

THE REAL HERO IN BERNARD SHAW'S *ARMS AND THE MAN*

THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree
in English Language Teaching



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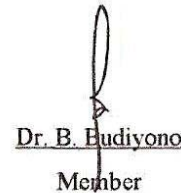
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The Writer

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL SHEET 1	i
APPROVAL SHEET 2	ii
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iv
ABSTRACT	vii
CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION.....	1
1.1. Background of the Study	1
1.2. Statements of the Problem	6
1.3. Objective of the Study	7
1.4. Theoretical Framework	7
1.5. The Significance of the Study	8
1.6. Scope and Limitation	8
1.7. Definition of Key Terms	9
1.8. Organization of the Proposal	10
CHAPTER 2. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	11
2.1. Drama	11
2.1.1. Elements of Drama	12
2.1.1.1. Setting	12
2.1.1.2. Character	13
2.1.1.2.1. Types of Character.....	14
2.1.1.2.2. Characterization	16
2.1.1.3. Plot	17
2.1.1.4. Theme	19

2.2. Figure of a Hero	20
2.3. Objective Theory	25
2.4. Realism	27
2.5. Idealism	28
2.6. Reviews of the Previous Studies	29
CHAPTER 3. RESEARH METHODOLOGY	31
3.1. Research Design	31
3.2. Source of Data	32
3.3. Data	32
3.4. Instrument	32
3.5. Procedures of Data Collecting	38
3.6. Data Analysis Procedure	39
CHAPTER 4. ANALYSIS OF THE FINDINGS	40
4.1. Personalities of the Major Male Characters	46
4.1.1. Captain Bluntschli	46
4.1.2. Major Sergius Saranoff	55
4.2. The Real Hero in Bernard Shaw's Play <i>Arms and the Man</i>	68
4.3. Ideologies Reflected as the Representatives of Captain Bluntschli, Raina Petkoff, and Major Sergius Saranoff	91
CHAPTER 5. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS	104
5.1. Conclusions	104
5.2. Suggestions	106
BIBLIOGRAPHY	107
APPENDIX 1	
APPENDIX 2	

LIST OF TABLES

Table 4.1. Tragic Heroes Traits	88
Table 4.2. Anti Heroes Traits	89
Table 4.3. Romantic Heroes Traits	90
Table 4.4. Realism Traits	100
Table 4.5. Idealism Traits	101

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.2. Classification of Literary Theories	19
Figure 2.1. Freytag's Plot Diagram	26
Figure 4.1. Plot Summary of <i>Arms and the Man</i>	44

ABSTRACT

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Literature, especially drama, is a branch of art that is able to convey the characters of a person accurately. The figure of hero is then chosen to be analyzed as a hero equals to courage, self-sacrifice, and noble deeds. This thesis has the objectives as to discuss the major male characters of the play, find out who the real hero of the play is, and show the messages the author of the play tries to deliver in term of idealism and realism.

This thesis is a qualitative research which the analysis is in form of description. The analysis is based on objective approach proposed by M. H. Abrams. It means the analysis is done by describing the intrinsic elements of the play such as plot, settings and characters. From the analysis, there are two major male characters, namely Captain Bluntschli and Major Sergius Saranoff. The men have distinctive personalities from one another. Bluntschli is a man who distrusts conventional values. He is straightforward, humorous, gentle, and practical. On the other hand, Sergius is a man who has handsome appearance and great ideals toward war and life. He is credulous, rude, brave, but gentle. The analysis shows that Bluntschli possesses more heroic traits than does Sergius. Bluntschli has nine out of twenty traits while Sergius has six out of twenty traits. Bluntschli has the traits of an anti-hero at the most. The analysis also states

that Bluntschli has realism traits more than idealism ones. On the other hand, both Sergius and Raina have idealism traits more than realism ones.

The analysis concludes that the real hero of the play is Captain Bluntschli. He acts as the anti hero of the play. Despite his straightforward and practical thought, Bluntschli makes the other characters defeat their own egos and step away from their pretensions. He also saves the lives of thousands of hotel workers, employees, and Swiss residents by escaping in a battle in order to stay alive. The message that is conveyed through the play is that realism could triumph over idealism. Realism is represented in the figure of Bluntschli and idealism is represented in the figure of Sergius and Raina. At last, the writer would like to suggest other researchers to analyze deeper about Bluntschli and Sergius or analyze the social aspect in the play. Hopefully, this thesis could be beneficial for the further studies.