



Analysis on The Plot of Short Story "Soldier's Home" by Ernest Hemingway

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Abstract

The title of this study is an alysis on the plot of short story "soldier's home" by ernest hemingway. The aim of this study is to find out the Plot used in the Short story "Soldier's Home". The researcher applied Descriptive study method, aim analyzing and describing the data. The data of the study is Short story "Soldier's Home" by Ernest Hemingway. From the result, the researcher analyzed the plot of short story "Soldier's Home" by using Descriptive analysis. The researcher found out that, parts of plot used in the story "Soldier's Home" is: Exposition which tells about the introduction of Krebs as main character who is a Soldier of United States. He takes a part in the World War 1 in 1917 in Europe. Complication tells about the experience of the war changes his attitude toward work and woman after he comes back to his town Oklahoma - a town in United States. Crisis or climax tells the complications become more developed where there is a contradiction of the idea about work and woman among Krebs and his Parents. This is the high point of the story, Falling action tells about the action of Krebs falls where he becomes aware of his changes attitude that caused by the experience of the war and he tries to be a good boy to his mother, Resolution tells that Krebs accepts parents suggestion where he has forgotten the experience of the war that influence him in the town and he has decided to find out another job in Kansas- United States that can makes him enjoy it. The findings presented in this writing are still open to be proved by other.

Keywords: *short story, plot, analyze*

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BACKGROUND

Literature refers to composition that tells story, dramatizes, situation, expression of emotion and analyses and advocates ideas. One of the best literatures is fiction means anything made up, crafted, or shaped, but today the word refers to recounting of a sequence of events or action (Roberts 1995:2). And then according to Mayer (1987:4) Literature as a fiction consists of carefully arranged words designed to stir imagination. Stories, poems and plays are fictional. They are made up imagined events when based upon actual historic events. Imaginative literature is a source more of pleasure than of information, and we read it for pleasure and usually attempt to convey a perspective, mood, feeling or experience. Based on those two statements above, the writer would like to say that literature presents an approach to literary works that emphasize reading as an active enterprise involving thought and feeling.

Learning about literature means that it cannot be separated with fiction. It is important involve our thought, feeling and imaginative power through fiction. According to Roberts (1995:49) Fiction is usually about the interactions among people, but also involves large interaction- either

directly or indirectly It has separate identify because it originates not in historical fact but in the creative, imaginative power Writer of fiction may include historically accurate details, but their primary goal is to tell a story and say something significant about life. From the statement above the writer would like to say that fiction is imagining story that is not based on the historical fact. There are many stories of fiction that can be learnt to improve our imaginative power. Those fiction stories are grouped in what is called short fiction. They are: 1) Early forms: parable, fable and tale, 2) Short story. 3) Nonrealistic story, 4) Short novel. Parable is brief story that point to a moral. Tale is a story that narrates strangers or fabulous happening in the direct manner, without the detailed description of character. Short story, on the other hand, typically reveals character in dramatic scene, in moment of action, and in exchange of dialogue detailed enough to represent the surface of life. Nonrealistic story tells about elements of supernatural. Short novel relies on glimpses of understanding, flashes of insight, and quick turns of action to solidify theme or character (Di Yanni 1990:19).

In every fiction of course there are more than one element that related to each other formed fiction itself. Those elements are: plot and structure, character, setting, point of view, language and style, theme, irony and symbol. (DiYanni 1990: 26). From the statement above, the writer would like to say that all the elements of the fiction related to each other to works as a whole in a story.

One of the element of the fiction is plot that according to DiYanni (1990 26) it is author's arrangement of incident in a story. It is organizing principle that controls the order of events. Many fictional plot turn on a conflict, or struggle between opposing forces that is usually resolved by the end of the story. Based on the statement above the writer would like to say that plot is series of events that created by author to tell the story.

When discussing about the plot of fiction, the writer find it necessary to analyze the plot of short story because it can improve our imagination. Therefore, the writer would like to know deeply about the plot by analyzing short story. Based on the statement, the writer conduct a study entitled: AN ANALYSIS ON THE PLOT OF SHORT STORY "SOLDIER'S HOME" BY ERNEST HEMINGWAY

LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature as apart of research report which reveals comprehensive guide line of concept, principle or theories used as the basic to answer the research question (saukh in Ngongo 1998:32). In this chapter, the writer would like to present some theories that support this writing as follows:

A. Fiction

Fiction originally means anything made up or shaped. Now the word refers to prose story - short or long -a meaning it has retained since its first record use in the sense in 1599. Fiction is distinguish from the works it imitates such as historic account, reports, biographies, letters, and personal memories and meditation. Fiction has a separate identity because it originates not in historical facts but in the creative, imaginative power. Writer of fiction may include historically accurate details, but their primary goal is to tell a story and say something significant about life.

The essence of the fiction, as opposed to drama is narration, the recounting or telling of a sequence of events or actions. The earliest works of fiction relied almost exclusively on

narration, with speeches or dialogue being reported rather than quoted directly much recent fiction includes extended passage of dialogue, thereby becomes more dramatic event though narration is still primary mode.

Fiction is rooted in ancient legends and myths. Local priest narrated stories about their gods and heroes, as shown in some of narratives of ancient Egypt. In the course of history, travelling storytellers would appear in court of village to entertain listeners with tales of adventure in faraway countries. Although many of these were fictionalized account of events and people who may not ever have existed, they were largely accepted as fact or history (Roberts 1995: 47)

Fiction in the modern sense of the word did not begin to flourish until the late seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, when human being of all social stations and ways of life become important literary topics. As one writer put in 1709, human nature was not simple and could be explained only with reference to many complex motives like "passion, humor, caprice, zeal, faction, and thousands other spring." Thus began individual and psychological concern that characterizes fiction today. Indeed fiction is strong because it is so real and personal. Most characters have both first and last names, the countries and the cities in which they lived are modeled on real places; and their action and interaction are like those which readers themselves have experienced, could experience, or could easily imagined themselves experiencing. Fiction is also concerned with the place of individual in their environments. In the simplest sense, environment is a backdrop or setting within which characters speak, move and act. But more broadly, environment comprises the social, economic, and political condition which affects the outcomes of people live. Fiction is usually about the interaction among people, but it also involves these large interactions - either directly or indirectly.

The first true works of fiction in Europe however, were less concerned with society or politics than adventure; these were the lengthy Spanish and French romances of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In English the word novel was borrowed from French and Italian to describe this works and to distinguish them from medieval and classical romances as something that new (the meaning of novel).In England the word story was used along with novel in reference to the new literary form.

The increased level of education and literacy in eighteenth century facilitated the development of fiction. During the time of Shakespeare (1564-1616) and Dryden (1631-1700), the only way a writer could make a living from writing was to have a play accepted at a theatre, and then receive either a direct payment or the proceed of an "author's benefit (Roberts 1995 48). The writer would like to say that fiction as literary work whose content is produced by the imagination and is not based on the fact.

B. Short Story

Because novel was long, they took a long time to read - hours, days, evens week. American writer Edgar Allan Poe (1809-1849) address this problem and developed a theory of the short story, which he describe in review of Nathaniel Hawthorne's twice -told tales. Poc was convinced that worldly interest prevented people from gaining the "totally" of comprehension and responses that he believed reading should be provide (Roberts 1995:49).

The short story as a form of short fiction developed and become popular in the nineteenth century. During this period, fiction was channel in the direction of realism or a detailed representation of everyday life, typically the lives and experience familiar to middle-class individual. Besides its realistic impulse, the modern short story differs from ancient form of

short fiction in still another way in the ratio between summary and scene. Parable, fables and tales tend to summarize action to tell what happened in a general overview of the action.

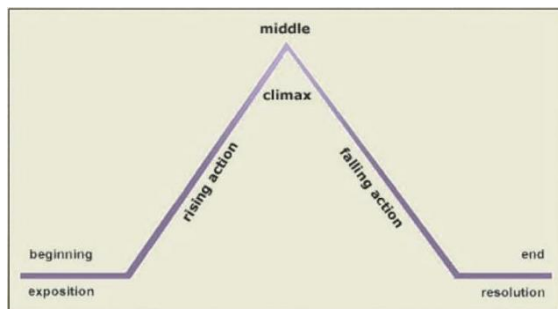
A short story, on the other hand, typically reveals character in dramatic scenes, in moments of action, and in exchange of dialogue detailed enough to represent the surface of life. In addition, the short story has traditionally been more concerned with the revelation of character through flashes of insight and shocks of recognition than the early fictional forms.

Typical features of modern realistic short story include the following: Its plot is based on probability, illustrating a sequence of causally related incidents. Its characters are recognizably human, and they are motivated by identifiable social and psychological forces. Its time and place are clearly established with realistic rather than fantastic setting. Its elements - plot, character, setting, style, point of view, irony, symbol and theme work toward a single effect, making the story unified (Di Yanni 1990:23).

C. The Plot of Short Story

Plot is the author's arrangement of incidents in a story. It is the organizing principle that controls the order of events. Many fictional plots turn on a conflict, or struggle between opposing forces that is usually resolved by the end of the story. Typically, fictional plots begin with exposition. These plots developed as a series of complication or intensification of the conflict that lead to a crisis or moment of great tension. The conflict may reach a climax or turning point, a moment of greatest tension that foreshadows the outcome, the falling action and their resolution or denouement (Di Yanni 1990:26).

According to DiYanni (1990) there are five parts of plot in a short story: exposition, complication, crisis or climax, falling action and resolution. Exposition is the introduction of the background information of the story. The short story begins with the exposition, the opening portion that sets the scene (if any), introduces the main characters, tells us what happened before the story opened, and provides any other background information that we need in order to understand and care about the events to follow (Kennedy 1991:5). Complication is the conflict grows heated and the plot becomes more involved. Crisis or climax is the complication develops; the situation becomes more and more knotted, leading to the most excruciating part of fiction. Crisis is the high point of a story. Falling action is the plot's complication is sorted out. Resolution is the conflicts are resolved.



The plot of typical realistic short story can be diagrammed in following manner (DiYanni 1990:27)

The diagram, however, is useful only as a point of departure for describing the plot of particular story. The action of a realistic story is usually composed of a sequence of a causally related action or events that are not necessarily presented in chronological order (Di Yanni 1990: 28). Plot refers to ordered structure of events in any story, or as Aristotle defined it, "the arrangement

of the accidents" such that there is a recognizable and causally related beginning, middle, and end with all parts being essential to the whole.

Plots are commonly divided into following component parts. The first part is Exposition. It is the beginning of the story, where the setting is established, the central character is introduced, and the central conflict confronting the protagonist(s), or main character(s) is set up. The second one is Rising action, or Complication The middle of the story contains episodes intensifying, elaborating, and developing the initial conflict, usually increasing suspense by increasing the difficulties facing the protagonist and leading up to the story's crisis, or climax. Next is Crisis or climax. The ultimate moment of the plot, where the opposing forces in the story's central conflict come to a head and force the deciding action where the protagonist's in regards to the central conflict either worsens or improve most substantial and finally the climax of a plot is the moment in which the central "narrative Question is to be answered. The last is Falling action, or denouement: Denouement means literary "unknotting" and the denouement of a story present the final unravelling of the plot, where the climax is resolved, all important plot questions are answered. The falling action brings closure and leaves the protagonist(s) in a state of satisfactory final stasis (Reuben, <http://www.sustan.edu/English/reuben/pai/AXG.HTML>). The writer would like to say that plot is an order of physical, emotion, or intellectual that ties action together.

METHODOLOGY

The method used in this writing is descriptive method. It deals with how to gain information about fact or phenomenon of interest. This study focuses on the analysis on the plot of short story "Soldier's Home". The data used in this study will be taken from the short story "Soldier's Home" by Ernest Hemingway. After reading the short story and marking the statements on the plot, the writer recorded and entered the statements in to the data format.

The research procedures in obtain the data as follows: The writer read the short story, the writer marked all statements related to the problem of research, the writer classified the plot of short story based on the theory stated, and the writer analyzed the data collected.

To analyse the data, the writer used descriptive qualitative analysis to find out parts of plot of short story "Soldier's Home" The writer analysed the plot of short story based on the theory suggested by DiYanni in his book: Literature: Reading fiction, poetry, drama, and the essay.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

In this part, the writer would like to present the findings and Discussion, as follows: The plot of the short story "Soldier's Home" by Ernest Hemingway begins with exposition then develops the complication of the conflicts that lead to crisis or climax and after that, the action falls of as the plot's complications are sorted out, then the conflicts are resolved that is called resolution.

In this part the writer would like to present the parts of plot which are in the short story "Soldier's Home" It begins with

A. Exposition

Exposition tells about the introduction of main character, setting and other background information that the readers need in order to understand and care about events to follow the exposition of the short story is in the first paragraph and the second paragraph. In the first paragraph, it tells about the introduction of a man namely Krebs as the main character in the short story He is a Soldier from United States. Then it also tells about the World War I where

Krebs takes apart in 1917 in Europe as the background information that relates to the events in the story. It also tells about the United States as the place where the story takes place. He takes a part in the war by joining with one of Methodist colleges in Kansas- a city in United States. He lived in Germany from 1917 until 1919.

"Krebs went to the war from a Methodist college in Kansas. There is a picture which shows him among his fraternity brothers, all of them wearing exactly the same height and style collar. He enlisted in the Marine in 1917 and did not return to the United State until the second division returned from Rhine in the summer of 1919." (Page 1)

In the second paragraph line one to three, it tells about background information that the readers need in order to understand and care about the event to follow where there are two German girls that joined with Krebs in the war in Germany. The patriotism and performance of those two German girls during the war relates to the event in this story because it will change Krebs attitude toward woman in his town. The war happened between West Europe and East Europe. So at the time, the Soldiers from United States joined with west Europe to attacked East Europe. Germany is a country in West Europe whose soldiers join with United State.

"There is a picture which shows him on the Rhine with two German girls and another corporal. Krebs and the corporal look too big for their uniforms. The German girls are not beautiful. The Rhine does not show in the picture." (Page 1)

B. Complication

The complications of this short story are in the third paragraph, fourth paragraph, eleventh paragraph, fourteenth and fifteenth paragraph because the conflicts grow heated and the plot become more involved where the war experience changes Krebs' attitude toward work and women in his town. In the third paragraph line four to six, because it is long time for Krebs to come back to his town Oklahoma - a town in United States, people in his town begin to suspect him that he has paid full attention that is not important. Even they think that he is mad because other men in Oklahoma who take a part in the war have come back firstly after the war is over while he is so late in his coming back-years after the war is over.

"There had been a great deal of hysteria. Now the reaction had set in. People seemed to think it was rather ridiculous for Krebs to be getting back so late, years after the war was over" (page 1)

In the fourth paragraph line six to eleven, the experience of the war influences him in the town because of the lies he has talk to people in his town about the war. As we know that experiences in the war such as you have to prepare yourself all the time to face the enemies, you may not do another work because it can disturb yourself but you have to pay full attention or serious to think about the war. During he is in the town, the war seems so real to him where the war experience against him so he does nothing in the town except think about the war. Even though he has done many works in the town but those works cannot make him feels. One thing that can make him feels cool in himself if he thinks about the war and talking about it. For a long time he has been in this situation.

"A distaste for everything that had happened to him in the war set in because of the lies he had told. All of the times that had been able to make him feel cool and clear inside himself when he thought of them, the times so long back when he had done the one thing the only thing for a man to do, easily and naturally, when he might have done something else, now lost their cool, valuable quality and then were lost themselves." (Page 1, 2)

In the eleventh paragraph line four to seven, Krebs undergoes another complication too that dealing with woman. This complication still relates with his change attitude of the war As he sees in the town that the girls are so beautiful through their performance by wearing interest clothes while in the war it is contradict with woman he has ever met in the war so, even though he loves the girls in his town but he does not want to work and spend long time in getting her because he cannot work and spend long time in doing something that does not deal with the war as he has done in the war that he has to pay full attention or focus to the war and thinks about it. Besides that, he also has ever had a traumatic experience because the lies he has talked. So he does not want to tell lies to getting girls.

"Vaguely he wanted a girl but he did not want to have to work to get her He would have liked to have a girl but he did not want to have to spend a long time getting her He did not want to get into the intrigue and the politics. He did not want to tell any more lies. It wasn't worth it." (Page 3).

Beside he does not want any consequence comes again in his life specially in getting woman, he also has learnt about woman in the army that he does not really need a girl. In the paragraph fourteenth. He wants to have one of the girls who usually walk on the street in his town. He thinks that it was too complicated because they are so different in action and performance with French girls and German girls that he meets in the war His experience about woman in the war that he does not need to talk too much so it influences him too in the town about woman. Even though he wants girls in his town but he cannot talk too much in getting her. Because of this hard situation he has been facing in his town, he feels that it is better for him to live in Germany

"Now he would have like a girl if she had come to him and not wanted to talk. But here at home it was all too complicated. He knew he could never get through it all again. It was not worth the trouble. It was the thing about French girls and German girls. There was not all this talking. You couldn't talk much and you did not need to talk. It was simple and you were friends. He thought about French and then he began to think about Germany. On the whole he had like Germany better. He did not want to leave Germany. He did not want to come home. Still, he had come home. He sat on the front porch." (Page 3, 4)

Furthermore, in the paragraph fifteenth; he likes the girls in his town more than French girls or German girls but in this paragraph an experience of the war that still influences him is about talking too much. In the war, talking too much to the others is difficult because everyone has to pay full attention and focus in what he/she does in his/her group. That experience also still influences him to the woman that he likes in the town so even though he likes they but it is hard to getting one of them through much talking. He is disappointed to face it.

"He liked the girls that were walking along the other side of the street. He liked the look of them much better than the French girls or Germany girls. But the world they were in was not the world he was in. He would like to have one of them. But it was not worth it. They were such a nice pattern. He liked the pattern. It was exciting. But he would not go through all the talking. He did not want a badly enough. He liked to look at them all, though. It was not worth it. Not now when things were getting good again." (Page 4)

C. Crisis or climax

Crisis or climax in this short story tells about the complications that are faced by Krebs develop; the situation becomes more and lighter knotted, leading to the most excruciating part of fiction in which there is a contradiction of the ideas among Krebs and his parents. His parents worry about him because they have known about the war and its consequence to him one day that he will not get good future if he is still in his job as a Soldier His parents hope that he can leave his work as a soldier and find another job that will make him feel enjoying like other men in his town and the he can get married. In paragraph seventy one to seventy six, after Krebs has heard his parents opinions, he disagrees because it is opposite with what he has been undergoing. The war still against him so what he speaks to his mother, it just hurts his mother He responds his mother that he does not love any body and it is not any good because what his mother has talked, it deals with find another job and get married that really different with what is in his mind so it just hurts his mother. In this part the readers wonder what will happen next. Will the conflicts that are faced by Krebs be resolved or not?

"Is that all?" Krebs said.

"Yes. Don't you love your mother, dear boy?"

"No," Krebs said. His mother looked at him across the table. Her eyes were shiny. She started crying.

"I don't love anybody," Krebs said.

It wasn't any good. He couldn't tell her, he couldn't make her see it. It was silly to have said it. He had only hurt her. He went over and took hold of her arm. She was crying with her head in her hands. "I didn't mean it," he said. "I was just angry at something. I didn't mean I didn't love you." His mother went on crying. Krebs put his arm on her shoulder.

"Can't you believe me, mother?"

"All right," his mother said chokily. She looked up at him. "I believe you Harold." (Page 7, 8)

D. Falling action

It deals with how the complications are sorted out. In the paragraph eighty Krebs in this short story are sorted out. Krebs attitude that is influenced the against, he feels little aware because of his mother talking him when by the war falls after he and his mother have a little of against. And after he is a baby. Then Krebs tries to become a good boy to his mother.

"Krebs kissed her hair. She put her face up to him. "I'm your mother," She said. I held you next to my heart when you were a tiny baby"

Krebs felt sick and vaguely nauseated.

"I know, Mummy," he said. "I'll try and be a good boy for you."

They knelt down beside the dining-room table and Krebs mother prayed. "Now, you pray, Harold." She said.

"I can't," Krebs said. "'Try Harold."

"I can't."

"Do you want me to pray for you?"

"Yes." (Page 8)

E. Resolution

It tells about solving problem. In the last paragraph, the problems that have been undergone by Krebs are resolved where he feels sorry to his mother that he has hurt her He accepts his mother's suggestion. He has tried to keep his life from being complicated by forget all the war experience that has been in his mind during his life in the town about work and woman. He has decided to go to Kansas-city in United States to find a job that can make him feel cool and then he can enjoy it.

"So his mother prayed for him and then they stood up and Krebs kissed his mother and went out of the house. He had tried so to keep his life from being complicated. Still, none of it had touched him. He had felt sorry for his mother and she had made him lie. He would go to Kansas City and get a job and she would feel alright about it. There would be one more scene maybe before he got away. He would not go down to his father's office. He would miss that one. He wanted his life to go smoothly. It had just gotten going that way. Well, that was all over now, anyway. He would go over to the schoolyard and watch Helen play indoor baseball." (Page 8)

CONCLUSION

The writer can conclude that firstly, Exposition tells about introduction of Krebs as main character, United State as the place where the story takes place, the war and German girls as the background information that relate to the event in the short story. Secondly, Complication tells about conflicts that are faced by Krebs grow heated where the war experience changes his attitude toward work and Woman. Thirdly, Crisis or climax as the complications that are faced by Krebs develop where there is a contradiction of opinion among Krebs and his Parents. This is the high point of the story and turning point of the story. Then, Falling action tells about the complications faced by Krebs are sorted out where Krebs" action is fall. Lastly, Resolution is the last part of plot in which the conflicts that are faced by Krebs are resolved.

SUGGESTION

In this writing the writer would like to give some suggestions. The first one is it is important for those who want to know deeply about a story by looking through its exposition, complication, crisis or climax, falling action and resolution. Furthermore, the writer expects this research could give some information or knowledge about plot of short story to the students who interested in Literature. Finally, it is expected for others researchers who analyze the plot of a story, it is important to know kinds of plot that the author uses in designing the story because not all stories have same design plot.

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