

## **SACRIFICE FOR LOVE IN JOHN COLLIER'S *THE CHASER* AND JESSE STUART'S *LOVE***

Abu Fanani

(A Lecturer in English Department in Faculty of Adab Universitas Islam Negeri  
Sunan Ampel Surabaya)

### **Abstract**

In this article, the researcher analyzes and compares sacrifice for love in John Collier's *the Chaser* and Jesse Stuart's *Love*. The researcher then uses formalism theory in that the researcher analyzes and compares the characters' sacrifice for love within the short stories themselves regardless the condition, place, and time when the authors wrote the short stories. At last, the researcher draws conclusion that in the similarities both short stories have similar theme, namely, love needs sacrifice. Both characters sacrifice a valuable thing, instead. Whilst, as to the differences, in John Collier's *the Chaser*, the character sacrifices his pride and love for little money, in Jesse Stuart's *Love*, sacrifices *the life*.

Key words: love, sacrifice

## INTRODUCTION

The words literature and comparative literature turn out to be attachable in the sense that when we talk of literature unavoidably we talk of comparative literature and when we talk of comparative literature we talk of literature.

Wellek suggests that comparative literature be just literature whilst Zhirmunski asserts that all literature be nothing but comparative literature (Jost, 1974:24). Aldridge confirms Wellek's observation by saying that basically, the study of comparative literature is the same as that of National Literature except for its compared number of literary works, namely, at least two (Jost, 1974:22).

Further, comparative study on literature can be conducted through extrinsic and intrinsic aspects (Jost, 1974:38). As to the former one, Jost (1974:38) observes that cultural unity of the whole world can be concluded from the comparative study of literature and civilization in general. It means that external aspects beyond the literary works themselves like cultural, societal background of the author can be understood through the literary works which therefore can be used to analyze them. To this observation, Sariban (2009:110) in his book *Teori Dan Penerapan Penelitian Sastra* says that literature can be connected to biography, psychology as well as society. Therefore, literature can be analyzed through the author's biography, psychology, philosophy that affects his works as well society in which he lives.

As to the latter one, Jost (1974:38) says that in comparative study, philosophy, religion, psychology, sociology, history and political science can be touched though the center are literary work. It means that the mentioned fields of

study can be used to analyze the literary works without looking at the cultural, societal background of the author.

Miner (1990:22) in his book *Comparative Poetics* says that the principle of comparison is that the compared literary works have in the formal way identical topics, conditions or elements. It means that things that will be compared are those similar. As to the different things, he doesn't condition them to be compared. Jost (1974:33) in his book *Introduction to Comparative Literature* murmurs a positive of Miner's observation by saying that analogies and resemblances become the basis of the analysis. Their existence turns out to be inseparable.

Yet, Manlove (1989:86) in his book *Critical Thinking, A Guide to Interpreting Literary Texts* says that a study of literary comparison can be conducted through analyzing the similarities and the differences.

From the discussion of theory of comparison above the researcher comes to know that in a study of comparative literature, such principles may well be applied as the number of the compared works are at least two, the use of intrinsic aspects like structural ones; plot, characterization, setting, theme, and on and so forth, of extrinsic aspects like sociology, psychology, and biography, there being identical in topics, condition, or elements. However, the researcher only uses theme to analyze John Collier's *the Chaser* and Jesse Stuart's *Love* in this paper.

## **THEORETICAL APPROACH**

In this paper, the researcher uses formalism approach which refers to Sandel's opinion. Sandel (1977:20) in his book *Linguistic Style and Persuasion* comes up with the idea of informalist and formalist.

As to the structure of a language, the researcher refers to Nurgiyantoro (2002:36-39) that says that in dealing with literary work, he says that the structural of which can be conducted through the identification, analysis as well as the description of the function and the relationship of the intrinsic elements; events, plot, character and characterization, setting, point of view and on and so forth.

Yet, not all the intrinsic elements the researcher uses. Rather, it is theme the researcher uses to analyze and compare John Collie's *the Chaser* and Jesse Stuart's *Love*.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **Theme in John Collie's *the Chaser***

In John Collie's *the Chaser*, love needs a sacrifice.

The character, Alan, sacrifices valuable things. Alan has sacrificed his pride by coming to a magician to get his love. *The Chaser* is about a visit of a character, Alan Austen, to an outstanding "magician" (the researcher refers to the Indonesians who have habits to come to a sort of person to achieve their goals through magic spells) "Is it true," asked Alan, "that you have a certain mixture that has—er—quite extraordinary effects?"

Instead of the explanation above, Alan has sacrificed the very valuable love for very little money. It turns out that a problem of the price of the mixture originates with Alan Austen. "I hope all your mixtures are not expensive," said Alan apprehensively. Luckily, the seller of the mixture, the old man, turns out to be a kind-hearted man.

"Oh dear, no," said the old man. "It would be no good charging that sort of price for a love potion, for example. Young people who need a love potion very seldom have five thousand dollars. Otherwise they would not need a love potion."

All in all, from the analyses above the researcher comes to know that the main character, Alan has sacrificed his pride by coming to a magician and has sacrificed the very valuable love for very little money.

### **Theme in Jesse Stuart's *Love***

In Jesse Stuart's *love*, love needs a sacrifice.

The character sacrifices a valuable thing. There are two snakes that are dealt with a sacrifice, namely, the she snake and the bull blacksnake. The former, the she snake, sacrifices her life to protect her children. *Love* is about a journey of a she snake to a shelter in order that she wants to bear her children, the eggs. Yet, she undergoes a danger by a torture and a killing of Collie, a dog of a farmer. She remains still in that she doesn't do anything to defend herself from the attack. She prefers defending her eggs to striking back to the killer. "It was snake eggs. Bob had slung them from her body. She was going to the sand heap to lay her eggs, where the sun is the setting-hen that warms them and hatches them."

The latter, the bull blacksnake, tries to attack the one that kills his wife, the she snake, by showing his anger to him. “The bull blacksnake lifted his head and followed us as we walked around the dead snake. He would have fought us to his death.” However, he is easily thrown away by his enemy, “Take a stick,” said my father, “and throw him over the hill so Bob won’t find him. Did you ever see anything to \*beat that? I’ve heard they’d do that. But this is my first time to see it.” I took a stick and threw him over the bank into the dewy sprouts on the cliff.”

In a nut shells, the characters, the she snake and the bull blacksnake sacrifice themselves for the love of others; the former for her children’s love, whilst, the latter for his wife’s.

### **The similarities and the differences of the theme in John Collier’s *the Chaser* and Jesse Stuart’s *Love***

#### **The Similarities in John Collier’s *the Chaser* and in Jesse Stuart’s *Love*.**

From the analyses above it turns out that the similarities are as follows: firstly, similarity falls on the theme love needs a sacrifice. Secondly, both characters sacrifice a very valuable thing. In John Collier’s *the Chaser*, the main character, Alan has sacrificed his pride for love by coming to a magician to get his love through spells in this case a love potion “Is it true,” asked Alan, “that you have a certain mixture that has—er—quite extraordinary effects?” Whilst, in Jesse Stuart’s *Love*, the character, the she snake, has sacrificed her life to protect her children though she undergoes a torture. “It was snake eggs. Bob had slung them from her body.”

### **The Differences in John Collier's *the Chaser* and Jesse Stuart's *Love***

The differences run as follows: the things that the character, Alan, in John Collier's *the Chaser* sacrifices are his pride and the price of love. As to his pride, he encourages himself to go to a magician in order that he gains something that makes his girlfriend get interested in him, that is to say, love potion. Through this kind of spells his girlfriend will want nothing but Alan. The following quotation verifies the previous explanation, "She will, when she has taken this. She will care intensely. You will be her sole interest in life." As to the price of love, he cannot afford to buy the love potion—to get his valuable thing, love of a woman—in a high price. Luckily, it is worth one dollar merely. The following quotation verifies the preceding description, "Oh, that," said the old man, opening the drawer in the kitchen table, and taking out a tiny, rather dirty-looking phial. "That is just a dollar."

Whilst, in Jesse Stuart's *Love*, the character, the she snake, sacrifices her love for her children. The she snake does not do anything against the assault of Bob, a dog. She remains defensive by scrawling to a shelter to protect the babies in her womb, instead. The following quotation verifies the aforesaid explanation. "Bob grabbed her body there on earth where the red blood was running down on the gray-piled loam. Her body was still writhing in pain. She acted like a green weed held over a new-ground fire."

In a nut shells, though there are similarities in the theme of both short stories, that is, love needs a sacrifice and both characters sacrifice a very valuable

thing, the differences remain visible. In John Collier *the Chaser*, that the character sacrifices his pride as well as a very valuable love for little money, whilst, in Jesse Stuart, *Love*, the character sacrifices her life turns out to be the differences.

To make a clear-cut understanding, the researcher puts them in the following table:

### **The Similarity in Theme Analysis**

John Collier's <i>the Chaser</i> and Jesse Stuart's <i>Love</i>
Love needs a sacrifice
Both characters sacrifice a very valuable thing

### **The Differences in Theme Analysis**

John Collier's <i>the Chaser</i>	Jesse Stuart's <i>Love</i>
The character sacrifices his pride	The character sacrifices her life
The character sacrifices a very valuable love for little money	

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