a kind and obedient young woman. Aziz, Hayati's husband, is portrayed as a wealthy but ill-mannered young man, such as being rude and disrespectful to his wife. Meanwhile, in the poem *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*, the prominent character here is the old sailor who is described as quite selfish and thoughtless, because of his own actions other people are also affected.

The tragedy depicted in these pieces is obviously different, despite the fact that they share many tragic characteristics. The catastrophe portrayed in the novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* is a disaster in love. Conversely, the tragedy portrayed in the poem *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* is a catastrophe brought on by a selfish person. Both literary works have a tragic undertone that is revealed in the conclusion. The travesty portrayed in *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* is that Zainuddin, the protagonist, comes to regret his choice to return Hayati to Minangkabau land, in the middle of the voyage, the ship that Hayati was on had an accident which ultimately sank the ship, Hayati lay limp in the hospital in a dying condition but Hayati's life could not last any longer, she died, Zainuddin who witnessed the death of his lover. Again he was so devastated that regretted his decision to return Hayati to Minangkabau land. Meanwhile, in the poem *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*, the element of tragedy is placed at the beginning, specifically in part II. This poem tells the story of an old sailor who has just returned from a long journey. The old sailor sailed with his crew. On the way, they encountered a big storm that took them to the southern part of the Antarctic continent. While he was drifting at sea, the old sailor saw an Albatross bird, then he thought that if he could follow the direction of the Albatross bird, maybe he could survive the terrible storm. The

old sailor then conferred with the other ship's crew, they all agreed with the idea. It turns out the old sailor's guess was right, they found a way out. The albatross finally got used to the ship following him, often giving him food and inviting him to play. Their peace did not last long until the old sailor, who was bored at sea, pointed his crossbow at the bird and the Albatross instantly died. The other crew did not accept the old sailor's actions, after that incident, without them realizing it, a curse began to come over them. The old sailor and the ship's crew never reached land, their supplies were running low, causing one by one the ship's crew to die and only the selfish old sailor was left. He regretted his actions, because of his actions, the people who were with him and were innocent became victims.

The purpose of this research is to prove that the two literary works compared, namely novels and poems, have similarities in terms of themes, namely tragedy. Although the types of literary works compared are different, they still have similarities.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background problem can be formulated into the research questions as follows :

1. What are the causes of tragedy in *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*?
2. How are the causes of tragedy can build plot and character in *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the formulation of the research question above, the objectives of this study are :

1. To find out the causes of tragedy in *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*.
2. To find out how are the causes of tragedy can build plot and character in *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*.

1.4 Research Significance

This research on the causes of tragedy in the novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* and *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* has the following theoretical and practical significance.

1. Theoretical

This research can be useful to illustrate that tragedy is one of the events that occur in life, also unavoidable either because of man's own actions or God's will. Tragedy here also has a role as a reflection of events that occur in society and then raised as literary works.

In addition to literature being a reflection of society, through both literary works, social issues such as discrimination and identity are portrayed through narratives. Tragedy also teaches us to be wise about everything so that what we do does not lead us to things that lead to catastrophe or tragedy such as sadness and certain regrets.

This research can also be used as a reference for future studies related to comparative literature, especially the tragedy genre.

2. Practical

This research can be a source of reference for future studies that focus on comparative literature. This research can also be useful for learning activities, students will be introduced to the process of analyzing literature and better understand the history and culture of existing classic literary works. In addition, this research also provides socio-cultural understanding, namely cultural reflection. In terms of cultural reflection, readers can see

that certain customary rules can affect human relationships. Furthermore, there is also an inner conflict experienced by Zainuddin in the novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* which reflects the struggle of his identity as a young man from Makassar who entered the Minang community. This can be an insight for readers that personal experiences can affect social behavior. In addition, the character analysis of the two literary works shows how the interaction between individuals and their social environment shapes their identity and decisions in life. This can be a reflection for readers to understand each other's interpersonal relationships.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

Key terms serve to make it easier for readers to understand the problems and discussions in a study. The key terms used by the authors in this study are as follows:

1. **Tragedy** : Tragedy is a literary genre that tells the story of a sad event experienced by the main character, which often ends in death or destruction. According to Sir Arthur Quiller-Couch (1979), tragedy is the spectacle of a subject, who is both absolutely and truly disastrous; the spectacle of being unkind and unwise because it is inflicted by the depravity of others due to mistakes and weaknesses that occur (Suwarna & Priyatna, 2016).
2. **Elements of Tragedy** : The main elements of tragedy according to Aristotle, a very influential Greek philosopher, are as follows:
 - a. **Plot** : According to Stantont (1965:14), a plot is a story that contains a sequence of events in which each event is a causal relationship. The plot of the story is based on the goals of one or more characters in the process of achieving goals, the events of the story move the characters to overcome conflicts, achieve goals, and solve problems (Tompkins, 1994:316) (Nurhidayati, 2017).
 - b. **Character** : Abrams (in Nurgiyantoro, 2012:165) states that characters are people featured in a narrative or dramatic work who

are interpreted by readers to have certain moral qualities and tendencies as expressed in speech and what is done in action (Prastika, 2016)

- c. Diction : According to Enre (1988:101) diction or word choice is the proper use of words to represent the thoughts and feelings that want to be expressed in the pattern of a sentence (Wilianti et al., 2018). Choosing good and correct diction makes it easier for readers or viewers of literary works to understand the message that the author wants to convey.
- d. Thought : Thought according to Aristotle is the ability to say whatever is possible and appropriate or adequate, which functions in general life talk as well as rhetoric. In addition, it is also used to show whether something is proven or not (Nirwana, 2019)

3. Comparative Literature : Comparative literature is an academic field that deals with the literature of two or more different linguistic, cultural, or national groups. Although most often done with works of different languages, comparative literature can also be done on works of the same language if they come from a different country or culture where the language is spoken ((Toshmatova, 2021). The types of literary works that can be compared also vary, not only between one type of work, for example poetry with poetry, novel with novel, or drama with drama, but in comparing a literary work, the researcher can freely determine what type of work will be compared, such as poetry with novels, poetry with drama, and so on.

1.6 Conceptual Framework

A tragedy is a piece of literature that describes a sad, painful event or suffering experienced by the main character and usually ends with regret, sorrow, destruction or death. Tragedy does not necessarily exist in a story, there is a process and causes why tragedy is formed and occurs to the characters in the story.

In the tragedy genre, there are elements that build and strengthen the storyline. The elements of tragedy studied by the author here are plot, character, and diction. The three elements proposed by Aristotles will then be analyzed in more depth. how these three elements can build the two types of literary works chosen, namely novels and poems, and what kind of tragedy is presented from these novels and poems. While the types of literary works chosen are two kinds, namely the novel entitled *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck* by Hamka and the poem entitled *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner* by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. In addition, as for the character development between the two literary works being compared, the author will describe how the tragedy that occurred affected the character of the characters. Thus, it will be seen how the characters behave before and after the tragedy.

In the novel *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck*, readers can understand that strict customary rules can be an obstacle to human relations due to differences in ethnic background between Zainuddin who is a young man from Makassar and Hayati who is a native Minang girl. This becomes an obstacle because Hayati's family does not approve of Hayati having a relationship with a young man from another region, Hayati's family wants Hayati to be with a native Minang youth. Therefore, the love story between Hayati and Zainuddin could not continue so in the end Hayati was matched with a native Minang man named Aziz. This triggered a very deep wound for Zainuddin, he was unable to just get out of bed, Zainuddin seemed to be hit by the fact that the beautiful girl he loved at that time could not continue his romantic relationship with him and chose to marry a Minang youth who was more established than him and of course the young man was the choice of the girl's family. After Hayati officially married Aziz, Zainuddin decided to leave Minang land and try his luck in another city. Hayati and Zainuddin were eventually reunited in Surabaya. Hayati still has hope in Zainuddin because her marriage to her husband was not based on love. Their story closes with Hayati's death which causes regret felt by Zainuddin, he regrets not giving Hayati the opportunity to re-establish a romantic relationship with Zainuddin after she was left by her husband due to suicide. These things become elements of tragedy in the novel *Tenggelamnya*

Kapal Van der Wijck, starting from their relationship which was initially not approved by Hayati's family until finally Zainuddin witnessed Hayati die directly in front of him, Zainuddin lost the woman he loved so much forever.

In the poem *The Rime of The Ancient Mariner*, the reader is presented with the events of a greedy and arbitrary old sailor without thinking that what he does has an impact on others. The old sailor and his crew are trapped in the middle of the ocean along with a storm, but a miracle comes with the appearance of an albatross that saves them from the storm. However, the old sailor shot the albatross dead, as a result of the old sailor's actions, the crew of his ship also died because of a curse. The element of tragedy depicted in this story is the regret and suffering experienced by the old sailor because of his own actions, so the old sailor must do penance by draping the carcass of the albatross as a sign that he really regrets his actions.

This research aims to see and describe how similarities exist in the two works, although the types of tragedy depicted in the two stories are different.

The research's discussion flow is depicted in the graphic that follows.

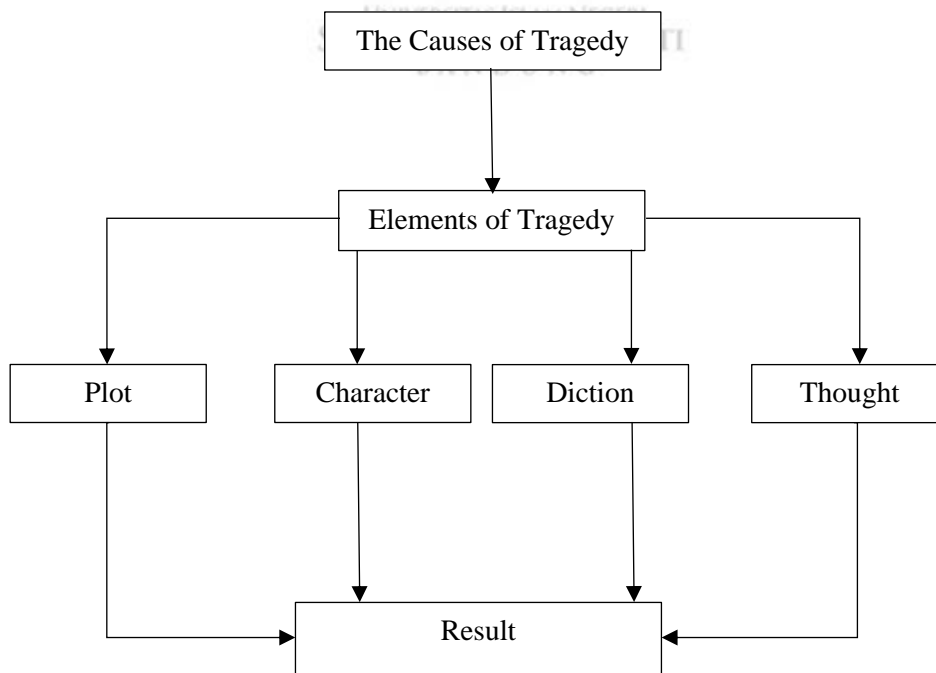


Figure 1. *Flowchart conceptual framework*

1.7 Previous Studies

Regarding comparative literature which focuses on tragedy, there is previous research which discusses similar matters entitled *TRAGEDI KEDURHAKAAN DALAM CERITA MALIN KUNDANG (SUMATERA UTARA) DAN BATU MENANGIS (KALIMANTAN BARAT)* by Aimanun Salim. This research discusses the main character who is disobedient towards his parents, namely his mother, in this folk tale. The tragedy depicted in these two works is in the story "Malin Kundang", Malin as a character who is depicted as being disobedient to his mother is punished for his disgraceful behavior, his mother curses Malin to become a stone and Malin does not have the opportunity to beg forgiveness from his mother who is already hurt. for the treatment of his only child. Meanwhile, in the story "Batu Menangis", Putri, the main character of the story, was cursed by her mother because of her attitude which often put her mother down in front of other people.

PERBANDINGAN CERITA RAKYAT BAWANG MERAH DAN BAWANG PUTIH, CINDERELLA, DAN SI CANTIK VASILISA (Comparison of Folk Stories of Onion and Garlic, Cinderella, and The Beautiful Vasilisa), authored by Rosma Kadir, Riman Kasim, and Yusrilisyah Limbanadi, is another study that bears similarities to the author's research. The writers analyze and contrast the three tales in this study. The folktales Si Cantik Valisia from Russia and Bawang Merah and Bawang Putih from Indonesia are examples of the tragic aspects included in these literary works. The ways in which conflicts are resolved and depicted in the two folktales are where they share commonalities. Velisia's tragic life story involved her cruel stepmother and stepsister, who wanted to harm her. However, in the end, they ended up in trouble. Similarly, in the tale of Bawang Putih and Bawang Merah, Bawang Merah's mother planned to harm Bawang Putih, who had sent her into the forest, but in the end, they ended up in trouble.

TRAGEDI DALAM NOVEL ORANG ORANG GILA KARYA HAN GAGAS, written by Azinuddin Ikram Hakim. In this novel, the reader is presented with various forms of tragedy that lead to the fate of the lives of “crazy people”. In relation to tragedy in the novel *Orang Gila*, there are forms of madness, irrationality, and inhuman tragedy. The tragedy of murder, the tragedy of rape, the tragedy of eviction, the tragedy of expulsion, and other forms of repression and violence seem to be a general description of the novel *Orang Gila* that shows acts without mercy. Their adventure begins with a tragedy in the community, which makes them struggle to face the cruel reality of the world. The form of tragedy depicted begins with madmen who are left to wander freely in public places, so that they do not return home and disturb the peace of society, the madmen are placed on a ship and handed over to sailors. Astrid and Marno are the characters in this story, they are victims of exile along with other people who are labeled as “crazy”. Because of his shabby appearance, Marno is often made fun of by a group of children. Astrid also experiences tragedy, her fate is close to sexual violence because she is considered a beautiful madwoman. Astrid was raped twice and this tragedy greatly affected her psychological state. At the end of the story, it is explained that Astrid and Marno died tragically and horribly. In the novel *Orang-Orang Gila*, there are many forms of tragedy that lead to the unfortunate lives of the 'madmen'. The pressure of power causes people to act arbitrarily towards others and also stimulates retaliation and resistance. Marno and Astrid are often mistreated by people who look down on them, and sometimes get a backlash from people who fight back. In the simplest terms, they are often insulted and ridiculed as “crazy people”, and physical violence and other peace-disturbing actions are considered a form of our discrimination against insanity.