# LOYALTY AS REFLECTED IN KOYOHARU GOTŌGE'S KIMETSU NO YAIBA COMIC

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Abstract

: This research aims to describe the meaning, causes, and impacts of loyalty in Koyoharu Gotoge's Kimetsu No Yaiba comic. This type of research uses descriptivequalitative research, with data collection techniques using note-taking techniques and data analysis techniques using objective literary theory. Based on the findings of the study, it was found that the meaning of loyalty in Kimetsu No Yaiba comics consists of 3 meanings: obedience, obedience, and determination. In Kimetsu No Yaiba comics there are 8 factors that become causes, namely admiration, anticipation, trust, happiness, love, hatred, optimism, terror, and submission. In addition to the factors that cause loyalty, there are also 4 impacts arising from loyalty: positive impacts on the subject, negative impacts on the subject, positive impacts on the object, and negative impacts on the object.

**Keywords** : Kimetsu No Yaiba, Koyoharu Gotōge, Loyalty

#### INTRODUCTION

Literary work is creativity made to convey the content of the author's thoughts and heart in an elegant way. According to Simarmata (2015:112), the events that occur are raised and poured through the author's imagination. The study of literary works is related to the study of humans (Maru, 2014), about life, about culture, about ideology (Pabur, 2017), about characterization, not about other broader issues related to human life. Basically, literary works through the recreation of characters in literary works related to the study of humans contain advice, guidelines, and teachings with the hope that readers can emulate good deeds through the mandate or message in a literary work and one form of literary work is comics, as image literary works.

Comics are literary works that use text and still images as a medium to convey ideas owned by the author. According to Scott McCloud (2001) defines comics as pictures and other symbols that are close together in a certain order that aims to provide information. because comics

cannot be separated from the ideas, thoughts and feelings of the author, then in comics there are also moral values that consciously or unconsciously appear in the comic due to the influence of the author on a matter, for example the values of loyalty that sometimes exist in a comic.

According to Budiyono (2007: 3) loyalty is firmly established, obedient to agreements or decisions resulting from joint deliberations, obedient to parents, family, tribe and nation, and not easily persuaded by others or persuaded by property. This definition of loyalty still does not explain the clarification of whether a value of loyalty is good or not. This uncertainty can come from the object of one's obedience or loyalty, whether it is given or dedicated to a good person, or a good organization.

A person's loyalty is influenced by various factors such as education at home, namely education carried out by parents or family, education by the community through unwritten agreements believed by the community or social construction, education obtained through the teachings of one's belief or faith. Loyalty can also be obtained through 'trust' obtained from an example that provides benefits in life, or loyalty that can occur through rewards, or pressure.

The value of loyalty can be reflected in the attitudes and behaviors of a person or group, who strive to give the best they have to maintain the trust or responsibility they have, with the values of loyalty in an individual or group. With this, relationship or relationship will run well harmoniously, and because relationship is based on trust arising from loyalty to remain obedient to the duties and responsibilities they have. because to undergo and form mutual trust in relationships, loyalty is an important factor, therefore many literary works created by humans have the essence of loyalty contained in them, for example comics that sometimes raise loyalty as the main theme of the story in the comic.

According to Budiyono (2007:30), loyalty is a person who has a firm stand, obeys agreements or decisions resulting from joint deliberations, obeys parents, family, tribe and nation, and is not easily persuaded by other people or possessions. Loyalty contains aspects of solidarity, empathy and not otherwise indifferent, ignorant of others or selfish. Solidarity is another word for love, which moves the feet, hands, heart and the whole human personality. It aims to share life with others who are suffering, and to help them rise up to gain freedom, justice, and their rights and dignity. Empathy is an attitude and feeling that feels and understands the emotional state of others. to maintain loyalty it is necessary to have a stand and adhere to the agreements that have been agreed upon as an important factor to maintain loyalty and provide security to others who have given their trust.

According to Bonnef (1998:7) comics are an arrangement of images and words

that aim to provide information to the reader. A comic always utilizes image space with a layout. This is so that the images form a story, which is poured in forms and signs. Comics are also included in literary works, namely illustrated literature. According to M.S. Gumelar (2011: 7). Explains the definition of comics as a sequence of images that have been arranged according to the purpose and philosophy of the author. This allows the message of the story in the comic to be conveyed. Comics are likely to be given necessary lettering needed. as Basically, comic stories are works of art and a combination of fine art and literature, in which there are visual forms or a combination of image forms with text or verbal information. Comics manifestation of the symptoms of fine art or painting literature.

According to Aminuddin (in Prima Fajri Putra, 2014: 10), characters are actors who carry out events in the story. Meanwhile, characterization is the way the author presents the characters in the story and how these characters are. This means that there are two important things, the first is closely related, the appearance and depiction of the character must support the character's character. Naturally, if the portrayal of the character is not in harmony with his character or even does not support the character at all.

#### RESEARCH METHOD

This research is descriptive-qualitative research in which the explanation will be described or described through words and not by using numbers. The instrume in this research is the researcher himself who collects data, analyzes / interprets data and draws conclusions. Qualitative research is research that aims to understand a phenomenon contained in a research subject such as motivation, perception, action, and behavior in a descriptive way in the form of words and language.

According to Strauss & Corbin (2007: 4), qualitative research is a type of research whose findings are not obtained through statistical procedures or other forms of calculation, although the data can be calculated and presented in numbers as in a census. Qualitative research refers to non-mathematical data analysis, which produces findings through data collected by various means, including interviews, observations, documents or archives, and tests.

The data collection technique used in this research is the simak catat technique. Note taking technique is a way to obtain data by using written sources (Subroto, 1992: 42). The data analysis technique used in this research is based on objective literary theory. Where the principle of this theory views that literary works are built by intrinsic elements of the work itself that are isolated from external factors, so that the analysis carried out is based on what is revealed in the literary work itself. The data used only comes from the comic Kimetsu No Yaiba.

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this result and discussion, the author will present the data that has been found in the Kimetsu No Yaiba comic using Abrams' objective literary theory which explains where the principle of this theory views that literary works are built by the intrinsic elements of the work itself which are isolated from external factors, so that the analysis carried out is based on what is revealed in the literary work itself. from the results of data collection carried out. 26 data were obtained from 17 characters and 3 families who have loyalty values in them. Based on the causes that can affect it, loyalty is divided into several causal factors, namely:

Table 1. The causes of loyalty

Admiring	Agatsuma	
	Zenitsu,	
	Hashibira	
	Inosuke,	
	Yushiro,	
	Rengoku	
	Kyoujurou,	
	Himejima	
	Gyoumei	
Anticipative	Kamado	
	Tanjirou,	
	Shinazugawa	
	Sanime	
Believe	Urokodaki	
	Sakonji	
Happiness	Sabito	
Love	Kamado	
	Tanjirou,	
	Shinazugawa	
	Sanime,	
	Gyuutaro,	
	Tomiyoka	
	Tsutako,	
	Teruko,	
	Shoichi, Uzui	
	Tengen, Hakuji	
Hate	Tamayo,	
	Kochou	
	Shinobu,	
	Hakuji	
Optimism	Kibutsuji	
	Muzan	
Terror		Rui Clan,
		Obanai
		Clan
Submissiveness		Ubayashiki
		Član

Based on the impact, the loyalty found in Kimetsu No Yaiba comics is divided into four impacts, namely:

**Table 2.** The Impact of Loyalty

Impact	Characters	Family
Positive	Kamado Tanjirou,	
impact on	Shinazugawa	
the subject	Sanime,	
	Gyuutaro,	
	Urokodaki	
	Sakonji,	
	Agatsuma	
	Zenitsu,	
	Hashibira	
	Inosuke, Yushiro,	

	Himejima Gyoumei, Teruko, Shoichi, Uzui Tengen,	
Negative impact on the subject	Tomiyoka Tsutako, Rengoku Kyoujurou, Kochou Shinobu, Hakuji, Kibutsuji Muzan, Sabito, Tamayo	The clan of Ubayashiki, Rui, and Obanai
Positive impact on the object	Kamado Tanjirou, Gyuutaro, Urokodaki Sakonji, Tomiyoka Tsutako, Agatsuma Zenitsu, Hashibira Inosuke, Yushiro, Himejima Gyoumei, Rengoku Kyoujurou, Teruko, Shoichi, Uzui tengen, Sabito	The clan of Ubayashiki, Rui, and Obanai
Negative impact on the object	Shinazugawa Sanime, Kochou Shinobu, Hakuji, Kibutsuji Muzan, Tamayo	

### Kamado Tanjirou

Tanjirou is the main character of the story Kimetsu No Yaiba, at the beginning of his appearance, he is told as the eldest brother of 6 siblings. he often helps his mother since the death of his father to sell charcoal in the nearest village from their home in the mountains.

One day when Tanjirou returned after selling charcoal in a nearby village, he found that the house his family lived in was destroyed and covered in blood, he saw the bodies of his younger siblings and mother who had cooled down, and only Nezuko, one of his younger siblings, he found still breathing. Although still breathing Nezuko has been turned into ibils by the ibils who attacked and killed

his family. even though Nezuko has turned into a demon, Tanjirou still tries to protect his sister from the demon laborers who want to kill his sister and try to find a medicine that can cure his sister back to human.

[chapter1] Dialogue between Kamado Tanjirou and Giyuu

Giyuu;なぜかばう

いもうと おれ いもうと Kamado : 妹 だ. . . 俺の 妹 なんだ

Giyuu : ぞれが 妹 か、俺の仕事は鬼を \*\* 新ることだ

ま ねまめこ だれ ころ Kamado; 待ってくれ禰豆子は誰も殺して おれ いえ ひと か ない、俺の家にはもう一つ嗅いだことのない ころ 誰かの匂いがした。みんなを殺し. . . たの たぶん は多分そいつだ。禰豆子は違うんだ。どうし いま て今そうだったのかはわからない。

がんたん はなし きずぐち おに ち Giyuu:簡単な話だ、傷口に鬼の血を まに ひとく おに 浴びたから鬼になった。人喰い鬼はそうやっ な

Giyuu :よくもまあ今しがた 己 が喰われ そうになっておいて。

Giyuu: 治らない。鬼になつにら入间に もど 戻ることはない。

Kamado :探す!!! 必 ず方法を見つけ できる かぞく ころ やっ みるから殺さないでくれ。家族を殺した奴も見だ が出すから、俺が全部ちゃんとするから。 やめてくれ!!やめてください. . . どうか はもうと ころ ねが を殺さないでください. . . お願いします。

Giyuu: Why are you protecting him?

Kamado: My brother...he's my brother!

Giyuu : Is that your sister? My job is to hunt down demons. Of course I'm going to chop up your sister.

Kamado: Wait a minute Nezuko hasn't killed anyone yet! There are others around our house, the one who killed them all is probably that one! Nezuko's different, I don't know why she's acting like that.

Giyuu : If your blood mixes with demon blood, you'll become a demon. That's how demons eat people.

Kamado: Nezuko hasn't eaten anyone yet!

Giyuu : How dare you! Earlier, it looked like you were going to be eaten.

Kamado: You're wrong! That's not necessarily the case!? I won't let her hurt anyone. I'll turn Nezuko into a human again! I'll definitely cure her.

Giyuu : There's no cure. There's no way a demon can be turned into a human.

Kamado: I'll find a solution! So don't kill her! I'll also find who killed my family, I'll try everything! So please....please stop!

Based on the quote above, meaning of loyalty owned by Kamado Tanjirou is the determination he has for sister's happiness. The lovalty possessed by Kamado Tanjiro is caused by his sense of anticipation and affection as a brother for Nezuko, and as the last family who will look after and protect his sister, even though Nezuko has turned into a demon and can endanger himself. in chapter 204 it is explained that Nezuko has become human again and they demon hunters managed to kill Kibutsuji Muzan who is the mastermind behind the demon attacks on humans.

### Shinazugawa Sanemi

Sanemi is the eldest son of her seven siblings. He lived with his six siblings and his mother who became a single parent because his father was stabbed to death by an unknown person. One day when it was getting late, Sanemi's mother did not return to their house, which resulted in Sanemi to go looking for his mother out of concern, but when he returned home because he did not find his mother, he saw that his mother had turned into a demon and attacked his siblings, causing his five siblings to die. and to protect the only brother left, Sanime ventured to kill his mother who had turned into a demon.

[chapter 115] Dialogue between Sanemi and Genya

Genya: これからはじゃなくてこれからも、 だよな

Sanemi: From now on you and I will protect our mother and younger siblings. Agreed?

Genya: Not only from now on, because we've been through it for a long time, haven't we?

[chapter166] Dialogue spoken by Sanime to his sister

Sanime: どうしようもねえ 弟 だぜぇ、 なん ため おれ ははおや ころ まえ まも 何の為に俺が母親を殺してまで、お前を守 おも てめぇ ったと思ってやがる。テメェはどっかで しょたいもち ふくろ 所帯持ってお袋にしてやれなかった分も、 おとうと いもうと 弟 や 妹 にしてやれなかった分も。お前 まえ にょうぼう こども しあわ が、お前の女房や子供を幸せにすりゃあ ぜったい おれ 良かっただろうが。そこには絶対に俺が鬼 なんか来させねぇから...

Sanime: You're a pathetic little brother, why do you think I killed our mother? Because I wanted to protect you! You were supposed to get married, have children, and live together until old age. All this time we couldn't do anything for mom. And all this time we couldn't do anything to our little brother. You have to make your wife and son happy, because I'll make sure no demon will get in your way.

Based on the quotations above, we can conclude that the meaning of loyalty owned by Sanemi is the determination she has to protect her sister. the loyalty owned by Shinazugawa Sanemi is based on a sense of responsibility and compassion she has for her only remaining sister.

Although Sanemi has tried to become a great demon hunter to protect her sister, in chapter 179 her sister still died at the hands of the devil right in front of her own eyes.

### **Gyuutaro**

Gyuutaro is a child born in a brothel. Since childhood Gyuutaro has repeatedly tried to be killed by his mother because of his ugly appearance. because he has an ugly face and voice that makes the people in the place feel disturbed and often scold Gyuutaro. Despite experiencing various problems in his life Gyuutaro always struggled to live, especially when Gyuutaro had a younger sister who loved him, Gyuutaro always tried to continue to protect his sister.

One day when Gyuutaro came home from work, he found his sister had been burned alive for blinding a samurai. And to save his sister who was dying he was willing to exchange his and his sister's humanity to become a demon in order to keep his sister alive and avenge the person who had burned his sister alive.

[chapter 97] Dialogue from Gyuutaro to his sister

Gyuutaro : 俺たちは二人ならまいきょう さむ はらべこ ぜんぜん 最 強 だ。寒いのも腹ペコなのも全然へっゃくそく いっしょ ぜったいはな ちゃら、約束するずっと一緒だ、絶対離れない。はらもう何も怖くないだろ?

Gyuutaro: When we are together, we are the strongest. Whether we're cold or hungry, we'll be fine. I promise I'll never leave you. See, there's nothing to be afraid of, right?

Based on the quote above, we can conclude that the meaning of loyalty owned by Gyuutaro is the determination that makes him always protect his sister. the loyalty that Gyuutaro has is based on the sense of affection and responsibility he has to continue to protect the only person who cares and loves him. Although Gyuutaro's choice to become a demon

resulted in him killing many innocent people, he did not care as long as he continued to protect his sister and see her happy. After living thousands of years as a demon, in chapter 97 Gyuutaro and his sister were killed by an army of demon hunters.

### Kibutsuji Muzan

Kibutsuji Muzan used to be before becoming a demon, born with a very weak body that was said to be dead before the age of 20, until one day he met a genius doctor who offered Muzan to try the potion he made, which was not perfect to Muzan who was struggling to live longer. After drinking the potion that the genius doctor had given Muzan felt his body had abundant strength inside him, but because the potion he drank was not perfect, he experienced some side effects drinking the potion, namely he could not be exposed to sunlight and he also needed human flesh to survive. And in order to find the blue spider lilies that were the key to Muzan perfecting the potion she created a demon race to help her.

[ chapter 127] Muzan's Monologue.

Muzan:これでもう青い彼岸花を探すいかよう くくくなが ・・・! 必要もない、ククク永かった ・・・! !!しかしこため ため せんねんふ の為、この為に千年増やしたくもない同類 でゅうにおにつき なか を増やし続けたのだ。十二鬼月の中にすらあらわ けう たいしつ えら おに 現れなかった稀有な体質。選ばれし鬼、あむすめ く と こ わたし たいよう こくふくの娘を喰って取り込めば私も太陽を克服できる!!!

Muzan: There's no need to look for blue spider lilies anymore, my nails are so old!!! But this, this is the reason that for thousands of years I have continued to create demons when I myself did not want to. This is something that even the twelve moon demons don't have. The chosen demon, that if I eat the girl and absorb her, I will be able to defeat the sun..!!

Based on the quote above, we can conclude that the meaning of loyalty possessed by Muzan is her determination to perfect the potion she has drunk to achieve truly perfect immortality. the loyalty possessed by Kibutsujin Muzan is loyalty caused by her optimism to find blue spider lilies in order to perfect her potion, despite spending thousands of years and sacrificing countless humans. In chapter 127, it is said that by absorbing Nezuko, the younger sister of Tanjirou, who despite being a demon can conquer the sun, Muzan can be freed from her fear of the sun for thousands of years which forced Muzan to wage a massive war against demon hunters to get Nezuko who was then in the protection of demon killers.

Although there was little left for Muzan to achieve his goal for thousands of years, in chapter 200 it was shown that his war against the demon hunters led to his defeat and he had to die at the hands of the demon hunters after being dragged to the sun and scorched there.

### Urokodaki Sakonji

Urokodaki Sakonji is a former water pillar who has now retired and spends his days as a trainer for young demon hunters he deems talented enough to succeed him. But since all the students he trained were killed in their final exams in order to graduate as demon hunters, Sakonji felt guilty because he thought he was the one who led them to their deaths, so he became very selective in sorting out potential successors to teach his sword techniques. But when he saw determination of Tanjirou in killing while protecting his demons sister, Sakonji again put his hopes on Tanjirou to continue his techniques and become a great demon hunter.

[chapter 46] letter from Sakonji to the head of the Ubayashiki Family

すみじろう おに いもうと とも
Sakonji: 炭治郎が鬼の 妹 と共にあるこ
おゆる ねまめこ きょうじん
とをどうか御許しください。禰豆子は強 靭
せいしんりょく ひと りせい たも
な精 神 力で人としての理性を保っています、

Sakonji: Please forgive Tanjiou for living with a demon. Nezuko has a strong soul and retains some of her humanity, even when she is starving, she will not eat humans, and she has survived like that for over two years. You may find this surprising and hard to believe, but it is the absolute truth. If nezuko attacks someone then kamado tanjirou as well as urokodaki sakonji and tomiyoka giyuu will rip out his own stomach as an apology.

Based on the quote above, we can conclude that the meaning of loyalty owned by Sakonji is his determination to believe in Tanjirou's words that Nezuko is harmless. The loyalty possessed Urokodaki Sakonji is based on the trust he has in his students. In chapter 46, Sakonji sends a letter to the leader of the Ubayashiki Family to let Tanjirou take care of Nezuko who has turned into a demon by using himself as a guarantee that Nezuko will not eat humans and that Nezuko is different from demons in general. With the guarantee given by Sakonji, Nezuko is no longer targeted by demon hunters as long as she does not hurt others.

### Tomiyoka Tsutako

Tomiyoka Tsutako is the older sister of the current water pillar Tomiyoka Gyuu. She is said to have sacrificed herself for her beloved sister when a demon attacked them. When the demon attacked, she immediately hid the little gyuu then tried to fight the demon even though she knew that she was unable to fight the demon and on the next day she would have her wedding with the person she loved. Even so, she chose to save her sister over her own happiness.

[chapter31] Dialogue between Giyuu and Sabito

さびうさぎ Giyuu : さ... 錆 兎

Sabito:自分が死ねば良かったなんて二度
い と言うなよ、もし言ったらお前とはそれまで
ともだち をもがある。翌日に祝言を挙げるは
まえ あね しょうち うえ
ずだったお前の姉もそんなことは承知の上
また かく まも して守っているんだ。他
まえ あね ほうとく
の誰でもないお前が…お前の姉を冒涜する
な

Giyuu : sa sabito...

Sabito: Don't ever tell me that dying is better, ever. If you do, we'd better not be friends anymore. Your sister was supposed to get married the next day. Even though she knew so, she hid you from the demons and protected you. You have no one? That's a taunt to your sister.

Based on the quote above, we can conclude that the meaning of loyalty possessed by Tomiyoka Tsutako is the determination that makes her brave to protect her sister. the loyalty possessed by Tomiyoka Tsutako is based on her affection and sense of responsibility that she has towards her only sister, even though in the process she has to sacrifice herself for the safety of her sister.

### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the data collected and analyzed about the loyalty contained in Kimetsu No Yaiba comics, there are 21 data from 18 characters and 3 families who have loyalty values that exist in them. From these 18 characters and 3 families, 3 meanings of loyalty were found in Kimetsu No Yaiba comics, namely obedience, obedience, and determination. In the Kimetsu No Yaiba story, there are 9 factors that cause loyalty to arise, namely admiration, anticipation, trust, love, hate, optimism, terror. happiness, submission.In addition to the factors that cause the emergence of loyalty values, there are also 4 types of impacts arising from loyalty in this comic, namely positive impacts on the subject, negative impacts on objects, and negative impacts on objects. Although from the data presented there are negative and positive impacts on the subject and object, loyalty does not necessarily determine whether loyalty is morally right or wrong. from the picture of loyalty that appears in this Kimentu No Yaiba comic, we can see that to maintain the loyalty we have, it takes effort and sacrifice even though it can harm ourselves.

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