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The image of women in the novel *women crying to the black moon* by Dian Purnomo

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to describe the image of the main female character in the novel *Woman Who Cried to the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. The results of this study are women's self-image in the form of character or the formation of women who are also responsible for their potential as individual beings; Physical image in the form of a physical image or a woman's body, which includes beauty, posture, and beauty, like the figure of a mage who has the physical characteristics of a woman who comes from Eastern Indonesia; a psychic image which states that women are psychological beings who think, feel, and aspire. Women were created by straight psychics who are carried away by feelings, also by magi who always feel sad when separated from their friends, social image of the role of women in the family and community environment. Within the family circle, women have roles as children, homemakers, and wives. Based on research conducted on the novel *Woman Crying to the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo, it can be concluded that the image of women in it is self-image, physical image, psychological image, and social image.



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Introduction

An image is a picture that many people have about a person, company, organization, or product (Effendi, 2021). The word image here refers to every idea or thought about women. A mental image is an effect in the mind which closely resembles an image by the rendering of the reader an object visible, the optic nerve, with related or related brain areas (Yotolembah & Ruslan, 2022). The image of a woman is a picture or reflection of a woman who is an attractive and feeling creature. The idea of women also has a very close relationship with literary works, and many writers write stories about women or the image of women. This is because women are fascinating to discuss and write about in literary works. The image of women is also a picture or form of behavior found in women as a person's identity or character. The embodiment depicted in a person's personality can be seen from two aspects, namely physical aspects and non-physical aspects. They are reflected in literary works. An image can be in the form of an image that many people have about a person or a visual mental impression (image) generated by a word, phrase, or sentence. It is an essential element of the concept of female image (Sugihastuti dan Soeharto, 2016).

According to (Imani et al., 2023), literary work is a work of the author's imagination that describes the reality in people's lives. Literary work expresses human feelings through experiences, thoughts, feelings, and ideas described in written form and used by writers or authors to convey their ideas communicatively. And use

language as a medium. Literary works have various forms, namely poetry, prose, and drama. One type of literary work that is most in demand by readers is a literary work in the form of a novel (Zahar & Ardinah, 2022). As a type of literary work, the novel comes from the writings of authors who are part of society (Setiawan, 2018). In addition, (Tarigan, 2011) stated that a Novel is a fictional prose story in a certain length, which describes the characters, movements and life scenes represented in a plot or a situation that is rather chaotic or tangled. The novel is interpreted as a form of literary work that can present life and educational values; these values can be in the form of moral, social, cultural, and religious values, which are good to follow (Saragih, 2022). Thus, literature as a creative work must be able to give birth to beautiful creations and try to channel the needs of human Beauty. Literature must also be able to become a vehicle for conveying ideas that writers think and feel about human life. One of the authors who reveals a reality of social life in his work, namely Dian Yuliasri or Dian Purnomo, makes social issues related to women the theme of his career.

The study that is closely related to the image of women is Feminism, feminist literary criticism of literary works used as material for women's movements and in socializing feminist issues (Puspasari, 2021). Feminist literary criticism sees all works as the essence of aesthetic assumptions and practices regarding gender which are known as sexual practices. Feminist criticism of literary works is used as material for women's liberation movements and in socializing feminist ideas (Kurnia et al., 2013). The target of feminist literary criticism is to provide a critical response to the views that are tangible in literary works given by the culture, then question the relationship between text, power, and sexuality expressed in the text (Triani, 2021).

According to (Setyorini, 2017) Feminism is a movement demanding emancipation that fights for equality for women both in politics, the economy, culture, private space, and public space. Feminism is a trend of civilization that leads to equality in all areas of life, without discrimination because of gender differences (Abbas, 2020). Feminism is a women's movement that rejects all forms that marginalize, subordinate, and demean women. Women want no oppression against themselves. Women are dominated by men in various fields, namely politics, economics, and in social life in general. Feminism is also a state of oppression and extortion of women in society, whether at work or in the family, as well as conscious actions by women and men to change this situation. For feminists, women's struggle is not only against discrimination but also for emancipation and liberation from all forms of oppression, be it by the government, society, or men. In addition, Feminism also gave birth to a movement that aims as an effort to dismantle the ideology of oppression in the name of gender, to find sources of women's oppression, to efforts to create true women's liberation (Nuryati, 2015). According to Darma in (Ariaseli & Puspita, 2021), the struggle for the feminist movement developed even longer with demands to achieve equality and equality of dignity, as well as the freedom for women to choose in managing their lives and bodies both in the domestic sphere and in the public space. Feminism's demand is gender equality, meaning that women can play a role and participate in all public, economic, social, cultural, and educational activities as well as equality in experiencing various forms of facilities and development (Afiah, 2021).

Research conducted by (Darlis et al., 2021) stated that the marginalization of women (Economic Impoverishment) in the novel tells that women's work is limited, namely only around the house. Subordination (Assumption is not important in making decisions) in the novel tells of a decision taken unilaterally because a woman's rejection initiated it. Labeling/markings (stereotype) in this case, Magi raises the point of view of proof that women can also be successful with the path they choose. Violence in Dian Purnomo's novel *Women Crying for Black Moon* is shown by the treatment of violence against women, both physically and non-physically. The workload, in this case, is the right of a woman who should not have a double burden. Instead, she is the one who carries all the burden. Furthermore, research conducted by (Kurnia et al., 2013) stated that the form of gender inequality in the main character's novel *A Piece of Women's Heart in Teluk Eden* by Vanny Charisma W. is in the form of stereotypes (negative labeling), violence which includes domestic violence (physical violence and emotional violence), and public violence, as well as the main character's struggle against oppression in the novel *A Piece of Women's Heart in Eden Bay* by Vanny Charisma W. in the form of providing understanding and expressing opinions.

With the birth of feminist views, women's position has begun to develop, where women are not only struggling with housework but can also explore the outside world. Along with the development of modern literature, many Indonesian writers, especially novel writers, have made women their inspiration. They make women an object in the story because they are exciting figures, and there will be no end to them as a topic of conversation. Based on the description above, the researcher wants to research to describe the image of the main female character in the novel—the woman who cries to the Black Moon by Dian Purnomo.

Method

The type of research used in this research is library research. It is said to be library research because the object of study is the novel *Woman Crying to the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo and other supporting book sources that are still related to the issues discussed in this study. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. According to (Sugiyono, 2019), qualitative research methods are often called natural research methods because the research is carried out in natural conditions. Descriptive means a description or presentation of data. This method is used to describe the overall results of the analysis. The description is in accordance with the interpretation and understanding of the researcher based on the theoretical basis in this study. Qualitative research is essentially research that seeks to observe and understand to gain an understanding of meaning. It is said to be qualitative because the data sources are works, manuscripts, and research data, whereas formal data are words, sentences, and discourses. The data used in this study is written data in the form of words, sentences, and paragraphs contained in the novel that includes the image of women in the story *Perempuan Yang Crying to Bulan Hitam* by Dian Purnomo.

The data source in this study is the novel *Women Who Cry to the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo, published by Gramedia Pustaka Utama, and consists of 320 pages. In this case, the researcher cannot be separated from references or literature considered supportive and relevant to the research title. The technique used to collect data in this research is the content analysis technique or content analysis. The content analysis or constant analysis method analyzes the content contained in literary works. The data analysis was carried out with the following steps: 1) They are identifying data related to the role of women contained in Dian Purnomo's novel *Women Crying for Black Months*; 2) Classification, namely classifying (grouping data) the role of women based on the type of image; 3) They were reviewing or analyzing, namely interpreting, the contents of quotes taken from novels identified with their relation or relationship with the image of women; 4) Interpretation of data, namely providing a general description of the research results obtained and conclusions by researchers.

Results and Discussions

Self Image

A woman's self-image is an individual figure with her own opinion and choices for various activities based on her personal and social needs. The self-image of the Magi character cannot be seen with the naked eye, the self-image of the Magi character can be known by paying attention to his personality, behavior, and the principles he holds.

The self-image of a free Magi figure can be seen in the following quote.

"I want to, so I have a wife. No other bad intentions. So shut up and be a good wife for me."

"Get off me!" Magi struggled with anger, disgust, sadness, and helplessness.

"I do not want to be a wife. I would rather die than be left behind by my wife,"

"Shut up!"

"You coward!" shouted Magi, still trying to fight back. "Rapist!"

Leba Ali pulled his body and put his right hand on Magi's neck. It wasn't too hard, but because those hands supported Leba Ali's large body, Magi immediately felt a lump in her throat. Magi began to have difficulty breathing (Purnomo, 2020). Based on this quote, Magi is portrayed as a free woman. Her character as a strict woman strongly opposes traditions that she considers harmful to others. This tradition is what Magi wants to straighten out so that what he experiences does not happen to other people.

Physical Image

Physical images can be seen from physical descriptions such as body posture, facial shape, hair, etc. In addition, the physical image can also be described through appearance, such as the style of dress. The character Magi in the novel *Woman Crying for the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo is characterized by the author as a miniature adult woman with shoulder-length hair and dark skin. The physical image of the character Magi, who is described as a small woman with short shoulder-length hair and dark skin, can be seen in the following quotation.

"This small Woman with short shoulder-length hair lay silent in a hospital bed. Occasionally his fingers made a small movement, then calmed down again. Behind the closed lids, one can see the unsteady movement of the eyeballs. His dark skin is dull and pale because almost no food has entered his body for the past two days." (Purnomo, 2020).

Based on this quote, Magi's physique is imaged as a woman who is small in stature, has short shoulder-length hair, and has dark skin. The figure of the Magi is physically reproduced as a woman who comes from Eastern Indonesia. He is also described in great detail as an eastern person in general.

Psychic Image

Women, as individual beings, apart from being formed from a physical image, are also started by a psychic manifestation. Women are created with a psyche easily carried away by feelings because women are creatures that prioritize feelings. In the novel *Woman Crying for Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo, the character Magi is portrayed as a woman who is easily carried away by emotions. The psychic image of the character Megi who is described as a woman who is easily carried away by feelings, can be seen in the following quotation.

"Some of Magi's friends visited to encourage him, and Magi was pleased to meet them. But Magi's happiness can suddenly disappear when one of her friends asks what happened or the chronology of events. Magi felt angry, sad, horrified, humiliated, helpless, and fed up. All these feelings rushed mercilessly." (Purnomo, 2020).

Based on this quote, the character Magi is portrayed as a woman who is easily carried away by feelings or often known as mood swings. In this quote, it can be seen that Magi feels happy when her friends visit her to encourage her. However, when one of his friends asked about the chronology of events that had happened to him, he suddenly felt a mix of sadness and anger when he recalled the incident.

Social Image in the Family (As a Child)

As an adult woman, a woman's thoughts cannot be separated from life in the family. This is because the family is an institution that cannot be separated from larger institutions. The image of Magi as a child in his family can be seen from his position in the story, which has a mother and father. Magi is a girl who is independent, caring, and obedient to her parents. Magi's image as an independent child can be seen in the following quote.

Magi's tears almost fell when she finally answered, "There is one condition, Ama."
"What?"
"I must still be allowed to work and activities outside the home."
Ama bobo smiled and nodded triumphantly (Purnomo, 2020).

The quote shows Magi's independence when she gets married later. He wants the knowledge he gains in college to be valuable. She wants to be an independent woman, Magi still wants to work and create even though she is married. Besides being independent, Magi is portrayed as a child who cares for her parents.

Social Image in Society

As social beings cannot be separated from other humans, the relationship is reciprocal. Humans cannot live without the help of others. The image in society in this novel talks about the existence of a woman, namely Magi, in the community who is known as a woman who is intelligent and has studied at a university on the island of Java, and is a courageous person, Magi maintains a good relationship with her surroundings. This can be seen in the following quotation.

"Magi Diela, until whenever Soe is, you have a home," said Uncle Vincent while holding Magi's shoulder.
"You may return to your village in Sumba, but there is another village that is always waiting for you here. You can go back to Soe whenever you want." (Purnomo, 2020).

The quote described the situation when Uncle Vincent and Mama Ros took Magi to the airport to return to Sumba. They embraced tightly before Magi finally entered the waiting room. Their relationship is very close, and they even consider Magi-like family.

Literary works try to tell and describe something fictional, doesn't exist, and doesn't happen, so there's no need to look for the truth in the real world. Reading a literary work will be interesting if the author's expression is presented in language with aesthetic value (Anggrian, 2022). The result of this study is that Magi is described as a free woman. Her character is a woman who is firm against traditions that she considers harmful to others. It is this tradition that the Magi want to straighten out so that what they experience does not happen to other people. While physically, Magi is described as a woman who is small in stature, has short shoulder-length hair, and has dark skin. The figure of the Magi is physically reproduced as a woman who comes from Eastern Indonesia. She is also described in great detail as an average Easterner, and the character Magi is described as a woman who is easily carried away or often known for her mood swings. In this quote, it can be seen that Magi feels happy when her friends visit her to cheer her on. However, when one of his friends asked him about the chronology of events that had happened to him, he suddenly felt a mix of sadness and anger as he recalled the incident.

Because social beings cannot be separated from other humans, the relationship is reciprocal. Humans cannot live without the help of others. The description of society in this novel talks about the existence of a woman, namely the Magi, in society who is known as a smart woman who has studied at a university on the island of Java and is a brave person; the Magi maintain good relations with their surroundings. This Research is in line with Research conducted by Vina, which stated that the Marginalization of Women (Economic Impoverishment) in the novel tells that women's work is limited, namely only around the house. Subordination (Assumption is not important in making decisions) in the novel tells of a decision taken unilaterally because a woman's rejection initiated it. Labeling/marking (stereotype) in this case, Magi raises the point of view of proof that women can also be successful with the path they choose. Violence in Dian Purnomo's novel *Women Crying for Black Moon* is shown by the treatment of violence against women, both physically and non-physically. The workload, in this case, is the right of a woman who should not have a double burden; instead, she is the one who carries all the burden.

Conclusions

Based on the description of the results of the research and its discussion in chapter IV, it can be concluded that the image of women in the novel *Woman Crying for the Black Moon* by Dian Purnomo includes the following: the idea of women studied in this study is the image of women as individuals which contains aspects of self, physical, psychic, as well as social elements found in the figures of Magi and Ina Bobo. From the research results, it can be concluded that Magi found four images. The self-image of the Magi character is described as a woman who is free and does not want to be bound by unreasonable customs. The physical image of Magi is described as a woman with a small stature, dark skin, and short shoulder-length hair. From the psychological aspect, the character Magi is imaged as a creature easily carried away by feelings or *mood swings* and thinking. Meanwhile, the image of women from the social aspect can be seen from the family environment. Magi is portrayed as a child who obeys his parents. He is also categorized as a smart kid because he has become a scholar by studying in Yogyakarta. In addition, in society, Magi figures have good relations with the people around them. He also has a friendly demeanor and easily adapts to new environments and people he meets. Meanwhile, in the character of Ina Bobo, only one image of a woman is found, namely the image of a housewife. The essence of Ina Bobo is imagined as a mother who is very caring and understands the feelings of her child Magi.

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