

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

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5.1 Conclusion

In The Power and The Glory, the whisky priest, the main character, tries to commit a perfect act of contrition by (1) praying, (2) having self-confession, and (3) self-contrition, in order to achieve absolution because he can not utter a confession to another priest. However, in his efforts to achieve perfect act of contrition he has always failed and he can not achieve it. The reasons why the whisky priest can not achieve a perfect act of contrition are; first, he can not really repent on his sin, sin which seems not too important for him anymore because he loves the fruit of his sin. Second, his frightened feeling is also always bigger than focusing his concentration toward the sorrow's feeling. Third, his drinking habit is also one of the whisky priest's problem why he cannot commit a perfect act of contrition. Further,

the whisky priest cannot concentrate in focusing to the sorrow's feeling for offending God because he thinks of something else.

Noticing that the whisky priest has failed in achieving a perfect act of contrition. The writer, then, concludes that the whisky priest can not achieve a perfect act of contrition. However, whether the whisky priest's sin is be absolved and can achieve absolution remains unknown because considering that eventhough he is a bad priest he still does his duties and he does not want to betray God. Also, it is also true that so many times God has saved his life eventhough at last he had to die as a martyr. It proves that God works in a strange way that He used the whisky priest to spread faith disregarding that the whisky priest is such a bad priest.

5.2 Suggestion

Since a religious novel is not familiar for the students of the English Department of Widya Mandala

University to observe, it is challenging for the writer to study it and explore religious topics.

Studying religious topics in a religious novel give benefits to the writer. They can deepen the writer's understanding about faith in God. She finds out that it is necessary for everyone to have faith in God since faith will give someone spiritual confidence that God will save their soul after death. MacLoughlin (1955:46) states that faith gives us the priceless grace that makes us friends of Christ and heirs to His kingdom, and gives us all the guidance and help we need in order to retain that grace.

By studying the religious topics in The Power and The Glory, the writer learns that human beings are fragile and can easily fall into sins. Having a strong faith in God and having an effort to stay away from committing sins can prevent man from falling into sins. MacLoughlin (1955:17) states that everyone has weaknesses, and what God wants of us is the (steady) effort to do better. Therefore, the writer wants to suggest that when one wants to achieve the best result, he has to try to do the best as he could, instead of doing it half-heartedly.

The readers can hopefully learn the important message that the author wants to say and also grasp the valuable experience in the novel.

The writer also wants to suggest that religious topics be analyzed by students, because they can enrich us.

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