

CHAPTER III

DESCRIPTION

This novel that is taken to be studied in this researcher is *Burial Rites*, a novel by Hannah Kent's. She is a co-founder and deputy editor of literary journal of Australia, *Burial Rites* is her first novel. In this novel about the struggle from Agnes to get status, Agnes Magnúsdóttir is the main character she has some motivation to get status.

3.1 The Description of Agnes Magnúsdóttir's Characterization in Hanna Kent's *Burial Rites*.

Burial Rites is novel by Hanna Kent. Natan Ketilson and Agnes Magnúsdóttir are main characters in this story. Nurgiyantoro states that the main character in a novel usually more than one, although similarity degree is not always same, that is decided from how the influence of the character establish the story. So, it does not lose the possibility that there are two main characters in this story. This story is delivered using first person point of view and that is Agnes Magnúsdóttir, so Agnes herself is as narrator of this story. This story tells about the reality, the relationship between love and the struggle of some characters for their life. Yet, in this research talks about female character, she is Agnes Magnúsdóttir who is told by Natan Ketilson

That conversation means clearly, that there is no someone else except Natan after her fiancé. Agnes efforts to explain to Natan, that there is no else but except Natan.

Agnes is a loyal woman, and Agnes care about Natan when Natan got accident Agnes come in the hospital to look Natan. And Agnes prove to Natan if she falling in love with him.

"Natan laugh." Her house? Rosa, Agnes is my servant. "
"Only a servant, is that right?"
"I do not want her taking care of our daughter."
"I'm willing to take care of Thoranna , with pleasure , " I said
"I dontcare what makes you happy, Agnes.(88)

Agnes has a humble and kind. Based on the above conversation Agnes remained willing to accept Thoranna daughter of Nathan with Rosa, although Agnes in contempt by Rosa but Agnes remained humble and accept it. While Nathan actually call Agnes is a slave, but so far they've been living together as husband and wife.

"Well, Mama. You'll be fine. "
"Mama! You're bleeding! "
"Let mama breathe."
"Did you try gelatinous moss?" Agnes stood in the doorway, staring Lauga .
"I do not need anything, " Margret said hoarsely.
"My lungs so much relieved."
Lauga turned to face the doorway frowning. "Can you leave us?"
Agnes did not listen. "Did you try jelly is it?"
"We do not need a your potion," snapped Lauga .
Agnes shakes her head. "I think you need."
"What do you mean?" Lauga whispered.
Agnes breathed deeply. "Boil bit of moss that has been chopped, boiled long. Very long. Later, when it cools, lumutnya would be a blob of gray. It was not bad, but it can stop bleeding in the lungs."
"Whether Natan Ketilsson that teach you that?"
"They say how it could help." Agnes repeated. "I could make you."
"Do it" said Margret (60)

This conversation shows that Agnes gives know Margret and Lauga that Margret need a potion to can stop bleeding in the lungs. Margret and Lauga initially rejected the advice of Agnes, but eventually they receive advice from Agnes. Here Agnes also has a character that is very attentive and do not give up easily, whereas Agnes equally hated them but Agnes still give sympathy to them. And they had to suspect Agnes would do anything to Margret but Agnes proves that she just wanted to help them.

Nathan convinces Agnes that his love exceeds love for Rosa, and Nathan has no want Rosa anymore.

"He made me choke," he said. "He wanted me to stay with her and her husband forever. But I need to create my own life. And here I have it. My farm myself, and freedom."

Nathan assured me that he had sent letters to Rosa, stating that he did not want her anymore. That he love for me far exceeds his love for Rosa. He just glad that I was an illegitimate child, destitute, a slave "You have to fight for everything," he said.

"You dare to challenge life, Agnes, you do not like Rosa."(70)

The statement above proves that Natan prefers Agnes of at Rosa, because Agnes more braved life and changes her own life Agnes also able to fight for everything. The statement also said that Natan prefers Agnes whose life is impoverished, the result of an illegitimate and she was a slave. But Nathan also prove that his love for Agnes exceed his love for Rosa.

*“Hello, darling,” she said, She looked fresh and young and very beautiful. I thought I had never seen anyone so beautiful.
“Hello,” I said. When I saw her I was in love with her. Everything turned over inside of me. She looked toward the door, saw there was no one, then she sat on the side of bed..... (39).*

It happens Agnes never calls Natan with his name, in every moment; darling becomes usual calling to Natan. In some conversation above represent of little love expression from Agnes to some who loves. Agnes also has apprehensive characteristic. The simple thing she shows by visiting Natan in the Agnes workplace.

However Agnes is like usual woman. As a woman, Agnes out her life as a woman life generally. She wants date or journey with someone who she loves. Agnes said “But get well quickly, darling, and we will go somewhere,” (43). Agnes says like that to give motivation of Natan to get well soon, and they can together like before.

Agnes feeling to Natan is too big, it can be known when Agnes willing to sleep with Natan until some day she gives knows Natan about her pregnancy.

*“I’m going to have a baby, darling. It’s almost three months along.”
“Is it all right?”
“Of course.” (69)*

This statement shows that Agnes gives known to Natan that she is pregnant for three months. It signifies Agnes have relation with Natan long enough. There is apprehensive on Agnes that Natan will refuse about her pregnancy. Agnes makes sure Natan that she is fine, so he does not need apprehensive about her condition. Yet, what Agnes thought is wrong, Natan feels glad to hear that.

"Do not ever talk like that to me again." Nathan's mouth presses against my ear, his voice low and cruel. "I should not have asked you to come here."(110)

In this conversation that Natan hurt Agnes again. And Agnes wanted to run away from Natan but Nathan exactly slap Agnes. Then Nathan reminds Agnes to not speak thus about dream and a strange foreboding. But Agnes soothes Natan otherwise would no one harm him because Natan is not that important. And Agnes are fed up with the nature of temper but Agnes still loves him and remained at his side although he was always tormented by Natan.

And there are other statement that describes Natan always hurt Agnes.

*"I want you! I want to leave the valley because I want to be with you." I felt sick was so angry. "I cannot stand it any longer here."
"Then, go!" She took a step back and pulling my hand. "Get out! You've just cause trouble!"
"Let me go!"
"I'm just giving you what you want. You hate me? You want to go? Good! This is the door." (112)*

It happened because Agnes thought Natan was always blaming her. And Agnes cannot stand with Natan, who had only thought of her as him maid. Natan as Agnes could only cause problems in her life, Agnes considered as bitchy and Natan wanted when he needed Agnes.

Sometimes Agnes asks again to Natan about her status and her position.

*"Do you love me?"
"You start to wander."
"Answer."
"Turn off the lights."*

*“I suppose if we really have this child we ought to get married”
Natan said. We were in beer place at the corner table. It was getting
getting dark outside. It was still early but the day was dark and the
dusk was coming early.
“Let’s get married now” I said
“No,” Natan said “Remember who you are Agnes!”(123)*

In this statement, Natan refuses to marry because he does not believe in certain religion and he want to marry privately, but Agnes refuses. In the second time, Agnes asks Natan again to marry, but Natan refuses with different reason. At the time, Agnes is pregnant in some months, because of that Agnes always ask to Natan. But Natan always have different reason to ignore Agnes and if Agnes asks like that Natan always angry with Agnes. So, it can be conclude that Natan does not want to marry with Agnes.

For the three times, Agnes asks Natan to marry. But Natan refuses clearly, it can be known from the conversation:

*“When will we be married?”
“Any time, we want to have a splendid wedding with every one
thinking what a handsome couple.”
“And you’re not worried?”
“Why should I be worried?”
“Please Agnes don’t make me angry, remember who you are!
Remember your place!”(127)*

As a woman Agnes wants to appear beautiful with body shape that she wants, especially in meaningful event like marriage. Feminist side of Agnes appears to require her to marry in body shape like she wants. In this conversation, Agnes feels shy in pregnancy condition that woman’s stomach will look big. But Natan ignore Agnes again and angry again.

ayah explains that unlawful sexual is forbidden, the word of “do not approach” means proscribed/forbidden.

Islam also explains in other Surah in Al-Quran in Surah An-Nur ayah 2: “The (unmarried) woman or (unmarried) man found guilty of sexual intercourse lash each one of them with a hundred lashes, and do not be taken by pity for them in the religion of Allah, if you should believe in Allah and the Last Day. And let a group of believer’s witness their punishment.” Allah gives big punishment to couple that found guilty sexual intercourse. Allah organizes in al Quran that gives banyan tree to woman and mans that engage in illicit sex as many as one hundred lashes. The punishment is done by men of faith and will be watched by other men of faith. This ayah to support Ayah and Surah before; Al-Isro’ ayah 32.

It is very clear that perspective of Islam about the relation about man and woman. From two ayah: Al-isro’ 32 and An-Nur 2, explain about prohibition and its punishment to someone that do any sexual act outside of marriage. In this analysis it is fatening upon between Agnes MagnUSDottirstitutes with NatanKetilsson until she is pregnancy is a wrong attitude in Islam. Agnes and Natan lives together without married status.