

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

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Literary works have a relation to human life. Through deeper analysis, the readers can get knowledge about human life in which the positive aspects can be applied to real life. As a part of literary genres, play is chosen for the objects of the writer's thesis. It presents characters in dialogues, actions, and appearance of human characteristics can be identified. Then, learning from the characters, the writer knows various kinds of human's characteristics.

The old man was the main character of the play. The old man had a dark past. He hated his father very much but loved his mother in which he never met. He killed his father when he was 16 and then ran away. His reaction was caused by his hatred to his father because of his behaviors. He thought his mother had made a big mistake for choosing a husband. His mother died when laboring the old man. She was a rich lady and owned everything but she had to lose everything she used to have when she decided to marry a man – the old man's father. He squandered all of her money and years after her death he burnt the house. During the burning, the old man killed his father. His mother's ghost and his past haunted the old man. He saw his mother in fire – the fire of purgatory. Years later, the old man had a son. The old man told everything about his darkest past to him but his son did not show any sympathy. He thought his father was crazy and stupid. He became like his grandfather. The old man educated

him not to be like his grandfather – the old man’s father but he failed. In the end, he killed his own son – the only companion he had. The old man thought by killing his son he could rescue his mother’s soul and bring her out from the fire into light and he also wanted to stop any further pollution of a bad behavior. Then after killing his son, he realized that it was a failure, he could not bring his mother’s soul into light and finally he realized that only God could help him. He uttered a pleading prayer to God and asked His mercy to release his mother’s soul and to release his misery.

In determining a symbol the writer must decide if the word in the play consistently refers beyond itself to a significant idea, emotion or quality. Roberts and Jacobs (1989: 326) stated that in determining whether a particular object or person in a story is a symbol, one need to make decisions based on one’s own judgment of its total significance. If it appears to be of major importance, one can claim it has symbolic values as long as one can show its scope and sustained reference beyond it. Roberts and Jacobs (1989: 326) added that a symbol in a literary work could be a thing, a place, person, action, and situation or even thought. Based on this opinion, therefore the writer disregarded the types of symbols in the theory of symbol and created her own categories.

After determining the symbols, the writer classified them into two types – the major symbols, and the minor symbols. The writer classified the symbols into major and minor according to their importance role in the play and also because Yeats created his own symbolic system and the meaning of the symbols must be based on the context of the play or the poem. According to Knickerbocker (1960: 368) some poets

depart from the universal or conventional symbols to invent their own symbols for their special purposes – are called personal or contextual symbols because the universal or conventional symbols cannot properly communicate the new sensation in a new age. The contextual or personal symbols must be understood in the poem's context.

Judging from the utterances the writer found the symbols and also the meaning of those symbols. Then the writer related the data with the Holy Bible as the supported data. The writer found a relation between the Holy Bible and the play. In relating the data with the Holy Bible, the writer used the Theory of Pragmatics to understand the meaning and the Theory of Semiotics to understand the sign – the words, the gestures, the expression, and other signals used in communication. The writer found 6 symbols and categorized them into 2 types – the major symbols and the minor symbols. There are 3 major symbols; which are the house, the tree and the fire. These symbols hold the dominant image in the play and play an important role in the play. There are 3 minor symbols; which are the window, the knife and the boy. These symbols also hold dominant image in the play but they have less important role in the play. In determining the meanings the writer also used the Holy Bible to support the data. The meanings, which were taken from the Holy Bible, were based on the context of the play and had a relation with the play.

There are 3 meanings about the house that the writer concludes which are a place where someone's born or a hometown, a place to have fun and joy, a property or a wealth to be shared to the children. There are 4 meanings about the tree - a symbol

for the puzzle of life that involved life, death and regeneration, people who do right things, life, an internal life. There are 2 meanings about the fire that the writer found which are to purify someone's sins and faith and an eternal punishment. There is 1 meaning about the window - to see something physically and to look at the outside waiting for someone or just watching the outside. The writer concludes 2 meanings about the knife, which are finishing of the consequences and a tool to kill the animals for offerings to God to redeem someone's sins. The writer also concludes 2 meanings about the boy, which are heritage of badly behaviors and a gift from God.

A symbol may be roughly defined as something that means more than what it is. It is the richest and the most difficult of the poetical figures. A symbol is standing on its own feet trying to represent through continued use and common understanding of a simple object or a complex pattern of associations or ideas and possesses its own reality and meaning and may function at the normal level of reality within a story. A symbol may appear over and over in a story and possesses the same meaning. The symbols give a deeper impression about the story and sometimes make the story more mystic.

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