

REX SEVANSON WALLS' SOCIAL ACTIONS IN

JEANETTE WALLS' *THE GLASS CASTLE*

THESIS

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UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG

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THESIS

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2023

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Rex Sevanson Walls’ Social Actions in Jeannette Walls’ *The Glass Castle***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

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APPROVAL SHEET

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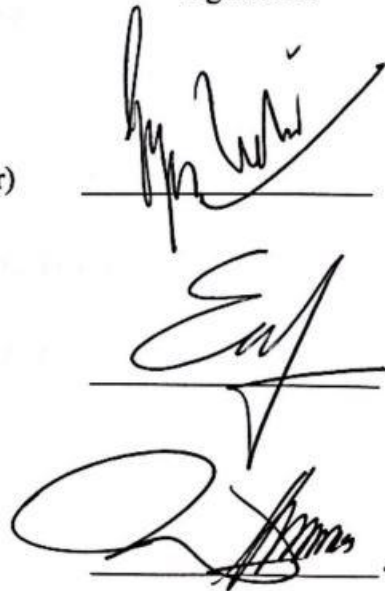
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MOTTO

“God helps those who help themselves”

-Rose Marry

“And he is with you wherever you are”

-QS Al-Hadid :4

DEDICATION

I am glad to dedicate this research to:

My parents, who have supported me morally and materially, who have raised me
with all their might.

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Alhamdulillah *rabbi'l' alamin*, first and foremost, I would like to express my greatest gratitude to Allah SWT, who has given me the favor of faith, health and strength in the process of writing this thesis entitled “**Rex Sevanson Walls’ Social Actions in Jeannette Walls’ *The Glass Castle*”**, may Allah always bless us in doing all good things.

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Malang, 24 May 2023

Devita Lailatun Nikmah

ABSTRACT

Nikmah, Devita Lailatun. (2023). *Rex Sevanson Walls' Social Actions in Jeannette Walls' The Glass Castle*. Undergraduate Thesis (Skripsi). Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

Advisor: Whida Rositama, M.Hum.

Keywords: Social Action, Sociology of Literature, Main Character

This research aims to describe the kinds of social actions carried out by one of the main characters named Rex Sevanson Walls in Jeannette Walls' book entitled *The Glass Castle*, and to find out how the contribution of social actions in Rex Walls' life is to achieve his goals. The researcher uses Social Action Theory by Max Weber, and uses a sociology of literature approach. Researchers collect data by reading the novel periodically, highlighting, and collecting the data relevant to the formulation of the problems and theories taken. After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed and entered the data into the social action component proposed by Max Weber. Rex Walls' social action found by researcher includes all components of Max Weber's social action. Rex Walls' dominant form of social actions is affectual action. With the following details; there are four instrumentally rational actions, then there are two value rational actions, there are five affectual actions and there are four actions in the form of traditional actions. Then, the researcher concludes how social action contributes in Rex Walls' life to achieve his goals. The purpose of the social action carried out by Rex Walls, namely; develop the character of their children, and be a good father figure for them. The contribution of social action to Rex Walls' life is to make Rex Walls feel fulfilling his obligations as a father.

مستخلص البحث

نعمة ، ديفيتا ليلة. (٢٠٢٣) الإجراءات الاجتماعية لريكس سيفانسون وولز في جانب وولز في قلعة الرجاجة. أطروحة. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية ، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية مالانج.

المشرفة: ويدا روسيتاما الماجستير في العلوم الإنسانية

الكلمات المفتاحية: العمل الاجتماعي ، علم الاجتماع الأدبي ، الشخصية الرئيسية

يهدف هذا البحث إلى وصف أنواع الإجراءات الاجتماعية التي تقوم بها إحدى الشخصيات الرئيسية المسماة ريك سيفانسون والس في كتاب من تأليف جانب وولز بعنوان قلعة الرجاجة ، ومعرفة كيفية مساهمة العمل الاجتماعي في حياة ريك والسيد في تحقيق أهدافها. يستخدم الباحث نظرية العمل الاجتماعي من ميك ووير ، ويستخدم منهج علم اجتماع الأدب. يجمع الباحثون البيانات عن طريق قراءة الروايات بشكل دوري وتسجيل البيانات ذات الصلة بصياغة المشكلات والنظريات المأخوذة. بعد جمع البيانات قامت الباحثة بتحليل البيانات وإدخالها في مكونات الفعل الاجتماعي المقترحة من قبل ميك ووير. يشمل الفعل الاجتماعي لريك والس الذي وجده الباحثون جميع مكونات العمل الاجتماعي من ميك ووير. الشكل السائد من الإجراءات الاجتماعية في ريكس وولز هو الفعل المؤثر. مع التفاصيل التالية ؛ هناك أربعة أفعال عقلانية فعالة ، ثم هناك نوعان من الأفعال العقلانية القيمة ، وهناك خمسة أفعال مؤثرة ، وأربعة أفعال في شكل أفعال تقليدية. ثم يستنتج الباحث كيف يساهم العمل الاجتماعي في حياة ريكس وولز لتحقيق أهدافه. الغرض من العمل الاجتماعي الذي يقوم به ريكس وولز ، وهو ؛ تنمي شخصية أولادهم ، ويكونوا شخصية أب جيدة لهم تتمثل مساهمة العمل الاجتماعي في حياة ريكس وولز في جعل ريكس وولز يشعر بالوفاء بالتزاماته كأب.

ABSTRAK

Nikmah, Devita Lailatun. (2023). *Rex Sevanson Walls' Social Actions in Jeannette Walls' The Glass Castle*. Skripsi. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

Pembimbing: Whida Rositama, M.Hum.

Kata Kunci: Tindakan Sosial, Sosiologi sastra, Karakter Utama

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan macam-macam tindakan sosial yang dilakukan oleh salah satu tokoh utama bernama Rex Sevanson Walls dalam buku karangan Jeannette Walls berjudul *The Glass Castle*, dan mencari tahu bagaimana kontribusi dari tindakan sosial dalam hidup Rex Walls untuk mencapai tujuannya. Peneliti menggunakan Teori Tindakan Sosial dari Max Weber, serta menggunakan pendekatan sosiologi sastra. Peneliti mengumpulkan data dengan membaca novel secara bersekala dan mencatat data yang relevan dengan rumusan masalah dan teori yang diambil. Setelah melakukan pengumpulan data, peneliti menganalisis dan memasukan data ke dalam komponen tindakan sosial yang dikemukakan oleh Max Weber. Tindakan sosial Rex Walls yang ditemukan oleh peneliti masuk kedalam semua komponen Tindakan sosial dari Max Weber. Bentuk tindakan sosial Rex Walls yang mendominasi adalah tindakan afektif. Dengan perincian sebagai berikut; ada empat tindakan rasional instrumental, ada dua tindakan rasional nilai, ada lima tindakan afektif dan ada empat tindakan berupa tindakan tradisional. Kemudian, peneliti menyimpulkan bagaimana kontribusi tindakan sosial dalam hidup Rex Walls untuk mencapai tujuannya. Tujuan dari tindakan sosial yang dilakukan Rex Walls, yaitu; mengembangkan karakter anak-anaknya, dan menjadi sosok ayah yang baik bagi mereka. Kontribusi tindakan sosial terhadap hidup Rex Walls adalah membuat Rex Walls merasa memenuhi kewajibannya sebagai seorang ayah.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses the literary work entitled *The Glass Castle* which is included in the background of the study, the problem of the study, the significance of the study and the definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

In living life, as a human being, of course you have the drive or motivation to do something. Whether it's encouragement from other things or encouragement from yourself, in doing big things or small things. In sociology, this situation is called social action. In addition, to examine the existing social action on objects, researcher uses the sociology of literature approach.

Social action theory is a theory developed by German sociologists named Karl Emil Maximilian Weber or commonly known as Max Weber. In his book entitled *Economy and Society*, in sub-chapter *The Definition of Sociology and Social Action*, Max Weber (1978) told Sociology (in the sense in which this-highly ambiguous word is used here) is a science concerning itself with the interpretive understanding of social action and thereby with a causal explanation of its course and consequences. We shall speak of “action” insofar as the acting individual attaches a subjective meaning to his behaviour-be it overt or covert, omission or acquiescence. Action is “social” insofar as its subjective meaning takes account of the behaviour of others and is thereby oriented in its course.”

The Glass Castle is a novel written based on the author's true story, she is Jeannette Walls published in 2005. In the book she wrote, she tells how her parents raised Jeannette and her three siblings with a mediocre economic situation. The author describes the condition of his father who is very great in giving life lessons, about how to survive in a harsh life, how exciting it is to live with adventure, and how important it is to be yourself. However, not infrequently the father also disappoints his children because the future plans that until Jeanette grows up, the plan is just bullshit.

There are six main characters in *The Glass Castle* novel, each of which has its own uniqueness and goals in life. they are Rex Sevanson Walls as a father, who has the goal of educating his children to be independent and strong in their own way. Then there is Rose Marry as the mother of 4 amazing children, she aims to make all of her children free spirited and adventurous. There is Lori as the oldest sibling, she is the smartest and has a dream of becoming an illustrator. The second child is Jeannette Walls, the author of a novel entitled *The Glass Castle*, she has always dreamed of a quiet life and wants her father to stop drinking. Then Brian as the third child who wants to live a decent life. Maureen as the last and youngest child, she just wants to live in California. In addition, the actions they perform in the story are referred to as social actions.

In this social study, the researcher chose a novel written by Jeanette Walls entitled *The Glass Castle*, which was published in 2005 and had become *The First New York Times Best Seller*. The reason why researcher chooses this object is not only the story that is interesting, but also many lessons that can be taken and even

used as research studies. From some of the stories written by Jeanette, including how her parents raised four of their children with a mediocre economic condition, then about her mother who remains an artist and is free, then her father is very smart in all science, and also how Jeanette motivates herself to out of her environment and live life according to her desire.

From some of the scope of the story described above, the researcher narrowed the study by choosing social action carried out by Jeanette's father, namely Rex Walls in educating his children about real life. This is because according to researcher, in the story written by Jeanette, her father played more important in the formation of the character of the child. In addition, the social action carried out by Rex Walls also makes researcher motivated to open the reader's view that everything that parents want is always good, even though according to the child the method is not right.

According to Jones, Bradbury and Boutillier (2016), social action taken in accordance to individual interpretation about others action in a certain situation. The implementation of social action is always conducted with other individual who is involved and also the other activity that occur simultaneously. There are four types of rational social action and those are: instrumental rational action, value rational action, affectual action, and traditional action.

As a support and complement of research, researcher uses journals, articles, and theses found that related to the same theory. Here are some studies that use social action theory; The first is titled *Social Action Edward Kenway at Assassin's Creed Black Flag Oliver Bowden* written by Firmansyah (2022), which is focused

on Edward Kenway, the main character, aspires to become wealthy after getting married to Caroline Scott, and hoping to find it and come home rich. The second social action research was written by Pratama (2022) entitled *Social Actions of The Main Character in Chinua Achebe's A Man of The People* that focus on how the two main characters have different political goals based on their social actions as individuals. The last one is entitled *The Social Action of Main Characters on Jessica Shattuck's The Women in The Castle*, written by Kusumohastuti (2020) which focuses on the main character in the novel that shows a social action that influences the surrounding environment to undergo their life.

In addition, the researcher also found several previous studies with the same object, namely *The Glass Castle*. First, Gou and Ge (2020) raise *The Glass Castle* as research that focuses on Natural Education in America. Furthermore, there are Yang and Congzhou (2018) who analyze Sino-American Family Education Differences in their research. Then Fike (2018) uses *The Glass Castle* object to focus on analyzing Jeannette Walls' Memoir Four Perspectives on Teaching. Another study was written by Yusnaviza (2019) which analyzed the influence of the environment on the personality development of Jeanette Walls. The other study found by researcher was written by Salvati (2021) who analyzed The Subtle Distinctions of Memoir: Reclassifying Jeanette Walls on the same object, namely *The Glass Castle*. The last research is written by Basuki (2021) that told about Jeannette's strive to achieve a better life.

This research will fill the gap and add new knowledge in literary criticism, especially in the object chosen. The differences of the previous research and this

research is the object and topic taken. The researcher applies Max Weber's Social Action theory through a sociology of literature approach.

B. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of study, the researcher focuses on two questions, they are:

1. What are Rex Walls' social action forms in Jeanette Walls' *The Glass Castle*?
2. How does the social action contribute in Rex Walls' life to achieve his goals?

C. Significance of the Study

1. Theoretically

The researcher hopes that this research can contribute to the development of social action theory, especially in understanding the intentions and goals of parents in acting.

2. Practically

The researcher hopes that readers can gain broader insight into the social action theory in sociology of literature approach and how to apply it in the analysis of literary works such as what the researcher did to Rex Sevanson Walls' social action in the novel entitled *The Glass Castle*.

D. Scope and Limitation of The Study

To avoid a widening discussion of the topic taken, the researcher must have scope and limitations. This discussion will focus on the social action carried out by

Rex Walls to achieve the goals described in the novel. The researcher applies social action theory by Max Weber with a sociology of literature approach.

E. Definition of Key Terms

Social Action : Meaningful orientation to the expectation that others will act in a certain way, and to the presumable chances of success for one's own action resulting therefrom (Max Weber, 1978, p. 1375)

Sociology of Literature : Telling about a particular work of literature that is used for subject and methods about what is inside the literature and to find their meaning, goals and some message that writers want to say (Wellek and Warren, 1948)

Main Character : Character that takes the most attention from the audience and becomes the center of attention of the viewer (Lutters, 2006)

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this following chapter, the researcher will include several quotes related to the theory and the approach that will be used by the researcher in analyzing this research. It contains sociology of literature, and social action by Max Weber.

A. Sociology of Literature

Sociology has a place in the world of literature since social reality makes up most of existence. The various literary works that raise the theme of life, both copying nature and the subjective world of humans, demonstrate how sociology is a part of literature. Through literary works, a variety of social issues and even human nature are depicted. According to Wellek and Warren (1948) in a book entitled *Theory of Literature*, the relation between literature and society is usually discussed by starting with the phrase, derived from De Bonald, that “literature is an expression of society”. What does this axiom mean, though? It is erroneous to suppose that literature always accurately reflects the state of society at any given time; to say that literature simply describes some parts of society is commonplace, trite, and ambiguous.

According to Ma'ruf & Nugahani (in Pratama 2022) the novelty of the structuralism method, which is thought to have disregarded the significance of society as the source of literary works, gave rise to sociology of literature. According to the sociology of literature perspective, literature must function similarly to other facets of culture. Literature and society as an integral aspect of

the system as a whole, so literature must be restored to the community owner. Literary works are viewed as socio-cultural records of a society's socio-cultural reality at a certain moment in the sociology of literature as well.

Sociology is a subfield of social science that is defined as the study of society. In etymology, the word “sociology” is from Latin “socius” that means companion and Greek “Logos” which mean science. Sociology talks about a variety of social issues and how they affect people. August Comte was the first people who use the term “sociology” that later Émile Durkheim put it in academic discipline (Murdiyanto, 2020). Literature and sociology are different in that sociology does the scientific and objective analysis. Literature also discusses social life and demonstrates how people perceive society through their emotions. (Damon, 1978)

According to Faruk (2015) sociology also appears as a literary criticism. A literary approach that is objective and scientific regarding people and society, research institutions, and social processes is called sociology of literature. Another opinion is from Teeuw (1984) stated that the term “sociology of literature” refers to a subfield of sociology that utilizes the social techniques and methods used in literature. Qushoy (2010) stated that the issue of social content, implications, and social purpose of literary works themselves is referred to as the sociology of literary work. As all writers are social beings, they can be examined as such. In addition, the sociology of literature, according to Griswold (1992) he stated “like an amoeba: it lacks a firm structure, but has flowed along in certain directions nevertheless” as he wrote in the Annual Review of Sociology in 1992.

In *Theory of Literature* book, Wellek and Warren (1948) classify the categories of literary works from social aspects. There are three categories, they are;

1. Sociology of The Writer

Sociology of the writer or sociology of the author is concerned with the social standing of society and has something to do with the readers of the author's writings, including social variables that may have an impact on the author personally to influencing the content of his literary work (Ma'ruf & Nugahani in Pratama 2022). According to Wellek and Warren (1948), as a member of society, the author of a literary work can be studied as a social creature. not just their life story but also the setting in which they reside. We have access to a wealth of data regarding social, familial, and socioeconomic background.

In 2022, Pratama also stated that Ian Watt also classify the sociology of author, also the author's social context related to the social position of writers and the social influences surrounding the creation of literary works. There are three aspects; (a) how the author gets his livelihood, (b) the extent to which the author considers his job as a profession, and (c) what society the author is aiming.

2. Sociology of Literary Taste

Sociology of literary taste or sociology of literary work is a sociological study that examines in relation to social issues that exist in society as part of

the sociology of literature (Wellek and Warren, 1948). Furthermore, Ma'ruf & Nugrahani (2017) argue that there are three different types of analysis that can be done using this strategy; the first is analyzing the social issues that are present in literary works and relating them to reality; the second is similar to the first but focusing on the relationships between the elements; and the third is studying literature to learn more about a particular subject. In addition, it also examines the social function of literature examining to what extent literary values are related to social values.

3. Sociology of Knowledge

The sociology of knowledge has been well developed and has certain distinct benefits over its opponents, as shown in the writings of Max Scheler, Max Weber, and Karl Mannheim. It emphasizes the investigator's own underlying assumptions and prejudices as well as the presuppositions and implications of a particular ideological perspective. As a result, it is extremely morbidly self-conscious and judgmental of itself (Wellek and Warren, 1948).

Eastman in Wellek (2014) argue that authors, especially poets, believed it was their responsibility to disseminate knowledge. While the poet's primary goal is to help us understand what is happening in front of us and to imagine that what we already know theoretically and in reality.

Susanto (2016) also give the approach to understand the relationship between literature and social reality. The approach is divided into two parts: the production and distribution of literature, which includes the study of the author and sociological

and cultural background, the relationship between the writer and the reader, literature marketing, and the production of literature. For example, in this approach, is about study of imagery or certain reflection, this study related to motive and theme. As an illustration, consider the study of how society views literary works or authors; the final strategy examines how social and cultural influences are felt throughout the production of literary works.

Hippolyte Taine (in Susanto, 2016) also try to integrate literature into a study that is similar to a natural science. He views literature as a definite reflection on a variety of realities, rather than just a particular expression of emotion. He believes that books play a significant role in business. Literature is a useful tool for gathering knowledge and providing documentation. Later, he developed three concepts to see the literature and society and those are: race, moment, and environment. Race is considered has natural characteristic. Moment is a social situation in a certain period, and environment is including climate, natural conditions, and social.

Additionally, sociology of literature is research that focuses on issues that affect people. Therefore, literature can also be regarded as a mirror of society or as a replica of life. However, this does not imply that literary works can fully capture the complete structure of society; rather, they can only provide a snapshot of society's problems as seen from the perspective of a particular constrained setting. Because it is simpler to discover sources to use as references to determine the connection between issues in literary works and issues in society, sociology of literature is more likely to have a position in literary work.

B. Max Weber's Social Action

Social Action theory was born by Max Weber in 1978 in a book entitled *Economy and Society* that edited by Guenther Roth and Claus Wittich. Social action, which encompasses both inaction and passive acceptance, may be directed toward anticipated past, present, or future actions of others. Hence, it could be driven by seeking retribution for an earlier attack, defending against a current threat, or taking precautions against potential future aggression. The “others” may consist of a finite number of individuals who are completely unknown to the actor as individuals or they may consist of a finite number of individuals who are known to the actor as such (Max Weber, 1978)

In his book, chapter *Definitions of Sociology and Social Action*, Max Weber (1978) also stated that social action is not the same as similar actions taken by many people or as every action that has been affected by others. As a result, if several passers-by on the street all raise their umbrellas at the same moment as a shower starts, this is typically not an instance of people acting in concert with one another, but rather of people responding uniformly to a shared need for rain protection. It is commonly recognized that being a part of a group of people in a small area has a significant impact on how an individual behaves.

According to Weber (1978), social action is when human action is meaningfully related to the behavior of other persons. Social action does not occur when two cyclists, for example, collide unintentionally; however, it does occur when they try to avoid the collision or sock one another afterwards or negotiate to

settle the matter peacefully. Social action is not the only type that is pertinent for causal explanation. However, it is the primary object of interpretive sociology. An important (but not indispensable) component of social action is its meaningful orientation to the expectation that others will act in a certain way, and to the presumable chances of success for one's own action resulting therefrom.

There are four types of social action, according to Weber (1948), it may be;

1. Instrumentally rational Action (Zweck Rational)

According to Max Weber (1978), this action is come from expectations for the object behaviors in the environment and other person. The word “expectation” can also be interpreted as “condition” or “tools” to achieve the actor’s goal that is already rationally considered and calculated. The actor may also use another rational consideration of alternative instrument to the end just like secondary consequences.

Instrumentally rational Action is detained by expectations as to the behaviour of objects in the environment and of other human beings; these expectations are used as “conditions” or “means” for the attainment of the actor's own rationally pursued and calculated ends. In this aspect, Nickerson (2022) states that social actors work out the most efficient way to achieve a goal. For example; the most efficient way to make profit is to pay low wages.

2. Value Rational Action (Wert Rational)

According to Max Weber (1978), this action is come from a conscious belief in the value such as religious, aesthetic, ethical, or other kind of value. He

also elaborates about example of a pure value-rational orientation would be the actions of an individual who act to put into practice their convictions of what seems to them to be requires by duty, honor, a religious call, personal loyalty, or another value they believe.

Value Rational Action is determined by a conscious belief in the value for its own sake of some ethical, aesthetic, religious, or other form of behaviour, independently of its prospects of success. According to Damsar (2010), the action of value rationality is an action that is based on something that is considered good, right and is expected to be realized. In addition, Nickerson (2022) argues that Action towards a goal that seen as desirable for its own sake. For example; believing in God and completing rituals in order to reach salvation.

3. Affectual Action (Especially Emotional)

Max Weber (1978) argues that this action comes from actor's emotional states and certain affects. Affectual Action is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. According to Pratama (2022), The feelings or emotions include feelings of anger, fear, joy, and even love, which occur because they follow rational, logical and ideological considerations. An example of this action is when an individual is going through a phase of falling in love and when he receives a message from the person he likes, he feels happy and jumps for joy. It is not uncommon when an individual who is in love acts irrationally and logically. In addition, Nickerson (2022) argues that affectual action is action that expresses emotion. Weber saw this as important in religious and political

movements with charismatic leaders who attract followers based on emotional appeal. For example; weeping with grief or violence caused by anger.

4. Traditional Action

Traditional Action is determined by ingrained habituation. According to Weber (1978), he stated that purely conventional conduct, such as the reactive imitation type that was previously addressed, is frequently on the other side of what might be considered meaningfully focused action. Max weber (1978) also stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. Weber considers traditional action to be actions that do not go through rational thinking. Because this action takes place spontaneously without going through thought, planning and consideration. The basis for these actions is usually customary, a tradition handed down for a long time. This means that this traditional action occurs repeatedly and is the same as before. Since behaviour is frequently guided by an almost instinctive response to habitual stimuli, a course that has been followed repeatedly. The vast majority of the daily activity to which people have grown accustomed resembles this type.

According to Faruk (2017), traditional action usually performed with pleasure without raising critical questions regarding the motives behind the predecessor's habits or customs. Culture carried out by individuals or groups is only follow the previous people or commonly called as cultural preserver. This

mechanism of action is always based on normative laws that have been firmly established by the Weber's society. In addition, Nickerson (2022) also argue that traditional action is routine, customary or habitual actions that are done without thought or choice; more like "we have always done this".

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

The following chapter elaborates the way the researcher examines the novel contains research design, data sources, data collection, and data analysis.

A. Research Design

This research is a literary criticism, because this study is analyzing literary work. The literary criticism is the way to analyse the data and elements in the literary work to be studied. It aims to dig deeper into the social action that occur in the novel. In addition, this study uses sociology of literature approach to identify the social action through social phenomenon in the novel *The Glass Castle* in general.

B. Data Source

The data source used in this research is a novel entitled *The Glass Castle* which was published in 2005, written by Jeanette Walls as one of the main characters in the novel. It consists of 5 chapters and 269 pages. In addition, the novel is published in New York. Also, to increase the research object understanding, the researcher also watch the movie based on the adaptation from the novel *The Glass Castle* that was directed by Destin Daniel Cretton under the same title in 2017.

C. Data Collection

In collecting data, researcher applies several steps. First step is reading the novel *The Glass Castle* little by little carefully, and repeat it several times. After finding the social action that occur in the novel, the researcher highlight the part of the text in the novel.

D. Data Analysis

After highlighting the Rex Sevanson Walls' data, the researcher analyses and classifies the data about social action that occur in the novel related to Max Weber's Social Action. The social action components include instrumentally rational action, value-rational action, affectual, action and traditional action.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The following chapter is explaining the analysis related to the problem of the study that contain the forms of social action performed by Rex Sevanson Walls in Jeanette Walls' *The Glass Castle* and how the social action contributes in Rex Walls' life to achieve his goals.

A. Rex Sevanson Walls' Forms of Social Action

There are four components in social action according to Weber (1978), they are; instrumentally rational action (zweck rational), value rational action (wert rational), affectual action and traditional action. They are divided into two categories: rational and irrational social action. Instrumentally rational action and value rational action are both of rational social action. While affectual action and traditional action are both of irrational social action.

According to Weber (1978), social action is when human action is meaningfully related to the behavior of other persons. Social action does not occur when two cyclists, for example, collide unintentionally; however, it does occur when they try to avoid the collision or sock one another afterwards or negotiate to settle the matter peacefully. Social action is not the only type that is pertinent for causal explanation. However, it is the primary object of interpretive sociology. An important (but not indispensable) component of social action is its meaningful orientation to the expectation that others will act in a certain way. and to the presumable chances of success for one's own action resulting therefrom.

Researcher will use these types of social action as a starting point to determine the actions taken by Rex Walls to achieve his goals.

1. Instrumental Rational Action (Zweck Rational)

The most effective and efficient way to accomplish one's goals is through instrumental rational action, which is based on logical consideration and complete awareness of what one is doing. They are inspired by this action to do any activity that may help them achieve their goals. Since people behave to achieve a certain target, it is oriented toward the absolute objective. According to Weber (1978), instrumental action is a means of achieving an individual purpose by using tools as a facilitator to do so.

The first instrumental rational action that showed by Rex Walls is teaching his son how to shoot properly, and throw knives. Rex Walls taught this so that his children could defend themselves when they were in danger. It can be seen in the following quotation:

He showed us how to aim and fire his pistol, how to shoot Mom's bow and arrows, and how to throw a knife by the blade so that it landed in the middle of a target with a satisfying thwock (p.16)

This quote is included in the instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), instrumental rational action is a means of achieving an individual purpose by using tools as a facilitator to do so, and from the words “*how to aim and fire his pistol*” and the word “*how to shoot Mom's bow and arrows, and how to throw a knife by the blade*” shows that social action by Rex Walls is included in instrumental rational action.

The next instrumental action that found is when Rex Walls advised Jeannette not to be afraid of ghosts. Then Rex gave him a knife as a weapon against ghosts. Have a look at the quotation below:

I got dad his knife with the carved bone handle and blade of blue German steel, and he gave me a pipe wrench, and we went looking for Demon. We looked under my bed, where I had seen it, but it was gone (p.31)

Rex helped Jeannette conquer her fear by giving her his knife and taking Jeannette to look for the ghost that scared her, even though when she searched for the place where Jeannette was sure she would find her, the ghost was not there. The quote above is included in the instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), instrumental action is a means of achieving an individual purpose by using tools as a facilitator to do so, and from the words “*I got his dad's knife*” and the words “*he gave me a pipe wrench*” shows that the social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in instrumental social action.

The third instrumental action by Rex Walls described when Rex Walls punished their children because they argued and disobeyed the house rules. Here is the quotation:

Dad whipped us with his belt, but never out of anger. Only if we back-talked or disobeyed a direct order, which was rare. (p.52)

From the words “*Dad whipped us with his belt, but never out of anger*” it can be concluded that his father punished his children not because he was angry, but because his son violated the house rules. As explained in the quote that reads “*Only if we back-talked or disobeyed a direct order*”. The quote above is included in the instrumental social action because according to Max Weber

(1978), instrumental action is a means of achieving an individual purpose by using tools as a facilitator to do so, and from the words “*Dad whipped us with his belt*” shows that social action what Rex Walls did was included in the instrumental social action.

The last instrumental rational action that researcher found is when Rex Walls came home last night and he came in with a gash in his arm. then he asked Jeannette to sew it up. Here is the quotation:

*He threaded a needle with black thread, handed it to me, and pointed at the gash. "Sew it up," he said "Dad! I can't do that."
"Oh, go ahead, honey," he said. "I'd do it myself, except I can't do diddly with my left hand." He smiled. "Don't worry about me. I'm so thoroughly pickled, I won't feel a thing." Dad lit a cigarette and placed his arm on the table. "Go ahead," he said. (p.157-158)*

The quote above is included in the instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), instrumental action is a means of achieving an individual purpose by using tools as a facilitator to do so, and from Jeannette's expression which reads "He threaded a needle with black thread, handed it to me, and pointed at the gash" shows that Rex asked Jeannette to stitch up his injured arm, and the social action that Rex Walls did was included in the instrumental social action.

2. Value Rational Action (Wert Rational)

According to Max Weber (1978), value rational action is come from a conscious belief in the value such as religious, aesthetic, ethical, or other kind of value. He also elaborates about example of a pure value-rational orientation would be the actions of an individual who act to put into practice their convictions of what seems to them to be requires by duty, honor, a religious

call, personal loyalty, or another value they believe. Value Rational Action refers to behavior that is motivated by moral principles that an individual applies and upholds. Every person has an own moral code that drives their behavior.

The first value rational action that showed by Rex Walls is teaching subjects that are not taught in their school. It is showed in the quotation bellow:

We might enrol in school, but not always Mom and Dad did most of our teaching. Mom had us all reading books without pictures by the time we were five, and Dad taught us math. He also taught us the things that were really important and useful, like how to tap out Morse code and how we should never eat the liver of a polar bear because all the vitamin A in it could kill us. (p.16)

The quote above is included in instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), value rational action is come from a conscious belief in the value such as religious, aesthetic, ethical, or other kind of value, and from Jeannette's statement which reads “*Mom had we all read books without pictures by the time we were five, and Dad taught us math. He also taught us things that were really important and useful, like how to tap out Morse code and how we should never eat the liver of a polar bear because all the vitamin A in it could kill us.*” shows that Rex teaches his children mathematics, as well as subjects that are not studied at school such as Morse code and health information that eating polar bear liver is dangerous because of the existing vitamin A content, and the social actions carried out by Rex Walls are included in instrumental social action.

The next value rational action occurs when Rex Walls showing Jeannette how to swim, and taught her to swim his way.

Dad pried my fingers from around his neck and pushed me away. My arms flailed around, and I sank into the hot, smelly water. "sink or swim!" he called out. I kicked at him and pushed away through the water with my arms, and finally, I was able to propel myself beyond his grasp. "you are doing it, baby!" Dad shouted. "you are swimming!" (p.59)

The quote above is included in instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), value rational action is come from a conscious belief in the value such as religious, aesthetic, ethical, or other kind of value, and from Rex Walls' expression in Jeannette's quote reads "*sink or swim!*" shows that Rex wanted Jeannette to be able to swim like her siblings, and Rex believed that the way he was doing was the right way and made Jeannette able to swim, and it turns out to be true. From Jeannette's statement which reads "*I was able to propel myself beyond his grasp. "you are doing it, baby!" Dad shouted. "You are swimming!"*". So, the social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in the instrumental social action.

3. Affectual Action (Especially Emotional)

An activity that originates from a human feeling is known as an affectual action. Max Weber (1978) argues that this action comes from actor's emotional states and certain affects. Affectual Action is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. People are influenced to act in accordance with their inner emotions. exemplified by a specific behavior, such as happiness, rage, jealousy, or fear.

The first affectual action that found is when Rex Walls advised his son not to be prejudiced against something, and not to judge other people. As told in the quotation below:

Mom and Dad like to make a big point about never surrendering to fear or to prejudice or to the narrow-minded conformist sticks-in-the-mud who try to tell everyone else what was proper. We were supposed to ignore those benighted sheep, as Dad called him. (p.67)

The quote above is included in instrumental social action because according to Max Weber (1978), affectual action is action comes from the actor's emotional states and certain affects and is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. From Jeannette's expression which sounds "*Mom and Dad like to make a big point about never surrendering to fear or to prejudice or to the narrow-minded conformist sticks-in-the-mud who try to tell everyone else what was proper*" shows that Rex and Rose want their child not to meddle in other people's affairs or judge other people's affairs. They even tell their children not to care about things that don't concern themselves, as in Jeannette's saying "*We were supposed to ignore those benighted sheep*". So, the social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in affectual action. because of his concern for his children.

The next affectual action occurs when Rex Walls opened his son eyes to be kind to animals and control himself around animals. Here is the quotation:

Dad pointed to the biggest, scaliest alligator. "Me and that nasty-looking bastard's going to have us a staring contest". Dad stood on the bridge glowering at the alligator. At first it seemed to be asleep, but then it blinked and looked up at Dad. Dad continued staring, his eyes in a fierce squint. After a minute the alligator thrashed its tail, looked away, and slid into the water. "see, you just have to communicate your position" Dad said. (p.100)

Rex emphasized to his children to be kind to all the animals they met, because animals are living things just like humans. The above quote is included in affectual action because according to Max Weber (1978), emotional action is action comes from the actor's emotional states and certain affects and is

determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. From Jeannette's expression, which reads *"Dad stood on the bridge glowing at the alligator. At first it seemed to be asleep, but then it blinked and looked up at Dad. Dad continued staring, his eyes in a fierce squint. After a minute the alligator thrashed its tail, looked away, and slid into the water. "see, you just have to communicate your position" Dad said"*, indicating that Rex wanted to show his children how to be kind to wild animals and show that wild animals wouldn't be mean as long as humans treated them well. the social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in affectual action, because of his concern for her child so that her child.

Then the third affectual action is when Rex Walls offered Jeannette a birthday present, and she asked her father to stop drinking. So, he did it. Here is the quotation:

In the morning Dad told me that for the next few days, he was going to keep to himself in his bed room. He wanted us kids to steer clear of him, to stay outside all day and play. A few days later, Dad was able to walk around, but he had no appetite, and his hands still trembled. I told Mom that maybe I had made a terrible mistake, but Mom said sometimes you have to get sicker before you can get better. Within a few more days, Dad seemed almost normal, except that he'd become tentative, even kind of shy. He smiled at us kids a lot and squeezed our shoulders, sometimes leaning on us to steady himself. (p.109-110)

After having a long chat about Jeannette's birthday, Rex offers something that Jeannette might want on her birthday with the sentence *"If there's anything I can do for you now, before you're gone, I want to do it"* (p.108). After that, Jeannette asked Rex to stop drinking alcohol with the phrase *"Do you think you could maybe stop drinking?"* (p. 109). Finally, after a few days of thinking, Rex decided to obey Jeannette's wishes and stop getting drunk as Jeannette said above, *"Within a few more days, Dad seemed almost normal, except that he'd*

become tentative, even kind of shy. He smiled at us a lot and squeezed our shoulders, sometimes leaning on us to steady himself.”. The quote above is included in affectual action because according to Max Weber (1978), emotional action is action comes from the actor's emotional states and certain affects and is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. The social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in affectual action, because the action taken by Rex Walls shows his love for Jeannette.

For the next affectual action that showed by Rex Walls is helping Jeannette understand the courses she takes in the class. Have a look to the quotation bellow:

In August, Dad called to go over my course selection for the fall semester. He also wanted to discuss some of the books on the reading lists. Since he'd come to New York, he'd been borrowing my assigned books from the public library. He read every single one, he said, so he could answer any questions I might have. Mom said it was his way of getting a college education along with me.
(p.248)

The quote above is included in affectual action because according to Max Weber (1978), affectual action is action comes from the actor's emotional states and certain affects and is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. From Jeannette's expression which reads *“Dad called to go over my course selection for the fall semester. He also wanted to discuss some of the books on the reading lists“*, and the phrase *“he'd been borrowing my assigned books from the public library. He read every single one, he said, so he could answer any questions I might have”* that Rex wanted to help Jeannette understand the lessons that Jeannette found difficulties. Before discussing Jeannette's question, Rex had first gone to the public library to study every

subject Jeannette took in the semester that took place. The social action carried out by Rex Walls was included in affectual action, because Rex's action shows his great love for Jeannette, as well as his concern for his child's education.

The fifth Rex Walls' affectual action is when Jeannette wanted to quit college because in the final semester she took she had to pay two thousand dollars and Jeannette couldn't afford it, because all this time she was studying on a scholarship. However, Rex Walls prevented Jeannette from dropping out of college and helped pay for it. Here is the quotation:

When he asked me what courses I had signed up for. I said, "I'm thinking of dropping out." "The hell you are," Dad said. "Why didn't you tell me sooner?" Dad asked. Dad called a week later and told me to meet him at Lori's. when he arrived with Mom, he was carrying a large plastic garbage bag and hand a small brown paper bag tucked under his arm. I assumed it was a bottle of booze, but then he opened the paper bag and turned it upside down. Hundreds of dollar bills-one, five, tens, twenties, all wrinkled and worn-spilled into my lap. "There's nine hundred and fifty bucks," Dad said. He opened the plastic bag, and a fur coat tumbled out. "That there's mink. You should be able to pawn it for fifty, at least." (p.248)

The quote above is included in affectual action because according to Max Weber (1978), affectual action is action comes from the actor's emotional states and certain affects and is determined by the actor's specific affects and feeling states. From Jeannette's expression, which sounds *"I said, "I'm thinking of dropping out."*, it shows that Jeannette wants to drop out of college because of a lack of funds to pay next semester's fees. But Rex Walls forbade it with the sentence *"The hell you are," Dad said.* Then Rex helped her by bringing some money he had and a leather coat worth the money Jeannette needed to pay off the next semester's college tuition. That action was expressed by Jeannette in the sentence *"he was carrying a large plastic garbage bag and hand a small brown paper bag tucked under his arm. I assumed it was a bottle*

of booze, but then he opened the paper bag and turned it upside down. Hundreds of dollar bills-one, five, tens, twenties, all wrinkled and worn-spilled into my lap. "There's nine hundred and fifty bucks," Dad said. He opened the plastic bag, and a fur coat tumbled out. "That there's mink. You should be able to pawn it for fifty, at least." The social action carried out by Rex Walls is included in affectual action, because the action taken by Rex shows his great love for Jeannette, as well as his concern for his child's education. In addition, because of Rex's action above, finally Jeannette can attend the lecture next semester which she will be taking.

4. Traditional Action

Traditional Action is determined by ingrained habituation. According to Weber (1978), he stated that purely conventional conduct, such as the reactive imitation type that was previously addressed, is frequently on the other side of what might be considered meaningfully focused action. He also stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. Since behaviour is frequently guided by an almost instinctive response to habitual stimuli, a course that has been followed repeatedly. The vast majority of the daily activity to which people have grown accustomed resembles this type.

The first traditional action that showed by Rex Walls is when Jeannette was admitted to the hospital and her family brought Jeannette home from the hospital in their own way. Here is the quotation:

A few days later, when I had been at hospital for about six weeks, dad appeared alone in the doorway of my room. He told me we were going to check out, Rex Walls-style. He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Viitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of house. He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Vitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of home. (p.10-11)

The quote above is included in traditional action, according to Max Weber (1978) stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. From the line “*He told me we were going to check out, Rex Walls-style.*” shows Rex carrying Jeannette out of the hospital Rex Walls style. So, it can be concluded from the word “*Rex Walls-style*” that the Walls family always did the same thing when they brought their children out of the hospital.

The next traditional action shown by Rex Walls was when his family had to stay in the desert and had no mat or pillow, he said that sleeping with no mat and pillow would build good posture. Here is the quotation:

Later that night, dad stopped the car out in the middle of the desert, and we slept under the stars. We had no pillows, but Dad said that was part of his plan. He was teaching us to have good posture. The Indians didn't use pillows, either, he explained, and look how straight they stood. We did have our scratchy army-surplus blankets, so we spread them out and lay there, looking up at the field of stars. I told Lori how lucky we were to be sleeping out under the sky like Indians. (p.14)

The above quote is included in traditional action, according to Max Weber (1978) stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. From the sentence “*but Dad said that was part of his plan. He was teaching us to have good posture. The Indians didn't use pillows, either, he explained, and look*

how straight they stood.” shows that Rex showed his children how Indians can have good posture, by not using pillow and mat when sleeping. After his son understood and followed his words, sleeping without using a pillow and mat became a tradition every time they spent the night in the desert.

The third traditional action shown by Rex Walls is when he teaches his children not to be afraid of rain and mingle with nature.

Some parents worried that their kids might get hit by lightning, but Mom and Dad never did, and they let us go out and play in the warm, driving water. We splashed and sang and danced. Great bolts of lightning cracked from the low-hanging clouds, and thunder shook the ground. We gasped over the most spectacular bolts, as if we were all watching a fireworks show. (p.17-18)

It is often found that some parents are really worried when their children are playing in the rain because maybe other parents think that playing in the rain will cause colds, chills or possibly slipping. The Jeannette’s quotation above is included in traditional action, according to Max Weber (1978) stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. From the sentence *“but Mom and Dad never did, and they let us go out and play in the warm, driving water. We splashed and sang and danced. Great bolts of lightning cracked from the low-hanging clouds, and thunder shook the ground. We gasped over the most spectacular bolts, as if we were all watching a fireworks show.”* shows that Rex and Rose never forbade their children to play in the rain. The above quote is included in traditional action because it can be seen from the words *“but Mom and Dad never did”*, shows that Rex and Rose always allow their children to play when it rains and mingle with nature.

Another traditional action taken by Rex Walls is when he tells his son that Santa Clause doesn't exist because of the Walls family's tradition of not being able to afford to buy their children gifts every Christmas.

I never believed in Santa Claus. None of us kids did. Mom and Dad refused to let us. They couldn't afford expensive presents, and they didn't want us to think we weren't as good as other kids who, on Christmas morning, found all sorts of fancy toys under the tree that were supposedly left by Santa Claus. (p.34)

Santa clause is a favorite character for children, but generally they don't know that Santa clause is not a real thing like in the fairy tales, who brings Christmas gifts and drives a flying train when Christmas arrives. The quotation above is included in traditional action, according to Max Weber (1978) stated that traditional action is an action based on traditions that have been rooted for generations. This action refers to actions that are based on tradition or actions that have been repeated since ancient times. From the line *"I never believed in Santa Claus. None of us kids did. Mom and Dad refused to let us."* shows that Rex and Rose educate their children not to believe in Santa Claus. With the reason they can't buy good toys like other parents, as stated in the sentence *"They couldn't afford expensive presents, and they didn't want us to think we weren't as good as other kids who, on Christmas morning, found all sorts of fancy toys under the tree that were supposedly left by Santa Claus"*. can be inferred from the quote *"Mom and Dad refused to let us."* that Rex and Rose never let their children believe in Santa Claus, and this situation has become a tradition in her family.

B. The Social Action Contribution in Rex Walls' Life to Achieve His Goals

The social action carried out by Rex Walls has certain goals which he thinks are the right way to achieve his goals. Even though he was a heavy drinker, Rex Walls still tried to carry out his role as a father in the best way he believed. Researchers group Rex Walls' goals into two points. The following is Rex Walls' goal of doing social action in a story written by his daughter, Jeannette Walls, the second of four children.

1. Developing Children's Character

In educating children, Rex Walls always has his own way to develop the character and knowledge of his children. He wants his children to have an adventurous spirit, be brave and tough, have an attitude that is self-aware but still be kind to fellow creatures. In addition, Rex Walls also instilled in his children's minds that they must be able to live in all the conditions experienced by the family.

In her writing, Jeannette stated that her parents, Rex Walls had many ways to teach new things, open up new insights and train their children's abilities, some of the things they taught were rights that were not taught in academic schools. Some of the quotes below are quotes that will prove how Rex Walls achieved his goals.

The first quote that shows social action in the form of character development shown by Rex Walls is in the quote below:

He was teaching us to have good posture. The Indians didn't use pillows, either, he explained, and look how straight they stood. We did have our scratchy army-surplus blankets, so we spread them out and lay there, looking up at the field of stars. I told Lori how lucky we were to be sleeping out under the sky like Indians. (p.14)

In the quote above, the author describes how Rex Walls trained his children to be able to live in whatever situation they are facing. The above quote takes place when his family is traveling and staying overnight in a rocky desert.

The next quote that shows social action in the form of character development shown by Rex Walls is in the quote below:

Mom had us all reading books without pictures by the time we were five, and Dad taught us math. He also taught us the things that were really important and useful, like how to tap out Morse code and how we should never eat the liver of a polar bear because all the vitamin A in it could kill us. (p.16)

The author, Jeannette describes in the quote above how Rex Walls provides knowledge and lessons that are not taught in schools, such as; complicated math, morse code, and warning not to eat polar bear liver because it contains vitamins that can kill humans.

The next character development by Rex Walls to his children is in the quotation below:

By the time I was four, I was pretty good with Dad's pistol, a big black six-shot revolver, and could hit five out of six beer bottles at thirty paces. I'd hold the gun with both hands, sight down the barrel, and squeeze the trigger slowly and smoothly until, with a loud clap, the gun kicked and the bottle exploded. It was fun. Dad said sharpshooting would come in handy if the feds ever surrounded us. (p.16)

It can be seen from the quote listed above, that Rex Walls taught how to defend yourself from criminals. He teaches how to shoot properly, and teaches how to throw a knife on target.

Here is the quotation that shows the action by Rex Walls to develop his children character is mention bellow:

We splashed and sang and danced. Great bolts of lightning cracked from the low-hanging clouds, and thunder shook the ground. We gasped over the most spectacular bolts, as if we were all watching a fireworks show. (p.18)

Some parents are worried and sometimes forbid their children to play when it rains. However, not with Jeannette's parents, Rex Walls always allowed his children to play in the rain so they could be closer to nature, as the quote above.

The next quote that shows social action in the form of character development shown by Rex Walls is in the quote below:

That was the thing to remember about all monsters, Dad said: The love to frighten people but the minute you state the down, they run tail and run. "All you have to do, Mountain Goat, is show old Demin that you are not afraid" (p.32)

As written in the quote above, Rex Walls advised and guided Jennette not to be afraid of ghosts while sleeping in the desert that night. He gave his knife to Jeannette as a weapon.

The next character development by Rex Walls to his children is in the quotation bellow:

I never believed in Santa Claus. None of us kids did. Mom and Dad refused to let us. The couldn't afford expensive presents, and they didn't want us to think we weren't as good as other kids who, on Christmas morning, found all sorts of fancy toys under the tree that were supposedly left by Santa Claus. "I want that one" I said. Dad grinned, "That's Venus," he said Venus was only a planet, he went on, and pretty dinky compared to real stars. She looked bigger and brighter because she was much closer than stars. (p.34-35)

In the quote written by Jeannette listed above, she describes how Rex Walls instilled in her child's mind that Santa Claus was not real. He only did this

because he didn't want his children to feel cheated and he also didn't have the money to buy gifts for his children. Therefore, Rex gave a unique gift to his son in the form of a star in the sky that he chose alternately.

Here is the quotation that shows the action by Rex Walls to develop his children character is mention bellow:

Dad whipped us with his belt, but never out of anger. Only if we back-talked or disobeyed a direct order, which was rare. (p.52)

The quote above proves that Rex Walls was firm with his children if they denied what his parents said.

The next quote that shows social action in the form of character development shown by Rex Walls is in the quote below:

I kicked at him and pushed away through the water with my arms, and finally, I was able to propel myself beyond his grasp. "you are doing it, baby!" Dad shouted. "you are swimming!" (p.59)

It can be seen from Jeannette's statement written above, how Rex Walls firmly taught his son not to be afraid to swim even in a way that Jeannette didn't like.

The next character development by Rex Walls to his children is in the quotation bellow:

We were supposed to ignore those benighted sheep, as Dad called him (p.67).

The quote above shows the understanding of his son after his parents, Rex Walls gave advice not to be prejudiced or meddle in other people's problems.

Here is the quotation that shows the action by Rex Walls to develop his children character is mention bellow:

Dad pointed to the biggest, scaliest alligator. "Me and that nasty-looking bastard's going to have us a staring contest." Dad stood on the bridge glowering at the alligator. At first it seemed to be asleep, but then it blinked and looked up at Dad. Dad continued staring, his eyes in a fierce squint. After a minute the alligator thrashed its tail, looked away, and slid into the water. "see, you just have to communicate your position" Dad said. (p.100)

Some people really sometimes like to be mean to animals even though they are fellow living things. However, Rex Walls always taught his son to love animals and the environment, and taught him how to be kind to animals.

The next quote that shows social action in the form of character development shown by Rex Walls is in the quote below:

Using his left hand, he guided my fingers as they pushed the needle all the way in through his skin and out the other side. A few droplets of blood appeared. I pulled the needle out and then gave the thread a gentle jerk to tighten it. I tied the two ends of the thread together, like Dad told me to, and then, to put in a second stitch, did it again. The gash was pretty big and could have used a few more stitches, but I couldn't bring myself to stick that needle in Dad's arm one more time. (p.158)

The quote above shows how Rex Walls taught how to suture wounds without medical assistance. Rex Walls also asked Jeannette to be braver in doing unusual actions, such as sewing human skin.

2. Being a good father figure

Even though he is known as a heavy drinker, Rex Walls still wants to be a good father figure for his children. He also always tries to be able to help his children's difficulties even though the economic conditions are quite difficult. He does things that normally cost money, he can do without money.

Below are some quotes that describe how Rex Walls tried to be a good person for his children.

The quote below is proof that Rex Walls tries to be a good father figure for his children:

He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Viitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of house. (p.11)

From the quote above, Jeannette describes how Rex Walls had to take Jeannette away from the hospital in the style of the Walls family, by taking her away. This was done because Rex didn't have the money to take him home the usual way.

Further quotes showing that Rex Walls wanted to be a good father figure to his children are mentioned below:

A few days later, Dad was able to walk around, but he had no appetite, and his hands still trembled. I told Mom that maybe I had made a terrible mistake, but Mom said sometimes you have to get sicker before you can get better. Within a few more days, Dad seemed almost normal, except that he'd become tentative, even kind of shy. He smiled at us kids a lot and squeezed our shoulders, sometimes leaning on us to steady himself. (p.110-111)

The quote above shows how Rex Walls tried to stop drinking alcohol and make Jeannette's wishes come true. She wanted her father to stop drinking as a gift for his tenth birthday.

The following is the next quote which shows that Rex Walls wants to be a good father figure for his children

Since he'd come to New York, he'd been borrowing my assigned books from the public library. He read every single one, he said, so he could answer any questions I might have. Mom said it was his way of getting a college education along with me. (p.248)

As a father figure, Rex Walls tries to live out his role well by helping Jeannette understand and discuss the courses taken every semester. Due to a lack of funds

for buying a book, Rex Walls went to borrow the book to the library to find reference materials to discuss with Jeannette.

The following is the last quote that shows that Rex Walls wants to be a good father figure for his children

Dad called a week later and told me to meet him at Lori's. when he arrived with Mom, he was carrying a large plastic garbage bag and hand a small brown paper bag tucked under his arm. I assumed it was a bottle of booze, but then he opened the paper bag and turned it upside down. Hundreds of dollar bills-one, five, tens, twenties, all wrinkled and worn-spilled into my lap. "There's nine hundred and fifty bucks," Dad said. He opened the plastic bag, and a fur coat tumbled out. "That there's mink. You should be able to pawn it for fifty, at least." (p.248-249)

At the end of the semester, Jeannette wanted to drop out of college because she didn't have the means to pay her tuition fees. He only had a thousand dollars, half the fees he owed. During this time, Jeannette studied at university with a scholarship from the government. But Rex Walls forbade him and after a few weeks he came giving him money and a jacket to sell which would later amount to half of the lack of money to pay for college.

The contribution of social action to Rex Walls' life is to make Rex Walls feel fulfilling his obligations as a father. This is stated in the quotation above.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This following chapter is showing the conclusions of the analysis by the previous chapter. Additionally, this chapter makes recommendations for the next researchers who want to use social action theory in their studies or who want to use *The Glass Castle* as their research object.

A. Conclusion

This study applies Max Weber's Social Action with a sociology of literature approach to one of the main characters namely Rex Walls in a novel entitled *The Glass Castle*, written by his second child named Jeannette Walls. The purpose of this study is to find out the forms of social action by Rex Walls and how social action contributes in Rex Walls' life to achieve his goals.

After analyzing the novel, the researcher found that Rex Walls' dominant form of social action is affectual action. With the following details; there are four instrumentally rational actions, then there are two value rational actions, there are five affectual actions and there are four actions in the form of traditional actions. In addition, the researcher examines how does the social action contributes in Rex Walls' life to achieve his goals. Rex Walls had two main goals. The first goal is to develop the character of his children, then his second goal is that he wants to be a good father figure for his child. Despite his habit of being a heavy drinker, Rex Walls always tried his best for his children.

B. Suggestion

In the end, the researcher hopes that this research will be useful for readers, both scientifically and technically. Then after examining *The Glass Castle* as a research object with social action theory and a sociology of literature approach, the researcher found several issues that might be used or studied by future researchers. Some issues that might be taken up by further researchers are poverty, ecranization, character development, and parenting. If readers are interested in researching *The Glass Castle*, I advise you to read it first so you know which data or issues are good for research use.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



Devita Lailatun Nikmah was born in Malang on December 19th 1999. She graduated from MAN Gondanglegi in 2018, which changed its name to MAN 1 Malang. While at school, she lived in the Nurul Huda Islamic boarding school. During her time at high school, she took part in volleyball extracurricular and participated in several organizations at school, namely scout, green house, and was appointed a member of the MPK. Before deciding to enroll at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, she had stopped for a year to devote herself to Islamic boarding school until 2019. When she was a student at the English Literature Department, she did not take part in any campus activities due to the fact that she lived far away from campus. So, she goes to campus when there are only courses schedule, seminar needs and the need for books in the library.

APPENDIX

A. Rex Sevanson Walls' Forms of Social Action

1. Instrumental Rational Action

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>He showed us how to aim and fire his pistol, how to shoot Mom's bow and arrows, and how to throw a knife by the blade so that it landed in the middle of a target with a satisfying thwock</i>	16
2	<i>I got dad his knife with the carved bone handle and blade of blue German steel, and he gave me a pipe wrench, and we went looking for Demon. We looked under my bed, where I had seen it, but it was gone</i>	31
3	<i>Dad whipped us with his belt, but never out of anger. Only if we back-talked or disobeyed a direct order, which was rare.</i>	52
4	<i>He threaded a needle with black thread, handed it to me, and pointed at the gash. "Sew it up," he said "Dad! I can't do that." "Oh, go ahead, honey," he said. "I'd do it myself, except I can't do diddly with my left hand." He smiled. "Don't worry about me. I'm so thoroughly pickled, I won't feel a thing." Dad lit a cigarette and placed his arm on the table. "Go ahead," he said.</i>	157-158

2. Value Rational Action

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>We might enrol in school, but not always Mom and Dad did most of our teaching. Mom had us all reading books without pictures by the time we were five, and Dad taught us math. He also taught us the things that were really important and useful, like how to tap out Morse code and how we should never eat the liver of a polar bear because all the vitamin A in it could kill us.</i>	16
2	<i>Dad pried my fingers from around his neck and pushed me away. My arms flailed around, and I sank into the hot, smelly water. "sink or swim!" he called out. I kicked at him and pushed away through the water with my arms, and finally, I was able to propel myself beyond his grasp. "you are doing it, baby!" Dad shouted. "you are swimming!"</i>	59

3. Affectual Action

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>Mom and Dad like to make a big point about never surrendering to fear or to prejudice or to the narrow-minded conformist sticks-in-the-mud who try to tell everyone else what was proper. We were supposed to ignore those benighted sheep, as Dad called him.</i>	67
2	<i>Dad pointed to the biggest, scaliest alligator. "Me and that nasty-looking bastard's going to have us a staring contest". Dad stood on the bridge glowering at the alligator. At first it seemed to be asleep, but then it blinked and looked up at Dad. Dad continued staring, his eyes in a fierce squint. After a minute the alligator thrashed its tail, looked away, and slid into the water. "see, you just have to communicate your position" Dad said.</i>	100
3	<i>In the morning Dad told me that for the next few days, he was going to keep to himself in his bed room. He wanted us kids to steer clear of him, to stay outside all day and play. A few days later, Dad was able to walk around, but he had no appetite, and his hands still trembled. I told Mom that maybe I had made a terrible mistake, but Mom said sometimes you have to get sicker before you can get better. Within a few more days, Dad seemed almost normal, except that he'd become tentative, even kind of shy. He smiled at us kids a lot and squeezed our shoulders, sometimes leaning on us to steady himself.</i>	109-110
4	<i>In August, Dad called to go over my course selection for the fall semester. He also wanted to discuss some of the books on the reading lists. Since he'd come to New York, he'd been borrowing my assigned books from the public library. He read every single one, he said, so he could answer any questions I might have. Mom said it was his way of getting a college education along with me.</i>	248
5	<i>When he asked me what courses I had signed up for. I said, "I'm thinking of dropping out." "The hell you are," Dad said. "Why didn't you tell me sooner?" Dad asked. Dad called a week later and told me to meet him at Lori's. when he arrived with Mom, he was carrying a large plastic garbage bag and hand a small brown paper bag tucked under his arm. I assumed it was a bottle of booze, but then he opened the paper bag and turned it upside down. Hundreds of dollar bills-one, five, tens, twenties, all wrinkled and worn-spilled into my lap. "There's nine hundred and fifty bucks," Dad said. He opened the plastic bag, and a fur coat tumbled out. "That there's mink. You should be able to pawn it for fifty, at least."</i>	248

4. Traditional Action

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>A few days later, when I had been at hospital for about six weeks, dad appeared alone in the doorway of my room. He told me we were going to check out, Rex Walls-style. He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Viitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of house. He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Vitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of home.</i>	10-11
2	<i>Later that night, dad stopped the car out in the middle of the desert, and we slept under the stars. We had no pillows, but Dad said that was part of his plan. He was teaching us to have good posture. The Indians didn't use pillows, either, he explained, and look how straight they stood. We did have our scratchy army-surplus blankets, so we spread them out and lay there, looking up at the field of stars. I told Lori how lucky we were to be sleeping out under the sky like Indians.</i>	14
3	<i>Some parents worried that their kids might get hit by lightning, but Mom and Dad never did, and they let us go out and play in the warm, driving water. We splashed and sang and danced. Great bolts of lightning cracked from the low-hanging clouds, and thunder shook the ground. We gasped over the most spectacular bolts, as if we were all watching a fireworks show.</i>	17-18
4	<i>I never believed in Santa Claus. None of us kids did. Mom and Dad refused to let us. They couldn't afford expensive presents, and they didn't want us to think we weren't as good as other kids who, on Christmas morning, found all sorts of fancy toys under the tree that were supposedly left by Santa Claus.</i>	34

B. The Social Action Contribution in Rex Walls' Life to Achieve His Goals

1. Developing Children's Character

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>He was teaching us to have good posture. The Indians didn't use pillows, either, he explained, and look how straight they stood. We did have our scratchy army-surplus blankets, so we spread them out and lay there, looking up at the field of stars. I told Lori how lucky we were to be sleeping out under the sky like Indians.</i>	14

2	<i>Mom had us all reading books without pictures by the time we were five, and Dad taught us math. He also taught us the things that were really important and useful, like how to tap out Morse code and how we should never eat the liver of a polar bear because all the vitamin A in it could kill us.</i>	16
3	<i>By the time I was four, I was pretty good with Dad's pistol, a big black six-shot revolver, and could hit five out of six beer bottles at thirty paces. I'd hold the gun with both hands, sight down the barrel, and squeeze the trigger slowly and smoothly until, with a loud clap, the gun kicked and the bottle exploded. It was fun. Dad said sharpshooting would come in handy if the feds ever surrounded us.</i>	16
4	<i>We splashed and sang and danced. Great bolts of lightning cracked from the low-hanging clouds, and thunder shook the ground. We gasped over the most spectacular bolts, as if we were all watching a fireworks show.</i>	18
5	<i>That was the thing to remember about all monsters, Dad said: The love to frighten people but the minute you state the down, they run tail and run. "All you have to do, Mountain Goat, is show old Demin that you are not afraid"</i>	32
6	<i>I never believed in Santa Claus. None of us kids did. Mom and Dad refused to let us. They couldn't afford expensive presents, and they didn't want us to think we weren't as good as other kids who, on Christmas morning, found all sorts of fancy toys under the tree that were supposedly left by Santa Claus. "I want that one" I said. Dad grinned, "That's Venus," he said Venus was only a planet, he went on, and pretty dinky compared to real stars. She looked bigger and brighter because she was much closer than stars.</i>	34-35
7	<i>Dad whipped us with his belt, but never out of anger. Only if we back-talked or disobeyed a direct order, which was rare.</i>	52
8	<i>I kicked at him and pushed away through the water with my arms, and finally, I was able to propel myself beyond his grasp. "you are doing it, baby!" Dad shouted. "you are swimming!"</i>	59
9	<i>We were supposed to ignore those benighted sheep, as Dad called him.</i>	67
10	<i>Dad pointed to the biggest, scaliest alligator. "Me and that nasty-looking bastard's going to have us a staring contest." Dad stood on the bridge glowering at the alligator. At first it seemed to be asleep, but then it blinked and looked up at Dad. Dad continued staring, his eyes in a fierce squint. After a minute the alligator</i>	100

	<i>thrashed its tail, looked away, and slid into the water. "see, you just have to communicate your position" Dad said.</i>	
11	<i>Using his left hand, he guided my fingers as they pushed the needle all the way in through his skin and out the other side. A few droplets of blood appeared. I pulled the needle out and then gave the thread a gentle jerk to tighten it. I tied the two ends of the thread together, like Dad told me to, and then, to put in a second stitch, did it again. The gash was pretty big and could have used a few more stitches, but I couldn't bring myself to stick that needle in Dad's arm one more time.</i>	158

2. Being a good father figure

NO.	QUOTATION	PAGE
1	<i>He unhooked my right arm from the sling over my head. As he held me close, I breathed in his familiar smell of Viitalis, whiskey, and cigarette smoke. It reminded me of house.</i>	11
2	<i>A few days later, Dad was able to walk around, but he had no appetite, and his hands still trembled. I told Mom that maybe I had made a terrible mistake, but Mom said sometimes you have to get sicker before you can get better. Within a few more days, Dad seemed almost normal, except that he'd become tentative, even kind of shy. He smiled at us kids a lot and squeezed our shoulders, sometimes leaning on us to steady himself.</i>	110-111
3	<i>Since he'd come to New York, he'd been borrowing my assigned books from the public library. He read every single one, he said, so he could answer any questions I might have. Mom said it was his way of getting a college education along with me.</i>	248
4	<i>Dad called a week later and told me to meet him at Lori's. when he arrived with Mom, he was carrying a large plastic garbage bag and hand a small brown paper bag tucked under his arm. I assumed it was a bottle of booze, but then he opened the paper bag and turned it upside down. Hundreds of dollar bills-one, five, tens, twenties, all wrinkled and worn-spilled into my lap. "There's nine hundred and fifty bucks," Dad said. He opened the plastic bag, and a fur coat tumbled out. "That there's mink. You should be able to pawn it for fifty, at least."</i>	248-249