

AN ANALYSIS OF FOOLISH PLOT FOUND IN OSCAR WILDE'S A WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE

A THESIS

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



By

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APPROVAL SHEET (1)

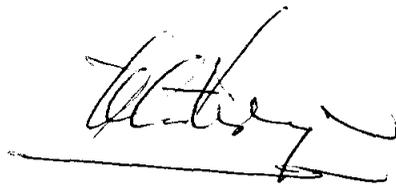
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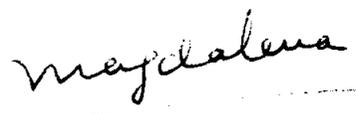


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ABSTRACT

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Key Words: plot, foolish, coincidence, main characters

This thesis is an analysis of Oscar Wilde's A Woman of No Importance. The writer chooses Oscar Wilde because he is an English dramatist who becomes popular because of his four plays. They tell about the life of London society in his own time. In addition, in these four plays, he tells about the London society which deals with the rich, the idle and the people who spend their lives in or around parties, teas, divorces, and scandalmongering.

Besides the reason above, the writer finds Arthur Ganz says that Wilde's A Woman of No Importance has a foolish plot. For this reason, the writer intends to know the way Wilde shapes his play and to discuss this play's foolish plot.

It is important for the writer to include the theory which is related to the study. In this analysis, she uses Perrine and Little's theory as the basic theory. They say that an author is guilty of plot manipulation if he heavily relies upon the coincidence for the story.

In doing an analysis, it is believed that an approach is needed and is important. This thesis concerns with the plot in a literary work. The writer uses the intrinsic approach which concerns with the element inside the literary work itself.

After analyzing Wilde's A Woman of No Importance, the writer finds that in shaping his play, Wilde employs the elements of the plot in each stage. However, in developing these elements, he uses coincidences. First, at the end of the first act he reveals Mrs. Arbuthnot as the woman of no importance to the audience by making Lord Illingworth accidentally sees the letter addressed to Mrs. Arbuthnot.

Second, he creates Gerald Arbuthnot as the coincidence to develop the main conflict of this play. When he reaches the suspense, he also depends on the coincidence. For that moment, he makes the screaming of Hester's of being insulted by Lord Illingworth heard by Gerald when he is arguing with his mother. Next, the third coincidence brings this play into the climax. Wilde makes Lord Illingworth accidentally sees the letter addressed to him from Gerald. Because of this letter, he can create the climax in which Mrs. Arbuthnot slap Lord Illingworth's face with his glove.

Then, he comes to the resolution of the play. To end the play, once more he makes Gerald accidentally sees the glove and asks his mother whose glove it is and

his mother says that it is the glove of a man of no importance. That is the end of the play and "curtain". Thus, the play is said to be as a play with foolish plot.

As has been observed, in reading a literary work, most of the readers read mainly for the story. They do not pay attention to the elements beyond the story. Therefore, it is expected that the readers would also be willing to think more about the characters, the plot and other elements in the story. In addition, the writer wants to add that the value of a literary work cannot be judged in terms of the elements only. A literary work has to be seen as a whole. The important thing is the human issue that the author wants to express to the readers.

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