

The Analysis of Setting and Atmosphere on *The Old Man and the Sea*

Analisis terhadap latar dan suasana dalam “*The Old Man and the Sea*”

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Abstract

A good story is not only formed from the plot but can also be formed from the development of setting and atmosphere. This research wants to see how setting and atmosphere can play an active role in shaping and building a story. Especially in the story *The Old Man and the Sea*. This research is based on the book by E. M. Forster which examines the elements in the novel in his book, namely *Aspects of the Novel*. This research uses a descriptive qualitative method so that the results of this research are described descriptively and in detail. In the story *The Old Man and the Sea*, the author uses temporal setting to make the story completely dependent on the setting. So, the novel *The Old Man and the Sea* is formed from plot development that depends on the setting.

Kata kunci

prosa; novel; cerita; fiksi;
sastra.

Abstrak

Cerita yang bagus tidak hanya dibentuk dari plotnya saja, namun juga dapat terbentuk dari pengembangan latar dan suasana. Penelitian ini ingin melihat bagaimana latar dan suasana dapat berperan aktif dalam membentuk dan membangun suatu cerita. Khususnya dalam cerita *The Old Man and the Sea*. Penelitian ini didasari dari buku karya E. M. Forster yang menelaah elemen-elemen di dalam novel dalam bukunya, yaitu *Aspects of Novel*. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode *descriptive qualitative* sehingga hasil dalam penelitian ini dijabarkan secara deskriptif dan mendetail. Dalam cerita *The Old Man and the Sea*, penulis menggunakan temporal latar untuk membuat cerita bergantung sepenuhnya pada latar sehingga novel *The Old Man and the Sea* terbentuk dari pengembangan plot yang bergantung pada latar.

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A. Introduction

It would appear that a novel cannot have nonlinguistic components like pictures, maps, diagrams, and drawings because it is a verbal thing (Aliyev, 2021). A prose is made by the author's imagination, but to build a prose, fiction, or novel we need to consider a lot of aspect. A novel is a lengthy work of text that tells a number of stories about the lives of characters and emphasizes their individual personalities (Murni & Purwanto, 2019). To build a novel it is enough to only depend on the plot. In a novel, not only the plot can shape a story. A good work of literature is one that has the right number of components. Plot, character, point of view, place, and theme are among the aspects that we have already studied. All of these components are necessary to create a literary work, but in this essay, we'll focus more on the setting and atmosphere.

The Old Man and the Sea tells about a strong fisherman named Santiago who caught a giant marlin. Ernest Hemingway embodies every powerful and strong quality in his portrayal of the elderly man, Santiago, in *The Old Man and the Sea*. Santiago is shown as an elderly fisherman who is fighting both defeat and his pride and honor from the opening paragraph (Lian-feng, 2015). He got the giant marlin after 84 days went fishing without caught any fish. He fought the giant marlin for three days and three night and after that big fight he succed to cacth the fish. But, unfortunately the huge fish was eaten by school of sharks.

Plot is the important part of the story. It is the story it self where another aspects and elements attach. If we look from this point of view, the other elements like setting, character, theme and POV looks less important. So, this research aims to find out the significance of setting through novel *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Before we can go any further, we must comprehend what location and atmosphere are and how crucial they are to the development of the narrative. The social setting or social context of a literary work is typically established by combining place, time, and events. In order to create what is known as the social setting or social context of a literary work, place is typically paired with time and events. We must comprehend how the setting and atmosphere are related as the setting creates the atmosphere itself.

The setting of place or the location is based on actual occurrences from literary works of fiction. Where a place named and a place that just illustrates the overall kind and nature of specific places are located. The location is typically covered by the novel's setting of place. would relocate as the story and characters evolved. The setting of time relates to "when" of events that are related to a literary work of fiction. That is typically connected to genuine time. Where the location of the site still needs to be taken into consideration when determining the time setting (Mutia, 2021).

Setting is crucial because it helps us create visual representations of places, ambient details, and atmospheres in addition to providing us with the precise location and time. Setting uses a potent metaphor to illustrate the story's theme while grounding writing in the actuality of the setting. Characters exist in a vacuum without context, having no motivation to behave or, more crucially, have no reason to care. A tale cannot exist without a location. Setting establishes and defines characters, aids in the plot, and provides theme-related metaphors. Setting offers a landscape that unites everything into context and meaning, much like the force in Star Wars (Andriana & Rohmah, 2019). The plot comes to life thanks to the setting. The author used a lot of location and time to give the story a sense of life, much like in Earnest Hermingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*, which is about an elderly man who becomes a fisherman.

We must comprehend the author's reasoning for choosing this particular setting and time. And we ought to ask ourselves why the author chose the locations and times that they did for the book. Is it significant? And how does it relate to the man's persona? Whether creating or enjoying a work of art, especially prose, one must first understand its elements. Understanding the process and how to analyze a novel can help improve analytical skills, enhance the reading experience and also as a form of appreciation to the author. One instrument that writers use is literature, which offers inspiration and ideas for new works of art (Adampe, 2015). A well-constructed story will be able to influence the reader's emotions. Literary works have the power to affect readers through meaning and content in addition to providing amusement and education.

In literary works, language becomes a tool for evoking a unique mood that has aesthetic value in addition to serving as a medium of communication that can provide the reader or spectator with a variety of information (Istiqomah et al., 2014). The creation of fictitious worlds as a whole, as well as narrative, linguistic, and artistic elements, can all have an emotional impact. We can speculate that any component of the narrative, the narrator, or the language itself could contribute to the production of emotional reactions. In addition, when reading a literary work in its entirety, we frequently experience an emotional atmosphere similar to that of Poe's narrator in the preceding epigraph: we are drawn into a world colored by a particular mood, whether it be joy or sadness, terror or simply a calm and serene delectation (Reyns-Chikuma & Lazreg, 2017).

In literature, setting refers to the place and time period where a story's action occurs. The story's time and location are referred to as the setting. Setting might include intricate details like the historical period the story is set in or its social environment, in addition to more straightforward characteristics like the weather or wall décor. Since specific locations and moments own their unique character or emotional essence, setting is also a

key means by which a fiction writer establishes mood.

In literature, setting describes the social and physical environment in which a story is set. The temporal and spatial context, as well as the cultural and historical context and social milieu, can all be included. The story's atmosphere, tone, and the motivations and actions of the characters can all be influenced by the setting. A novel set in a war-torn nation, for instance, might be darker and more somber than one set in a tranquil, picturesque rural setting.

A form of feeling that readers get from a narrative based on aspects like setting, background, objects, and foreshadowing is called atmosphere, a literary device. An environment can be established through a mood. In literary works, atmosphere refers to the feelings or emotions that a writer expresses to his audience through descriptions of locales and things. For example, J. K. Rowling creates a whimsical and captivating atmosphere in her Harry Potter books. Remember that a literary work's atmosphere might change as it progresses.

The story's tone can also be greatly influenced by the setting. For instance, a dim and dismal environment can evoke anxiety and stress, whereas a bright and cheery one can evoke serenity and contentment. Research from both empirical and theoretical perspectives suggests that self-reflection is often sparked when one experiences both narrative and aesthetic feelings simultaneously. Story and aesthetic feelings can be influenced by one's reading and personal experiences (Altmann et al., 2014). The pace of your story can also be influenced by its environment. The rising action can be sped up in an action-packed, fast-paced environment, or slowed down in a peaceful one. One of the numerous ways your setting influences your characters is through the pacing. Additionally, Santiago was depicted attempting to fish until dusk, in the pitch-black darkness, without access to food, water, or warmth. It gives us a rough, dismal, stressful mood.

B. Method

This research is using Descriptive Qualitative approach. One kind of research approach that offers desk research and makes use of quantitative data is descriptive qualitative research. It is common practice to investigate events, phenomena, or social phenomena using several types of descriptive qualitative research. In this research, the research focuses on the phenomena contained in the story *The Old Man and the Sea*. In explaining the phenomena contained in the story *The Old Man and the Sea* clear explanations are needed and supported by adequate elaboration. This research is going to be explain in detailed descriptive way. This research is based on the theory of story elements from E.M Forster as stated in his book, namely Aspects of the novel. This research aims to see to what extent the setting and atmosphere in the story can develop the story. Just as setting and atmosphere are also important parts of the story.

C. Results and Discussion

1. The Novel's Setting

The Old Man and the Sea use temporal setting. Because in the story it mostly focus on the time, we were shown that that the old man set out to the sea when it was still dark or in the night. We can see it on the story that the author put or told us quite specific time that was happening on the story. Santiago was go fishing for three days and in order to make the story easy to understand and more interesting the author elaborated the timeline by mentioning what happen on specific time, for instance the author told us what happen in the morning, noon, afternoon and in the evening. The author mentioned the time to directly show us that the time is crucial. It's crucial to remember that Hemingway succeeded in capturing the societal ideals of respect, optimism, and an environment-friendly mindset (Shahwan, 2019) which mean Earnest Hemingway build his story base on the setting.

Why the author use temporal setting? It is because the idea of the story is so simple, about an old man who go fishing and catch big fish, and yet the author wanted to make a very good story. So, the author knew that he has to elaborate or delve deeper the story in order to make it a little bit complex, so people won't be bored. The author didn't use environmental, social, physical, nor historical because it quite hard to explore the place or location of the story since the old man was in middle of the sea. And the social setting and historical setting also depends on place, and sea is not variety places spot, so it can't be well explored by using all of those setting except temporal setting.

2. The Importance of Time of Day

The time of day is significant in the novella because it affects the events that take place. For example, Santiago sets out to sea early in the morning, and he returns in the evening. The time of day affects the temperature, the visibility, and the behavior of the fish. Santiago is aware of the importance of time, and he

times his actions accordingly. For instance, he knows that the fish are more likely to feed in the early morning and late afternoon, so he sets out to sea at dawn and returns in the evening. In the story, Santiago also is told as a lonely old man, that's why at the end of the story Santiago arrived in evening because the author want to make Santiago looks more miserable to increase the empathy of readers.

3. The 84 Days

The 84 days that Santiago has gone without catching a fish is also significant. It represents the struggle that Santiago has faced and the perseverance that he has shown. The number 84 is also symbolic because it is a multiple of 12, which is a significant number in many cultures. For example, there are 12 months in a year, 12 zodiac signs, and 12 apostles. The number 84 also represents the end of a cycle and the beginning of a new one.

After going so long without catching a fish, Santiago begins to fear for his life as a fisherman. On the 85th day, Santiago made the decision to take action in order to give his life purpose (Thakur, 2022). Place serves a function in that it puts the reader where the writer intends him or her to be mentally, and this information gives the reader some insight into the history, the culture, and the characters. Santiago is skilled in his field and has demonstrated his skill on multiple occasions, yet that is insufficient. Since each day is a new day, he must demonstrate this every day. Santiago's suffering is comparable to the difficult process of creating art (Khan, 2014). The use of place in literature is not limited to novels, but can also be found in biographies, narratives, and short stories. The passage of time, which also affects date, is an important narrative element.

In *The Old Man and the Sea*, the place where the story takes place is significant in several ways. The story is set in the waters off the coast of Cuba, and the main character, Santiago, is a Cuban fisherman. The setting is important because it reflects the culture and way of life of the people who live there. Santiago's knowledge of the sea and his experience as a fisherman are a reflection of the Cuban way of life, where fishing is an important part of the economy and culture.

4. The Sea

The sea itself is also significant in the story. It is portrayed as both beautiful and dangerous, and Santiago has a deep respect for it. The sea is a symbol of the unknown and the uncontrollable, and Santiago's struggle with the marlin represents his struggle with the sea and with nature itself. The sea may seem like a simple place for adventure or developing character, but sea can actually provide readers a very unique and fresh ideas to readers. The sea also a place that offer you both beauty and horror, so that's why the author chose sea as setting because it is so simple and easy to understand and yet so flexible that the author can freely switch the atmosphere using the place (setting). The sea plays a significant role in the book as both a setting and a metaphor. The story's primary action occurs in a sea. In this instance, the sea represents both "the universe" and "Santiago's isolation from the universe." Even if each location gives a person their own identity, in a universe humans become alone and defenseless against other people (Sandamali, 2015)

5. The "September"

In the story Santiago mentioned that he is on September when he went fishing and caught the huge marlin. But why the author put Santiago on September? Turns out September is perfect to fish in Cuba, because the weather is not too cold nor too hot for variety of fish. So, that's why in the story we can see that Santiago found some variety of fish like flying fish, dolphin, shark and even the huge marlin, because the weather of September is perfect time for them to live. It is actually so making sense if the story happen on September. The weather is so perfect so that the huge marlin can also live there. In the other hand, other fishermen caught good fish because the good time and yet Santiago didn't, that is the reason why Santiago so eager catch the huge marlin even though he knew that it is so hard.

6. Three Days and Three Nights

Santiago was in the sea for three days and three nights, but how this setting contributes to the story? first, it is because of the plot, Santiago was characterized as a strong old man, he is an extraordinary old man. Santiago is able to keep fishing for two days in a row, Santiago is strong, that's why the setting of time when he was fishing in for to clarify and show us how strong Santiago is. This tale also shows how Santiago consistently illustrates throughout the novella that, in the end, one's perseverance and self-respect are more important than any physical obstacles when it comes to the subject of survival. Manolin goes fishing alone

despite the mistrust of his fellow fishermen and the fact that his parents have forbidden him from going (Farooqui, 2021).

This is also used to show us how strong The Old Man is. Even though man will always be unable to defeat outside forces, his unwavering spirit is actually a different kind of triumph. Even if he may be physically defeated, he still needs to triumph over rivals and even foes in the mind to protect his own honor. Among several of Hemingway's works, this idea stands out the most in *The Old Man and the Sea* (Wan, 2019).

Secondly, three days and three nights while he was fishing in the main setting of time because it is used as theme by the author, the plot of the story is so simple that's why the author use the setting as critical theme to build the plot itself. Within the time of three days and three nights, the author has successfully explained every smaller time events to make the story feel alive, for instance the author mentioned the time "morning", "noon", "afternoon" and "evening" very well.

Not only as a theme where the plot is really depends on the time setting, but the setting also useful for establish mood and atmosphere. The setting "three days and three nights" made ambivalent mood through the story, mix of feeling where we as readers feel calm, curious, firm, respect, sad, happy and empathy throughout the story.

7. How Setting Contributes to Overall Story

The setting of a work can contributes significantly to its story. The setting refers to the time and place in which the story takes place. It can affect the mood and atmosphere of the story, which in turn can influence the tone. For example, a story set in a dark, gloomy castle might have a tone of foreboding or suspense, while a story set in a bright, sunny meadow might have a tone of happiness or joy.

The setting can also affect the characters and their actions, which can contribute to the story. Characters react to the political, social, and ideological implications of the location in every literary work (Therese, 2015). For example, a story set in a war-torn country might have characters who are struggling to survive, which can create a tone of desperation or hopelessness. On the other hand, a story set in a peaceful, prosperous society might have characters who are content and happy, which can create a tone of optimism or satisfaction. The old man develops and experiences a deep connection with the sea and its inhabitants while in complete isolation in the middle of the barren waters (Hossain, 2018). Hemmingway portrays his hero Santiago as a logical person who understands his obligations as a fisherman, while also imbuing him with an environmental ethics that leads him to regard the natural world and other creatures as brothers (Bhattarai, 2023). Through Santiago's struggles, Hemmingway illustrates the battle of human life against the unstoppable forces of nature (Zinnah, 2022).

In addition, the setting can also reflect the themes and ideas of the story, which can contribute to the tone. For example, a story set in a dystopian society might have a tone of warning or caution, while a story set in a utopian society might have a tone of idealism or hope. Overall, the setting of a work can contribute to overall story in many ways, from affecting the mood and atmosphere to influencing the characters and reflecting the themes and ideas of the story.

8. The Atmosphere Through the Story

The atmosphere described by the author is a relaxed and calm picture. The beginning of the story opens with Santiago on the mainland of Cuba, specifically at the shop and then to his hut. At this stage, the atmosphere or atmosphere described by the author is relaxed because there have not been any problems in that place, and there are no sharks or other threatening wild animals on land. Therefore, the atmosphere is still relaxed, until Santiago goes to the middle of the sea to fish, the atmosphere shown by the author changes drastically to become more gloomy and lonely. because problems began to arise, starting from the fish he was looking for, he couldn't find it and the boy was forced to leave him and he had to continue his fishing days on his own.

The atmosphere described by the author in the middle of this story begins to change, from relaxed and calm to exciting and excited, because Santiago finally gets a fish and there is a fierce fight between Santiago and the fish, but the atmosphere slowly changes to silence after the fish drags Santiago to the In the middle of the dark and scary sea and Santiago had to hold the fish for 3 days without eating or drinking, suddenly the atmosphere in the scary sea changed because Santiago's efforts bore fruit which made the fish tired and Santiago succeeded in killing it.

The atmosphere shown by the author at the end of this story shows a happy atmosphere in the dark of the sea, because he succeeded in killing the fish that Santiago had held for 3 days after a strong struggle and determination, and Santiago tried continuously to lift the fish onto the boat alone, but in the end, he had to drag the fish behind his boat towards home because of the lack of people, suddenly the happy atmosphere became scary and thrilling, because a flock of sharks came and followed Santiago's boat, this scary atmosphere lasted quite a long time and Santiago's fight with the shark made Santiago had to let go of his fish being eaten

by sharks and only the bones and head remained when Santiago arrived at his island, the atmosphere returned to calm.

D. Conclusion

In the novel *The Old Man and the Sea* using time setting is shown in several scenes such as when the old man leaves for the sea when it is dark or at night the sea when it is still dark or at night where the author places a specific time in the story. To make the story easy to understand and more interesting, the author outlines the timeline. Understand and more interesting the author outlines the timeline by mentioning what happens at a certain time, for example the author tells what happens in the morning, afternoon, and evening. For example, the author tells what happens in the morning, afternoon, afternoon and evening. For using a time setting is because the idea of this story is very simple, which is about an old man who goes fishing and catches a big fish. The author does not use the environmental, social, physical or historical setting because it is quite simple. social, physical or historical setting because it is quite difficult to explore the place or location. The setting in *The Old Man and the Sea* plays a multifaceted role in shaping the tone, atmosphere and theme of the story. It can affect the mood and atmosphere of the story, which in turn can affect the tone.

In addition, the setting serves to evoke various emotions in the reader, ranging from awe and admiration to empathy and sadness. By immersing us in Santiago's world, Hemingway invites us to experience the full spectrum of human emotion, reflecting the protagonist's journey of triumph and tribulation. The novel uses the special setting of the sea as a backdrop and character in its own right. It depicts the unknown, the uncontrollable and the eternal conflict between man and nature. and the eternal conflict between man and nature. In addition, the setting serves to evoke a variety of emotions in the reader, from awe, empathy to sadness. in the reader ranging from admiration, empathy to sadness. By immersing us in Santiago's world, Hemingway invites us to experience the full spectrum of human emotions, reflecting the full spectrum of human emotions, reflecting the protagonist's journey of triumph and tribulation. the protagonist's journey of triumph and tribulation.

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