THE VALUES OF HEROISM ON THE MAIN CHARACTER IN NOVEL THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

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HIDAYATULLAH
JAKARTA
2010
APPROVEMENT

THE VALUES OF HEROISM ON THE MAIN CHARACTER IN NOVEL
THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

A thesis
Submitted to the faculty of Adab and Humanities
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of strata 1 (S1)

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The thesis entitled “The Values of Heroism on The Main Character in Novel The Fellowship of The Ring” has been defended before the letter and humanities faculty’s examination committee on February 01, 2010. The thesis has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of strata 1.

Jakarta, February 01, 2010

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The study of this paper concerns to the main character, Frodo Baggins. The writer analyzes what are the characteristic of main character presented on the Fellowship of the Ring and how Frodo Baggins is categorized as a heroic character.

This research applies library research and the compiled data are analyzed through descriptive-qualitative analysis method. The writer finds the indicators of values of heroism in Frodo Baggins by analyzing his life, environment, his friends and relatives, and his enemies.

The result of this study is that the values of heroism such as willingness, dignity, courage, and responsibility can not be exist in Frodo’s life unless there are influences from his friends and relatives to support him in facing all the obstacles to reach his purpose and direction and tries to make them through
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In The Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

First and foremost, the writer would especially grateful to Allah SWT, the lord of human and everything in the sky and the earth. Peace and salutation be upon the greatest prophet Muhammad SAW, the “Avatar” of the human in the world, and to his family, his companions and his adherents.

And with heartfelt gratitude that the writer acknowledge the following people for their kind support, timely help, mentorship, patience, pray, and smile in enabling him to come this far. The writer shall always remain indepted to them.

The writer would like to express his appreciation to:

1. Prof. Dr. Komaruddin Hidayat, MA. The Rector of State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta.

2. Dr. H. Abdul Chair, MA. The Dean of Faculty Adab and Humanities

3. Dr. Muhammad Farhan, M.Pd. The Head of English Letter Department

4. So much appreciation to the best advisor, Danti Pudjiati, M. Hum. For her time and her patience guiding the writer.

5. And for all the lectures who had taught him so much useful knowledge.

Very special thanks go to his parents, Mashuri (he knows love is always there,
even in your silence) and Siti Qoimah (he owes you both his infinite gratitude for everything you’ve given to him). The writer conveys to his beloved brothers Solikhin and Aminuddin.

The writer particularly thanks to his classmates and all his friends in 2004 English Letters: Jay, Tebz, Helendra, Nu’man and others that can’t be mentioned here. Hope you guys have a wonderful and blessing live.

Finally, nothing is perfect. And he realizes that this thesis far from being perfect. It is a pleasure for him to receive some constructive critics and suggestions to make it better. The writer hopes this thesis will useful for everyone who read it and will append reference to understand more about character.

Ciputat, January 25, 2010

The writer
DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, February 01, 2010

Akromi
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Novel is a prose fiction of considerable length showing characters in action, and capable of greater complexity in both character and plot than the short story, but we can, therefore, agree on the vogue definition that novel is a book length piece of imaginative fiction.\(^1\) Furthermore, when studying a text novel, there are several aspects of the novel, which the readers would need to know well, such as theme, plot, character, characterization, point of view, style, tone, language, and setting. The intrinsic elements are very important in the novel to describe story, which make a story come to life.

Stanton Robert explains in his book entitled *An Introduction to Fiction* he said that the intrinsic elements are divided into five elements, they are: theme, character, plot, point of view and setting.\(^2\) Novel also fiction that offering world, a world contains ideal life’s model imaginative world that built with the various intrinsic element.

Plot has function to arrange events or happen continues in the story, and can

not be separated from the content of the story. Character describes the physical, non
physical, behavior and attitude every actor or actress in the story from the beginning
until the end. Setting describes about the time and place of the story, it is also
denoting the location period and social surrounding in which the action of a text
develop. Meanwhile, theme is main idea or essential idea of the story, it is a subject
which interested the writer and which is discussed in the text or portrayed in it in
some way.

In this research, the writer only use character and characterization element to
study the novel of the fellowship of the ring. It’s the first of three volumes in the epic
novel the lord of the rings by English author J.R R Toelkien. It takes place in the
fictional universe Middle-earth. As the main character, Frodo Baggins becomes an
object of the research because he is the most dominant character who make the story
become interested, and he also very influential on the plot of the story and can make
influence to the reader.

Frodo baggins, the main character of this novel, who has a great obligation in
his life. He has to destroy the Ring due to its dark-forced ability in resulting
destruction in Frodo’s time and in the future. At first, Frodo was just a typical young
Hobbit – nice, merry, loves peacefulness and quietness, likes to have parties,
hospitable, and skillful in tools. He tends to have no difficulties in life. Then, after the
giving of the Ring from his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, Frodo’s life changes into horrible
days. He has to go miles away through the mountains, lands, and the forest (which is
usually avoided by the Hobbits), meets many kinds of creatures (Men, Dwarves,
Elves, Orcs), has to deal with the dark forces that after him now and then in order to seize the Ring from him, and the worst of all, he is very close to death when he has to face the dark forces by himself. There is a kind of process of finding the true personality, which is the developed-personality into a mature one of the main character, Frodo Baggins. It involves the influences from his surrounding – the interaction to other creatures that he has never met before. He has to make decisions, has to deal with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality.

Although there are many Hobbits (Merry, Pippin, Sam, Bilbo, and Frodo himself) that can be chosen to bring the ring, why is Frodo chosen to be the Ring-bearer? Besides, Frodo is mere Hobbit who has no strength to fight against the evil power along the journey. Is there any heroic character that Frodo possess? The statement above becomes the writer’s reason to analyze the novel *The Fellowship of the Ring* which is focused on the intrinsic element especially main character and characterization.

**B. Focus of the Study**

In this research the writer would like to limit the analysis only on the element of main character and the characteristic in the novel.
C. **Research Question**

According to the background of the research, the writer formulates the statement of the question as:

1. What are the characteristic of main character presented on the Fellowship of the Ring?

2. How is Frodo Baggins categorized as a heroic character?

D. **Objective of the Study**

The objective of the study is to know the characteristic of main character.

E. **Significances of the Study**

Through this research, the writer hopes this research can develop our potential in literature, and especially to make the writer understands about the characteristic of the main character in the fellowship of the ring deeply, and it will be stimulate us in learning literature, and also make everyone think that novels are exciting thing to analyze.

F. **Research Methodology**

1. **Method**

   The method that is use in this research is qualitative method and writer tries to describe data analysis that has correlation with the method.

2. **Data Analysis**

   In this research, the data are analyzed qualitatively and compared with many relevant theories.
3. The Instrument
The instrument in this research is the writer himself by reading novel and analyzing the data collected to find out the connection and other aspects related to the subject of research.

4. Unit of Analysis
The unit of analysis of this research is novel *The Fellowship of the Ring*, authorized by John Ronald Reuel Tolkien.

5. Place and Time
The research starts on April 2009, at department of English Letters, State of Islamic Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta.
A. Definition of Character

Some experts told about the meaning of character. There are some definitions of character as follow:

a. A character is an imaginary person that lives in a literary work. Literary characters may be major or minor, static or dynamic.\(^3\)

b. Character is some one in literary work who has some sort of identity (it needn’t be strong on), an identity which is made up by appearance, conversation, action, name, and (possibly) thoughts going in the head.\(^4\)

c. A character is any person who appears in a work of fiction. More accurately, a fictional character is the person of conscious entity we imagine to exist within the world of such a work.\(^5\)

Based on definitions above, the writer concludes that character is a person in literary work. Character in literature is an extended verbal representation of human being, specifically the inner self that determines though, speech and behavior. Through dialogue, action, and commentary, literature makes these interaction interesting by portraying characters who are worth caring about, rooting for, and even

\(^3\) Robert Diyanni, *Literature Reading Fiction, Poetry and Drama* (Singapore: Mc Graw Fill Companies, 2001), p. 1447
\(^5\) www.Wikipedia.org, 03/02/2010
loving, although there are also characters whom the public may laugh, dislike, or even hate.

**B. Kinds of Character**

The characters were divided into two typical, main character and subordinate character. Main character is the most dominant character and often involves with the other characters that exist in a story. Main character has a big part in the story; it always develops the story, and mostly appears on the text. It's also an important role in a story and becomes a central attention in the novel. Meanwhile, Subordinate character is the figure that plays no central role in the story, but its appearance is needed to support the main character. The existence of the main character is fully helped by the other character, namely the subordinate characters.

Judith divides the types of characters as follows:

1. **Protagonist and Antagonist**

   Protagonist is the main character in the story or a real event. The protagonist experiences conflict caused by the antagonist. However, the concept of the antagonist, which considers the antagonist as a wicked character, is not true because the antagonist is a person who actively opposes somebody or something.

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2. Static or Dynamic

Static character is a character that does not change in any significant way during the course of the work. Dynamic character is a character who change shows many different facets; often the course of the work.8

3. Flat and Round

Flat character is one embodying a “single idea or quality”. Lack any complexity, it never surprises. The flat character sometimes called a “type” or “caricature”. For it can be summed up in sentence.9 Flat characters usually have small part in the story.

Round character according to Perrine is “complex and many sides; they might require an easy for full analysis. It undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality or outlook”.10 Major characters are likely to be round, while minor characters are to be flat. Through the language and actions of the characters, readers will learn whether the personages are multidimensional characters, which skimpily developed characters, or perhaps merely foil which have main purposes to shed light on more important characters. The readers will also learn about the emotions, attitudes, and values of characters such as their hopes and fears, their strengths and weakness in story.11

4. Heroic Character

A hero is an individual of elevated moral stature and superior ability who

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8 Ibid, p. 394
10 Perrine, Laurence, op.cit, p.41
pursues his goals indefatigably in the face of powerful antagonist. Because of his unbreached devotion to the good, no matter the opposition, a hero attains spiritual grandeur, even in he fails to achieve practical victory. Notice then the four components of heroism: moral greatness, ability or prowess, action in the face of opposition, and triumph in at least a spiritual, if not a physical, form. Of these, the hero's moral stature is unquestionably the most fundamental. An uncompromising commitment to morality is the foundation of heroism.  

Heroic characters have been portrayed in many ways in literature. The hero character has been shown to be brave, courageous - possessing or displaying courage; able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching. According to William Wordsworth; "set a courageous example by leading them safely into and out of enemy-held territory".

There are three principles to observe character. First, the characters are consistent in their behavior. They do not behave one way on one occasion and different way on another occasion unless there is clearly sufficient reason for the change. Second, the characters are clearly motivated in whatever they do; especially in the changes of their behavior, we must be able to understand the reason for what they do, if not immediately, at least by the end of story. Third, the characters are plausible or life like. It means every character who presents the story always behave as if their real characteristic. The actors indirectly tell to the audience

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what characteristic in the story into their own character. The actor can apply their performance to performance.

C. Description of Characterization

Character is a person in literary work; characterization is the way in which a character is created. Characters are all the product of characterization, that is to say, they have been made in particular way. Characters are what they like because the way they have been made. The kind of conversation they have, the things they do, their appearance and so on are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterize of his or her characters.

The things that they do and their appearances are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterize the characterization. In other words, characterization is a method and character is a product of the method. Characterization can be narrative description with explicit judgment.

F. C Lucas divides six methods to understand the characterization, they are:

1. Direct statement of the author. The author through the power of omniscience may explain what he wants public to know about his characters in the story.

2. Action, what a person does in the story often give public insight into his very nature and from this insight public can make judgment about him.

3. Speech, from the character speech, public learn his or her education, and environment. Often it reveals the way he thinks about people and thinks.
4. Reaction from the others. This method often includes a slanted view. If the person talking about the character has a biased opinion, public get a distorted picture. Therefore, the reliability of the character must always be uppermost.

5. Environment. The presentation of a person’s surrounding, particularly those he deliberately chooses, including the recreations authors prefer, contributes to an understanding of the character.¹⁴

All of definitions and methods above make the writer to analyze characteristic of main character in the fellowship of the ring. The writer will explain and give the proof of each characters and characteristic in chapter three.

CHAPTER III
CHARACTER ANALYSIS

A. Characteristic of Frodo Baggins

The Hobbits are somewhat different from the other races due to the unique character that they show. Frodo, as described by Gandalf, was "taller than some and fairer than most, [with] a cleft in his chin: perky chap with a bright eye."(p.1) He had thick, curly brown hair like most other hobbits, and had lighter-than-usual skin due to his Fallohide ancestry through his Brandybuck mother. Frodo is described as appearing thirty-three, even when he is fifty, due to the influence of the Ring.

Frodo, like Bilbo, was considered by many others in Hobbiton to be a little odd. His interests in the outside world, fascination with Elves and faraway places (like those to which Bilbo travelled in The Hobbit) did not fit the general content personality of most Hobbits. This curiosity was also attributed to his Took ancestry. The Tooks were also famous for their adventurous nature.

Frodo was dressed in typical Hobbit-fashion when he left the Shire: knee-breeches, shirt, waistcoat, jacket, and cloak. Colours such as bright green and yellow were typical for Shire-folk. He was unarmed, save for a pocket-knife.

Frodo is hospitable. Frodo has a good relationship with the other races, he has befriended with them during his adventures roaming the places that ordinary Hobbits hardly ever seen. Because of his treatments on other races, so many helpful things
have done on him by the others (helping him through the chase of the Ringwraiths, curing his illness, and accepting him as an honoring guest). Gildor Inglorion, one of the Elves communities in Middle-earth said:

*Not all of mortal creatures can get the help from the Elves unless those mortals have a kind of special action toward the Elves themselves or the mortals has a good relationship with the Elves. It’s represented by Frodo’s treatment on them*

Frodo was very smart; it was seen when Frodo met many other creatures that he never met before. He interacts with different races and their different habits quickly, he can adapt easily in order to survive in such different lands that he has never seen or landed before. And he likes questioning on anything, especially on doing an adventurous journey. Even more, Frodo has more skilled in language, singing, hunting, and more adventurous. He can learn how to write like the other creatures in the Middle-earth, especially in the Elven-language. He speaks Westron without forgetting his old language, which he still keep for memorizing the dates and the names from the ancient times.

Frodo loves peacefulness. With the custom for not getting involved in confrontations, Frodo tend to be ignored from the records in Middle-earth. But it is all changed when Frodo starts his journey to destroy the One Ring – the ring of evil. Frodo’s journey dealing with many confrontations makes the existence of the Hobbits starts to be known by other races in the world of Middle-earth.

*The Hobbits are a bit chubby, do not like confrontations, especially wars, like*
to wear bright colors, especially yellow and green, they like to keep unused things which they call mathom and even they have a special house to keep this mathoms called Michel Delving, and they like to give and to have presents. (p. 35)

Frodo was adventurer. Unlike the other Hobbits who do not like to get involved in adventures, Frodo Baggins is eager to know the outside land of his hometown, the Shire. Actually, it is his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, who introduces him to the adventurous life.

Frodo was different among the other hobbits. Hobbits tend to live peacefully in the Hobbiton and never think of going outside of their hometown, but it is a different case for Frodo as he wants to have his own journey just like his uncle, Bilbo. This kind of Frodo’s behavior makes the other Hobbits feel uneasy because Frodo’s behavior tend to against the mainstream – the usual norms existed since long time ago. The Hobbits are used to the norms and habits they know, such as living peacefully in their land without having any desires to go out of town, and not asking about the life outside for they are happy enough to live in their own land. Frodo is considered as a nuisance and disturber of the peace for his keen on going up the mainstream.

Because of this unusual activity that is done by Frodo, the other Hobbits think that he is a weirdo. Even, some Hobbits say that Frodo is a nuisance, disturber of the peace, and worst of all, they accuse him of spiriting Bilbo away and think that Frodo and Gandalf make a kind of conspiracy to get hold of Bilbo’s wealth for their own. (p.79)

Frodo’s character is built not only from his own society among the Hobbits,
but also from places where he visits along the journey to destroy the ring. In these different and absolutely new places, Frodo can experience things that, so far, he just knows from tales and from his uncle Bilbo’s writings in his books. For example, when he crosses the border of The Shire, his homeland, he meets new characters with different personalities that sometimes are not kindhearted enough to him. Then, Frodo knows that not all people are kindhearted just like what he has heard from the tales as well as experienced directly in his daily life. One of the new Frodo’s character was represented in anticipating the worst possibility that can be experienced, Frodo must think and make up his mind quickly, in this case, the best option that he should choose to survive from the chase of the Ringwraiths.

At first, Frodo was coward. It’s seen when Frodo refuses to keep the Ring and says, 

“‘But why not destroy it, […] If you had warned me, or even sent me a message, I would have done away with it. […] I suppose one could hammer it or melt it.’” (p. 59)

By the time Frodo hears Gandalf’s explanation about the Ring and the power it has, Frodo feels afraid and tries to destroy it with any ways.

Frodo is almost persuaded by the Ring to use it all the time of his life for three times. The first one is when he and his companions try to hide from the chase of Ringwraiths.

_A sudden reasoning fear of discovery laid hold of Frodo, and he thought of the Ring. […] He felt that he had only to slip on it, and then he would be safe. The advice of Gandalf seemed absurd. Bilbo had used the Ring. ‘And I am still in the Shire … (p. 73-74)_

At first, Frodo was also immature. Frodo’s mind is filled with hesitancy (whether to destroy the Ring into the fire or not), pity (for destroying such a beautiful
thing but, on the other hand, the Ring possesses evil power that can trouble a lot of people), as well as greed (for the Ring is made of gold and it looks so precious so that Frodo wants to keep it).

From this kind of thinking in his mind, it can be assumed that Frodo still views a certain problem according to his advantage only without thinking about its side effect which can affect his own life and the others’.

*He tends to follow his mind by taking example of another person which does not yet suit the circumstances he is in. The way he views a problem shows Frodo’s immaturity in deciding something. The second event is when Frodo accidentally wore the Ring in the ‘Prancing Pony’, an inn where Frodo and his companions spent a night in order to hide away from the Ringwraiths.*

(p. 157)

Then, after giving of the ring from his uncle, Bilbo baggins, there is process of finding the true personality, which is the developed-personality into mature of frodo. he has to make decisions, He has to deal with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality, the interaction to other creatures that he has never met before.

Frodo has quite good qualities in handling the Ring and Frodo can also be trusted. Aragorn dares to believe in Frodo’s handling the Ring because Aragorn can see that Frodo has courage in fighting the evil power of the Ring and also the Ringwraiths that after him for the Ring all the time along the journey to Rivendell. Aragorn also sees that Frodo does not have a kind of willingness in using and possessing the Ring for his own for good although the Ring has the power to make the wearer invisible. That is why, Aragorn wants to help the Hobbits along the journey and protect them as well.
At first, in the Council of Elrond, there is a debate among the three races (except the Hobbits) in order to determine the one taking the Ring to Mount Doom, the place where the Dark Lord Sauron forged the ring and also the only place where the ring can be destroyed. There is a gap of silence in the middle of the debate for the three races do not know how to handle the Ring correctly without being possessed by the evil power in it as well as not being hunted by the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants. Suddenly Elrond says,

“The road must be trod, but it will be very hard. And neither strength nor wisdom will carry us far upon it.”. It means that although the Elves has magical power as well as wisdom to do the task to destroy the Ring in Mount Doom, and the Men as well as the Dwarves have power and courage to take the Ring, but all the qualities mentioned before are not enough. It needs something more from the bearer, other than strength and wisdom, that can overcome the evil power of the Ring or at least make the power of it less harmful to the bearer during the journey to Mount Doom. Still, there is hope for the destruction of the Ring and there must be some who can manage to take the Ring to Mount Doom and destroy it in the Orodruin fire. (p. 262)

From Elrond’s statement the messengers who are sent with the Ring directly refers to Frodo (together with his companions) who has brought the Ring from the Shire to Rivendell, it forced Frodo to volunteer himself. He felt responsible and initiated by Elrond’s statement. It seems to him that he has to finish the task to destroy the Ring to Mount Doom although he realized he has much less power compared to other races.

Then, Elrond decides that since the Ring has been safely in Frodo’s possession along the journey from Hobbiton in the Shire to Rivendell, the task to destroy the Ring falls into Frodo’s hand. The decision is made because Elrond sees
two things for trusting the Ring in Frodo’s hand: Frodo can successfully bring the
Ring to Rivendell although he has to face many problems that are unpleasant enough for him. One example is the time when Frodo faces the Ringwraiths that try to take the Ring by any ways, even the cruelest ones, in many occasions and Frodo can overcome the problems well although he has to risk his own life. The second thing is that Frodo has the willingness to have an adventurous journey, even the hard one like this task in destroying the Ring. The desire to have an adventurous journey in Frodo’s life is influenced by his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, who has led him through many adventurous journeys and there are writings about his journeys read by Frodo. Those writings make Frodo eager to know about the world outside his homeland, the Shire, and have a journey by his own.

The main reason of trusting the destruction of the Ring on Frodo’s hands is because it has been proven that Frodo can manage and control his mind in fighting against the evil power of the Ring. The Ring has a kind of power that can persuade the bearer to use it all the time and as the result, all of the good behaviors of the bearer are suppressed and it leads the bad behaviors to be the only thing that exists in the bearer’s mind.

Frodo was a determined Hobbit. This is shown from his struggle in facing the obstacles among the journey to Rivendell. One event that shows the determination of Frodo is when it is the time to choose whether the Company has to go back to Rivendell or continues the journey although the path is difficult. After the blizzard in Caradhras that is almost heaped up the Company, and almost all of the Company
(except Gandalf) had given up to continue the journey choosing another dangerous path, it is Frodo who finally decided that the Company has to go on the journey, no matter what.

*He says that* “‘I wish I was back there,’ he said. ‘But how can I return without shame – unless there is indeed no other way, and we are already defeated?’” *(p. 287)*

Since Frodo has pride and dignity as well as responsibility to fulfill his duty to destroy the Ring in Mount Doom, Frodo refuses to go back to Rivendell. As a wise wizard, Gandalf agrees with Frodo’s opinion and says:

... ‘to go back is to admit defeat, and face worse defeat to come. If we go back now, then the Ring must remain there: we shall not be able to set out again. Then sooner or later Rivendell will be besieged, and after a brief and bitter time it will be destroyed. The Ringwraiths are deadly enemies, but they are only shadows yet of the power and terror they would possess if the Ruling Ring was on their master’s hand again.’ *(p.287)*

Frodo chooses not to go back to Rivendell and continues his journey to Mount Doom although he has to sacrifice himself through the harsh path that he will undergo. It means that Frodo is a kind of Hobbit who does not give up easily without trying doing it until the last opportunity he has. He does not want to go back to Rivendell as if he has already lost the battle without facing it until the end, and it gives him more courage and strength to continue the journeys.

Frodo treats someone as an equal. This is shown in the way Frodo talks to Sam in such a polite manner without being superior to Sam. This treatment is paid back by Sam by following Frodo anywhere he wants, no matter how hard the journey will be. This politeness of Frodo can be seen from how he answers the greeting of
Glóin the Dwarf on him:

‘Welcome and well met!’ said the dwarf, turning towards him. Then he actually rose from his seat and bowed. ‘Glóin at your service,’ he said, and bowed still lower.

‘Frodo Baggins at your service and your family’s,’ said Frodo correctly, rising in surprise and scattering his cushions .... (p. 221-222)

Frodo is responsible for saving his land from the influence and threat of the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants. It’s shown when he is willing to take the Ring out of the Shire by any risks in order to protect his land from the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron that might reach the Shire.

*The third one that shows Frodo’s character is when Frodo volunteered himself to take the Ring to Mount Doom in Mordor. It is shown when Frodo says, “‘I will take the Ring,’ he said, ‘though I do not know the way.’”*. (p.264)

Frodo was just an ordinary Hobbit. He was not qualified to take the Ring. He knows it already. He had a kind of conflict in his own mind whether to take the Ring or to stay with Bilbo in Rivendell and not concerning about the Ring anymore, and leave it to the Council of Elrond to decide who will take the Ring to be destroyed in Mount Doom.(263) But still, his responsibility in saving the Middle-earth, and also the desire of having his own journey, Frodo volunteers himself to do the task so that he was chosen to take all the risks that may appear during the journey.

Frodo is quite friendly in showing how good the relationship between the master and his subordinate is. Frodo, as a middle-class Hobbit, can have a good relationship with his gardener, Sam. Even, Sam has put his fully trust and loyalty on
Frodo by choosing to accompany Frodo wherever he goes. Sam dares to sacrifice himself if it is needed to be with Frodo.

Sam puts his fully trust and loyalty in Frodo because as a master, Frodo does not show his superiority to Sam, and even, he treats Sam as another friend of him that can be relied on in any occasions.

‘Well, Sam!’ he said. ‘What about it? I am leaving the Shire as soon as ever I can – in fact I have made up my mind now not even to wait a day at Crickhollow, if it can be helped.’

‘Very good, sir!’

‘You still mean to come with me?’

‘I do.’

‘It is going to be very dangerous, Sam. It is already dangerous. Most likely neither of us will come back.’

‘If you don’t come back, sir, then I shan’t, that’s certain,’ said Sam. (p. 85)

### B. Heroic Characteristic of Frodo Baggins

As the Ring-bearer and then principal protagonist of The Lord of the Rings, Frodo is endowed with a temperament well suited to resist evil. He is brave, loves peacefulness, determined, hospitable, smart, and responsible. Unlike the common run of provincial, self-satisfied Hobbits, Frodo is curious about the outside world and knowledgeable about the traditions of the Elves. As everyone from Bilbo to Gandalf to Aragorn notices, there is something special in Frodo, something that sets him apart from the rest of his race—a fineness, perhaps, or an inner strength. Frodo’s goodness, wisdom and generally impeccable character might make him seem one-dimensional if he were not so frequently wracked with doubt and faced with obstacles he feels
unable to surmount. Frodo is not Elrond, nor even Aragorn; he has no otherworldly powers or even physical prowess. Frodo is initially so weak he can barely even get out of the Shire without the help of Farmer Maggot and then Tom Bombadil.

The Hobbit, small and furtive, is a clever inversion of the typical epic hero—an Odysseus or Beowulf whose strength and bravery equip him in his struggles against monsters and angry gods. In this sense, Frodo can be seen as a protagonist who has the power of humility. It teaches that strength of character triumphs over strength of arms, which the path to salvation lays through sacrifices, even self-sacrifice in the face of a greater power. Frodo’s stewardship of the Ring and his heroism, which consists largely of resisting the temptation to use the Ring, exemplify these ideas.

There are values of heroism in Frodo that make the others (the Men, the Dwarves, and the Elves) are willing to help. It shows from Frodo’s effort in leading a harsh journey to Mount Doom in order to destroy the Ring. Frodo is just a mere Hobbit who is weak and has limitations in strength to fight against the evil and powerful power of the Dark Lord Sauron. Still, there are values of heroism in him, such as willingness, dignity, courage, and responsibility that make him capable in doing the task of destroying the Ring. These values of heroism cannot be existed in Frodo’s life unless there are influences from his friends and relatives to support him in facing all the obstacles and tries to make them through. Although he has to deal with both ups and downs, Frodo is able to manage his times, desires, and also copes with his environment in order to make the task of destroying the Ring accomplished.
As the journey progresses, Frodo developments as a hero not by acquiring new wisdom, strength, or power, but by trusting his own virtues: the common sense, goodness, and determination that motivated him from the beginning. Spurred by Boromir's actions, Frodo realizes that the Ring will destroy everyone around him. His common sense tells him that he will have to rely on himself to complete the task, and his heart tells him not to endanger the others physically or spiritually by bringing them along. And as the exhausting journey continues, only his determination to see it through allows him to continue, struggling step by step along the difficult path.

Befriending Gollum is a crucial point in Frodo's personal journey as well as his physical one. When he first hears of Gollum, Frodo's initial reaction is one of disgust and anger. If only Bilbo had killed the creature, none of this terrible journey would be necessary; Sauron would not have learned of the Ring and Frodo could have remained safe in his hobbit-hole. He does not believe Gandalf when the wizard says that Gollum is pitiable, but he finds this to be the case when they at last meet. Gollum's service as a guide proves invaluable, even considering tricking them into Shelob's lair, but that is only one part of the service he does for Frodo. For the Ring bearer, Gollum serves as both an object-lesson (here is what the Ring will do to its bearer) and a glimmer of hope (if Gollum can be saved, perhaps Frodo himself will not be destroyed by the quest). Although Frodo does not see it, Gollum's moment of hesitation on the steps of Cirith Ungol shows that Frodo's hope has not been
misplaced. Even so, Frodo smitten with Gollum’s changes to be wise. He was braver in facing obstacles among the journey. He can makes decisions with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality.

Frodo's quest succeeds through the fortunate intervention of Gollum and his life is saved by the eagles, but like many who leave to fight for their homes, Frodo suffers physical and spiritual wounds that cannot heal. While we would like to believe that heroes can come home, sometimes the struggle is too painful. Frodo's departure from Middle-earth acknowledges and rewards his sacrifice, freeing him from the pain of lingering in a world that he can no longer enjoy.

When Frodo begins his journey, he does not consider himself particularly heroic, but the job must be done and he is the only person available. Many times along the way, especially before he and Sam separate from the rest of the Fellowship, either he or one of the powerful individuals he encounters comment on his obvious lack of qualifications. He is not wise like Elrond; he is not valiant like Aragorn; his not powerful like Gandalf. In fact, he lacks all the usual features of heroism. He is only a hobbit, gifted with such pedestrian virtues as common sense, a good heart, and the determination to do his best.

The first challenges to confront Frodo dramatize his inexperience. He is indecisive, delaying his departure from the Shire as long as possible even though he knows the task is urgent. He opts to risk the dangers of the Old Forest, nearly getting himself and his friends killed twice. He behaves foolishly in Bree, drawing
unnecessary attention to him. And he gives in to the temptation to put on the Ring at Weathertop, making himself vulnerable to the Ringwraiths' attack.

Nevertheless, Frodo survives both the obvious dangers and his own mistakes. The novel attributes his success to two main factors. First, as Gandalf is fond of pointing out, hobbits are tougher than they look, and simple toughness — the ability to endure hardship and move past it — goes a long way in this struggle. Second, Frodo does not want and never sought the power of the Ring, meaning that he continues to resist its lure. Although he lapses momentarily at Weathertop, he reiterates his commitment to resist at the Ford of Bruinen. Heroism does not require perfection, only the aspiration to do well.

The character Frodo Baggins is heroic because he alone takes up the burden of taking the Ring of Power to Mordor to destroy it. In Middle Earth, the Ring of Power is the most tempting object of deceit that entices and corrupts the mind and soul. All of the men in the fellowship are aware of this. When the Elrod asks the fellowship who will carry the ring to Mordor, much quarreling arises because each of the men thinks he is able to destroy the ring. Some even believe that is can be used for good. Only Frodo knows that he alone is capable of obliterating the ring.

Frodo is heroic because of the strengths and weaknesses he possesses. One such strength that Frodo has is that he is able to have control of the ring but not use it selfishly. Frodo only uses the ring in life or death situations. This is seen in the Prancing Pony when one of Frodo’s drunken companion’s leads a Ringwraith right to Frodo. He drops the ring and when he tries to catch it, it lands on his finger, instantly
hiding him from the Ringwraith. Another instance when Frodo uses the ring to save his life is when he cornered by four Ring wraiths.

Loyalty is another personality trait that Frodo has which proves him to be heroic. Never once during this adventure does Frodo show a willingness to disobey the wisdom that the fellowship has to offer him. He listens to all advice that each member has to offer him with the exception of Bormire, whose morals are corrupt. Frodo is loyal to himself and to the other members of the fellowship, because he promises them that he will destroy the ring and not use it waywardly. This can be seen in comparison to Bormire. When Frodo strays into the woods by himself, Bormire finds him and tries to lure him into giving the ring to him. Frodo refuses and thus remains loyal to the rest of the fellowship. Again we can see this when Frodo listens to the request Gandalf in keeping the ring quiet and safe. When the barkeeper asks his name he replies “Andahill, My name is Andahill”. Once more, Frodo has shown loyalty towards one of his friends.

Throughout his quest to take the Ring to Mordor and destroy it, Frodo faces an internal struggle with the Ring's evil and his own self-doubt. A pivotal point occurs at the Council of Elrond when, to his own surprise, he finds himself volunteering with his famous expression, "I will take the Ring, though I do not know the way."

During the journey, Frodo many times manifests a courage that he doesn't know he has. He shows courage at Weathertop where, instead of being paralyzed with fear, he stabs the Lord of the Ringwraiths. Later, after crossing the ford of Bruinen at
the border of Rivendell, he defies the Black Riders who've come to take him back to Mordor. The problem is that Frodo's first impulse whenever he needs to summon his courage is to put on the Ring and use its power. He actually does put the Ring on prior to confronting the Ringwraiths at Weathertop and stabbing the Lord of the Nazgûl. He also resorts to putting it on when Boromir tries to take it from him at Amon Hen.

At first, Frodo becomes aware of the Eye of Sauron searching him out when he's sitting on the Seat of Seeing at Amon Hen wearing the Ring. In this encounter, it can be seen the seriousness of Frodo's internal struggle, for he is not sure whether his response to Sauron is "never in your wildest dreams" or "Chief, I'm on my way." When he finally realizes that he must take off the Ring or risk Sauron getting a fix on his location, he still wrestles with the decision to take it off.

In a very telling description, Frodo is said to be "writhing" during this struggle. Suddenly, Tolkien tells us, Frodo becomes aware of him again and takes off the Ring in the nick of time. This is where Frodo makes the decision to go it alone to Mordor, saying, "I will do now what I must." Of course, Sam won't let him go alone. As he perseveres toward Mordor, it shows Frodo morphing from simple Ring-bearer into wannabe Lord of the Ring. As he and Sam get closer to Mount Doom, the seat of the Ring's power, its influence weighs heavier and heavier on Frodo, and he becomes increasingly possessive of it (that old "My Precious" thing). Despite the terrible internal struggle, Frodo finds the courage and the stamina to continue on to the bitter end.
The research findings in the analysis are told that the characteristic of the main character in this novel. He was hospitable, smart, determined, adventurer, responsible, and so on. Besides that the writer finds heroic characteristics of the main character such courage, willingness, responsibility, and dignity.
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

A. Conclusion

Experience can also be a good teacher. It shows from the main character of this novel, Frodo Baggins. At first, he does not know about the outside world of his hometown, the Hobbiton. He does not know other creatures beside the Hobbits and one of Big Folk, Gandalf. Frodo does not know how to deal with the other creatures in Middle-earth until he meets them in person, whether in good circumstances – when he met the Big Folk in the ‘Prancing Pony’ Inn, (he was welcomed well by the owner, Mr. Barliman Butterbur) – or in bad ones – when Frodo met the Ringwraiths for the first time and also Old Man Willow that swallows Merry and Pippin in the Old Forest. The new experience of Frodo in encountering many new characters help him to rebuild his own traits and teach him the way how to treat others. It helps to show Frodo that the world outside the land that he has already known for years is not as beautiful as the tales.

Actually, the common theme in The Fellowship of The Ring is about good and evil. It is mainly described about how the good – represented by Frodo and his friends – fight against the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants. The main moral lesson that The Fellowship of The Ring wants to convey is that even an
ordinary creature with his limitations as well as weaknesses, in this case it is Frodo Baggins the Hobbit, can be into a heroic battles – both physically against the dark power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants and morally in Frodo’s own mind (for not following the Ring’s bad influences that affects the destiny of Middle-earth and its inhabitants). It is not only the strong or dominant creatures that can make a difference in life, but also the weak ones if only they know how to manage their heart and mind and make the right decision in their choice of life.

Frodo baggins has a great obligation in his life. He has to destroy the Ring due to its dark-forced ability in resulting destruction in Frodo’s time and in the future. At first, Frodo was just a typical young Hobbit – nice, merry, loves peacefulness and quietness, likes to have parties, hospitable, and skillful in tools. He tends to have no difficulties in life. Then, after the giving of the Ring from his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, Frodo’s life changes into horrible days. He has to go miles away through the mountains, lands, and the forest (which is usually avoided by the Hobbits), meets many kinds of creatures (Men, Dwarves, Elves, Orcs), has to deal with the dark forces that after him now and then in order to seize the Ring from him, and the worst of all, he is very close to death when he has to face the dark forces by himself. There is a kind of process of finding the true personality, which is the developed-personality into a mature one of the main character, Frodo Baggins. It involves the influences from his surrounding – the interaction to other creatures that he has never met before. He has to make decisions, has to deal with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality.
There are values of heroism in Frodo that make the others (the Men, the Dwarves, and the Elves) are willing to help. It shows from Frodo’s effort in leading a harsh journey to Mount Doom in order to destroy the Ring. Frodo is just a mere Hobbit who is weak and has limitations in strength to fight against the evil and powerful power of the Dark Lord Sauron. Still, there are values of heroism in him, such as willingness, dignity, courage, and responsibility that make him capable in doing the task of destroying the Ring. These values of heroism cannot be existed in Frodo’s life unless there are influences from his friends and relatives to support him in facing all the obstacles and tries to make them through. Although he has to deal with both ups and downs, Frodo is able to manage his times, desires, and also copes with his environment in order to make the task of destroying the Ring accomplished.

B. Suggestion

After analyzing the novel the fellowship of the ring by J.R.R Tolkien, the writer just wants to comment that the novel is very interested novel that everyone should try to find and read it. Besides, Tolkien’s works mostly talk about the superstitious things that sometimes beyond the imagination of the readers of his books; his works have been loved by millions of readers worldwide. The writer realizes that his paper actually has not been perfect yet. There are many mistakes in its contain, but the writer wants to suggest you all, for anyone who is interested to study about character, characterization, and characteristic of novel in literary work, to
read for some more sources about character analysis. The writer also expects that this research will be useful for everyone who reads this paper, on those who want to analyze character and characteristic in novel. In addition, novel is one of interesting things to be analyzed in literary work of literature especially in Tolkien’s novels. So, the writer suggests all readers to read up more books that talk about fictional literature. It makes us find more experience in literature today and we can compare it with literature at the past. Finally, the writer hopes this research will enrich reader’s knowledge and useful as a reference.
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A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Novel is a prose fiction of considerable length showing characters in action, and capable of greater complexity in both character and plot than the short story, but we can, therefore, agree on the vogue definition that novel is a book length piece of imaginative fiction.\(^{15}\) Furthermore, when studying a text novel, there are several aspects of the novel, which the readers would need to know well, such as theme, plot, character, characterization, point of view, style, tone, language, and setting. The intrinsic elements are very important in the novel to describe story, which make a story come to life.

Stanton Robert explains in his book entitled *An Introduction to Fiction* he said that the intrinsic elements are divided into five elements, they are: theme, character, plot, point of view and setting.\(^{16}\) Novel also fiction that offering world, a world contains ideal life’s model imaginative world that built with the various intrinsic element.

Plot has function to arrange events or happen continues in the story, and can not be separated from the content of the story. Character describes the physical, non physical, behavior and attitude every actor or actress in the story from the beginning until the end. Setting describes about the time and place of the story, it is also denoting the location period and social surrounding in which the action of a text

\(^{15}\) Ralph H Singleton, and Stanton Millet, *An Introduction to Literature* (The world publishing Company 1996), p. 1194
develop. Meanwhile, theme is main idea or essential idea of the story, it is a subject which interested the writer and which is discussed in the text or portrayed in it in some way.

In this research, the writer only use character and characterization element to study the novel of the fellowship of the ring. It’s the first of three volumes in the epic novel the lord of the rings by English author J.R R Toelkien. It takes place in the fictional universe Middle-earth. As the main character, Frodo Baggins becomes an object of the research because he is the most dominant character who make the story become interested, and he also very influential on the plot of the story and can make influence to the reader.

Frodo baggins, the main character of this novel, who has a great obligation in his life. He has to destroy the Ring due to its dark-forced ability in resulting destruction in Frodo’s time and in the future. At first, Frodo was just a typical young Hobbit – nice, merry, loves peacefulness and quietness, likes to have parties, hospitable, and skillful in tools. He tends to have no difficulties in life. Then, after the giving of the Ring from his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, Frodo’s life changes into horrible days. He has to go miles away through the mountains, lands, and the forest (which is usually avoided by the Hobbits), meets many kinds of creatures (Men, Dwarves, Elves, Orcs), has to deal with the dark forces that after him now and then in order to seize the Ring from him, and the worst of all, he is very close to death when he has to face the dark forces by himself. There is a kind of process of finding the true personality, which is the developed-personality into a mature one of the main
character, Frodo Baggins. It involves the influences from his surrounding – the interaction to other creatures that he has never met before. He has to make decisions, has to deal with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality.

Although there are many Hobbits (Merry, Pippin, Sam, Bilbo, and Frodo himself) that can be chosen to bring the ring, why is Frodo chosen to be the Ring-bearer? Besides, Frodo is mere Hobbit who has no strength to fight against the evil power along the journey. Is there any heroic character that Frodo possess ?. The statement above becomes the writer’s reason to analyze the novel *The Fellowship of the Ring* which is focused on the intrinsic element especially main character and characterization.

**B. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

The method that is use in this research is qualitative method and writer tries to describe data analysis that has correlation with the method. In this research, the data are analyzed qualitatively and compared with many relevant theories. The instrument in this research is the writer himself by reading novel and analyzing the data collected to find out the connection and other aspects related to the subject of research. The unit analysis in this research is novel *The Fellowship of the Ring*, authorized by John Ronald Reuel Tolkien. The research starts on April 2009, at department of English Letters, State of Islamic Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta.

**C. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**
1. Character

The characters were divided into two typical, main character and subordinate character. Main character is the most dominant character and often involves with the other characters that exist in a story. Main character has a big part in the story; it always develops the story, and mostly appears on the text. It’s also an important role in a story and become a central attention in novel. Meanwhile, Subordinate character is the figure that plays no central role in story, but its appearance is needed to support the main character. The existence of the main character is fully helped by the other character, namely the subordinate characters.

Judith divides the types of characters as follows:

5. Protagonist and Antagonist

Protagonist is the main character in the story or a real event. The protagonist experiences conflict caused by antagonist. However, the concept of antagonist, which considers antagonist as a wicked character, is not true because antagonist is a person who actively opposes somebody or something.

6. Static or Dynamic

18 Encyclopedia Americana: Volume 6, 1985 p.367
Static character is a character that does not change in any significant way during the course of the work. Dynamic character is a character who change shows many different facets; often the course of the work.19

7. Flat and Round

Flat character is one embodying a “single idea or quality”. Lack any complexity, it never surprises. The flat character sometimes called a “type” or “caricature”. For it can be summed up in sentence.20 Flat characters usually have small part in the story.

Round character according to Perrine is “complex and many sides; they might require an easy for full analysis. It undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality or outlook”.21 Major characters are likely to be round, while minor characters are to be flat. Through the language and actions of the characters, readers will learn whether the personages are multidimensional characters, which skimpily developed characters, or perhaps merely foil which have main purposes to shed light on more important characters. The readers will also learn about the emotions, attitudes, and values of characters such as their hopes and fears, their strengths and weakness in story.22

2. Heroic Character

A hero is an individual of elevated moral stature and superior ability who

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19 Ibid, p. 394
20 Literary Terms: A Dictionary, third edition, revised and enlarge by Karl Beckson and Arthur Ganz, 1990, p.91
21 Perrine, Laurence, op.cit, p.41
22 Laurie G. Kirzner and Stephen R. Mandel Literature, Reading Reacting, Writing, 1991, p.1146
pursues his goals indefatigably in the face of powerful antagonist. Because of his unbreached devotion to the good, no matter the opposition, a hero attains spiritual grandeur, even in he fails to achieve practical victory. Notice then the four components of heroism: moral greatness, ability or prowess, action in the face of opposition, and triumph in at least a spiritual, if not a physical, form. Of these, the hero's moral stature is unquestionably the most fundamental. An uncompromising commitment to morality is the foundation of heroism.  

Heroic characters have been portrayed in many ways in literature. The hero character has been shown to be brave, courageous - possessing or displaying courage; able to face and deal with danger or fear without flinching. According to William Wordsworth; "set a courageous example by leading them safely into and out of enemy-held territory".

There are three principles to observe character. First, the characters are consistent in their behavior. They do not behave one way on one occasion and different way on another occasion unless there is clearly sufficient reason for the change. Second, the characters are clearly motivated in whatever they do, especially in the changes of their behavior, we must be able to understand the reason for what they do, if not immediately, at least by the end of

23 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hero
story. Third, the characters are plausible or life like.\textsuperscript{24} It means every character who presents the story always behave as if their real characteristic. The actors indirectly tell to the audience what characteristic in the story into their own character. The actor can apply their performance to performance.

D. CHARACTER ANALYSIS

1. Characteristic of Frodo Baggins

Frodo was different among the other hobbits. Hobbits tend to live peacefully in the Hobbiton and never think of going outside of their hometown, but it is a different case for Frodo as he wants to have his own journey just like his uncle, Bilbo. This kind of Frodo’s behavior makes the other Hobbits feel uneasy because Frodo’s behavior tend to against the mainstream – the usual norms existed since long time ago. The Hobbits are used to the norms and habits they know, such as living peacefully in their land without having any desires to go out of town, and not asking about the life outside for they are happy enough to live in their own land. Frodo is considered as a nuisance and disturber of the peace for his keen on going up the mainstream.

Frodo’s character is built not only from his own society among the Hobbits, but also from places where he visits along the journey to destroy the ring. In these

\textsuperscript{24} Lawrence Perrine, Literature, Structure, Sound and Sense, (London: Harcourt Bruce Jovanovic,1984)5\textsuperscript{p.41}
different and absolutely new places, Frodo can experience things that, so far, he just knows from tales and from his uncle Bilbo’s writings in his books. For example, when he crosses the border of The Shire, his homeland, he meets new characters with different personalities that sometimes are not kindhearted enough to him. Then, Frodo knows that not all people are kindhearted just like what he has heard from the tales as well as experienced directly in his daily life. One of the new Frodo’s character was represented in anticipating the worst possibility that can be experienced, Frodo must think and make up his mind quickly, in this case, the best option that he should choose to survive from the chase of the Ringwraiths.

Frodo has quite good qualities in handling the Ring and Frodo can also be trusted. Aragorn dares to believe in Frodo’s handling the Ring because Aragorn can see that Frodo has courage in fighting the evil power of the Ring and also the Ringwraiths that after him for the Ring all the time along the journey to Rivendell. Aragorn also sees that Frodo does not have a kind of willingness in using and possessing the Ring for his own for good although the Ring has the power to make the wearer invisible. That is why, Aragorn wants to help the Hobbits along the journey and protect them as well.

The main reason of trusting the destruction of the Ring on Frodo’s hands is because it has been proven that Frodo can manage and control his mind in fighting against the evil power of the Ring. The Ring has a kind of power that can persuade the bearer to use it all the time and as the result, all of the good behaviors of the bearer are suppressed and it leads the bad behaviors to be the only thing that exists in
the bearer’s mind.

Frodo is determined Hobbit. This is shown from his struggle in facing the obstacles among the journey to Rivendell. One event that shows the determination of Frodo is when it is the time to choose whether the Company has to go back to Rivendell or continues the journey although the path is difficult. After the blizzard in Caradhras that is almost heaped up the Company, and almost all of the Company (except Gandalf) had given up to continue the journey choosing another dangerous path, it is Frodo who finally decided that the Company has to go on the journey, no matter what.

Frodo treats someone as an equal. This is shown in the way Frodo talks to Sam in such a polite manner without being superior to Sam. This treatment is paid back by Sam by following Frodo anywhere he wants, no matter how hard the journey will be.

Frodo is responsible for saving his land from the influence and threat of the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants. It’s shown when he is willing to take the Ring out of the Shire by any risks in order to protect his land from the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron that might reach the Shire.

As a Hobbit who is just an ordinary creature with his limitation compared to the other three races – the Men, the Dwarves, and the Elves – Frodo is not qualified to take the Ring. Frodo knows it already. He had a kind of conflict in his own mind whether to take the Ring or to stay with Bilbo in Rivendell and not concerning about the Ring anymore, and leave it to the Council of Elrond to decide who will take the
Ring to be destroyed in Mount Doom. (263) But still, his responsibility in saving the
Middle-earth, and also the desire of having his own journey, Frodo volunteers himself
to do the task so that he was chosen to take all the risks that may appear during the
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main character in this novel. He was hospitable, smart, determined, adventurer,
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As the journey progresses, Frodo develop as a hero not by acquiring new
wisdom, strength, or power, but by trusting his own virtues: the common sense,
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Boromir's actions, Frodo realizes that the Ring will destroy everyone around him. His
common sense tells him that he will have to rely on himself to complete the task, and
his heart tells him not to endanger the others physically or spiritually by bringing
them along. And as the exhausting journey continues, only his determination to see it
through allows him to continue, struggling step by step along the difficult path.
The character Frodo Baggins is heroic because he alone takes up the burden of taking the Ring of Power to Mordor to destroy it. In Middle Earth, the Ring of Power is the most tempting object of deceit that entices and corrupts the mind and soul. All of the men in the fellowship are aware of this. When the Elrod asks the fellowship who will carry the ring to Mordor, much quarreling arises because each of the men thinks he is able to destroy the ring. Some even believe that is can be used for good. Only Frodo knows that he alone is capable of obliterating the ring.

Frodo is heroic because of the strengths and weaknesses he possesses. One such strength that Frodo has is that he is able to have control of the ring but not use it selfishly. Frodo only uses the ring in life or death situations. This is seen in the Prancing Pony when one of Frodo’s drunken companion’s leads a Ringwraith right to Frodo. He drops the ring and when he tries to catch it, it lands on his finger, instantly hiding him from the Ringwraith. Another instance when Frodo uses the ring to save his life is when he cornered by four Ring wraiths.

E. CONCLUSION

Experience can also be a good teacher. It shows from the main character of this novel, Frodo Baggins. At first, he does not know about the outside world of his hometown, the Hobbiton. He does not know other creatures beside the Hobbits and one of Big Folk, Gandalf. Frodo does not know how to deal with the other creatures in Middle-earth until he meets them in person, whether in good circumstances – when
he met the Big Folk in the ‘Prancing Pony’ Inn, (he was welcomed well by the owner, Mr. Barliman Butterbur) – or in bad ones – when Frodo met the Ringwraiths for the first time and also Old Man Willow that swallows Merry and Pippin in the Old Forest. The new experience of Frodo in encountering many new characters help him to rebuild his own traits and teach him the way how to treat others. It helps to show Frodo that the world outside the land that he has already known for years is not as beautiful as the tales.

Actually, the common theme in The Fellowship of The Ring is about good and evil. It is mainly described about how the good – represented by Frodo and his friends – fight against the evil power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants. The main moral lesson that The Fellowship of The Ring wants to convey is that even an ordinary creature with his limitations as well as weaknesses, in this case it is Frodo Baggins the Hobbit, can be into a heroic battles – both physically against the dark power of the Dark Lord Sauron and his servants and morally in Frodo’s own mind (for not following the Ring’s bad influences that affects the destiny of Middle-earth and its inhabitants). It is not only the strong or dominant creatures that can make a difference in life, but also the weak ones if only they know how to manage their heart and mind and make the right decision in their choice of life.

Frodo baggins has a great obligation in his life. He has to destroy the Ring due to its dark-forced ability in resulting destruction in Frodo’s time and in the future. At first, Frodo was just a typical young Hobbit – nice, merry, loves peacefulness and quietness, likes to have parties, hospitable, and skillful in tools. He tends to have no
difficulties in life. Then, after the giving of the Ring from his uncle, Bilbo Baggins, Frodo’s life changes into horrible days. He has to go miles away through the mountains, lands, and the forest (which is usually avoided by the Hobbits), meets many kinds of creatures (Men, Dwarves, Elves, Orcs), has to deal with the dark forces that after him now and then in order to seize the Ring from him, and the worst of all, he is very close to death when he has to face the dark forces by himself. There is a kind of process of finding the true personality, which is the developed-personality into a mature one of the main character, Frodo Baggins. It involves the influences from his surrounding – the interaction to other creatures that he has never met before. He has to make decisions, has to deal with many different ways of thinking that can influence his personality.

There are values of heroism in Frodo that make the others (the Men, the Dwarves, and the Elves) are willing to help. It shows from Frodo’s effort in leading a harsh journey to Mount Doom in order to destroy the Ring. Frodo is just a mere Hobbit who is weak and has limitations in strength to fight against the evil and powerful power of the Dark Lord Sauron. Still, there are values of heroism in him, such as willingness, dignity, courage, and responsibility that make him capable in doing the task of destroying the Ring. These values of heroism cannot be existed in Frodo’s life unless there are influences from his friends and relatives to support him in facing all the obstacles and tries to make them through. Although he has to deal with both ups and downs, Frodo is able to manage his times, desires, and also copes with his environment in order to make the task of destroying the Ring accomplished.
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