

Abstract

The study presented in this thesis is analyzing the novel entitled *The Journal of Joshua Loper* as one of the multicultural children's literature books in the United States of America. Multicultural children's literature becomes important in multicultural education in the US for its didactic feature. However, the children's literature has the nature that it represents more about the adult's perspective about children than the children's perspective about their life.

The objects of study are the narration of the story, the dialogs between the characters of the story, the soliloquy of the main character, the pictures presented on the novel and the interviews with the writer, Walter Dean Myers. The study was carried out using the discourse analysis approach to analyze the features of children's literature presented on the novel. It approaches the intention and the power of the writer used upon children as the readers.

The study results in five aspects. (1) Multiculturalism values that are taught through the novel are the interracial respect, race equality, culture diversity. (2) The novel clearly shown the didactic feature of children's literature. The writer used the novel as the medium to transfer his knowledge as well as to teach children what to do and what they should not do according to the writer's perspective. (3) The writer used his power as an adult over children as the readers. He used the novel to transfer his ideas and idealism. (4) The writer believed that children only have limited ability or limited imagination so children needs some help to understand what the writer have told through the story. (5) The words used by the writer in the novel rather show the writer's power as an adult than a child (Joshua Loper, the fictitious character) sharing his experience.

Key words: multiculturalism, children's literature, multicultural children's literature