

ABSTRACT

Khaista Yngwie Anneira Isaak. 1225030101. *The Construction of the Creature Through Power Relations in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*. An Undergraduate Thesis, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. Advisor: 1. Hj. Deuis Sugaryamah, M.Pd. 2. Dian Nurrachman, S.S., M.Pd.

This study examines the construction of the Creature's identity through power relations in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* by applying Michel Foucault's concepts of power/knowledge, discourse, the gaze, subject formation, and normalization. The study addresses two research questions: (1) How is the Creature's identity constructed through the social interactions in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*? (2) How do the scientific discourse and social exclusion function as mechanisms of power that shape the Creature's subjectivity in the novel? This research employed a qualitative descriptive design using a mimetic perspective and a Foucauldian analytical framework. The primary data were obtained from selected narrative excerpts in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (2018 edition) through purposive sampling, while the secondary data were collected from books, journal articles, and previous studies related to Michel Foucault's theory, Gothic literature, identity construction, and *Frankenstein*. The findings reveal that the Creature's identity is not an inherent characteristic but is progressively constructed through unequal social interactions, beginning with Victor Frankenstein's rejection, followed by learning, self-awareness, the desire for acceptance, repeated social rejection, alienation, and ultimately the transformation of self-identity. Furthermore, the study demonstrates that scientific discourse and social exclusion operate as mechanisms of power that shape the Creature's subjectivity through scientific authority, objectification, normalization, the gaze, exclusion, internalization, and subject formation. Therefore, the study concludes that the Creature's identity and subjectivity are socially and discursively constructed through the operation of power relations rather than determined by its biological creation.

Keywords: *Mary Shelley, Frankenstein, Michel Foucault, power relations, identity construction, subjectivity.*

ABSTRAK

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Penelitian ini mengkaji konstruksi identitas *Creature* melalui relasi kuasa dalam novel *Frankenstein* karya Mary Shelley dengan menerapkan konsep relasi kuasa/pengetahuan (*power/knowledge*), wacana (*discourse*), tatapan (*the gaze*), pembentukan subjek (*subject formation*), dan normalisasi (*normalization*) yang dikemukakan oleh Michel Foucault. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjawab dua rumusan masalah, yaitu: (1) Bagaimana identitas *Creature* dikonstruksi melalui interaksi sosial dalam *Frankenstein* karya Mary Shelley? (2) Bagaimana wacana ilmiah (*scientific discourse*) dan eksklusi sosial berfungsi sebagai mekanisme kuasa yang membentuk subjektivitas *Creature* dalam novel tersebut? Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan perspektif mimesis dan kerangka analisis Foucauldian. Data primer diperoleh dari kutipan-kutipan naratif yang dipilih dari novel *Frankenstein* edisi 2018 karya Mary Shelley melalui teknik *purposive sampling*, sedangkan data sekunder diperoleh dari buku, artikel jurnal, dan penelitian terdahulu yang berkaitan dengan teori Michel Foucault, sastra Gotik, konstruksi identitas, dan *Frankenstein*. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa identitas *Creature* bukan merupakan karakteristik bawaan, melainkan dikonstruksi secara bertahap melalui interaksi sosial yang tidak setara, dimulai dari penolakan Victor Frankenstein, kemudian proses pembelajaran, kesadaran diri, keinginan untuk diterima, penolakan sosial yang berulang, keterasingan, hingga transformasi identitas diri. Selain itu, penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa wacana ilmiah (*scientific discourse*) dan eksklusi sosial berfungsi sebagai mekanisme kuasa yang membentuk subjektivitas *Creature* melalui otoritas ilmiah, objektifikasi, normalisasi, tatapan, eksklusi, internalisasi, dan pembentukan subjek. Dengan demikian, penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa identitas dan subjektivitas *Creature* dikonstruksi secara sosial dan diskursif melalui operasi relasi kuasa, bukan ditentukan oleh penciptaan biologisnya.

Kata Kunci: *Mary Shelley, Frankenstein, Michel Foucault, relasi kuasa, konstruksi identitas, subjektivitas.*