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**Book Review "Negeri Para Bedebah", Tere  
Liye, PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta,  
ISBN: 9789792285529**

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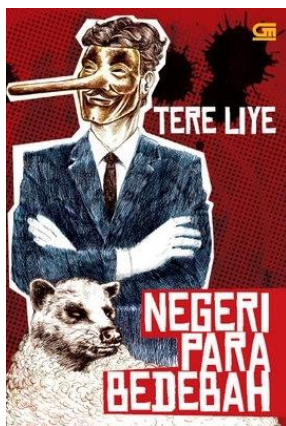
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**ABSTRACT.** This novel has a political economy theme. In accordance with the theme, this novel raises a lot about economic and political issues. The setting of the place used in this novel is mostly in Jakarta. Apart from being in Jakarta, Thomas also spends a lot of time on his Pacific Cruise Ship. This

is where after escaping for the umpteenth time, Thomas took his entourage to the Pacific ship which was at the yacht dock in the Thousand Islands area to simply avoid the police who wanted to arrest them. A very interesting novel for lovers of Tere Liye's novels to follow. The story in this novel is a work of fiction that is no less exciting than the real story that is happening in this country, this novel tells the story of Thomas as a true fighter who never betrays what he has said.

**KEYWORDS.** *Book Review, Tere Liye, Negeri Para Bedebah, Law Enforcement Issue, Crime and Justice*

## I. IDENTITY OF BOOK



Title of Book	: Negeri Para Bedebah
La nguage	: Bahasa Indonesia
Author	: Tere Liye
Year of Publication	: 2012
Publisher	: PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama
City of Publisher	: Jakarta
Total of Page	: 433 pages
ISBN	: 9789792285529

## II. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE BOOK

This novel has a political economy theme. In accordance with the theme, this novel raises a lot about economic and political issues. The setting of

the place used in this novel is mostly in Jakarta. Apart from being in Jakarta, Thomas also spends a lot of time on his Pacific Cruise Ship. This is where after escaping for the umpteenth time, Thomas took his entourage to the Pacific ship which was at the yacht dock in the Thousand Islands area to simply avoid the police who wanted to arrest them.

A very interesting novel for lovers of Tere Liye's novels to follow. The story in this novel is a work of fiction that is no less exciting than the real story that is happening in this country, this novel tells the story of Thomas as a true fighter who never betrays what he has said. This novel is a work of fiction created by the author for his loyal readers, the content of this novel is very brilliant because there are elements of action action, and it raises complicated matters such as politics, economics and intrigue. What is conveyed in the story in this novel, is still relevant and often happens in the real story that happened in this country.

The main character in the story in this novel talks about a young boy named Thomas, who is more familiarly called by his family members as "Tommi". He is a young man who is smart, strong and tough in every way, the author is very clever in presenting this main character well and all the unexpected problems that make the readers forget the time while reading this novel.

Negeri Para Bedebah begins with Thomas, a prominent speaker in the field of world economy who is being interviewed by Julia. This book has caused a stir from the start because the interviews were conducted above the clouds, aka on the plane, because Thomas as a high-ranking official has solid flying hours. Julia is one of the reasons why Thomas still has the impression of a good person. This makes us curious, what is really going on and why it can be called by "*Bedebah*".

It turned out that Tere Liye took a rather difficult discussion if he didn't know anything or chose not to know, namely the world economy, more precisely the world economic crisis that cannot be separated from illegal things such as money laundering or money laundering, black markets and others. However, if we read it well, we will get understanding or information about it, considering how Tere Liye's delivery in her writings is neat and not boring. The title for each chapter is cool and describes the chronology of the story.

Seemingly like raising the case of the Central Bank, this novel tells of the Bank Semesta which is in crisis and has an impact on all the banks under it. Then, the focus is Thomas, who brings Om Liem, the owner of Bank Semesta, who will soon be arrested for various illegal transactions, to escape, assisted by various acquaintances of Thomas and his friends in the fighting club.

In Negeri Para Bedebah, Tere Liye portrays the character of Thomas, whose character is quite authoritative, charismatic, somewhat arrogant (that was my initial impression when Julia interviewed Thomas) who is smart and clever at tricking opponents, has the ability to influence big people including mastering the media and has the soul of a fighter.

You could say that the character of Thomas in this novel is quite perfect, but behind his character that looks perfect, it turns out that Thomas had experienced the most painful events in the past when he was still at number ten, and he kept all of those events as revenge. The conflict in this novel begins to emerge when, at the very moment of arresting the person he hates the most – the owner of the Semesta bank, who almost went bankrupt, he actually makes a big decision whose impact is no joke. Can damage his career reputation and put him in prison for reckless carrying

off a criminal suspect; Uncle Liem, the person he considered the cause of death to his two parents.

The things that Thomas did turned out to be unexpected, starting from asking his friends for help to manipulate the financial statements at the Central Bank, influencing the minister of the economy at the time, instilling ideas in state officials, even Thomas inviting the son of the president who was in office to share. Those things are amazing!

When the reader follows this story, the reader will realize that this novel resembles one of the most astonishing cases that rocked this country a few years ago. Yes, Bank Century, a scandalous case that until now has somehow managed. However, readers can breathe a sigh of relief because Tere Liye as the author of this novel cultivates ideas based on the case and executes them well. Of course, there is a big difference that Tere Liye shows, this novel is only a small story that does not have any tendency, the author only imagines and processes ideas.

### *Strenghtness and Weakness*

The theme of the story is quite complex but packaged in a simple way. Interesting fictional drama, easy to understand even though the theme is quite heavy. Tere Liye's knowledge in the field of economics is very evident here. Seen from the academic terms that are widely applied in it. Also, the conflict with the tense plot is very curious about what will happen next. Political spices make the story even more interesting.

The advantage of this novel is that it can teach us to be independent people and to be people who always try. We also cannot easily give up on

the situation. Like what Thomas did when he had to live alone in an old hostel, until he grew up and became a professional financial consultant.

This novel can also make us dare to dream. Realizing that everything that happens in this world is the will of God. Nothing happens by chance. Everything has been arranged by God. Everything that is impossible becomes possible with God. Now, because of God's power, the righteous will reap the victory in the future. As Thomas did, when he had to try to save the Bank of the Universe, he had to fight to the death until finally his efforts succeeded. The Universe Bank can be saved thanks to the efforts of Thomas and of course because of God's power.

The value of friendship and loyal friends is also very thick in this novel. Friendship cannot be separated by anything. Even though they have been separated for a long time, it is impossible for a friend to just forget. When a problem strikes, a friend will be ready to be the one who will help and stand at the very end of the line. Friendship knows no difference in age and time. As long as they are comfortable with each other, understand each other, can unite their minds, a friend will be a very pleasant person. Just like what happened to Thomas, when he needed help, somehow there were always friends who came to help him. Willing to sacrifice for him. All of this was done for the sake of friends. For the people who have always been there when we needed them.

Apart from some advantages, this novel also has some disadvantages. This novel has a fairly high level of language. Many terms will not be understood by the layman. The terms contained can also only be found in the political economy vocabulary. Such as subprime mortgage, preventive strike, stock index, CFO, CEO, etc. (Chapter I). Therefore, it requires extra understanding to be able to understand the storyline of the novel. If it is not understood properly, then the readers will not know what

the author will convey in this novel. Even so, this novel still appeals to all walks of life. Although the cover of the novel is written only for adults, it turns out that this novel is also consumed by high school students and some students, especially those who study business, politics, and economics programs.

Also, the style of language used is quite difficult because it is a political-economic genre that uses many terms that are not known to the layman. These terms appear a lot in the first and second chapters. In addition, cases that occur are also cases based on politics and economics. Like when Wusdi and Tunga had the heart to bankrupt the Thomas family with their political deception (Liye, 2012: 289). The storyline of this novel is also wrapped in such a neat way that the ending of the novel is difficult to predict.

### **III. LEGAL ISSUES ON THE BOOK**

This novel mostly tells about legal issues related to banking and financial matters such as liquidity coverage ratio (LCR), tight money policy, easy money policy etc. The background of the main character who is the political consultant and a nephew of a bank owner named Bank Semesta who expects liquidity assistance from the central bank as well as uncovering the Central Bank scandal that occurred years before causes the discussion of this novel to be more about banking and financial approaches, but we can also see these problems from a legal point of view.

For example, in this novel, there are legal issues in which a lot of corruption occurs in executive bodies such as judges, prosecutors, police and even members of the legislative body such as the People's Representative Council also engage in corrupt practices. Bribery,

manipulation, and hacking of business opponents is a legal matter that can certainly be investigated. However, it turned out that the rot had spread to every government agency, making it difficult to act.

In this novel also contain the drug business and drug abuse. The character of Opa Chan in the novel is described as a kind, loving, and resigned person. Surrendered when faced with problems during the capture of a hundred kilograms of heroin powder and automatic weapons found on a cruise ship while on the edge of the Yacht harbor dock, Macau. Article 127 of the Narcotics Law states the following: Any Abusers: Narcotics Category I for oneself shall be sentenced to a maximum imprisonment of 4 (four) years; Narcotics Category II for oneself shall be sentenced to a maximum imprisonment of 2 (two) years; and Narcotics Category III for oneself shall be sentenced to a maximum imprisonment of 1 (one) year. Heroin is a class I narcotic so users can be sentenced to a maximum prison sentence of 4 years.

The responsible human person is the moral value related to the human person. But the same can be said about other values. What is special about morals is that these values relate to the responsible human person. Moral values mean that a person is guilty or innocent, because he is responsible. A moral value can only be realized in actions that are fully the responsibility of the person concerned. Morality is linked to norm which is source of the law, one of the purpose of the law is to make sure implementation of law norm and morality. So, because of that argument we achieve an ethical code that As a means of social control for the general public against a profession. As a means to prevent interference from other parties outside the organization, related to ethical relationships in membership of a profession or can we say as a supervisor of the morality and norm.



in this novel we often encounter violations of the professional code of ethics. it is not a sin if we think the same thing will happen, or even has happened in our country. Many violations of the code of ethics occur here, in the real world, not in the novel. Maybe in the novel the main character will solve this issue with his heroic actions. however, what about in the real world? what can we do to solve this problem?

To answer this question, a supervisory division was formed to oversee the implementation of the code of ethics in a profession. So, does it help? In this case, a supervisory division may be created to help reduce the occurrence of violations of the code of ethics. However, the violation of the code of ethics is an iceberg phenomenon, what is seen above is not what it is below, in the shadow of power many things can happen. As Lord Acton said, "Absolute power, corrupt absolutely". This does not only apply to the implementer of the code of ethics, but also to the maker, even the supervisor of the running of the code of ethics. So it would be better if the public had opened their eyes to a corrupt practices like this.

#### **IV. WHAT WE LEARN AS LAW STUDENT FROM THE BOOK?**

From *Negeri Para Bedebah* I learn so many about the economic's law. Like how he started a business, Thomas's past and background to his stressful escape due to illegal banking affairs is described in a fun way and certainly adds insight. Then, it is increasingly confirmed that Uncle Liem is not completely wrong, and Thomas is trying to straighten things out so that a good impression of Thomas will flow in the story. However, his full escape strategy is a reliable deception.

Until the epilogue, the story of *Negeri Para Bedebah* is not kidding, we can see about money and the sad economy and law in the world, especially Indonesia, in this series of stories. This novel continues in the next series, namely *Negeri di Ujung Tanduk*. Continue reading because the style of language and the choice of events presented in the narrative of the novel are very good. Suitable for readers who like a theme that is not too light and friendly writing and insight or a broad scope of the story.

This novel invites the reader to be kind. Mainly, the reader must be observant to look around. That not all people with good character and good manners appear modest and do not have ulterior motives. Even so, it's good for readers to always have a good attitude. This novel is recommended to be read in spare time because the story is light but still makes the reader curious throughout the story. An intelligent novel, but not the least bit patronizing. The novel *Negeri Pada Bedebah* will not disappoint readers at all.

Of course, he also invites readers to understand the mandate of this novel, like other novel, that evil always loses to good, and of course greed and greed always end badly. It takes extraordinary awareness so that these two things do not happen to individuals.

we will see approximately cash and the unhappy economic system and regulation withinside the world, in particular Indonesia, on this collection of stories. This novel keeps withinside the subsequent collection, particularly *Negeri di Ujung Tanduk*. Continue analyzing due to the fact the fashion of language and the selection of occasions provided withinside the narrative of the radical is very properly. Suitable for readers who like a subject that isn't always too mild and pleasant writing and perception or a extensive scope of the tale.

These novel invitations the reader to be kind. Mainly, the reader needs to be observant to appearance around. That now no longer all of us with properly person and properly manners seem modest and do now no longer have ulterior motives. Even so, it's properly for readers to continually have an amazing attitude. This novel is suggested to be study in spare time due to the fact the tale is mild however nevertheless makes the reader curious at some stage in the tale. A sensible novel, however now no longer in any respect patronizing. The novel *Negeri Pada Bedebah* will now no longer disappoint readers at all. we can also learn a lot like basic human traits such as compassion, hardworking, responsible, and sportsmanship from this novel.

This novel gives a lot of moral messages, learning from Thomas's efforts to save Bank Semesta, we must be able to be strong people and must not give up on circumstances. We must also be able to be responsible people and dare to take risks for all decisions that have been taken. Like Thomas who is always responsible when he has to make a desperate decision though. In addition, we also should not easily trust others. Not necessarily that good people have good intentions for us. On the other hand, it's not necessarily the bad guy who has bad intentions towards us.

## V. REFERENCES

Liye, T. (2012). *Negeri Para Bedebah*. Jakarta: Kompas Gramedia.

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