An Analysis Conflict in “The lady in the looking glass” By Virginia Woolf

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Abstract

This research analyzes the conflict that happened on the character in "The lady in the looking glass" this short story by Virginia Woolf was published in 1929. The conflict that happened is Internal and external conflict. This research aims to analyze the conflict in Mrs. Isabella. In real-life conflict always happened, The theory based on Muller and John A William (1982:44) where there is divided conflict into two kinds, first is internal conflict dan second is an external conflict. This paper tries to make a study from a new perspective and new interpreting this modern short story with the theory of the conflict in the short story. This study aims to know the conflict that happens on Mrs. Isabella as the main character in the short story “The lady in the looking glass”. This study analyzes the sentence and quotation in a short story. The goal of this study is the researcher applied theory about the conflict to Mrs. Isabella has a conflict in the form like mental, physical, and moral by the character.

Keywords: *Conflict, the lady, in the looking, glass, Isabella*

Introduction

This study explores the purpose of the author's concept in the conflict of character by using the conflict theory that happened to the main character, name of the main character is Mrs. Isabella in the lady in the looking glass short story. Conflict is a part of an element is building a short story, especially on intrinsic elements. This conflict can occur in one figure, between the two, between figures with the public or environment, between the character and nature figures, and between people and gods. (Siswanto 2008: 159). The topic of this study is very interesting to analyze because analyzing something that surrounds our life.

The lady in the looking glass that is stories created by building various intrinsic elements like plot, themes, characters, conflict, and so on. this story was first published in 1929 by Virginia Woolf. "The Lady in the Looking-Glass," is a short story written by Virginia Woolf, this story tells of a woman who examined herself

inside and out using glass. The visible glass allows one to see the secrets, frameworks, and regrets of one's own life, there also we can see that there are insecurity and disappointment within a person.

Mrs. Isabella did not want to admit the truth. her older age as time goes by, with wrinkled skin and graying hair. She lives lonely and does not care about the people around her. Letters that others consider to be letters that hold extraordinary secrets in her life are bills. Mrs. Isabella is a woman who is rich when it comes to property but to the soul of Mrs. Isabella feels that if there is a void in her heart and her character does not represent the actual actions and behavior that she does when around other people. She is not what people see outside. She is something completely different, something not very pleasant. This story is interesting to read because it has a special appeal to the reader about the life of the main character. In this short story, Virginia Woolf gives the reader the shocked about her story, in this story presented many mysteries about character Mrs. Isabella. Starting with the reflection of the sun reflected by furniture that contains a lot of glass in the room.

In this study, the author wants to discuss the conflict of the main character in this story with the internal conflict shown through the sentence or quotation in the story. The Character is a figure that appears in literary works such as novels, poetry, and drama (Barnet, 1988). A short story should have a character in the story because the character makes the story more live like a real so that the readers will interested to read until it is finished. Research on the conflict that happened to character is very difficult studied because it requires the seriousness in researching it. The researcher must able to analyze the conflict on a character through sentences or quotations by the character.

In this study, I will discuss a sentence that shows the conflict that happened on the character by the main character, Mrs. Isabella in the story. This study aims to show the conflict that happened on the character by the main character that is Mrs. Isabella based on sentence the author told, the action is taken, quotation or the dialogue spoken by the main character behavior shown by Mrs. Isabella.

Literature Review

Definition

According to expert Klarer (2004:1) says that in most cases, "literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word". On another hand, Pickering, James H & Hoeper, Jeffrey D (1981. 01:307) says that " literature is a uniquely human activity, born of man's timeless desire to understand, express, and finally share experiences". According to Jones (1986:1) states that literature, in its, broader sense includes all written materials. since the general grouping of materials will be in a very various number, history books, philosophical, works, novels, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, magazines, school textbooks, etc. Wellek and Warren (1963:22) also state that the term literature seems best if we limit it to the art of literature, that is, to imaginative literature.

So we can conclude if literature is a whole or as a whole of written expressions in fiction, where literature interprets the meaning of nature and life, as well as the desire to underline and, express, then share experiences ". Literature is also produced by the imagination of the author. Literature is not just a document of facts, it is not just the collection of real events though, literature is something that happens in real life. In literary works, there are include prose, poetry, drama, short stories, and novels. Based on Klarer (1999) short stories are part of the process, short stories can be read in a short time and short stories usually only have one conflict in the story.

Short stories there have a plot, resonance, and other dynamic components like in the novel, but usually at a lower level. short stories are literary works that are easy to understand in one reading because they only have one conflict.

Short stories are focus on one plot, with one main character, and one central theme. In short stories, many elements build stories, there are intrinsic and extrinsic elements. In intrinsic elements, there are elements, one of which is a conflict. Short stories were written by someone in a combination of words into a complete sentence.

The short story has a storyline, like a "conflict" that will be raised and discussed by speakers who have, the beginning of the story, to climax, and what learning which can be taken from a story

Conflict is an inseparable part of human life. Likewise, with the short story, conflict is the most important element that builds the story which is included in the intrinsic element. According to Made Indiana Putri Agneswari (2016) The conflict about how to play the character faces the conflict; her of his conflict with her or himself, her conflict with another individual and also her or his conflict with society. It is a conflict that makes a full story of intense. How it started, faced, and solved it for a better solution to get wisdom living.

The conflict is one of the important points in a short story because it can make the story look interesting from the beginning to the end of the story. The conflict in the story is made to the story like happen like real life. According to Luken (2003: 99-100), a conflict is a struggle against opposing forces, occurring when a protagonist is against an antagonist, or opponent's strength. And then Mueller and John A William (1982:44) where there is divided conflict into two kinds, there is an internal and external conflict.

Based on Indiana Putri Agneswari (2016) she said, The conflict about how to play the character faces the conflict; her of his conflict with her or himself, her conflict with another individual and also her or his conflict with society. The conflict makes a story full of intense. How the story started, faced, and solved it for a solution. For example, whether they are between individuals, groups or societal positions; whether they rest in different interests or beliefs; or whether they have a material existence or come into being only through discourse.

This study aims to analyze the conflict that happened on the main character by adding an analysis based on conflict theory so that the author can read and analyze the conflict in the short story of *the lady in the looking glass* by Virginia Woolf.

Methodology

This research is qualitative research and the researcher used textual methods. Textual methods are methods with investigating and analyze literary works that emphasize content analysis. Based on Guba and Lincoln (in Moleong, 2005: 220), content analysis is done by interpreting and making conclusions by identifying specific conflict objectively and systematically. In analyzing a short story, this method is used when wanting to analyze the conflict in the story.

To support the data collection The author uses the theory is related to the research to conduct the data. The theory based on Muller and John A William (1982:44) where there is divided conflict into two kinds. First is external conflict deals with struggles against other characters, nature, and society. And the last is internal conflict deal with the struggle between desires within a person.

In analyzing the lady in the looking glass short stories. The author uses this method because to analyze the internal conflict that happened to the main character in the story that is Mrs. Isabella the author must analyze the sentence or quote that addresses the conflict that the character has in the story. This method is very effective because by using the sentence in the short story the author can analyze the conflict that happened to Mrs. Isabella.

Analysis

After reading the short story the author finds the results of the analysis of short stories from the lady in the looking glass. the author got a few sentences explaining the conflict that happened to the main character of Mrs. Isabella, there is some conflict that occurs, such as conflict with herself and her environment. In this story, we see if Mrs. Isabella is the rich woman with happiness surrounds her. The author finds there is some conflict like not confident, introvert, emotional, depression and sadness in this story.

The results of the analysis related to the problem statement, the conflict that occurred in the " the lady looking in the glass" story. By Virginia Woolf. The values

contained in the message and impression for the reader. There are have Important role in the total quality of the writer, and expresses the thoughts and expressions of a woman who has a conflict in the form like mental, physical, and moral. The value obtained in the story is in the form of moral values & social values relating to life. After that, the author reads to analyze these short stories. The author discovers irregularities or strangeness from the conflicts that occur in Mrs. Isabelle's life, from the social life, attitudes, and behavior of the characters.

Below is a quotation that will show the conflict that happened to Mrs. Isabella in from the lady in the looking glass short story The author which shows the internal conflict that she has:

The Internal conflict by Mrs. Isabella vs herself

Paragraph 4

“ Under the stress of thinking about Isabella, her room became more shadowy and symbolic; the corners seemed darker, the legs of chairs and tables more spindly and hieroglyphic”.

From this quote, the author can analyze if Mrs. Isabella experiences mental distress, meaning she cannot see or she is in the midst of confusion and emptiness which leads to despair. Mrs. Isabella is having no ideas or desires in dealing with the problems she is facing, she chooses to pretend to not understand and understand.

Paragraph 5

“Isabella would come in, and take them, one by one, very slowly, and open them, and read them carefully word by word, and then with a profound sigh of comprehension, as if she had seen to the bottom of everything, she would tear the envelopes to little bits and tie the letters together and lock the cabinet drawer in her determination to conceal what she did not wish to be known.”

From this sentence can be explained if Mrs. Isabella had a problem that occurred between her and the letter, there was information that she should have known but

tried not to know because she did not want to read the letter. he refused to know and tried to look happy and fine.

Paragraph 7

“Isabella did not wish to be known - but she should no longer escape. It was absurd, it was monstrous. If she concealed so much and knew so much one must prize her open with the first tool that came to hand - the imagination.”

From this quote it is clear that Mrs. Isabella tried to run away from the reality she was facing. she already knew about the thing she wanted to know but she tried to avoid it because. she got various information but tried to get rid of all the information because it was bad news so she did not want to reveal it. she did not accept the happiness that had taken place in her life.

“And then again quickly catching this thought up, with her instant good sense, she thought life had treated her well; even if fall she must, it was to lie on the earth and molder sweetly into the roots of violets.”

From the quote above can the author analysis if Mrs. Isabella has a problem between logic and her heart which is very contradictory. the logic that tries to lie to itself about the actual reality that has happened to him. the logic that strives to think towards happiness and calm yourself.

Paragraph 8

“Everything dropped from her -- clouds, dress, basket, diamond -- all that one had called the creeper and convolvulus.”

From this quote can be analyzed if there is a despair that has happened that is the pride guarded by Mrs. Isabella and the secret she wanted to keep, it seemed like she had to accept the fact that had happened. it is evident from her starting to remove the items attached to her.

“ Isabella was perfectly empty. She had no thoughts. She had no friends. She cared for nobody. As for her letters, they were all bills. Look, as she stood

there, old and angular, veined and lined, with her high nose and her wrinkled neck, she did not even trouble to open them."

From this quote can be explained if Mrs. Isabella was tired of the selfishness to which she had, she was tired of the life she rejected the truth, life she tried to deceive the logic of allowing her after attempting to come to terms with the secrets to.

From paragraph 9

"There was her grey-green dress, and her long shoes, her basket, and something sparkling at her throat."

In this quote the author can explain if the main character is Mrs. Isabella is very concerned about her appearance and style, Mrs. Isabella was very concerned about the appearance she would show others

"She came so gradually that she did not seem to derange the pattern in the glass, but only to bring in some new element which gently moved and altered the other objects as if asking them, courteously, to make room for her."

In the quote above, the writer can analyze if Mrs. Isabella is a woman who wants to be known through her graceful nature and attitude. Mrs. Isabella demanded the perfection that she wanted to show to everyone around her.

"At last there she was, in the hall. She stopped dead. She stood by the table. She stood perfectly still."

From this quote, the author can explain if the lens in question is the truth about the identity of the main character namely Mrs. Isabella that she had covered so that only she could see the truth. Mrs. Isabella only made one point of view that only she could see. people who see themselves are unable to know and know the reality that is in them which she has hidden well. At once the looking-glass began to pour over her a light that seemed to fix her; that seemed like some acid to bite off the unessential and superficial and to leave only the truth.

"Here was the woman herself. She stood naked in that pitiless light. And there was nothing."

From the above quote can be analyzed if Mrs. Isabella is a woman who tries not to believe in her true truth. if she is a woman who lost her identity because of foaming to cover up truths that she did not want to know.

“As for her letters, they were all bills.”

The Author can be analyzed if this is a truth about the life of the main character namely Mrs. Isabella. the life he always tried to perceive the truth of, he who didn't want to know it. Mrs. Isabella tried to deceive herself and everyone else by looking and acting impeccably.

“Look, as she stood there, old and angular, veined and lined, with her high nose and her wrinkled neck, she did not even trouble to open them.”

From the quote above, this is her reality and life. Mrs. Isabella is a con artist who tries to deceive herself. She covered up and didn't want to know the reality of what had happened, tried to close her eyes and act indifferently by showing the appearance she wanted. finally, a reality made her realize how sad her life.

The External conflict by Mrs. Isabella vs environment

Paragraph 2

"The quiet old country room with its rugs and stone chimneypieces, its sunken book-cases and red and gold lacquer cabinets, was full of such nocturnal creatures."

From the quote above can be analyzed if there is a house filled with luxury but there is a silence that is not known by people who are outside because they will only see luxury without knowing its contents.

“Meanwhile, since all the doors and windows were open in the heat, there was a perpetual sighing and ceasing sound, the voice of the transient and the perishing... ”

From the above quote, the writer can analyze if this quote explains and illustrates the nature of the owner of the house, which is the same as the house, which does not

seem to want to be hurt by the reality that has occurred. a sigh that represented a feeling of fatigue and fatigue that wanted to be immediately depicted.

Paragraph 4

“Half an hour ago the mistress of the house, Isabella Tyson, had gone down the grass path in her thin summer dress, carrying a basket, and had vanished, sliced off by the gilt rim of the looking-glass....”

From this sentence, the writer can analyze if Mrs. Isabella is a woman who is concerned with and cares about the social views of others towards her. this is evident from the quote above sentence if, when she wants to get out of the house she brings and remembers clothes that are following the current season. although just roaming around the house she must display a perfection

“..... it was a fact that she was a spinster; that she was rich; that she had bought this house and collected with her own hands ”

The quote above, explains how sad Mrs. Isabella because even though she is rich and someone who does not depend on other people and is independent she is still seen as an old maid who has become her character. how the word old maid is attached and can not be separated from her because she chose to live alone.

“....Sometimes it seemed as if they knew more about her than we, who sat on them, wrote at them, and trod on them so carefully, were allowed to know”.

This sentence can also be analyzed if people who are around Mrs. Isabella thinks that they know her very well and know about her life story. but they didn't realize that what they knew was what Mrs. Isabella where she attaches the word perfection when she is outside the house and acts and acts as a strong person and is always surrounded by happiness.

“....if facts were what one wanted -- that Isabella had known many people, had had many friends; and thus if one dared to open a drawer and read her letters ”.

From the above quote, the author analyzes if Mrs. Isabella is a woman who is friendly and easy to get along with if she is outside the house and in her social life. but there are some mysterious things that Mrs. isabella cover, namely regarding the properties it has. but people who are around are those who are just ordinary friends who only meet then talk for a while and then return to their homes again without intending to become friends and get to know her deeper

Paragraph 5

“And, whether it was fancy or not, they seemed to have become not merely a handful of casual letters but to be tablets graven with eternal truth - if one could read them, one would know everything there was to be known about Isabella, yes, and about life, too”.

This quote can be explained if Mrs. Isabella is the person who closes the meeting about her identity to others. She wants to bury every problem She faces. She is a closed person and tries not to show her true nature.

Paragraph 9

“She was so far off at first that one could not see her clearly. She came lingering and pausing, here straightening a rose, there lifting a pink to smell it, but she never stopped; and all the time she became larger and larger in the looking-glass, more and more completely the person into whose mind one had been trying to penetrate.”

From the quote above can the author analysis if the main character is Mrs. Isabella has been and is working very hard to be like she is today. that is, a wealthy woman who is seen by everyone, her wealth has made many people jealous of Mrs. Isabella.

“And the letters and the table and the grass walk and the sunflowers which had been waiting in the looking-glass separated and opened out so that she might be received among them.”

In the quote above the main character of this short story is like thinking about something she doesn't want to think about. The meaning here is Mrs. isabella as the main character like covering up the truth in her life. something that actually understood and knew but she seemed to cover up that reality.

“Isabella was perfectly empty. She had no thoughts. She had no friends. She cared for nobody.”

From this quote, the author analyzes if this is the truth that is covered and tries to make people around her not know. herself who has selfishness that is able to make everyone stay away and do not want to worship her.

Conclusion

The conflict that happened to the main character in the short story is the lady in the looking glass is internal conflict. The conflict is between the main character with herself, like mental, physical, and moral. by the character. Mrs. Isabella is a rich woman with everything, everyone wants to live like her because she looks like happiness women. But everyone doesn't know if she is unhappy because don't have a friend to live with her.

From the results of the study, the author gets results if the conflict that happened to Mrs. Isabella is more referring to internal conflict, which is character versus herself. the analysis that has been done through analyzing quotations from the sentence in the short story.

In this study, the researcher has analyzed the conflict that happened to Mrs. Isabella is supported by the quotation that the researcher got and the sentence that shows the conflict of the main character in this short story is a character vs herself. There are so many interesting topics to analyze from this short story for the next both moral values and t

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