

The Ideology of Socialism in the Webtoon Mistake Season 1 by Cindy Chwa

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Abstract: The aim of this research is to determine the ideology of socialism contained in the comic Mistake season 1. This research uses a qualitative descriptive approach. The data in this research are text and panel images from the webtoon Mistake season 1 which was published on the webtoon from 2019 until now. Data was collected using documentation and literature study data collection techniques. The results of this research show two ideologies of socialism, namely love and cooperation. The conclusion of this research, researchers found the ideology of socialism contained in the comic Mistake season 1 by Cindy Chwa. This research can be a reference for future researchers, especially those who will research online comics regarding the ideology of socialism.

Keywords: Ideology of socialism, Webtoon Mistake, Comic

1. Introduction

Literature is a form of work whose object is humans and their lives. Literary works are the result of human creativity, both written and verbal, containing issues surrounding social life (Mustakul, S., & Kanzunnudin, M., 2023: 60). Literary works are an outpouring of the writer's feelings which are used as a means of expressing all the experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas and beliefs of the writer's heart (Layali, Darmuki, & Setiyono, 2021: 706). Apart from that, literary works are something produced by humans using language to create aesthetic value (Yusuf, Roysa, & Fathurohman, 2021: 42). The element of beauty in literary works itself has different forms and cannot be equated between one literary work and another (Fitriani, A., Fathurohman, I., Nugraheni, L. (2021). Language is a human need that is used to interact and communicate in social life (Dewanti, F. C., Ahsin, M. N., & Fathurohman, I., 2020: 151). Literary works are a cultural product that is used to instill social values (Putri, Purbasari, & Fathurohman, 2021: 1183). Literary works are created to have messages and moral values that they want to convey to readers, messages and moral values in implicit or explicit form (Fitriani, A., Fathurohman, I., & Luthfa Nugraheni., 2021: 216).

Literary works are the result of community cultivation created through spoken and written language that contains aesthetics (Adriatik, Kanzunnudin, & Nugraheni, 2022: 2). Literary works created by authors certainly have benefits for readers (Harfina, Kanzunnudin, & Nugraheni, 2021: 229). Literature provides entertainment and teaching functions (Nafisa, Kanzunnudin, & Roysa, 2021: 112). Apart from being enjoyable entertainment, literature is also able to increase knowledge and insight for readers.

Comics are a form of literary work. Comics are a communication medium in the form of graphic literary works. In the digital era like now, comics are not only in print form (books and magazines). Comics are available in digital form which can be accessed easily. Online comics have another term, namely webtoon. Webtoon comes from the words website and cartoon. Webtoon is a collection of illustrated stories published online (Sari, 2022: 49). Images included in the text are equally important in storybooks because images act as intermediaries in communicating story messages to children (Wibowo, E. W., Kanzunnudin, M., & Fathurohman, I. 2019). The millennial generation is the next generation who has high curiosity and is equipped with sophisticated technology (Nugraheni, L., & Haryadi, A., 2021: 573). Therefore, webtoons are suitable as learning media that are appropriate to today's times. In line with what was stated, the more technology develops, the more advanced human innovation becomes to develop what exists so as not to be left behind by the times (Tuhuteru, L., Keloko, A. B., Rumfot, S., Pandji, V. C., & Hariyadi, A. (2023: 112). The learning models and methods used by teachers influence the learning process carried out by students in addition to the different characteristics of each student.

Webtoon is a derivative of manhwa or often called South Korean comics. Manhwa and webtoon are different in terms of publication media, manhwa is published in print in the form of a book or magazine, while webtoon is via a website. Webtoon has two forms of presentation, namely long pages that are read by scrolling down and by slides.

Webtoons were first created in the late 1990s along with the collapse of the manhwa industry as stated by Sari (2022: 49-50). Kim Junkoo in 2005 released Naver Webtoon as a forum for the works of comic creators in South Korea. In 2014 it was released again in its entirety under the name Line Webtoon because Naver is not well known abroad and some services cannot be accessed by other countries.

Creator Cindy Chwa has two works on the webtoon platform. Cindy Chwa and Angellina's first work, namely *In A Dream*, is a fantasy genre, which was published on June 17 2016 and finished on July 12 2019 with 161 episodes. Webtoon *In a Dream* was liked by more than 9.9 million readers with a rating of 9.56. Cindy Chwa's second work, namely *Mistake*, is a drama genre which was published on November 12 2019 until now. Webtoon *Mistake* was liked by more than 13.6 million readers with a rating of 8.54. *Mistake Comics* is a local webtoon series created by Indonesian creators. The characteristic of the *Mistake* webtoon is that the representation of the character's thoughts dominates rather than thought balloons.

Ideology is a system of values or beliefs that is accepted as fact or truth by a certain group as stated by Lyman Tower S. in Hanum (2019: 35). Ideology consists of the relationship between attitudes towards various institutions and societal processes. Ideology is a persuasive argument that can inspire and maintain a system of beliefs and actions in society in accordance with the ideas being transformed.

The ideology of socialism is an understanding that considers common interests or public interests to be more important than personal or individual interests (Handoyo, 2019). Soekarno stated that socialism is not only a social system, socialism is also a demand for struggle, namely shared prosperity (Handoyo, 2019: 150). The values that should be developed in life are equality, cooperation and compassion (Wikandaru, 2019: 129). The definition of socialism according to the experts above can be concluded that the ideology of socialism is an understanding that assumes that common interests are more important than individual interests with the aim of common prosperity.

webtoon series entitled *Mistake* tells the story of a pair of students who will represent a mathematics competition at their school, Kana and Arya, who are accused of committing lewd acts in the library, so they have to leave school and be married off by their parents. Kana and Arya's parents did not listen to their explanation. Until finally, Kana and Arya officially married. Arya's parents' promise to Kana that they would give them a house to live in was just empty talk, they lived in a small rented house.

Arya intends to take her savings for daily needs to her house. However, there was only a little money left because his father took it to pay debts and pay for his wedding. Arya was disappointed with her father's unilateral decision. Knowing his son's stable economic condition, Arya's father did not provide financial assistance, instead giving him a condom. Arya was disappointed again.

Arya goes here and there applying for jobs. Until finally, he was accepted to work as a dishwasher at a restaurant owned by Mr. Randy. Arya overcomes obstacles in the world of work with support from Kana. Arya is used and slandered at her workplace. However, he can pass through this phase.

Arya's mother took advantage of Kana because she was a housewife. Every day, Arya's mother asks Kana to wash all the clothes in Arya's parents' family and look after Arya's three younger siblings. Kana's father, who found out about this, immediately cursed at Arya's mother. Kana went through a difficult phase, where she had to do housework, take care of Arya's younger siblings, wash Arya's family's clothes, while her friends had fun in Bali. Kana has wanted to go to Bali for a long time, but now her situation doesn't allow her to go.

They have overcome obstacles in the household, until finally they are successful in their respective jobs. Kana works as a tutor, while Arya is a corn entrepreneur who has opened a branch outside the city. This webtoon series tells how it feels to be slandered and have to endure actions you didn't commit, as well as facing married life as a teenager, until finally succeeding in their respective jobs.

From the explanation above, researchers are interested in researching the webtoon *Mistake* season 1 by Cindy Chwa because the content of the webtoon story can be an illustration to readers not to emulate bad things and there is a message contained in it. The focus of the research refers to the ideology of socialism contained in the webtoon *Mistake* by Cindy Chwa Season 1.

2. Structure of References

2.1 Webtoons

Sari (2022:49) webtoon is a collection of illustrated stories published online. Webtoon has other terms, namely webcomic, digital comics and online comics. Webtoon comes from the words website and cartoon. Webtoon is a derivative of manhwa or often called South Korean comics. Manhwa and webtoon are different in terms of publication media, manhwa is published in print in the form of a book or magazine, while webtoon is via a website.

The appearance of the webtoon is attractive and colorful, some creators provide multimedia effects such as sound and motion effects. Multimedia effects make the story more interesting and seem more alive. Webtoons are presented in

long page form, readers only need to scroll down, but there are also creators who present stories in slide form. Researchers can conclude from the definition of webtoon above that webtoon is a collection of illustrated stories published online.

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2.2 History of Webtoons

According to Sari (2022:49-50), around the end of the 1990s, webtoons first appeared, at the same time as the manhwa industry was collapsing. Park Sooin, a webtoon creator, explains that the webtoon era is divided into two generations. The first generation, webtoon grew as an illustrated diary on a personal website and received a positive response from visitors. In the second generation, webtoons became more profitable, webtoon creators published their work on large sites such as Daum and Naver, and creators earned salaries according to webtoon fame.

Kim Junkoo in 2005 released Naver Webtoon as a forum for the works of comic creators in South Korea. In 2014, it was released again in its entirety under the name Line Webtoon because Naver was not well known abroad and some services could not be accessed by other countries. In 2015, Line Webtoon became the first pioneer of online comics in Indonesia.

2.3 Comic Elements

Comics have forming elements that are characteristic of comics. These elements become the basic material of comics. According to Maharsi (2019: 7-19) comic elements include the following.

1) Panel

Panels are boxes that contain illustrations and text that form a story. Panels have various shapes. According to McCloud (in Maharsi 2019: 7) the reading direction of the panel is from top to bottom, left to right, or clockwise.



Fig. 1 - Panel shape.
(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

2) Trench

Trench or Gutter is the distance or space between panels. The shape of the ditch depends on the creator. Trenches unite imaginative boxes into a single whole. The development of comics nowadays, the ditch is not what it used to be. Creators do not use white borders. The ditch is the imaginary distance between one panel and another.



Fig. 2 - Shape of the trench.
(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

3) Speech bubble

Word balloons are a conversational or narrative representation of events that are currently occurring. Word balloons are divided into three, namely:

- (1) Speech balloons are depictions of spoken dialogue in the form of round bubbles with tails that point to the character who says the words.



Fig. 3 - Greeting balloon shapes.

(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

- (2) Thought balloons are a representation of a character's unspoken thoughts, only internally.



Fig. 4 - Thought balloon shape.

(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

- (3) Caption balloons are narrative explanations in panels that help readers understand the storyline.



Fig. 5 - Caption balloon shape.

(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

4) Effect

Effects in comics are divided into two types, namely first, sound effects which are conveyed through written



form. Second, the motion effect, namely a line that has the function of showing movement.

Fig. 6 - Effect shapes.

(Source: Webtoon Mistake)

5) Figure

Characters are characters in comics. Characters in comics are generally made more expressive and simpler so that readers can easily understand the characteristics of the characters.

6) Illustration

Illustrations are images contained in comics. Illustrations are said to be an important element besides text. There are stories in comics that only consist of illustrations without any text because the creator makes illustrations that can represent the content of the story.



Fig. 7 - Illustration forms.

(Source: Webtoon Mistake and Webtoon Vii & Natt)

2.4 Ideology of Socialism

According to Lyman Tower S. ideology is a system of values or beliefs that is accepted as fact or truth by a certain group. Ideology consists of the relationship between attitudes towards various institutions and social processes (Hanum 2019: 35). According to Latif, ideology is a worldview that is oriented and systematized in a philosophical scientific manner (Hanum 2019: 35). According to David Miller, ideology is a set of beliefs about the social and political world which simultaneously give meaning to things that occur in society and form practical responses (Handoyo 2019: 4).

The researcher can conclude from the definition of ideology above that ideology is a persuasive argument that can inspire and maintain a system of beliefs and actions towards society in accordance with the ideas that are transformed.

The ideology of socialism is an understanding that considers common interests or public interests to be more important than personal or individual interests (Handoyo, 2019). Owen explains about socialism in a book entitled *A New, View of Society, an Essay on the Formation of Human Character* that the social environment has an influence on the formation of human character. Hall argued that an unjust society was created because of a faulty civilization. Hall's statement is very important for subsequent socialist thinkers because it expresses a new awareness that rich and poor people always have different interests, so they experience conflict (Handoyo, 2019). This idea inspired and shaped Robert Owen's ideology.

Soekarno stated that socialism is not only a social system, socialism is also a demand for struggle, namely shared prosperity (Handoyo, 2019: 150). The values that should be developed in life are equality, cooperation and compassion (Wikandaru, 2019: 129). The definition of socialism according to the experts above can be concluded that the ideology of socialism is an understanding that assumes that common interests are more important than individual interests with the aim of common prosperity.

3. Research Methodology

This research uses a qualitative descriptive research type. Data collection techniques use documentation and literature study. The method used is the heuristic and hermeneutic reading model. The primary data source in this research is the research object studied by the researcher, namely the ideology of socialism in the webtoon *Mistake* season 1. Secondary data sources in this research are e-books, books, journal articles and theses related to the research.

4. Results and Discussion

The data source in this research is the webtoon *Mistake* season 1 by Cindy Chwa. The data obtained in this research is the ideology of socialism contained in the webtoon *Mistake* season 1 by Cindy Chwa. After that, the data obtained was classified based on research indicators in the form of socialist ideology. The following are the results of the analysis of the ideology of socialism in the *Mistake* season 1 webtoon by Cindy Chwa.

1. Affection

Compassion is a feeling of love and concern for fellow humans. Affection is a feeling that is given and received by someone. To give or feel love, a person must make an effort. The affection in the Mistake season 1 webtoon by Cindy Chwa is:

Episode 6: Panels 29-33

This episode shows Kana and Arya sitting on the sofa, Kana asks if Arya has ever liked him.

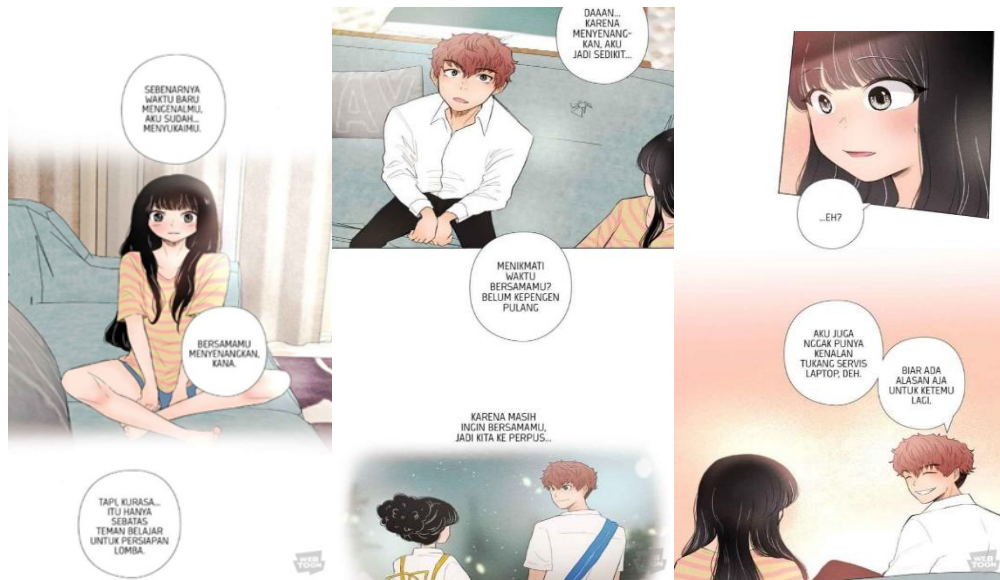


Fig. 8 - Episode 6: Panels 29-33.

The ideology of socialism contained in the panel above is compassion. Establishing good communication with each other is a form of affection. It can be seen from the panel that Arya and Kana communicate well with each other. This is proven through the following speech balloon.

Arya: “Sebenarnya waktu baru mengenalmu, aku sudah... menyukaimu. Bersamamu menyenangkan Kana.” (Mistake, Episode 6: Panel 29)

Arya: “Aku juga nggak punya kenalan tukang servis laptop, deh. Biar ada alasan aja untuk ketemu lagi.” (Mistake, Episode 6: Panel 33)

Kana sat alone with Arya on the sofa. Kana asked Arya if Arya had ever liked him. Arya answered honestly that the first time she met Arya, she liked Kana because she was fun to be with, but only as a study friend to prepare for the competition. Arya also doesn't have any acquaintances who are laptop repairmen, that's just an excuse for Arya to meet Kana again.

Episode 8: Panels 31-33

This episode shows Kana and Arya just moving into the rented house. Kana cooks instant noodles and they eat together.



Fig. 9 - Episode 8: Panels 31-32.

The ideology of socialism contained in the panel above is compassion. Giving praise is a form of affection. It can be seen from the panel that Arya praised Kana that Kana's cooking was delicious, even though it was only instant noodles. This is proven through the following speech balloon.

Arya: "Oh, enak! Ga lembek, ga keras juga! Pas! Kamu pintar masak, Kana!". (Mistake, Episode 8: Panel 32)

Kana and Arya cook instant noodles together. Kana asked Arya if the cooking was delicious and Arya praised Kana for being a good cook, and Arya even wanted to increase the portion of food. Kana heard Arya's praise and smiled blushing.

Episode 17: Panels 46-51

This episode shows Kana's desire to go to Bali but Kana thinks about Arya who will work alone.

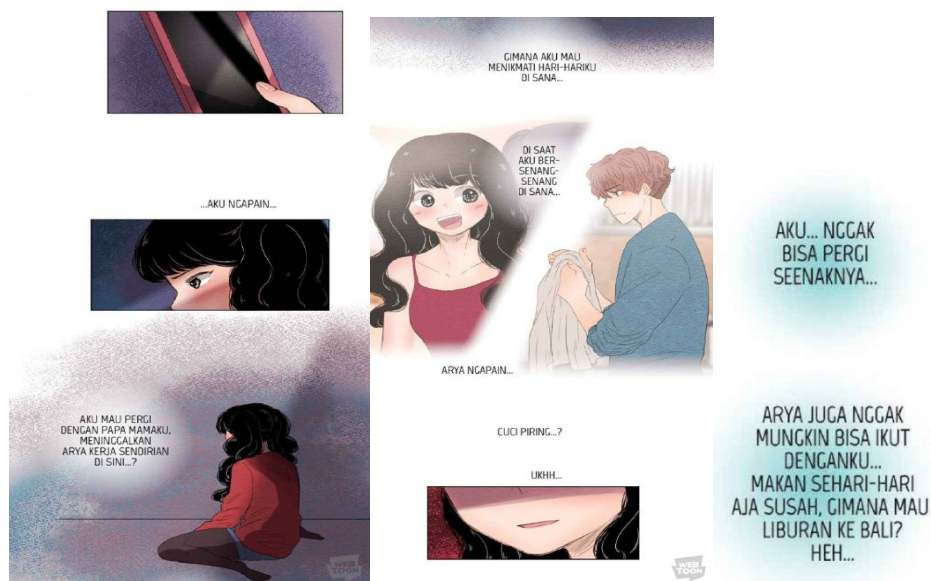


Fig. 10 - Episode 17: Panels 46-51.

The ideology of socialism contained in the panel above is compassion. Attention is a form of affection. It can be seen from this panel that Kana pays attention to Arya who works alone, Kana cannot bear to leave Arya. This is proven through the following thought balloon.

"Gimana aku mau menikmati hari-hariku di sana... Di saat aku bersenang-senang di sana... Arya ngapain... Cuci piring...? Uhhh... Aku... Nggak bisa pergi seenaknya..." (Mistake, Episode 17: Panel 49-51)

Kana wants to go to Bali like her school friends. Kana called her mother hoping to go to Bali with her parents, but it didn't meet her expectations, Kana was faced with the fact that she was married and had to get permission from Arya. Kana couldn't bear to leave Arya alone to work while she was having fun in Bali.

2. Cooperation

Cooperation is a joint effort between individuals or social groups to achieve common goals. collaboration in the webtoon Mistake season 1 by Cindy Chwa, namely:

Episode 112: Panel 14

This episode shows Mrs. Riska talking with Mrs. Violet in Mrs. Violet's apartment.

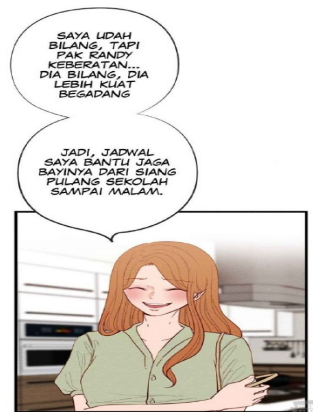


Fig. 11 - Episode 112: Panel 14.

The ideology of socialism in the panel above is cooperation. Helping each other is a form of cooperation. It can be seen from the panel that Mrs. Riska helps look after Melinda's child who is entrusted to Mr. Randy. This is proven through the following speech balloon.

Bu Riska: "Saya udah bilang, tapi Pak Randy keberatan... Dia bilang, dia lebih kuat begadang. Jadi, jadwal saya bantu jaga bayinya dari siang pulang sekolah sampai malam." (Mistake, Episode 112: Panel 14)

Mrs. Riska was in Mrs. Violet's apartment because she was next door to Mr. Randy's apartment. Mrs. Riska said that Mr. Randy objected to Ella staying with him because Mr. Randy was stronger at staying up late. So, Mrs. Riska looked after Ella from school in the afternoon until evening.

Episode 143: Panel 30

This episode shows Kana helping Melinda get a job.



Fig. 12 - Episode 143: Panel 30.

The ideology of socialism in the panel above is cooperation. Helping each other is a form of cooperation. It can be seen from the panel that Kana is working with Mrs. Amara to help Melinda get a job as a household assistant at Mrs. Amara's house. This is proven through the following speech balloon.

Kana: "Ini, mau ngelamar kerja... Jadi asisten rumah tangga, aku sudah bilang sama ibu! (Mistake, Episode 143: Panel 30)

Kana helps Melinda to find a job. Kana has an acquaintance, Mrs. Amara, who needs a household assistant at Mrs. Amara's house. So, Kana took Melinda to Mrs. Amara's house.

Episode 146: Panels 39-41

This episode shows Melinda calling Kana to help her look after the neighbor's children.



Fig. 6 - Episode 146: Panels 39-41.

The ideology of socialism in the panel above is cooperation. Helping each other is a form of cooperation. It can be seen from the panel that Melinda is working together with Kana, which is shown by helping Melinda look after the children at Mrs. Amara's neighbor's house because her household assistant stopped working. Kana also got paid from Melinda. This is proven through the following speech balloon.

Melinda: "Bisa ke tempatku? Bantu jaga anak tetanggaku dari jam lima sampai jam tujuh, nanti kubayar!" (Mistake, Episode 146: Panel 40)

Melinda received a job offer to look after children at Mrs. Amara's neighbor's house. Melinda asked Kana to help look after the child and would be paid.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

Based on the description in the discussion, it can be concluded that the analysis of the ideology of socialism in the webtoon Mistake season 1 is in the form of love and cooperation. This research can be used as material to develop literary analysis and can be used by students taking literary research and the general public to gain more in-depth knowledge. In relation to the field of literature, this webtoon can also be used as a reference for researchers who examine this webtoon with different studies.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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