



**HUMBERT'S OBSESSION TOWARDS DOLORES HAZE
IN VLADIMIR NABOKOV'S *LOLITA***

JOURNAL ARTICLE

**Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S)**

By

**Hana Utami Dewi
Muhammad Rifqi**

**ENGLISH STUDY PROGRAM FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIAN NUSWANTORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG
2015**

PAGE OF APPROVAL

This journal have been approved by Board of Advisors, English Study Program, Faculty of Humanities, Dian Nuswantoro University on August 11, 2015.

Advisor

Muhammad Rifqi, S.S., MPd.

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Hana Utami Dewi, Muhammad Rifqi

Dian Nuswantoro University

muhammad.rifqi@dsn.dinus.ac.id

ABSTRACT

This Thesis is entitled *Humbert's Obsession towards Dolores Haze (Lolita) in Vladimir Nabokov's Lolita*. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method during the research since the aim of this study is to find out Humbert's Obsession towards little girl, Dolores Haze, in Vladimir Nabokov's Lolita. The objectives of this thesis are to describe the general description of Humbert as the main character, to describe the conflict and setting experienced by Humbert, and to explain the Lolita Complex syndrome related to the Obsession of Humbert towards little girl Dolores Haze (Lolita). The researcher chose descriptive qualitative method and library research to analyze this research and gain some information, both main source and other sources that support the topic. The researcher used structural approach to analyze the general description, conflict and setting. For analyze the obsession of the main character, the researcher used psychological approach. The result of the study shows that Humbert is described as a lonely charming guy who loves underaged girl. He is also described as a person who is obsessed, anxious, insecure, curious, fragile, over protective, and a bad tempered person and a good father. He experiences internal conflict against himself and also the external conflicts against social, Charlotte, Lolita, and Clare Quilty. Lolita complex syndrome is found in Humbert's psychological condition in order to his obsession towards Dolores Haze (Lolita).

Keywords: *Lolita Complex syndrome, Obsession, Humbert*

Makalah ini berjudul Obsesi Humbert terhadap Dolores Haze di dalam novel Lolita karya Vladimir Nabokov. Penulis makalah menggunakan metode deskripsi kualitatif selama proses penulisan makalah yang bertujuan untuk menganalisa obsesi Humbert terhadap gadis dibawah umur, Dolores Haze, di Novel Lolita karya Vladimir Nabokov. Tujuan dari makalah ini adalah penulis berkeinginan untuk mendeskripsikan Humbert sebagai tokoh utama dalam cerita, mendeskripsikan konflik dan latar yang dialami oleh Humbert, dan menjelaskan tentang sindrom Lolita Complex yang berkaitan dengan hasrat Humbert terhadap gadis dibawah umur, Dolores Haze. Penulis memilih metode deskriptif kualitatif dan menggunakan sumber bacaan untuk menganalisa dan mendapatkan informasi, sumber informasi utama dan sumber informasi lainnya yang mendukung topik makalah. Penulis menggunakan pendekatan struktural untuk menganalisa deskripsi secara menyeluruh dari pemeran utama, konflik, dan juga latar. Untuk menganalisa obsesi dari pemeran utama, penulis menggunakan pendekatan psikologi. Hasil dari penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Humbert adalah seorang kesepian, mempesona, menyukai gadis dibawah umur, terobsesi, cemas berlebih, selalu curiga, seorang ayah yang baik, tidak tahan terhadap tekanan, sangat mengikat, dan

pearah. Humbert mengalami konflik dengan dirinya sendiri dan juga mengalami konflik dengan kehidupan sosial di sekitarnya, Charlotte, Lolita, dan Clare Quilty. Sindrom Lolita complex ditemukan dalam kondisi psikologi Humbert ketika memenuhi obsesinya terhadap Dolores Haze (Lolita).

Kata Kunci : Humbert, Obsesi, Syndrom Lolita Complex

INTRODUCTION

Obsession is the inability of a person to stop thinking about a particular topic or feeling a certain emotion without a high amount of anxiety. When obsessed, an individual continues the obsession in order to avoid the consequent anxiety. One of kind obsession is an obsessive love, it is a form of love where one person is emotionally obsessed with another. Obsessive lovers believe that only the person they fixate on can make them feel happy and fulfilled.

Obsessed people become very emotional and physical related to their love object. There are 4 phases in this disorder: the first one is attraction phase. The second one is anxious phase. Then leads to the obsessive phase and the last one destructive phase.

In this novel, Humbert as the main character of *Lolita* told as an obsessive man towards his love, a twelve years old Dolores Haze, known as Lolita. His obsession to the child caused some impacts to his psychological condition.

The interesting point of this novel is how Humbert loves an underage girl, he's having a sexual deviation caused by his abnormal desire to the underage girl. There's kind of sexual deviations. One of thus deviations is called Lolita Complex. Etymologically it is often shorten as lolicon (Lolita Complex) in Japanese. It describes a sexual attraction to younger girls, usually by adult males.

This phenomenon also occurs in our social life, in 2008 public was shocked the news of Syeikh Puji, "kyai" and also owner of the Islamic Boarding School in Semarang in his 43 years old marry twelve years old girl. It becomes controversial because law in this country forbid underage marriage and of course it also breaks the norms.

Lolita also tells us about Humbert Humbert, a forty years old male who becomes obsessed to the Dolores (Lolita) in her twelve years old. Based on the previous explanation, the researcher decides to discuss how the main character's abnormal desire caused Humbert's Obsession to possess Lolita in his love life experienced by using psychological approach.

RESEARCH METHOD

Data and Subject

In this research, the researcher used Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* as the object of the analysis and source of data. The researcher also used some theories from books, which are relevant and related with the topic. The researcher also accessed from the internet to support the analysis.

Unit of Analysis

In this research, the researcher focuses on intrinsic and extrinsic elements. The intrinsic elements includes character and conflicts, and the extrinsic elements includes psychological approach especially obsession.

Intrinsic element is the elements writing literary work and gives influence for the literary work itself while an extrinsic element is element which can support a literary work.

Technique of Data Collection and Analysis

In this study, the researcher used library research to collect data and references. Library research is a method of collecting data by reading books and references, which are related to the topic. In conducting the research, the researcher used some steps. First step is by reads the Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* novel to get the topic that will be analyze. Second step is collects data from the novel. The researcher also read other references related to the topic and the theory which is applied to this paper.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Finding

The researcher find that in the Vladimir Naokov's *Lolita*, there are twelve general description of Humbert as the main character, two conflict experienced by Humbert and two kinds of setting described in Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*.

The researcher also find the Obsession of Humbert towards Dolores Haze by analyze the psychological condition of Humbert. The researcher give some quotation from the novel which is related to the analysis.

Discussion

According to the finding, the discussion shows the general description, conflicts, settings and obsession of Humbert that related to the topic, Humbert's Obsession towards Dolores Haze in Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita*.

General Description of Humbert

Underage girl Lover

An underage girl was always attract Humbert. In psychological science this is kind of sexual deviation, love an underage girl. With all the enchantment that Humbert have, he could having a relationship with women but his desire to the girl child is more dominate. By the quotation which can be found in the novel, it can be known that Humbert tried to explain us about his desire, he wants to tell us that his desire is not dangerous. He tries to tell us his feeling, he wants that the police and society understand his sexual deviation. All this quotation explain us that Humbert experience sexual deviation to the underage girl. Humbert's desire towards (Dolores Haze) *Lolita* is not only about sex, his possessive to *Lolita* in his life is greater endeavor for him. But sometimes he cannot avoid his sexual desire to *Lolita*. For this case, Humbert being so obsessed to his miserable *Lolita*.

Excerpt 6 (Data no. 8)

'Humbert was perfectly capable of intercourse with Eve, but it was Lilith he logged for. The bud-stage of breast development appears early (10.7 years) in the sequence of somatic changes accompanying pubescence. And the next maturational item available is the first appearance of pigmented pubic hair (11.2 years).' (*Lolita*: 20)

Excerpt 11 (Data no. 19)

'I have all the characteristics which, according to writers on the sex interests of children,' (Lolita: 43)

Excerpt 12 (Data no. 22)

'I knew exactly what I wanted to do, and how to do it, without impinging on a child's chastity, after all, I had had some experience in my life of pederosis;' (Lolita: 55)

Excerpt 13 (Data no. 40)

'Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, the majority of sex offenders that hanker for some throbbing, sweet-moaning, physical but not necessarily coital, relation with a girl-child, are innocuous, inadequate, passive, timid strangers who merely ask the community to allow them to pursue their practically harmless, so-call aberrant behavior, their little hot wet private acts of sexual deviation without the police and society cracking down upon them. We are not sex fiends! We do not rape as good soldier do. We are unhappy, mild, dog-eyed gentlemen, sufficiently well integrated to control our urge in the presence of adults, but ready to give years and years of life for one chance to touch a nymphet. Emphatically, no killers are we. Poets never kill.' (Lolita: 87-88)

Excerpt 14 (Data no. 51)

'But really these are irrelevant matters, I am not concerned with so-call "sex" at all. Anybody can imagine those elements of animality. A greater endeavor lures me on: to fix once for all the perilous magic of nymphets.' (Lolita: 134)

Obsession

Humbert recognizes that he has an abnormal desire which has the sex interest of children, and in this beginning of the story Humbert realizes that. Humbert being so obsessed towards Lolita. It is known by the way he describes Lolita, even Humbert often speechless because of her enchantment when she is near around him. Humbert sets a plan to leave Haze house and find the way how to keep her distance to Lolita because he can not live without that girl. Humbert so obsessed with her so he would do everything to stay close. Humbert thinks to marry Charlotte, a mother of Dolores in order to have the way to his Lolita even it is hard for him. But his obsession to Lolita makes Humbert will do everything to stay close to Lolita. Sometimes he also cannot avoid his sexual desire to Lolita. For this case, Humbert being so obsessed to his miserable Lolita. Wherever he live, it doesn't matter as long as Lolita is beside him.

Excerpt 25 (Data no. 20)

'I would like to describe her face, her ways—and I cannot, because my own desire for her blinds me when she is near.' (Lolita: 44)

Excerpt 26 (Data no. 27)

'My plan now was to leave for the seaside and then, when school began, resume my existence in the Haze household, for I knew already that I could not live without the child.' (Lolita: 64)

Excerpt 27 (Data no. 32)

'There may have been times—there must have been times, if I know my Humbert—when I had brought up for detached inspection the idea of marrying a mature widow (say, Charlotte Haze) with not one relative left in the wide gray world, merely in order to have my way with her child (Lo, Lola, Lolita).' (Lolita: 69-70)

Excerpt 28 (Data no. 33)

'I imagined (under condition of new and perfect visibility) all the casual caresses her mother's husband would be able to lavish on his Lolita. I would hold her against me three times a day, every day. All my troubles would be expelled, I would be a healthy man. "To hold thee lightly on a gentle knee and print on thy soft cheek a parent's kiss . . ."' (Lolita: 70)

Excerpt 35 (Data no. 72)

'I really did not mind where to dwell provided I could lock my Lolita up somewhere;' (Lolita: 176)

OBSESSED

Humbert recognizes that he has an abnormal desire which has the sex interest of children, and in this beginning of the story Humbert realizes that. Humbert being so obsessed towards Lolita. It is known by the way he describes Lolita, even Humbert often speechless because of her enchantment when she is near around him. Humbert sets a plan to leave Haze house and find the way how to keep her distance to Lolita because he can not live without that girl. Humbert so obsessed with her so he would do everything to stay close. Humbert gets attention to Lolita from a distance when she plays with some female friend on her age. There Humbert realizes that among them all, no one can evoke her sexual desire as Lolita.

Excerpt 24 (Data no. 18)

'This time, I took up a strategic position, with obese newspaper and new pipe, in the piazza rocker before L. arrived. To my intense disappointment she came with her mother,' (Lolita: 42)

Excerpt 25 (Data no. 20)

'I would like to describe her face, her ways—and I cannot, because my own desire for her blinds me when she is near.' (Lolita: 44)

Excerpt 32 (Data no. 58)

'And watch her gambol, rubber-capped, be pearly smoothly tanned, as glad as an ad, in her trim-fitted satin pants and shirred bra. Pubescent sweetheart! How smugly would I marvel that she was mine, mine, mine,' (Lolita: 161)

CONFLICT**INTERNAL CONFLICT**

Humbert tries to throw his miserable memories, tries to analyze his own cravings, motives, actions and other what he feels about girls in his life. He start to realize about his abnormal desire to underage girl. Based on the data, Humbert's psychological condition clearly shows that he has abnormal desire to the girl children. Women does not attract Humbert's desire rather than the little girl do.

Excerpt 87 (Data no. 2)

'And keep asking myself, was it then, in the glitter of that remote summer, that the rift in my life began; or was my excessive desire for that child only the first evidence of in inherent singularity?' (Lolita: 13)

Excerpt 88 (Data no. 7)

'At other times I would tell myself that it was all question of attitude, that there was really nothing wrong in being moved to distraction by girl-children' (Lolita: 18-19)

EXTERNAL CONFLICT**HUMBERT AGAINST SOCIAL**

Humbert enters the fact that the environment and legal around him allow man in his age court to a girl of sixteen not twelve. In fact, he fall in love to Lolita. The law forbid Humbert's desire towards the girl child, because in social perspective what Humbert does to the little girl include in abnormal relationship. His neighbors and people around him also tried to look for some information about Lolita and him. It can be more insecure to Humbert because people around always try to know what exactly Humbert do, of course with the only his stepdaughter, Lolita.

Excerpt 110 (Data no. 5)

'and soon I found myself maturing amid a civilization which allows a man of twenty-five to court a girl of sixteen but not a girl of twelve' (Lolita: 18)

Excerpt 111 (Data no. 6)

'inly, I was consumed by a hell furnace of localized lust for every passing nymphet whom as a law-abiding poltroon I never dared approach.' (Lolita: 18)

Excerpt 113 (Data no. 74)

'The odious spinster, trying to conceal her morbid inquisitiveness under a mask of dulcet goodwill,' (Lolita: 180)

Excerpt 114 (Data no. 75)

'I had also to be careful in regard to a Mrs. Holigan, a charwoman and cook of sorts whom I had inherited with the vacuum cleaner from the previous tenants.' (Lolita: 180)

HUMBERT AGAINST LOLITA

Humbert is typified over protective parent. Besides, his sexual desire to Lolita causes him being so possessive. Humbert does not allow Lolita to go outside with her friends without him, but Lolita rejects Humbert to join her until they involve in a debate, but finally Humbert still waits Lolita in the car. A long journey with Lolita makes Humbert's income cracking. Humbert spends a lot of money to pay some clothes to Lola and go to some vacation places, and also the old Haze car repairs. So over protective Humbert makes his little dear Lola mad and feels really uncomfortable because he already steals her rights.

Excerpt 119 (Data no. 56)

'Cruelly she said it would be no fun if I accompanied her, since that time of day was reserved for teenagers. We wrangled out a compromise: I remained in the car, among other (empty) cars with their noses to the canvas-topped open-air wink,' (Lolita: 160)

Excerpt 120 (Data no. 71)

'Finally, there was the money question. My income was cracking under the strain of our joy-ride. True, I clung to the cheaper motor courts; but every now and then, there would be a loud hotel deluxe, or a pretentious dude ranch, to mutilate our budget; staggering sums, moreover, were expended on sightseeing and Lo's clothes, and the old Haze bus, although a still vigorous and very devoted machine, necessitated numerous minor and major repairs.' (Lolita: 175)

Excerpt 122 (Data no. 82)

'Lo was enraged by all this—called me lousy crook and worse' (Lolita: 186)

SETTING

SETTING OF TIME

Humbert is having sex with more than eighty girl ahead. To help his abnormal and sexual desire to the young children he decides to marry Valeria in her last twenty. However, their marriage only lasts four years because Valeria betrays Humbert with other man.

Excerpt 129 (Data no. 14)

'This state of affairs lasted from 1935 to 1939.' (Lolita: 26)

Humbert and Lolita make a long journey after Charlotte's death. He picks up Lola from the school and invites her to travelling the world during a year.

Excerpt 130 (Data no. 54)

'Roughly, during that mad year (August 1947 to August 1948),' (Lolita: 154)

SETTING OF PLACE

AUTEUIL

Humbert graduates from English Literature in university and after that he works as a lecture to teaching English in Auteuil for a couple a winters.

Excerpt 132 (Data no. 4)

'I found a job-teaching English to a group of adults in Auteuil. Then a school for boys employed me for a couple of winters' (Lolita: 16)

SLEEPY SMALL TOWN

Divorce has shook Humbert's psychological condition, but the life must go on and finally his passion in working brings Humbert moves to the sleepy small town in the New England countryside.

Excerpt 133 (Data no. 15)

'in the New England countryside or sleepy small town' (Lolita: 35)

MRS. HAZE HOUSE

His decision to move to another place brings Humbert to experiences other love life. In this house, Humbert meets a twelve years old enchanting Dolores Haze, a daughter of Mrs. Haze.

Excerpt 134 (Data no. 16)

'a grand person, Mrs. Haze of 342 Lawn Street' (Lolita: 35)

ENCHANTED HUNTERS

Enchanted Hunters, the place where Humbert brings Lolita far away from her society after her mother's death and the place where Humbert releases his sexual desire towards Lolita.

Excerpt 135 (Data no. 49)

'and there it was, marvelously and inexorably, under spectral trees, at the top of a graveled drive—the pale palace of the Enchanted Hunters.' (Lolita: 117)

CONCLUSION

Based on the previous discussion, it can be concluded as follow;

The main character of Vladimir Nabokov's *Lolita* is Humbert. He is described as a mature guy who is lonely, charming, love underage girl, obsessed, anxious, insecure, curious, a good father, fragile, over protective, romantic, and a bed temper person. He also belongs to dynamic character, since his characteristic change from the beginning until the end of the story.

Humbert also experiences both internal and external conflict. He experiences internal conflict when he realize that he have an abnormal desire to the girl child, Lolita. He overcomes his internal conflict when he fall in love to Lolita but on the other hand the social condition and the mother of Lolita, Mrs. Haze becomes his obstacle to possess Lolita. Mrs. Haze propose Humbert to marry her. For Humbert, it is a good reason to him finds the way how to always near around Lolita. It is caused external conflict against social when he entering a fact that the social and legal around him allow a man in his age to court a girl sixteen while Lolita is still twelve years old. What Humbert does towards Lolita is also include in an abnormal relationship. He is also against his neighbor and people around him whom always try to get some information about his privacy. It is

give an impact to his psychological condition. She became anxious and curious. The other external conflict happened when Humbert against Mrs. Haze, a mother of Dolores (Lolita). Mrs. Haze finds Humbert's daily notes and she knows that her husband fall in love and become obsessed to her little daughter. Mrs. Haze decide to move out from their house and accidentally died because of crushed by a car near their house. The death of Mrs. Haze makes Humbert becomes a single parent to Lolita. They live together as a father-daughter and also as a couple. His love and obsession to Lolita makes anxious, curious, insecure, and over protective impact to Humbert psychological condition. Humbert being a good father to Lolita but on the other hand he is so over protective towards Lolita, it caused Lolita left Humbert and disappear. At the end of the story, Humbert finds Lolita married to another guy and she is going to have a baby. Humbert beg Lolita to back with him but Lolita reject him. It cause his fragile. Lolita's explanation to Humbert about her live after leaving Humbert change Humbert psychological condition being a bad temper person. And the last external conflict is when Humbert against Clare Quilty, an old friend of Mrs. Haze whom know.

Setting in this story is divided into two settings, they are about setting of time and setting of place. Setting of time, tells the Humbert's psychological condition which is have a symptom of abnormal desire to the young girl. Before meet Lolita, he was having married with the girl named Valeria from 1935 to 1939. When Humbert marry Valeria, he is on her last twenty. But they were divorce because of Valeria betrays Humbert with other man. After that Humbert moves to another town, and meet Lolita. His attraction to Lolita bring Humbert to the long story the way his obsession to possess little Dolores (Lolita). After Charlotte died, Humbert picks up Lolita from school and invites her to travelling the world, they live together from August 1947 to August 1948. Until finally Lolita leave Humbert because of his over protective, Lolita disappear. In September 1952 Humbert got the letter from Lolita, it tells that Lolita is married and going have a baby, she ask some money. By that letter, Humbert finds Lolita but his life will never be the same again because Lolita decided to live without Humbert. Setting of place, describes as where the main character does in daily activity. The place around Auteuil where he works as a lecture to teaching English, a sleepy small town in the New England countryside where Humbert decided to moves after divorce with Valeria, his ex-wife, 342 Lawn Street where he lives in a widow Charlotte's house and meet Lolita, and also Enchanted Hunters, a place where Humbert take Lolita in their long journey after her mother died.

Finally, Humbert's obsession towards Dolores Haze (Lolita) shows by the way his struggle to possess Lolita even in the end of the story Humbert could not live together and possess Lolita he still love and adore Lolita.

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