

Analysis Figure of Speech and Theatrical Story In No Longer Human Novel by Osamu Dazai

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:

Received 3 Februari 2022

Received in revised form 2 Maret 2022

Accepted 10 April 2022

Available online 22 April 2022

Keywords:

literature study; the figures of speech; No Longer Human Novels; theatrical story

ABSTRACT

No Longer Human novel is a literature study that tells the life journey of a young man who lives in the real world. This story will be related to today's era, reflecting social criticism with the surrounding influences that make the most hypocritical living beings and easily lead to bad things. This novel, which tells the story of a young man's crisis, also has a psychological influence on the author in the process of making it. The process analysis, No Longer Human novel uses a qualitative descriptive method by collecting the data and processing it by reading the story thoroughly and analyzing the qualitative narrative. The results of the study represent the story of Oba Yozo's theatrical story and his regrets as well as the figure of speech used in Osamu Dazai's art, including (1) Idiomatic (2) Alliteration (3) Onomatopoeia (4) Personification (5) Simile (6) Metaphor (7) Hyperbole. Based on the analysis, it is found that the expression to beautify a literature study used by the author, the enrichment and disposition of the language used and the meaning of the story about fear and the harshness of the world make this Japanese novel in demand by connoisseurs of psychology or sociology genre novels.

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INTRODUCTION

Humans are actors or main roles in their lives, who play on the stage, namely in this world. The story of going back and forth, ups and downs, smooth and broken life stories that are always felt by humans are wrapped in real-life dramas, the stories are no less than dramas that are often watched on television. There are always stories of sadness and suffering in life that are experienced both physically and mentally, to respond to this a human being can choose to show his suffering to the world to get sympathy or cover it up and play the role of someone else as if the suffering was never present in his life. The attitude and nature of humans who often change with pretense based on their will can make humans the most terrible creatures in this world. A person's cheerfulness does not always describe him as a cheerful person, because that person is hiding his fragility and fear.

Excessive fear or anxiety can make a person drown in his bad imagination, sometimes it prevents him from living life that goes on (Durban, J. 2019). Feeling anxious is a natural thing that will be experienced by all humans, but the frequency of anxiety that is felt makes the feeling of anxiety different. Currently, anxiety disorders affect more than 8.4 million people in the world and about 6.6 million people experience depression which is preceded by an anxiety disorder. To

overcome anxiety disorders, not everyone gets the same treatment in their treatment, this will also be considered related to their life history and daily activities, therefore consultation is needed if they experience anxiety or fear disorders.

The fear and anxiety that Oba Yozo's character feels make it difficult to socialize with those around him and always feels intimidated in public places. Yozo doesn't believe in every human being in his life, humans are too full of hypocrisy to be trusted for their sincerity. Especially the presence of women around him, *No Longer Human* Novel is a literary work that focuses on telling the story of a man from Japan named Oba Yozo. Someone with an almost perfect life, but his life is not as smooth as he expected, someone who is still looking for the direction of life, someone who lives with fears of life and people, someone who covers himself with theatrics. This slick novel by Osamu Dazai, which was also written by a Japanese person, puts forward a psychological story in the life journey of the character he makes. The story of Gloomy and Dark successfully makes the reader appreciate the main character in this novel by feeling the gloomy life he faces this novel is not very suitable to be read when he is depressed or someone who has serious life problems.

Osamu Dazai is very famous among Japanese writers. His main work, *Ningen Shikkaku* (1948) or *No Longer Human* ranks second on the list of most sought-after novels to this day. Until he died in 1948 at the age of 39, Dazai did not release much of his work to the public due to his psychic condition. *No Longer Human* is the third and final novel he published before drowning himself in a river with his girlfriend, Tomie Yamazaki. This semi-autobiographical novel is often seen as the pinnacle of success for Dazai's literary works. In it, Dazai tells a small part of Oba Yozo's life story, in detail this novel is about the futility of being human. The title *No Longer Human*, where is this title already Translated into English by Donald Keene. The original Japanese title is *Ningen Shikkaku* which means 'Disqualified as a Human'. Most of the novels are told from scraps of memos that are told from the first-person point of view (Oba Yozo) and are framed with the story of an anonymous author who receives the memo. Oba Yozo describes himself as a person who has an individualistic and antisocial character. According to him, humans are the only burdens that are around him. There are so many expectations of people that must be met, such as the obligation to make small talk with the surrounding environment, the obligation to respect parents, the obligation to be in solidarity with friends, and other obligations which he calls a burden as a human being who lives in society. Broadly speaking, Yozo is a typical person who defies tradition, a man who comes from a rich family, but hates the establishment and falsehood of society.

The processing of stories with a psychological profile created by Dazai is different from novels with other psychological profiles, the character Oba Yozo presents himself as a cheerful young man, good at humor, and has many friends, to hide his unbearable hatred for everyone, including himself, a character who will not found in other writers' works to present someone who doesn't like

crowds, but appears to be another person who is full of social life, making this story even darker and the contrast of the character with the description of his daily behavior. An individualistic person but because he is good at joking and transforms himself into another figure, he became a popular person, and was even chosen to be the head of the student movement.

That's the story of Yozo who lived his youth with emptiness, but he was always able to wrap neatly in a humorous demeanor. However, as a human, there will come a time when this emptiness reaches its maximum limit, which in Yozo compelled to be impulsive to decide to commit suicide together with Tsuneko, a prostitute who is familiar with him. The incident made Tsuneko die but Yozo survived, hearing the bad news made his father stop sending Yozo money. Yozo ends up being a cartoonist in local newspapers and is married to Yoshiko. Once upon a time, Yoshiko was raped by a merchant in the living room of her own house. Yozo who was at the scene could only stare at them, then returned to his room. The story that is exposed is only fragments of the unfortunate and gloomy story of Yozo's life after his dependence on illegal drugs and free sex.

Dazai describes the figure of Yozo as so kind and complex with his chaotic and messy character, mentally depressed and always covering up his shortcomings. Osamu Dazai always explicitly describes the important point of Yozo's character who has a face and a figure with a smile that is so fake and has no facial expression at all. In other words, someone with an easily forgotten face without any personal quirks, like looking at a wall. Dazai managed to describe the figure of human interiority that is so empty. Psychological novels such as *No Longer Human Novel* are considered literary works that are opposed to "socialist realism" because they talk more about personal mental conflicts than discussing explicit socio-political issues.

This story is called semi-autobiographical because the mental problems that occur in *No Longer Human Novel* are thought to be written based on the events experienced by the author, namely Osamu Dazai (Woo, M. F. 2020). Like the Oba Yozo story written, Dazai himself had attempted suicide by jumping off a sea cliff in Kamakura with his favorite prostitute, Shimeko Tanabe. Shimeko dies but Dazai doesn't, the same story he retells in Yozo's figure. Dazai also had other experiments by taking dozens of sleeping pills and living dying but not ending up dying. Like Oba Yozo, Dazai has tuberculosis and is addicted to drugs. Oba Yozo who finally managed to commit suicide, as well as Yozo who managed to end his life by committing suicide, Dazai also died by killing himself with his lover Tomie Yamazaki, after drowning himself in the Tama River. Through his work, Dazai presents the reality of his own life story and indirectly tells the story of a generation of Japanese youth who lived under fascism at that time. Currently, *No Longer Human Novel* has been made into a film, manga, and anime with different executions.

The results of the analysis carried out not only tell the theatrical life story of Oba Yozo but will also discuss the figure of speech used by Osamu Dazai the author in evoking the story as outlined

in *No Longer Human Novel* with his character in literary works. Majas is the use of words in writing to influence the reader by making an interesting story. Figures are also referred to as figurative words or language used to improve the course of the story beautifully and can contain comparisons of certain things with objects. The use of the figure of speech is used to tell the story through different languages in general and to show the personality of the writer through words or even sentences. Disclosure of a figure of speech cannot be made at random, because every figure of speech that is written contains the meaning that the author wants to convey to the readers of his work.

METHODS

Research on *No Longer Human Novel* by Osamu Dazai uses a descriptive analysis method with a qualitative approach. According to Sugiyono (2016: 9), the qualitative descriptive method is a method that research is based on the philosophy of postpositivism which is then used to examine objects with triangulation data collection techniques, namely combining inductive/qualitative data and qualitative research results. Descriptive research with a qualitative approach aims to explain, describe, and explain in detail the problems to be analyzed by reading as much as possible the story written by Osamu Dazai. In the qualitative research used this time, literary works are research instruments and the results are written in the form of words containing explanations or statements that are following the contents in *No Longer Human Novel* by Osamu Dazai (McKNIGHT, A. 2019). This method is done by reading and looking for a figure of speech in *No Longer Human Novel* by Osamu Dazai. This approach method in detail is also carried out to analyze the figure of speech used in *No Longer Human Novel* and the way the author tells the story of the life of the character Oba Yozo.

FINDINGS

Oba Yozo is a young man who was born with an almost perfect life, rich parents, born a handsome man and a genius because he always gets an A without having to study. However, every advantage and happiness he feels is also suffering during his life, Yozo has been sick since childhood so he often doesn't go to school, Yozo also has psychological problems that he never realized before. Loss of direction in life and hatred for humans who always describe the nature of hypocrisy and life that is considered to be running is not useful. He always questions things that have never been asked by other people, his thoughts are different from ordinary people such as the function of a bridge which is made to make it easier for humans who want to travel by connecting two roads that are far apart, but Oba Yozo thinks that the function of a bridge is only for aesthetics. Questioning why humans have to eat three times a day? Questioning why there is only a saying that humans live to eat but no one says that humans live for money? Isn't that the way life is nowadays? The difference in his way

of thinking that makes him feel different from other people is very disturbing and makes him afraid of life and people. However, in life there must still be a socialization relationship, to cover his fears and suffering he lives a life of being an optimistic, innocent, eccentric, and ridiculous character. overthinking. At first, Yozo thought that if people laughed and were happy about it, the real situation would not be seen and he would be fine. It was the fear of humans that made him like this, the fear became worse when he was a child he was abused by his maid. He couldn't tell anyone about his suffering because he thought it was pointless to report this heinous thing to his parents or the authorities, they would only punish and scold him. However, this bad experience will not go away and will continue to imprint in his life story. Human hypocrisy that was realized was also found when his parents who worked in politics gave a speech, Yozo, who was sitting in the audience, listened to harsh criticisms from his father's co-workers and assistants who vilified the appearance of his father's speech at that time. Surprisingly, after meeting his father in person, those who vilified the speech praised the speech and congratulated him on it, the more clearly his fear of human nature when he saw and felt it firsthand. The character that made his true nature invisible made him slowly worry that out of the few people he made to laugh with, there was one person who realized his charade, and that was Yozo's feeling when he met Takeichi, among his classmates only Takeichi who he couldn't beat as if the man knew his character. the original. It made Yozo want to approach Takeichi because of his awareness of the play all this time, Yozo got the opportunity when it was raining after school. Yozo offered his umbrella to Takeichi and took shelter in his house, Yozo continued to be nice to Takeichi to cover up his pretense. They were getting closer and closer and Takeichi occasionally showed a painting of Van Gogh, a painter from France with the flow of imperialism. The paintings that Takeichi showed were dominated by paintings with abstract shapes such as ghosts. Van Gogh himself suffered from depression, a lifelong fear he depicted in his paintings. Yozo thinks that what happened to him can also be applied to work like Van Gogh. In a picture, Yozo can be honest with the world by revealing his true self. Although he always felt his paintings did not provide a good aesthetic and always looked at his paintings flat, Takeichi always assured him that Yozo's view of his paintings was wrong. Painting is not always about creating beautiful works that look beautiful, but about the result of pouring out our feelings and thoughts on a work that makes the work an original self-identity. Therefore, only Takeichi knows the true nature of a Yozo who only pretends to be a person full of joy and always makes people laugh, but he is a human who is filled with fear and vulnerability in his life that must be covered from all over. humans in this world.

When entering college arrived, Yozo was transferred by his father to Tokyo to enter a university which could be his stepping stone to becoming a civil servant, where it was very far from his dream of becoming a great painter like Takeichi's prediction. His father's chosen university facilitates dorm life, but because Yozo has a lung disease he is allowed not to live in the dormitory.

His situation at home is not much different from his dorm life because his father is a member of parliament who rarely comes home. Even so, Yozo is grateful that he doesn't have to waste his energy making silly things so that the people around him laugh every time. He is starting to feel bored with his educational life now, especially since Yozo has been studying from elementary school to the university level at this time. Yozo keeps questioning why humans have to go to school continuously and memorize school songs. Life doesn't need too long of a school with just repetitive lessons and school songs. His passion for art leads Yozo to enroll in art classes without his father knowing. The darkness deepens when he meets a friend from the arts who introduces him to drinking, smoking, and prostitution. His name is Horiki, the drink offered to Yozo made him feel like he was free, and stopped for a moment to think about his fear of humans. Yozo feels that he has the same life as Horiki, a human who lost his way and covered it up by talking silly. Time passed until Yozo's father ended his term as a member of parliament and left Yozo in Tokyo by moving to a rural area. Yozo has to live alone with anxiety, fear, and anxiety because he lives alone where he has to carry out his life activities without the help of his parents anymore. Even though interacting with humans alone has made him afraid and anxious, let alone having to take care of his finances and manage his own life without anyone he knows in Tokyo other than Horiki. Her fear of living alone made her feel like she would be attacked or beaten. An increasingly free life, made him look for loans everywhere to drink, even the money his father gave him to pay for his college education was used to fulfill his desire for freedom until he started getting money from a pawnshop. One day, Yozo is involved in a suicide case with someone else's wife which causes him to rarely attend lectures. The news finally reached his father's ears and made his family aware of his bad character which was starting to show. Yozo was approached by many women who were fascinated by his visuals. That night Yozo and Tsuneko were one of the prostitutes who were present in his life, they enjoyed the day drinking and as the night progressed they became more and more unconscious, Tsuneko occasionally said the word "dead" something Yozo wanted to feel as well. Imagining this together with his fate continuing to worsen by pawning the things he has but he must face the reality to continue to live a life that requires money, convinces him to commit suicide in the Kamakura Sea with his beloved woman. Both jump together, worse fate befalls him with news of an attempted suicide that causes one partner to die, Tsuneko succeeds in fulfilling her dream of dying, not for Yozo. His family was even more furious when he heard the news and Yozo was detained at the police station on charges of maid committing suicide. Freedom is obtained with the help of a guarantor who helps him, namely the owner of an antique shop who is a distant relative and the trial is assisted by a lewd cop. Surprisingly, Yozo felt more comfortable when he was in custody. He felt calm and relieved to live in iron bars away from human gatherings. This made him even more sure when the court proceedings began, the prosecutor learned that Yozo was only pretending to cough up phlegm.

After the attempted suicide, Yozo was expelled from the university of his father's choice and lived in a small room in the house of a guarantor who helped him, Hirame. Since living with Hirame, Yozo has always felt constrained even to perform a play with a ridiculous nature he usually can't do anymore, it feels like he wants to feel freedom like when he was with Horiki. One night, Yozo ran away from Hirame's house intending to go to Horiki's house because of his guilt for being a parasite at Hirame's house, besides where he lived he also paid for Yozo's life. While at Horiki's house, he met a woman who wanted to give him lodging because Horiki refused Yozo to stay at his house after receiving a telegram from Hirame saying that Yozo had run away. The woman's name is Shizuko, a journalist who often orders illustrations from Horiki. Shizuko invites Yozo to live with her and her five-year-old son, her husband who died several years ago. Yozo's family relationship is getting messy and has been cut off, by thinking about life and financial problems that are getting worse, the two humans agree to get married. Life after her marriage is getting better because Shizuko helps Yozo to promote her pictures to her company's editors. However, the presence of a family that is getting further and further worsens his life because of the depression he is experiencing. Yozo's behavior was getting weirder, he was drinking more often and in a drunken state, Yozo could kiss a strange woman he passed. Responding to Yozo's behavior, Shizuko continued to help him without feeling angry, even though Yozo often pawned Shizuko's belongings without his knowledge. The family was too kind to add Yozo as a new member of the family, realizing that Yozo intended to go to Ginza and would never return to the apartment. After making it out of the apartment every night Yozo came to the bar for drinks until one night he met a woman who asked him to stop drinking. Her name is Yoshiko, a young girl who works in a tobacco shop. The girl is still innocent and pure, making Yozo want to marry a new woman in his life.

Yoshiko helps Yozo a lot in his life, even when Horiki meets him and borrows money he is willing to help Yozo to pawn his things. When Yozo returned to Shizuko's apartment, Yoshiko still believed in him and allowed him to. One day, when Yozo and Horiki were talking upstairs and were about to go downstairs to get some food, they saw an innocent and pure girl being harassed by a shopkeeper who was a customer of Yozo's illustration, it was his wife Yoshiko and his customer. Without giving any help he went back upstairs in fear like seeing a brainless animal pounce on its prey. Yozo felt the difference between his character and his wife which was very significant. Yoshiko easily trusts people until she can be fooled by people she just met, while Yozo doesn't have any trust in humans anymore in this world and even hates them. Since that incident, Yoshiko has changed very much she is very anxious when around people even Yozo. Finally, Yozo switched back to drinking and attempted suicide again using sleeping pills, the incident made him fall asleep for 3 days and wake up in the hospital. When he wakes up, Hirame accompanies him and accompanies him until he returns to health. After recovering, Hirame gave a deposit of money from his family and left him

again, although Yozo's condition was getting thinner, he still used the money for drinking. When he came home drinking, Yozo suddenly vomited blood without telling Yoshiko. The next day, the bloody cough got worse and made him go to the pharmacy to buy medicine. While at the pharmacy, Yozo met a woman who admonished him to stop drinking and gave him an injection of morphine as a substitute for the liquor he consumes every day. His alcohol dependence made him continue to ask for morphine injections so he did not consume the drink again. As the days went by, Yozo felt that his illness and addiction had not progressed, he felt that he would eventually die, so at that time Yozo decided to try to commit suicide again. However, the plan failed because Horiki and Hirame instead took him to a mental hospital filled with men. Yozo feels increasingly failing to be a human. The story stops there. The contents of the storybook of the life of a person found at a Kyobashi bar.

CONCLUSION

No More Human Novel is one of the literary works of author Osamu Dazai which is very successful in Japan, especially the genre chose can reach the general public. Although this work is not recommended for people who need mental support, this story provides a lesson for humans to live a more decent life. Bad influences can come at any time when humans are easy to accept all positive and negative responses from society. The perfect life we have can be lost at any time when we are carried away by negative currents. Focusing on living a useful life is better than just focusing on happiness that will lead to the abyss. This novel also provides a lesson that mental illness is not an ordinary disease that can be avoided, those who are surviving in life need support from their surroundings.

The psychological story that is neatly packaged based on the author's experience makes the story more alive. The use of grammar and aesthetics of the story style and language that Dazai brings adds to the sad impression of the main character Yozo. In his writing style, Dazai uses a lot of proverbs and some figures of speech which are dominated by the use of idiomatic, hyperbole, personification, metaphor, onomatopoeia, and simile. Dazai does not use repetition of pronunciation like the alliteration of figures of speech. The use of language delivery arrangements and realistic stories that often occur today with mental crises make this novel even more interesting to discuss further.

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