



BOOK REVIEW OF *RATU ADIL: MEMOAR SEORANG SKIZOFREN*

WRITTEN BY SATIRA ISVANDIARY

A FINAL PROJECT

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PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer states truthfully that this project is compiled by her without taking the results from other research in any university, in S-1, S-2, and S-3 degree and in diploma. In addition, the writer ascertains that she does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned in bibliography.

Semarang, 30 August 2013

Avita Faridiana Satiti

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

Dream Big, Work Hard, and Don't Be an Asshole

Mike Shinoda

This paper is dedicated to my beloved mother and father

APPROVAL

Approved by

Advisor,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by 'rida Widyastuti'.

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ABSTRAK

Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren, merupakan buku pertama yang ditulis oleh Satira Isvandiary. Buku tersebut bercerita tentang pengalaman hidup pengarang selama ia menjadi penderita skizofren. Di dalam novel tersebut Satira Isvandiary menjelaskan setiap kejadian yang ia alami secara jelas dan detail, agar pembaca bisa merasakan apa yang dia alami. Pengarang juga menjelaskan tentang penyakit skizofrenia dan penyebab dari penyakit tersebut.

Penulis sangat tertarik memilih novel ini sebagai tugas akhir karena novel ini berbeda dengan novel-novel lainnya yang juga bercerita mengenai skizofrenia. Di dalam tugas akhir ini, penulis berusaha mengemukakan tentang kelebihan dari novel ini yaitu menyimpulkan manfaat-manfaat yang ada di dalam buku agar pembaca bisa mengetahui sisi pandang pendapat dari penulis, dan kekurangan novel ini hanya terletak pada penggunaan beberapa kata dalam bahasa Jawa. Secara keseluruhan, buku tersebut sangat cocok sebagai referensi untuk pembaca. Selain ceritanya yang bagus, banyak manfaat yang bisa diperoleh pembaca setelah membaca buku tersebut.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Writing

“Schizophrenia is a mental disorder characterized by a breakdown of thought processes and by a deficit of typical emotional responses. Common symptoms include auditory hallucinations, paranoid or bizarre delusions, or disorganized speech and thinking, and it are accompanied by significant social or occupational dysfunction. The onset of symptoms typically occurs in young adulthood, with a global lifetime prevalence of about 0.3–0.7%. Diagnosis is based on observed behavior and the patient's reported experiences” (Wikipedia.com, 2013).

So, schizophrenia is a mental disorder that may cause delusions, paranoid, hallucinations, disordered thinking and behavior. The symptoms usually occur in young adulthood.

Being deranged or schizophrenic is not something desired by Satira Isvandary (Evi), the author of this novel. People with schizophrenia are usually not able to carry on the burden they have and it seems hard for them because they do not get support from people around them, such as their family. It makes the condition worse for them.

Satira Isvandary (Evi) through her novel *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren* tells about her background and fact when she had schizophrenia. She also explains about her divorce experience causing that mental disorder, some events and fragments in her life when she was a schizophrenic and her recovery from schizophrenia.

This story above which is based on Evi's true story draws writer's attention in choosing the novel as her review of final project. The writer is interested in Evi's life when she had schizophrenia. Moreover, the book can give information about schizophrenia and its causes to the readers, so that they know about the causes of this disease. The readers can change their mind and attitude about people who has that mental disorder. Besides, the readers can learn to empathize, accept, understand and respect the people who have mental disorders.

1.2 Purpose of Writing

The writer's purpose in writing this final project:

1. To give a brief review about *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren* novel.
2. To give information about schizophrenia.
3. To determine the strengths and the weakness of *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren* novel.

1.3 Biography of Satira Isvandiary

The novel's writer, Satira Isvandiary, is usually called Evi by her family and friends. She was born in Probolinggo, East Java on September 11th 1974. She was the second winner of *Top Model Putra- Putri Anggrek Yogyakarta* in 1996.

She had schizophrenia since 1977 to 2002 and recovered in the end of November in 2002. She lives in small rent house at Panggung Harjo, Sewon, Bantul, Yogyakarta with her mother and nephews now. Since her recovery, she spends her leisure time to write and unbosom her daily life through diary. The novel *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren* comes from diary and it is her first novel that is published.

CHAPTER II

SUMMARY OF THE NOVEL

Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren, is written by Satira Isvandiary. It tells about Evi's life when she was in her delusion as *Ratu Adil*, the King or Queen who was believed for saving the world from chaos and bringing justice and prosperity for the people.

Schizophrenia is one of mental disorder characterized by delusions or belief in unfounded view. A schizophrenic thinks that he or she has super power based on her or his imagination and illusions. The symptoms of schizophrenia involve ability and personality changes. The first change includes reduction of emotion, motivation, and interest, pulling away from her surroundings, feeling down and laughing without any reason. The second change is mind disorder shown by slow or fast thinking and even has shifting topic when he or she is talking. The next one is perceptiveness changes in understanding reality and the world. The last change is visual delusion in differentiating color and somebody's face. A schizophrenic is also very sensitive with smell, sound and taste (www.bcscs.org, 2013). All of the symptoms happened to Evi.

In the first chapter, Evi tells about her first love story with Hanafi who was a son of religion organization leader in Yogyakarta and neighbor of her brother. On holiday, Evi visited her brother in Yogyakarta and she met Hanafi there. Evi started to love

Hanafi and vice versa. She had to go back to Pekalongan when the holiday was over. She sent letters to Hanafi because she knew that she would not meet Hanafi anymore. Unfortunately, Hanafi did not reply her letter. Then, Evi went to Yogyakarta to know what happened to Hanafi and she faced the reality that Hanafi was with another girl. Because of her jealousy, she decided to break up from Hanafi and went back to Pekalongan. She had new relationship with Jatmiko to revenge her broken heart. Jatmiko was her brother's friend coming from rich family. His father was member of Indonesian Legislative Assembly and his mother was of Master Economic in America and Director of Academy in Semarang. Jatmiko had a handsome face but got high tempered. He was a playboy. Although Evi already knew about it, she still kept her love. She decided to get married with Jatmiko at the age of 18th and graduated from school. Evi had two children named Rossmaya and Disan. Jatmiko and Evi often had a quarrel, which resulted in stress. Evi's body became emaciated and neglected, she started smoking, did not care about the children. To cure her stress caused by marriage problems, she tried modeling and got award as miss model. Beginning in February 1997, she started to show the symptoms of schizophrenia. She was just sitting cross-legged at the corner of the room every day and she got headache that was so extreme, then she grabbed her hair and that was the moment when Evi hallucinated her mind.

In the second chapter, Evi began to laugh without any reason, never took a bath, rarely ate and had big hallucination to be *Ratu Adil*. In her hallucination, she got

a miracle that she had to speak with people using her telepathy, she could talk to animals and plants. She also met the Prophet Dawud, Sun Go Khong, Buddha, Rasullah SAW and the other prophet, a friend of Gandarawa, Satan, Buta Ijo, Jin, Cleopatra and Napoleon Bonaparte. She also mastered the science of chakras and was resistant to fire, a descendant of Mak Lampir. She was the last girlfriend of Saint Gabrielle. Evi could create their own planet and a human incarnation of Titod, Godod's employees who worked on her planet. She also created manager for the household named UWA Computer. Evi also regarded herself as a Dragon Snake, with round eyes like shiny blue marbels. From the miracle she received, she called herself *Ratu Adil*, who helped all human beings in the world.

In the last chapter, Evi experienced the healing process. The family brought her to *Pesantren Nurul Huda, Sugi Waras* up to psychiatric hospital in Pakem, Yogyakarta. In psychiatric hospital, she got good nursing and supervision for about three weeks. She began to suspect herself that the miracle was not true and she felt far from the real world. Evi was plunged in thought that she felt guilty to her children and her family. She also realized that she was not the beautiful *Ratu Adil*, but only a poor widow with diseased soul. Nightmares were gone and her life had returned.

CHAPTER III

REVIEW OF THE NOVEL

3.1 The Strength of *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren*

The first strength of this novel is on the design of the novel. It is found in its cover and title. The design of book cover, a picture of a woman sitting and the title of the novel *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren* will make people interested in reading this novel. Moreover, in the top left of the novel, there is an additional sentence *Bukan Kisah Nyata Biasa* that gives advantages for the novel.

Second, the novel consists of three chapters with 229 pages. Pages XXVI-XXXII tell about the definition, change of the characteristic, and causes of schizophrenia. Part of the story is on page one up to 299 and the last pages contains Satira Isvandary's biography and summary of the novel. The novel is not very thick. If the novel was thick the reader would not want to read the novel.

Third, the story in the novel is good because it is different from the other novels about schizophrenia and schizophrenic. It is based on the true story of Evi's life, so the author can change the point of view of the readers about the schizophrenic and schizophrenia.

The next strength of this novel is shown in chapter two, the author explains about how Evi underwent as a schizophrenic

So, the readers can imagine and feel how to be schizophrenic, for instance, from the following statement:

Walaupun sudah tujuh tahun berlalu, sejak Februari 1997, kala usiaku menginjak 23 tahun, rentetan episode pengalaman khayali tapi asli itu seperti baru kualami kemarin hari. Boleh jadi, kisah yang akan kututurkan ini laiknya fiksi. Tapi sungguh dalam pengembaraanku di alam itu, aku sanggup melihat berbagai macam jenis makhluk dengan segala tingkah lucu mereka. Riu ocean, lengking teriakan, dan halus bisikan mereka pun dapat kudengarkan. Aku memahami apa keinginan mereka dan mereka pun mengerti apa kemauanku, sebab aku mampu berbicara dalam segala bahasa. Dapat kubau juga aroma-aroma ganjil mereka (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:30).

In short during her suffering from schizophrenia, she felt living in a different world and saw different creatures with their noisy and silly talks, screams, and soft whispers. She was able to talk to them and to smell their aroma.

In another quotation, the author identifies about the support and best effort from her family. Although Evi suffered from schizophrenia, her family still supported and did not leave her. It can be seen from the following statement:

Aku dibawa keluargaku ke paranormal karena keadaanku semakin parah. Aku masih sering berbicara sendiri mengatur ini itu, bernyanyi-nyanyi dan tertawa-tertawa sendiri (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:213).

From the statement above, the author explains that a schizophrenic must have support from the family, do not leave a schizophrenic from her/his family. The greater attention and support from the family to the patient, the sooner the recovery will be.

The author also carries moral message for the readers. The moral message can be seen in the following quotation:

Saat berpapasan dengan sosok itu, reaksi kita adalah mengolok, menghindar, menjauh dan dalam hati berkata, “Dasar orang gila!” atau “kasihan. Kok keluarganya ga ngurusin ya?”. Kita kerap lupa bahwa mereka adalah manusia seperti kita, bahkan dari masyarakat kita. Kita bahkan lupa bahwa mereka menjadi gila seperti itu juga ulah sebagian dari kita, orang-orang yang hidup disekitarnya, terutama yang ada didekatnya (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:vi).

From that explanation there are many positive things and moral messages that the readers can get. The schizophrenic is a human being who is suffering from a mental illness result from people around her (and her mental weakness). Therefore, she has to be not offended.

3.2 The Weakness of *Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren*

The first weakness of the novel is the language used by the author is too prolix and sometimes difficult to understand. The author sometimes uses Javanese language in the novel that makes the readers who do not come from Java cannot understand what the meaning it is. This can be shown by following quotation:

Jelas-jelas dia sudah berbohong kalau sudah putus, “lha wong” isi suratnya begitu mesra (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:30).

“*lha wong*” is a Javanese expressions.

The second weakness of the novel is the setting of the novel. The settings of novel are very unclearly described. This case happens in chapter *Menjadi Ratu Adil (Saat Gila)*. In this chapter, there is a sentence that tells about Evi’s meeting with Rasulullah SAW. The author does not describe the settings of the place. This can be seen in following quotation:

Pertama kali bertemu Rasulullah, aku gemetaran karena takut orang-orang Islam menyerbuku dan memarahiku. Namun aku tetap bersalawat dan salam kepadanya. (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:73).

In the event, it is not clear where and when she met Rasulullah.

In the other stories, the author does not describe the setting time:

Sesampainya didaerah lain, sang ayah tersadar dan ingin pulang. Dan sang ayah pun berjalan menyusuri jalan-jalan tak tentu arah (Satira Isvandiary, 2004:13).

In the event, it is not clear either when she met her father.

Furthermore, the last weakness is in the table of contents of the novel. In the table of contents, the author divided the chapter of the novel into three chapters, which are namely *Rumah Tanggaku Kandas*, *Warasku Terampas (Sebelum Gila)*, *Menjadi Ratu Adil (Saat Gila)*, *Badai Telah Berlalu (Sesudah Gila)*. But actually there are sub-chapters in each chapter that are not mentioned in the table of contents. So, it makes the readers get confused because the readers will not easily differ between the chapters and sub-chapters. The sub-chapters named *Gilaku*, *Waham Kebesaranku*, *Di Pesantren Nurul Huda Sugi Waras*, *Bertemu dengan Sun Go Kong dan tokoh-tokoh Buddha lainnya*, *Bertemu dengan Rasulullah SAW dan Nabi-Nabi yang lain*, *Mengajak setan bertobat dan bersujud kepada Nabi Adam*, *Aku masih keturunan Sun Go Kong*, *Merencanakan sesuatu untuk kebaikan para hewan*, *Aku dan kisah Mak Lampir*, *Aku, Malaikat Jibril dan Internet*. For example, there is no relation between sub-chapter *Di Pesantren Nurul Huda Sugi Waras* and *Bertemu*

dengan Sun Go Kong dan tokoh-tokoh Buddha lainnya. There are some chapters which are not connected with its sub-chapters, for example *Badai Telah Berlalu (Sesudah Gila)* and *Aku, Malaikat Jibril dan Internet* are not connected one another and it makes the readers feel difficult to understand the story.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Ratu Adil: Memoar Seorang Skizofren is an interesting novel written by Satira Isvandiary. From the true story of Evi's life the reader knows about schizophrenia and schizophrenic. After reading the novel, the readers can understand about the life in reality and they do not feel strange to schizophrenic. The author also gives the reader moral messages about affection and attention given by her family. Besides, the author also gives the examples to the reader about the schizophrenic life

The strengths of this novel which can invite people to read the novel are from: the attracted cover, the explanation of the story that makes the reader can understand clearly what schizophrenia is, how the condition of a schizophrenic patient is and how the mental illness can be healed.

There are few weaknesses, namely the writer uses some Javanese expressions that may make non-Javanese readers confused. Besides, she does not use connectors to link one chapter to another, and one sub-chapter to another.

Over all, this novel is a good story and could be a recommendation for the readers who want to know about schizophrenia and schizophrenic patient.

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