

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter presents the analysis of the data which contains the descriptions of the sacrifice made by Savannah based on her id, ego, and superego which influence her sacrifice. This study wants to analyze the sacrifice as seen through Savannah's character. Firstly examining on her character, it is hoped to gain profound knowledge about the character of Savannah clearly. After having the fundamental background of Savannah's character, then it is intended to reveal her sacrifices toward other people. Secondly, after getting understanding of her sacrifice, it will be guidance to identify the effect of the sacrifice to Savannah that influences her entire life.

A. The Sacrifice of Savannah

1. Sacrifice of Love

Dear John is a story of John Tyree and Savannah Lynn Curtis as the main characters. The story is delivered using first-person point of view which John appears as the narrator who narrates all the events in the story. He is the one who tells to the readers about what he does. He only tells anything that correlate with his life. Despite of that, Savannah can be called as the main character since she often appears although she does not dominate the whole story. As Nurgiyantoro said that the main character in the story may be more than one person, although its superiority level is not the same. Their superiority are determined by dominance, mostly appearance, and influence toward the whole development in the story (177).

Here is seen that Savannah has a polite attitude, it is shown from how the way she interacted with John. She is a cheerful woman in talking, and not saying the dirty words. Her attitude makes people will tend to love to interact. Even John did not surprise that Savannah has fun as it was, because he thought the first time he saw her. Basically, Savannah is a kind girl. She cares about others people. She is always ready to help them every time they need her help. In her life, he always wants the best for other people.

The last is moral that discloses the decisions of the characters, either socially acceptable or not, exposing their intentions, thus projecting what is upright or not (115-116). Socially her family is recognized enough by people in Lenoir. However, her parents are teacher who teach in Lenoir too.

I took a seat at the bar and struck up a conversation with the bartender. He was about my age, and his mountain accent reminded me of Savannah's. After twenty minutes of easy conversation, I took Savannah's picture from my wallet and explained that I was a friend of the family. I used her parents' names and asked questions that implied I'd been there before. He was wary, and rightfully so. Small towns protect their own, but it turned out that he'd spent a couple of years in the Marine Corps, which helped. In time, he nodded.
"Yeah, I know her," he said. "She lives out on Old Mill Road, next to her parents' place (91)."

From the quotation above, it is proved that Savannah is recognized enough in Lenoir. It means that she is socially acceptable in her environment. Furthermore, she comes from family who really cares about others. They often join volunteer missions or kind of it. So it is not questionable that she is kind of person who is regarded by her society.

At the beginning of the story Savannah recognizes John when she was at volunteering mission. John is a sergeant of the army who lives in Wilmington, he met with her when he is enjoying the holiday of the army. At the first time Savannah met him, she had

already impressed by him because he has save her bag from the sea. Savannah looks honest and self-confidence from him when without asking he direct jumps and gets her bag that had fallen into the sea. She was honored for what was done by John, she said thanks to John a lot.

To reply his kindness, Savannah invites john to the house which she rented with her friends. When both eyes looked at each other, sort of like there is something very fit or people say it as love at first sight. Savannah invites John to eat together at the house and they began to ask to know each other. She is interested with his sincerity and kindness. Finally, they fall in love and have good relationship.

As it can be seen in the description of Savannah, she is a kind girl who cares other people. Savannah also cares with her special boyfriend that John Tyree. Since John was an army who had a duty to serve for the country and Savannah who is also student of University of North Carolina, they live apart and far away. At the beginning of their relationship they like to communicate each other using letter, email or phone. However, Savannah prefers to use letter in their communication.

Savannah asks to John for making a promise that after he has finished his duty he will come back and marry her. Her desire to get married with John is seen as one of her personality structures that is the id. As like all couples, they have a desire to get marry one day. The promise has to be struggled and will face many obstacles to make it happen. The distance, time, and presence might be able to change everything, but they believe it will happen someday.

I don't know how long we stood together, but when we finally began moving toward the baggage claim, I slipped my hand into hers knowing that I loved her

not only more than the last time I'd seen her, but more than I would ever love anyone (67).

From the quotation above, it is showed that how they love each other, especially for John. He said that he loves Savannah more than other girls he had before. Savannah's desire to marry with John is really strong. The id has no contact with reality, yet it strives constantly to reduce tension by satisfying basic desires. Its function is to seek pleasure; it means that the id serves the pleasure principle. Pleasure principle is seeking the need without regard to what is possible or what is proper (Feist 27). It means that someone who has desire only wants seek her pleasure and does not see whether it is possible or proper.

She feels happy when she is beside John, she saw that John such nice guy who never force her to sleep together. Therefore, she really wants to live with John and married with him someday. She is sure that her dream to marry with John will come true since their love is greater all the time. The id strives for immediate satisfaction of its needs and does not tolerate delay or postponement of satisfaction for any reason. It knows only instant gratification; it drives us to want what we want when we want it, without regard for what anyone else wants (Schultz 55). Someone who has a desire wants it become real although she does not know when the day will come.

Although they were being apart but they have spirit to finish their busy activities, then they count down the date they will meet in their holiday. They will wreak their sense of missing each other in their heart. Besides writing letter to Savannah, John also writes a letter to his father. Since he is close to Savannah, John becomes closer to his father. He began to realize that how his father really meant to him.

When the holiday of John had come, John plans to spend half of his vacation with Savannah, and the rest is he spends with his father. John visited Savannah's house in Lenoir. That was the first time he had visited the house, it was felt very special and her parents welcomed him well. It is shown the joy in his face. Both of them take the advantage the time, one of the activities which they had done was riding. They are really enjoying the holiday. Savannah's id makes her wants always beside John every time. Unfortunately, each of them has an activities that makes them live apart.

Despite of that, Savannah tries to keep her relationship to be fine including their communication. Even, while John has in holiday she invites her to come to her house and to meet with her parents. Savannah is always loyal to wait John until he finish his duty and comes back to marry her. She believes that her dream to be wife of John will come true.

This reality shows Savannah's ego in order to keep her desire to marry John become true. The ego is a part of personality that has duty as executor, where it works outside the world to evaluate reality and inside the world to manage the need of the id. Because it is aware of reality, the ego decides when and how the id instincts can best be satisfied. The ego does not prevent id satisfaction. Rather, it tries to postpone, delay, or redirect it in terms of the demands of reality or it is called *reality principle* (Schultz 55). Her ego tries to look for the best way to satisfy the need of the id based on the reality.

She tries to introduce John to her parents when John got his holiday. It is needed to make sure that John will also close to her parents and so do the contrary. Her ego tries

to look for the way to satisfy the pleasure that needed by the id. The ego also finds a way in order to increase the chances for reaching the desired desire by the id.

When the second holiday is coming for John, they met again. At the time, John spends his holiday with Savannah in her apartment. Once again, her ego tries to keep her relationship to be greater. In the middle of her busy activities, she spends the time with John, her beloved boyfriend. It also become such lesson for them to live together when they has been married. In fact, their long distance relationship give a negative effect to both of them, they often debates about something that caused by a little problem. Although, as the whole of their relationship is fine, but they felt a change in their relationship.

Their relationship faced many challenges since news in 11 September 2001 told that there is a building was bombing in the United States of America.

This I am sure of: The images of September 11 will be with me forever. I watched the smoke billowing from the Twin Towers and the Pentagon and saw the grim faces of the men around me as they watched people jump to their deaths. I witnessed the buildings' collapse and the massive cloud of dust and debris that rose in their place (77).

When John's duty in army is about to end, the WTC building was bombing that makes many victim is wounded and killed at the time. This situation makes the army had to take place on Iraq and it also makes John decided to re-enlist in the army. It would make his dream to get marry with Savannah is postpone for a while. Actually, Savannah agreed with his decision although there is a little disappointment on her mind that when their married would happen. Despite of that, her ego still force her to keep waiting for him in order she can marry with him some day.

happen, he had already known that Tim has fallen in love when the first time John talk to him. But Tim does not express it because he knows that Savannah has not the same feeling like him. John knows that Savannah only regard him as like her elder brother that always admired by her. So it makes John think what already happen when he was away.

“That fall, right after I finished up with all my classes and moved back home to work at the developmental evaluation center here in town, Tim’s parents were in a horrible accident. They were driving back from Asheville when they lost control of their car and swerved into oncoming traffic on the highway. A semi ended up hitting them. The driver of the truck wasn’t hurt, but both of Tim’s parents died on impact. Tim had to quit school-he was trying to get his PhD-so he could come back here to take care of Alan.” She paused. “It was awful for Tim. Not only was he trying to come to terms with the loss-he adored his parents-but Alan was inconsolable. He screamed all the time, and he began pulling out his hair. The only one who could stop him from hurting himself was Tim, but it took all the energy Tim had. I guess that’s when I first started coming over here. You know, to help out (100).”

Eventually, Savannah told about the cause of her marriage with Tim. Savannah said that after she finished every classes of her study and came back to her house. At that time, Tim’s parents have an accident that serious enough; they are in trip to comeback from Asheville when they are losing their control of their car and swerved oncoming traffic on highway. A big truck with different direction hits them.

The driver truck did not hurt but Tim’s parent died directly. Knowing the fact that his parent had already passed away, Tim decided to quit school in his effort to get his PhD and come back to take care of Alan. It makes Tim felt hopeless not only because he realized that his parents have passed away but also Tim has took care of Alan that began inconsolable and scream all the time. Alan also began pulling out his hair; the only person that can stop him is Tim. Actually, Tim also began to overwhelmed with Alan

help. It is because her conscience guides her that help Tim is seen as the best action she should do. Eventually she choose to marry with Tim who really need her help at that time. Although it might be will hurt John and he would hate her when he knows the reality. It shows that people can make great planning but fate can say different. As people say man propose god dispose.

2. Sacrifice of Life

Since Savannah cares about other people, she is also cares people around her environment especially her neighbors. One of her neighbors she cares enough is Tim. She has regarded him as her elder brother. He is a person who later becomes her husband. Tim is as like as Savannah, he cares other people and he also has brother named Alan who is known as autism boy. Savannah really cares about autistic kids especially Alan. She wondered that someday she can help Alan or other autistic kids to see their smile as normal kids.

When Alan was child, Savannah saw his elder brother, Tim, giving a therapy to Alan. He uses a horse as a tool. When it is first trying out, this way has yet to show tangible results. But with patience of his brother, who continues to guide him, Tim also never frustrated with his brother. Alan started to slowly adapt to the way. Autistic children who are sort of locked in his little world, it should be given some kind of therapy or regular learning. So it may be able to open the new door to know this wonderful world. It looked when Tim provides a therapy through horse to Alan. The first time Alan was frightened then began to work normally as like people as usual.

“That fall, right after I finished up with all my classes and moved back home to work at the developmental evaluation center here in town (99).

Since she really cares others, she wants to help them especially autistic kids. As we know, Savannah wants to have a riding camp, a therapy for autistic kids through horses. It is part of mind that set out pleasure principle and motivates to satisfy the need. The work of id is related with pleasure principle that always seeks pleasure and avoid uncomfortable thing (Feist 28). Her desire to be able to help others has been developed since she was teenager and it becomes her dream that she want to do in her life.

“I know you want to be angry with Tim or me. Probably both of us. And I guess we deserve it. you don’t know what it was like back then. So much was going on- it was just so emotional all the time. I felt guilty about what was happening, Tim felt guilty. But after a while, it just began to feel like we were a couple already. Tim started working at the same developmental evaluation center where I did and then decided that he wanted to start a weekend ranch program for autistic kids. His parents always wanted him to do that, so I signed on to work on the ranch, too. After that, we were together almost all the time. Setting up the ranch gave us both something to focus on, and it helped Alan, too. He loves horses, and there was so much to do that he gradually got used to the fact that his parents weren’t around. It’s like we were all leaning on each other. . . . He proposed later that year (100).”

After Savannah and Tim got married, they felt guilty from what happening in their life. Savannah felt guilty because she has disappointed John and so do Tim. but after a while, they began to live as other couples life. Besides, Tim also began to work at the same developmental evaluation center where Savannah did. Fortunately, he also started to build a riding camp program in ranch for autistic kids through horses. Savannah also works in the autistic kids program to help her husband in giving therapy for some autistic kids. As it already known that formerly Savannah has dream to build riding camp for

autistic kids and the opportunity comes when her husband build it. Then, Savannah is ready to help her husband to give therapy to some autistic kids through the therapy. This reality is related with one of personality structures that is the ego. Her ego shows to satisfy the need of the id that is to help others. By help her husband in the riding camp program, it means that she will also help others especially the autistic kids through the therapy of riding horses.

The function of ego is to seek the best way to satisfy the need of Id. The Ego does not want to prevent the need of id, it is rather to seek the way, the time, and the situation that is right based on the reality in life (Feist 29). Her ego gives her the way to satisfy her desires by help the autistic kids in riding camp program and also work at developmental evaluation center.

At that time, Savannah feels that her life is really enjoyable, she can get what she want. She has worked at the developmental evaluation center with her husband. She also has reached her dream to build a riding camp for autistic kids. Besides, she and Tim can handle to take care of Alan and their ranch. It makes Savannah began to forget her past and ready to begin new life that she really want from she was teenager.

Unfortunately, while she has felt new life will bring happiness, a bad news comes from her husband. Tim was infected a cancer, he got melanoma disease in his calf.

I followed her in, bracing myself for the worst. Tim sat propped up in the bed with an IV connected to his arm. He looked exhausted, and his skin was so pale that it was almost translucent. He'd lost even more weight than my father had, and as I stared at him, all I could think was that he was dying (103).

This makes Savannah must hard work to make sure all is well, not only she must keep and care of Alan, but also for Tim that had been lying in the hospital. Her activities In the middle of her busy activities, she also has to visit her husband every day. There is no other that was worried by Savannah that is Tim and Alan.

“And then there’s Alan. Tim’s so good with him, and I like to think I’m getting better with him, but still . . . there are times when he starts hurting himself or breaking things, and I just end up crying because I don’t know what to do. Don’t get me wrong-I try, but I’m not Tim, and we both know it.” Her eyes held mine for a moment before I looked away. I took a sip of tea, trying to imagine what her life was like now. (106)

Taking care of Alan also must be her routine activity, overall she began better in taking care of him. But sometimes Alan suddenly cried out at once and Savannah could not do anything, she did not know what should be done. Even though she has long time with him, but she is not Tim that knows everything about Alan. When it happened, Savannah can only hope that her husband will healthy soon, and stay besides her to take care of Alan together.

She nodded. “It’s one of those crazy things, isn’t it? I mean, if Tim spent a lot of time in the sun, maybe I could have understood it. But it was on the back of his leg. You know him-can you imagine him in Bermuda shorts? He’s hardly ever worn shorts, even at the beach, and he’s always the one who nagged us about wearing sunscreen. He doesn’t drink, he doesn’t smoke, he’s careful about what he eats. But for whatever reason, he got melanoma (108).

Savannah never imagined that her life would be like this. Her husband is infected a dangerous disease. Actually Tim is a person who really cares with the health. He is not type of person who likes to drink alcohol or may be to smoke. He is also really selective with the food he wants to eat and avoid kind of junk food. When he is in the beach, he is

the only person who always warns everyone to wear a sun block or kind of it. This reality makes Savannah think again that the most important thing now is keep accompanying her husband and takes care of Alan. She lets it go all her desires to live in great life for help her beloved people. Tim and Alan are persons that really important for her, she wants to sacrifice her life for them, no matter how hard it is.

The function of the superego is giving advices between good and bad. The superego refers to morality in personality. It is same with “the pure heart” which is recognized the good and bad (conscience) (Minderop 22). Here, Savannah chooses to sacrifice her life for her beloved persons. It is because the condition of Tim who getting sick and Alan who is inconsolable makes Savannah decided to do it. Her superego advises her that take care her husband is the best choice to do since he really need her help. Although, she has to sacrifice her desires that she has reached before. It is hard to do but Savannah stays strong about what was done, since Tim’s condition who is helpless and Alan who is inconsolable. Everything makes her sad, she never imagined her life will so hard. Besides, some people always support her, her parents, John, her neighbors, they supports as the morality.

B. The Effect of Sacrifice

When someone had taken a decision in life, she has to accept the consequences she might get. She should know what will happen when she takes the decision. This also happens to Savannah, when she decided to sacrifice herself for other people, she had to accept the consequences. There are some changes of her habitual after she sacrifices herself for other people.

“It’s easy,” she said. “I’ll show you.” She vanished into the barn and walked out carrying what looked to be a couple of small curved nails. She handed one to me. As the horses were eating, she moved toward one (94).

From the quotation above, it describes that Savannah was busy take care of her ranch. She was cleaning hooves from her horses. Since she was child, her family has a ranch beside the house. It made her familiar with the ranch. She also explained that she fed her animal two times a day, every day. If no one can help him the weekend, it means there is no rest for Savannah. This is the place that dreamed by Savannah that are having the ranch and maintaining some animals. However, it never imagined by her that working in ranch is harder than she think. Each months there were always many problems, sometimes these animals fell sick, so that he had called for a veterinarian. Even, there are some speed dial for a veterinarian.

Another thing that sometimes become the problem on a farm is a roof leak, pieces a fence collapsed and was quite exhausting time, especially when her husband does not beside her. It makes Savannah has to hard work to repair it well. Furthermore, everything that Savannah had faced is makes her unhappy, but there is a positive side of it, she began to more strength than before. It also gives her lesson about life.

In addition, Savannah felt unhappy with all happening in her life. She never expects that her life will be like this. She really cares about her husband who getting worse with his disease. She also cares about Alan’s condition that began inconsolable. She felt really sad since they are her beloved persons. Besides that, she began to strength to face the life that sometimes she never expects before.