

ABSTRACT

The topic idea of this thesis arose first when I read John Steinbeck's introduction to his novel, The Pearl. He states that The Pearl is a parable. Parable, like what we find in the Bible, offers a parallel between its own story and a lesson the writer has in mind. Then, there must be moral lessons the writer tries to convey.

This thesis is an attempt to find out the meaning of the parable. Furthermore, this thesis discusses also the moral implied in some of Steinbeck's novels.

This thesis employs a desk research or library research, including the analysis of the author's life and his works. Thus, the analysis is based on the biographical approach and sociocultural-historical approach.

Having analyzed his novel, I discovered that The Pearl is a parable about greed and passion. It is a story about a man's failure to regain his old peaceful life because of his passion. There is also an excessive and selfish desire for wealth in this parable.

The novels of John Steinbeck usually deal sympathetically with the problems of lowly workers and the dispossessed. His writing is based on his sensibility and awareness of the problems of human beings and nature.