An Analysis of the Main Characters in the Novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta by **Habiburrahman El Shirazy**

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze the character of the protagonist in the novel *Ayat-Ayat* Cinta by Habiburrahman El Shirazy. The study employs a descriptive qualitative method, in which the researcher re-reads the novel to identify and examine the main characteristics of the protagonist. This approach seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of the protagonist's character. The findings indicate that the protagonist exhibits several significant traits, including honesty, humility, and responsibility. Additionally, the protagonist demonstrates discipline, compassion for others, and a romantic nature. These attributes are portrayed consistently throughout the novel, offering a clear and detailed depiction of the character's personality.

KEYWORDS

Main Character; Novel: Ayat Ayat Cinta.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis karakter tokoh utama dalam novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta karya Habiburrahman El Shirazy. Metode yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif, di mana peneliti melakukan pembacaan ulang novel untuk mengidentifikasi sifat-sifat utama tokoh. Melalui pendekatan ini, penelitian berusaha mengungkap karakter tokoh utama secara komprehensif. Hasil temuan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa tokoh utama dalam novel ini memiliki berbagai karakteristik penting. Beberapa tokoh utama digambarkan sebagai individu yang jujur, rendah hati, dan bertanggung jawab. Selain itu, tokoh utama juga menunjukkan sikap disiplin, peduli terhadap orang lain, serta memiliki sifat romantis. Semua sifat ini digambarkan secara konsisten sepanjang cerita, memberikan gambaran yang jelas tentang kepribadian tokoh tersebut.

KATAKUNCI

Tokoh Utama: Novel: Ayat Ayat Cinta.

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How to cite:

Suparni, S., Wahono, W. (2024). An Analysis of the Main Characters in the Novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta by Habiburrahman El

Shirazy. Pulchra Lingua: A Journal of Language Study, Literature, & Linguistics, 3(1), 17-31. https://doi.org/10.58989/plj.v3i1.35

1. Introduction

The novel is a literary work grounded in reality, emerging from the social environment, and developing through non-fiction narrative forms. This allows the novel to create an atmosphere that evokes emotional responses in readers, engaging them deeply with the storyline crafted by the author. In a novel, conflict is the most compelling element, often serving as the driving force behind the storyline. Engaging novels typically feature sudden and surprising conflicts. Within these narratives, the main character plays a crucial role in shaping the story, appearing in almost every significant event. However, some novels also feature supporting characters who, while not present in every incident, remain closely connected to the main character. These supporting characters appear only a few times, with relatively shorter story arcs compared to the protagonist.

Ayat-Ayat Cinta follows the life of the main character, Fahri, a young Indonesian man pursuing his master's degree at Al Azhar University in Egypt. Fahri lives in an apartment with other Indonesian students, consistently striving to set a positive example for his friends. His behavior in the apartment reflects his commitment to kindness and mutual assistance. Fahri, almost an ideal man, remains unfamiliar with love before marriage. When deciding to marry, Fahri carefully considers various factors, eventually entering into an arranged marriage with Aisha, an Egyptian woman from a prominent family, who accepts him despite his imperfections.

Fahri undergoes significant changes after marrying Aisha. He adapts to her affluent lifestyle, balancing her needs and always striving to make her happy. However, their happiness is short-lived, as Fahri faces a major crisis due to unexpected accusations. Noura, an Egyptian woman whom Fahri once helped, falsely accuses him of impregnating her, leading to his arrest. Despairing, Fahri begins to lose hope until a friend named Maria provides testimony that ultimately clears his name. This testimony reveals that Noura was actually raped by her stepfather, exonerating Fahri from the charges.

Fahri endured relentless torture in prison, causing great distress to Aisha, who was heartbroken to see her husband suffer due to false accusations. While Fahri was imprisoned, he learned that Maria, a woman who had greatly helped him and deeply admired him, had fallen gravely ill after he rejected her love. Maria lapsed into a coma and was lying in a hospital outside Cairo. Faced with the dire situation, Fahri was pressured to marry Maria in order to improve her psychological condition, despite knowing that this would deeply hurt his wife, Aisha. This decision was agonizing for Fahri, as he struggled between his duty to save Maria and his love and loyalty to Aisha.

Given this background, the researcher is drawn to the novel *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* because its content offers valuable lessons on Islamic life that can serve as motivation for readers. This novel not only encourages a deeper understanding of Islam, life, and love but also presents a story so well-crafted in content, narrative, and language that it

feels almost real. The language is also communicative and easily understood by readers. Based on this context, the research question I formulated is: What are the characteristics of the main character in Habiburrahman El Shirazy's Ayat-Ayat Cinta?

1.1. The Protagonist

In a novel, it is essential to illustrate the character's perfection as the central figure in the story. As Nursisto (2000) explains, character or disposition refers to a person's internal attitude, which influences all of their thoughts and actions. Character is shaped by environment, habits, and education. Similarly, Sukriyani (2022) defines characters as the figures depicted in a story, along with their attitudes, interests, desires, emotions, and moral principles.

The concept of character reflects the traits and attitudes of the figures as interpreted by the reader, indicating the quality of the character. Characterization and character are often used interchangeably, referring to the assignment of specific traits to characters within a story (Made et al., 2021). However, characterization has a broader scope, encompassing not only who the characters are, but also what their traits are, how they are positioned, and how they are portrayed in the narrative. It also involves the techniques used to develop and present these characters (Young et al., 2021).

Characters in literary fiction are crucial among all the elements that compose a literary work. Each character exhibits different traits, which in turn generate various conflicts, significantly affecting the quality of the fictional work (Uswar & Andriani, 2019). Furthermore, Aminuddin (2000) suggests that the author's approach to describing or presenting characters varies according to the underlying science of the story, such as philosophy, psychology, social science, and so on.

Furthermore, according to Sendłak (2020) several principles are applied in analyzing the elements of characterization:

- a) The naming of a character or the use of a title is essential for understanding characterization and character.
- b) Characterization is distinct from character. Character refers to the individual traits of a character, which depend on the situation, psychological state, position, and role of the character. Characterization, on the other hand, refers to the coherence of a character's traits with various situations, circumstances, and roles, particularly in relation to other characters, while character itself is an individual's condition within a social context.
- c) It is uncommon for a character to fulfill a single role; typically, each character assumes multiple roles, depending on the social interactions they engage in.
- d) Each role introduces mission-related challenges and dramatic conflicts.
- e) Each role is always paired with other roles to create a problem.

- f) Characters can be distinguished by three conditions: physical, psychological, and social.
- g) There must be harmony and mutual support among the physical, psychological, and social conditions in developing problems and conflicts.
- h) The elements of characterization are not independent; they are interconnected with other elements.

1.2. Novel

A novel, which means "new," is so named because it represents a later form of literary work compared to other genres such as drama and poetry (Tarigan, 2011). The novel as a literary form has its origins in English literature and was further influenced by the philosophy of John Locke, who emphasized the importance of facts and experiences while cautioning against fantastical thinking (Bishop-Magallanes, 2022).

Several literary critics have offered definitions of the novel's essence. For example, Bernaerts et al. (2014) describes a novel as a prose narrative that focuses on an aspect of human life capable of altering the fate of its characters. Based on these perspectives, it can be concluded that a novel is an imaginative literary work that explores the complex aspects of its characters' lives, often conveying lessons in character education.

(Sumarjo & Saini, 1986) categorize novels into three groups: a) Romance novels, which feature equal roles for female and male characters, with the female role sometimes being more dominant; b) Adventure novels, which typically feature very few female roles; c) Fantasy novels, which blend realistic elements with the impossible or fantastical. Novels are composed of various elements, which are divided into intrinsic and extrinsic components. According to Prezioso (2023), the intrinsic elements of a novel include the theme, message, characters, characterization, plot, setting, point of view, and language. The extrinsic elements encompass the author's history or biography, the social and cultural context, and the values conveyed within the story.

1.2.1. Intrinsic Elements

Intrinsic elements are the foundational components within the literary work itself. These elements are what make a text identifiable as literature, comprising the factual elements that emerge when a literary work is read. These elements include the story, events, characterization, plot, theme, setting, point of view, and style of language (Tarigan, 2011). Similarly, Muhandra et al. (2023) refers to intrinsic elements as the structure of the story, which encompasses elements found within the literary work, such as theme, characterization, plot, setting, point of view, and message. In contrast, extrinsic elements are those external to the literary work, including factors such as social, economic, political, religious, and educational influences.

1.2.2. Extrinsic Elements

Extrinsic elements are those elements external to the literary text, specifically factors that influence the narrative of a literary work. Despite being external, extrinsic elements have a significant impact on literary works and are therefore considered crucial in the analysis of a novel. Wellek & Warren1 (949) notes that while extrinsic elements are extensive, they are sometimes viewed negatively or as less important. However, like intrinsic elements, extrinsic elements consist of various factors, including the author's subjectivity, attitudes, beliefs, and worldview, which influence the written work. In alignment with Sarah's (2022) perspective, extrinsic elements encompass social, economic, political, religious, and educational factors external to the literary work.

2. Method

This research employs a qualitative approach with descriptive content analysis. This method involves an in-depth examination of documents such as texts, images, symbols, and videos to understand their meaning and relevance. In this study, content analysis is systematically and objectively applied to explore the main characters in the novel *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* by Habiburrahman El Shirazy. The data was collected from the novel, which was published by Republika and has undergone 21 print runs since its initial publication in December 2004. The data collection technique involved a method of reading and note-taking, where researchers identified and recorded relevant information, which was then analyzed using content analysis. The data analysis process includes data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing, aimed at producing an in-depth understanding of the characters' traits in the novel. By utilizing qualitative descriptive methods, this research seeks to provide a clear and detailed depiction of the events in the novel, thereby enhancing readers' comprehension of the characters and their roles in the narrative.

3. Results and Discussion

After conducting research on the novel *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* by Habiburrahman El Shirazy, the researcher collected data related to the main character's traits, analyzed the findings, and organized them into a table format, which is then described in detail.

3.1. Character Analysis of the Main Characters in the Novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta by Habiburrahman El Shirazy

Based on the research questions, the researcher presents the results of the data analysis focusing on the main characters in the novel Ayat-Ayat Cinta by Habiburrahman El Shirazy. This analysis is supported by the following observations: a) Frequency of Appearance: The main characters—Maria, Aisha, Nurul, Noura, and Fahri—are

consistently present throughout the novel, appearing from the beginning to the end of the story. b) Author's Commentary: The main characters are frequently discussed and commented on by the author, whereas secondary characters are mentioned less often.

3.1.2. The Protagonist: Maria

a) Attentiveness

Maria displays a strong sense of care and affection for Fahri, often showing her concern through small acts of kindness, such as providing food and drinks. Despite living in an apartment with other Indonesian students, Maria's attention is notably directed toward Fahri. This is evident in the following dialogue excerpts:

Quote 1 (Page 59):

"Who bought the Ashir Ashab? Very considerate. Thank you. May Allah bless their life."... "Mas, we didn't buy the Ashir Ashab drink."... "It was given to us by Maria."

Quote 2 (Page 60):

"But it seems Maria pays more attention to you, Mas."

b) Shyness

In addition to being romantic, Maria is characterized by her shyness. She is unable to express her love for Fahri directly, choosing instead to confide her feelings in her diary. This trait is evident in the conversations throughout the story.

Quote 3 (Page 342):

"Why doesn't he reveal what's in his heart to me?" said Fahri.

"He was embarrassed. He waited for the right moment to find his courage, but it was too late," Yousef replied, holding back tears.

3) Helper

Maria's love for Fahri is evident in her helpful nature, a trait that also leads Fahri to develop feelings for her. This is illustrated in the following dialogue excerpt:

Quote 4 (Pages 75-78):

"Maria, are you awake? Do you hear crying downstairs? Don't you feel sorry for him?"

I saw Maria successfully persuade Noura to come with her as they walked through the apartment gate.

3.1.3. The protagonist: Aisha

a) Romantic

As Fahri's wife, Aisha is portrayed as having a romantic nature. Her affection for Fahri is clearly expressed in her interactions with him, as shown in the following quote:

Quote 5 (Pages 249-264):

"Fahri, I love you," she said with all sincerity.

"Thank you, Fahri. Love always comes with jealousy. Without jealousy, there is no love. You truly are the husband I've always dreamed of!"

b) Firmness

In addition to being romantic, Aisha is also characterized by her firm nature. She even urged Fahri to marry Maria in order to help heal her, allowing Maria to testify at the trial and potentially save Fahri from execution. This aspect of Aisha's character is evident in the following dialogue excerpts:

Quote 6 (Pages 377-378):

"If you love me, then you must do what's best for our child. I will soon be a mother, and a mother will do anything for the father and child. Marry Maria."

Quote 7 (Page 378):

"Please marry and save Maria. Isn't it stated in the Quran, 'And whoever saves a life, it is as if they have saved all of humanity."

3.1.4. The Protagonist: Nurul

a) Shyness

Not only Maria, but Nurul also harbors feelings for Fahri. Due to her shy nature, Nurul has long been in love with Fahri but struggles to express her emotions. Unable to contain her feelings, she even asks Ustadz Jalal and his wife to convey her love to Fahri. This is evident in the following excerpts:

Quote 8 (Page 228):

"Nurul secretly admired and fell in love with someone. But unfortunately, she didn't dare to express her feelings because she was very embarrassed."

Quote 9 (Page 230):

"You're the one, Fahri. Nurul really loves you. Many times she spoke to you directly or over the phone, but she never had the courage to tell you."

3.1.5. The Antagonist: Noura

a) Maliciousness

Despite her feelings for Fahri, Noura exhibits a malicious character by falsely accusing Fahri of raping her. This is evident in her slanderous statements during the trial.

Quote 10 (Page 335):

"Somehow, that night I surrendered my honor to him. I was hypnotized by the sweet promises he made. As soon as the mosque's first call to prayer sounded, I realized what had happened. I cried uncontrollably. I saw Fahri sleeping and left, returning to Maria's place. When Maria asked me what was wrong, I couldn't answer. I was too ashamed to tell her."

Quote 11 (Page 336):

"I was forced to reveal who impregnated me—none other than Fahri Abdullah. He is a man with the heart of a wolf, pretending to help, but ready to pounce."

3.1.6.The Protagonist: Fahri

a) Honesty

Fahri is depicted as an honest character who openly shares details about his family's impoverished life in Indonesia and his journey to Cairo. His honesty is further evident in his firm denial of the false accusations against him. This is illustrated in the following quotes:

Quote 12 (Page 213):

"I also told Ekbal a lot about my poor or underprivileged family, about how I came to Egypt by selling the rice fields I inherited from my grandfather, the only treasure owned by the Fahri family. My job was just to help Aziz distribute tempeh to the homes of students from Indonesia and Malaysia, and sell rice to fellow students."

Quote 13 (Page 309):

"I'm not the perpetrator of the rape, Captain! I will prove that I am innocent," I said firmly.

Quote 14 (Pages 311-312):

"This disaster just happened—I was accused of raping an Egyptian girl even though I didn't commit such a heinous act. How could I do that when I have a mother, aunt, wife, and maybe in the future, a daughter? Sometimes I can't understand the laws that apply in this country."

Quote 15 (Page 316):

"I haven't changed my mind. I didn't commit that sin. How could I admit to it? I will prove that I am truly innocent!" I answered firmly.

These quotes demonstrate Fahri's character being falsely accused of a heinous crime—raping a girl in Cairo named Noura. Despite being arrested by four policemen and imprisoned, Fahri remains steadfast in his refusal to confess to a crime he did not commit, maintaining his innocence throughout the trial.

b) Humility

The main character, Fahri, is portrayed as humble, consistently demonstrating a modest attitude, refraining from boasting about his intelligence, and showing politeness in his approach to life.

Quote 16 (Page 215):

"Ah Eqbal, it shouldn't be me you're asking. Ask Aisha, is Aisha ready to have a husband like me? I am a poor student, and the son of a poor farmer in a remote village in Indonesia," I answered, stammering while sobbing. "I don't feel worthy of being with your niece Aisha, and I don't want her to be disappointed in the future."

Quote 17 (Page 268):

"I explained everything to Aisha, who was unsettled in my heart. I really love her, but I won't be able to fulfill her wishes. I explained again who I am and the limits of my abilities."

Quote 18 (Page 275):

"I feel that my knowledge, faith, and experience are not enough to live with Aisha. Now I understand who she truly is. I need to seek suggestions, advice, and considerations from people who are stronger in spirit, with broader perspectives and greater experience."

These quotes illustrate Fahri's humility, as he questions whether his future wife, Aisha, will accept him as the son of a poor farmer from a village in Indonesia. Despite his love for Aisha, Fahri doubts whether she can accept his limitations, feeling that his knowledge and experience are insufficient to support a wife like her.

c) Romantic

The main character in *Ayat-Ayat Cinta*, Fahri, is portrayed as a young man with a romantic nature. In expressing his thoughts and feelings to the woman he loves, Aisha, Fahri demonstrates his romantic side in various ways, as illustrated in the following quotes:

Quote 19 (Page 249):

"I love you, Aisha," Fahri said, gently kissing Aisha's forehead with deep affection. "This is the first time I have kissed a woman." The atmosphere felt so beautiful and sacred.

This quote highlights Fahri's expression of love for Aisha, marking the first time he touches and kisses a woman—his wife, Aisha.

Quote 20 (Pages 253-254):

"Why does the milk taste salty, as if it has been mixed with salt?"

"This is sweet, Fahri, not salty! My dear Aisha, try tracing your tongue and dipping it into the drink."

"Hmmm... After your tongue touched it and stirred the drink, it became very sweet. I've never tasted a drink as sweet as this. The Prophet indeed said that if an angel in heaven spits into the ocean, the water will become tasteless, and your tongue can turn salty milk into sweet, my angel."

This quote shows Fahri playfully teasing his wife, Aisha, to ease her anxiety and awkwardness.

Quote 21 (Page 256):

"I stroked Aisha's hair, occasionally kissing her head. The scent of her black hair is unique and fragrant, something I've never smelled before."

This quote illustrates Fahri's tender affection as he kisses his wife, Aisha, and relishes the unique fragrance of her hair.

Quote 22 (Page 264):

"I stroked Aisha's wet cheek. "Now I am your husband, Aisha, not someone else, and I feel very jealous of Robin."

"Thank you, Fahri," Aisha replied. "Love is never without jealousy; love is always accompanied by jealousy. If there is no jealousy, there is no love. You are indeed the husband I dreamed of."

This quote emphasizes Fahri's romantic nature as he comforts Aisha by wiping her tearstained cheeks, expressing his jealousy of Robin, who had filmed Aisha while she was in the bathroom before they were married.

Quote 23 (Page 265):

"Aisha, you are so beautiful; gazing at your face is pure joy," I whispered softly.

Quote 24 (Page 266):

"To express my desire, my beloved, place your words upon your lips like stars in the sky, kisses in the living night, and your arms around me like a flame signaling victory. My dreams will be bright and eternal."

"How sweet my angel is, how enchanting her charm, her eyes sparkle, and her lips are as beautiful as roses blooming in the garden of heaven."

Quote 25 (Page 280):

"A kiss in the lively, heavy night, with your arms around me like something burning, a sign of victory. My dreams blaze and remain eternal."

Quote 26 (Page 302):

"The love melody I played was truly powerful."

"I smiled and immediately kissed her clean cheek. Aisha squirmed playfully."

Quote 27 (Page 331):

"Darling, hold this in your heart: even if it's not now, tomorrow, by God's will, we will have another honeymoon, many times more beautiful than the one we've experienced—especially in heaven—as long as our love never dies, and as long as our faith remains steadfast within us."

Quote 28 (Page 360):

"My wife, I truly love you; I don't want to lose you in this world, and even more so, I don't want to lose you in the afterlife. The only way forward is for us to stay together, never faltering in our fear of Allah, Azza Wa Jalla."

These quotes illustrate Fahri's romantic character, as he expresses his love for Aisha through beautiful poetry and reassures her of his commitment to their love, both in this life and the hereafter.

d) Courageous

Courage is an essential trait in a person's character. In navigating life, courage is always necessary. To remain steadfast in one's beliefs and to live life as it should be, one must possess courage. Often, what we fear is not as daunting as we imagine once we confront it. Overcoming fear fosters bravery, which in turn influences vision, spurs real action, and ignites enthusiasm. The character Fahri displays courage when he is arrested by the police on charges of raping a Cairo girl named Noura. Fahri is apprehended at his wife's apartment while they are intimately together. This can be observed in the following quotes:

Quote 29 (Page 304):

"You have an arrest warrant—what did I do wrong?" "Here's the letter, and you'll see your case in court." I read the document, realizing I was being arrested on charges of rape. "How did this happen? This is impossible; there must be a mistake. I won't be taken!" I argued.

"Wait a minute, Captain! Let me speak with my wife first," I said firmly.

Quote 30 (Page 308):

"Captain, I will prove my innocence in court, and I trust that this country upholds its laws and regulations. I am requesting a lawyer."

Quote 31 (Page 309):

"The only one who has the right to judge me is Allah. Only Allah knows everything. I will not fear human condemnation as long as I believe I am on the right path."

These quotes exemplify Fahri's courageous nature as he faces false accusations and remains determined to prove his innocence, standing firm in his belief in justice and his faith.

e) Caring

The character Fahri demonstrates deep care for his beloved wife by seeking a more affordable place to live to better manage their finances. By renting out the flat previously owned by Aisha's mother, they are able to relocate to a less expensive apartment in Nasr City. This decision not only provides them with comfort and tranquility but also allows them to allocate savings for charitable activities in the path of Allah.

Quote 32 (Page 270):

"Aisha, my beloved wife, the rent for this flat is quite high. Perhaps we should consider renting it out and finding a cheaper place in Nasr City. While we would miss the panoramic view of the Nile River, the comfort and peace will be similar, and the savings could be used for various charitable deeds in the path of Allah."

Quote 33 (Page 302):

"I feel very concerned for my wife and intend to drive a car so she doesn't have to endure exhaustion. I applied eucalyptus oil to her back, palms, stomach, and neck, prepared her favorite remedy for when she was tired and feverish, and gave her a glass of warm honey mixed with *habbah barakah*. After she drank the concoction, I helped her to bed."

f) Patience

Fahri endures severe mistreatment by the police, who arrest and imprison him. Despite the inhumane conditions and physical abuse, Fahri remains patient and composed. The following quotes illustrate his suffering and perseverance:

Quote 34 (Pages 310-311):

"This treatment is truly inhumane. I felt a profound humiliation that I had never experienced before. My honor was insulted, and although I wanted to cry, I held back my tears. I endured in silence, praying for justice and hoping that those who tortured me would be held accountable. Despite the abuse, I remained resolute."

Quote 35 (Page 316):

"I was allowed a brief rest, only to be forced to face the wall and receive five lashes. Unsatisfied, they struck my empty stomach with a rifle butt three times, causing me to vomit. Apparently, this was considered breakfast. My weakened body was then dragged and thrown back into the underground cell, where I fell face down and lost consciousness."

These quotes highlight Fahri's profound patience and resilience despite the brutal conditions he faces.

g) Helper

The character Fahri plays a crucial role in assisting Maria, who is in a coma due to her emotional distress caused by her feelings for Fahri. He is the only person who can potentially awaken her. Fahri's support is depicted through several quotes:

Quote 36 (Page 366):

"If I could have only listened to Maria's voice, I would have, but physical contact is beyond me at the moment. How can I assist Maria while I am in prison? My only option is to record my voice."

Quote 37 (Page 378):

"Later, I met with Madame Nahed and Mr. Boutros, who welcomed me warmly. The marriage contract was conducted swiftly and simply, as I requested. A *Ma'dzum Syar'I*, representing Mr. Boutros, performed the marriage ceremony between Maria and me, with a gold ring as the dowry, in the presence of two Muslim doctors at the hospital. The doctor provided instructions on how to help Maria awaken from her coma. I requested to be alone with Maria in the room. I performed ablution, prayed two *rak'ahs*, and then prayed at the top of Maria's head, as I had done for Aisha."

These quotes illustrate Fahri's dedication and the steps he takes to aid Maria, reflecting his supportive and caring nature.

4. Conclusion

Based on the character analysis of the main characters in *Ayat-Ayat Cinta* by Habiburrahman El Shirazy, it can be concluded that each character possesses a unique and complex personality. Maria is characterized as a caring and shy individual who harbors deep feelings of love for Fahri. Aisha, on the other hand, demonstrates both romantic and firm qualities in expressing her affection towards Fahri. Nurul, while also shy, shows considerable courage by expressing her feelings through the assistance of Ustadz Jalal. In contrast, Noura embodies a complex character whose feelings of love are undermined by her malevolent actions towards Fahri. Fahri, as the central character, exemplifies a personality marked by honesty, bravery, care, helpfulness, and patience as he navigates various life challenges. Thus, the novel not only explores the dynamics of relationships between characters but also reveals the profound depth of each individual's character in dealing with conflict and complex emotions.

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