

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

The story of Adam and Eve is a story which is related to religion. Christianity and Islam are the two religions that believe Adam and Eve are the first two human beings on earth. They believe that God created Adam first and then God created Eve as a companion and helper to Adam. However, both the Bible, the Christian holy book, and the Koran, the Moslem holy book, do not describe the portrayal of Adam and Eve in detail. They have certain characteristics, yet not in detail. Thus, now the possibility of creating the first two human beings on earth is open.

Inspired by the story of Adam and Eve, Mark Twain takes the same subject in his work entitled The Diary of Adam and Eve. Yet, Twain portrays Adam and Eve through his own interpretation. I am interested in Mark Twain because Twain is known as one of America's great writers:

Whose best work is characterized by broad, often irreverent humor or biting social satire. He was known and respected throughout the world as a humorist during his life, and since

his death, his reputation has only grown. Today, Mark Twain is known as a great writer as well as a humorist as well as American icon.'
(<http://mark-twain.classic-literature.co.uk/mark-twain-biography.asp>),).

Twain wrote a lot of great and interesting books; however, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is considered to be Twain's greatest novel.

I choose to analyze the characters in this book owing to the fact that a character is one of the important things in the work of literature. According to Robert, a character is a verbal representation of human being as presented to us by authors through the depiction of actions, conversations, descriptions, reactions, inner thoughts and reflections, and also through the author's own interpretive commentary. Authors can create the image of the characters in his book as they want it to be. The characters in this book, Adam and Eve, are presented to have characteristics in detail. In analyzing the characters in this book, I look into the characterization techniques that the author uses. According to Murphy, characterization technique is:

How an author conveys to the reader the characters and the personalities of the people he writes about; in other words how he convey to the readers what sort of people they are, how he makes the readers get to know and understand them. Characterization technique consist of personal description, character as seen by another, thoughts, speech, past life, conversation of others, reactions, direct comment, and mannerism.
(Murphy, 1972:161-173)

I will focus on the characterization techniques used by the author in this novel, so that I can have a better understanding about the characters. I found that the most dominant techniques in revealing the characteristics are thought, reactions, and character as seen by another.

Based on my reasons above, my discussion will focus on portraying the characteristics of Adam and Eve. Afterwards, I will try to find the author's purpose in creating such characters.

Statement of the Problem

I would like to discuss the following problems:

1. What are the characteristics of Adam and Eve in Mark Twain's The Diary of Adam and Eve?
2. What is the purpose of the author in creating such characters?

Purpose of the Study

Based on the statement of the problem above, I would like to show:

1. The characteristics of Adam and Eve in Mark Twain's The Diary of Adam and Eve.
2. The purpose of the author in creating such characters.

Method of Research

In analyzing my thesis, I use intrinsic approach. I also apply library research. First, I read The Diary of Adam and Eve as the primary text. Then I read some reference books and explore some internet sites that are relevant to and support my thesis. Finally, I analyze the primary text and draw a conclusion.

Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of three chapters. In Chapter One, I present the Introduction, which consists of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Method of Research and Organization of the Thesis. In Chapter Two, I present my discussion of the portrayal of Adam and Eve in Mark Twain's The Diary of Adam and Eve and the purpose of the author in creating such characters. After this, I conclude my analysis in Chapter Three. The thesis ends with Bibliography and Appendices, which contain the Biography of Mark Twain and the Synopsis of The Diary of Adam and Eve.