



THE AUTHOR'S ARRANGEMENT OF EVENTS IN MOYES'S *ME BEFORE YOU*

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ABSTRACT

This writing focused on “The Author’s Arrangements of Events in Moyes’s *Me Before You* (2012).” This writing is aimed to analyze the causal relationships of those events in *Me Before You*. The theory applied for analyzing the problem is the theory of arrangement of event, well known as plot taken from William Kenney. The method which is used in this research consist of three steps. Those are data source, data collection, data analysis, and presenting data. The data source is taken from Moyes’s *Me Before You*. The data are collected by using observation method then it is analyzed descriptively based on the theoretical concept and presented by using informal method. Based on the result of the data analysis, it can be stated that the author’s arrangement of events (plot) in *Me Before You* consists of three parts, those are: beginning structure, middle structure, and the end structure. The beginning structure consist of exposition of the character and setting. The middle structure consist of social conflict, complication and climax. Finally, the end structure of this novel, the author tells us about the main character (William Traynor) decided to die of suicide way.

Keywords: *author, events, Me before You*

INTRODUCTION

Literary work is one of written art, which existed in human civilization for thousands of years. Literary works pictured about life, which occurred in the society, such as social life, tradition problems, and mythology, or even the author’s private experiences, imagination, observation to daily incident or events. Literary work is not stand in a certain standard form. There are many different kinds of literary work.

Literary work can be divided into fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is the story based on the unreality. Fiction itself is also one form of literary work and fiction consist of prose, poetry and drama. Prose can be divided into: novel, short story, folklore, and legend. Novel is a form of literary works due to it a creative process of the writer. We can analyze a novel from its extrinsic and intrinsic aspect as it is stated by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren in their book entitled “*Theory of Literature*”. According to Wellek and Warren extrinsic elements can be divided into four elements those are biography, psychology, society, ideas. Meanwhile, intrinsic elements are the elements of novel which are formed theme, point of view, setting, style, character, and plot. (Wellek, 1956: 75-123).

Kenney stated plot is author’s arrangement of those events according to their causal relationship. Plot structures have five phases in it, they are: in the beginning there is an Exposition, in the middle there are conflict, complication, climax and at last there is an end (Kenney, 1966: 14-19). In relation to this intrinsic component, Kenney also explains it in his book, as follow: plot reveals events to us, not only in their temporal, but also in their causal relationship. The plot con-



stitutes an important in fiction because without it the story cannot move and change. According to (Kenney, 1966: 23), Plot is the highest importance in expressing the meaning of a work of fiction. It is through plot that the author organizer the raw material of experience is closely tied to our understanding of what causal relationships.

Author's arrangements of the events (plot) is chosen to be analyzed because the story arranged with several events which are very interesting to be analyzed. The story begin with flash back which every script of the main character. In here, Louisa Clark is the main character which is facing a lot of conflict. The first conflict begin when she is starting to get along with the cranky Will, Lou accidentally learns from his mother and sister that he is planning to commit assisted suicide in Switzerland in six months. The true conflict become clear to Lou now, and she spins into a series of reactions designed to change Will's mind and give his reason to live. The story of *Jojo Moyes* "Me Before You" also has fascinating plot. And this novel is awarded as the best seller novel by #1 New York Times Bestseller a funny, surprising, and heartbreaking a thoroughly entertaining novel that captures the complexity of love.

METHOD

This paper is written based on the scientific method. The methods of the research which are carried out of writing this paper consist of three parts. The method and technique in collecting the data is library research by reading Moyes's *Me Before You* carefully and intensively in order to understand and comprehensive the story. Then, quoting or outlining the conflicts that are faced by the main character, and classifying the kinds of conflict and the sources of the conflict.

The technique and method of analyzing this paper is qualitative-descriptive method. Qualitative-descriptive method is primary exploratory research. After the process of collecting data, the data that have been classified based on the kinds of conflict and its source of the conflict were analyzed descriptively by using the theories. There are two steps done in analyzing the data. First the data showing the structure of events were analyzed by using the theory of plot by William Kenney. Then the data showing about the causal relationships between the events in the story.

The last step is presenting the result of the analysis. Then the data is presented in narrative-descriptive way by giving an explanation in non-formal technique by using some sentences to express the data analysis that are discussed in this paper. Writer will state some definitions, explanations, theories and examples for making the validity of this paper. The examples are taken from the analysis of the novel because from reading the whole story in a novel we can analyze about how the author arranged the events of the story.

DISCUSSION

It can be reminded here that the title of this paper is The Author's Arrangements of Events in Moyes's "Me Before You." Reaske stated that novel is the picture of real life and manners, and of the time in which it is written (Reaske, 1970: 40). Character as one element of a novel is presented in a narrative text or drama are considered to have quality or moral and certain tendencies by the readers (Abrams, 1971: 65). Then, point of view are both "limited omniscient"; that is



the reader has access to only one character's inner responses (McMahan, Elizabeth, & Day, 1984: 242). Meanwhile, the author's arrangement of those events (Plot) is defined as one of the highest importance in expressing the meaning of a work of fiction. It is through plot that author organizes the raw material of experience. The beginning of the story is the writer provides details about character and situation (Shaw, 1972: 107). Moreover, Meredith explain that beginning must be placed in time as close to the ending as possible (Meredith, 1989: 20). Conflict is a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills (Perrine, 1978: 43) This literary intrinsic element reveals events to us, not only in their temporal, but also in their causal relationship. Problem discussed in this writing is about the elements which create the events structure of Jojo Moyes's "Me Before You".

The Authors's Arrangement of Events in Moyes's *Me Before You*

The author's arrangement of events (plot) of a story consists of several structure. Those are beginning, Middle and The End. The beginning consist of exposition of character and setting. Main character is categorized as the important one in the creation of a story and appears continually, the continual appearance in the story in this caused the reason that seems to determine almost the whole part of the story. Shortly, main character is as character consistently supports the author's idea, has much more portrayal than the other characters. In other word, main character is involved in the greatest part of the story rather than the other characters.

The main character in "Me Before You" is an ordinary girl called Louisa Clark. Further the cases related to this main character exposed by the narrator of the story of this novel at the beginning structure are, as shown in the novel in the following quotation about Louisa Clark condition, physiologically as the following.

"I was twenty-six years old and I wasn't really sure what I was. Up until I lost my job I had not even given it any thought. I supposed I would probably marry Patrick, knock out of a few kids, and live a few streets away from where I had always lived. Apart from an exotic taste in clothes, and the fact that I'm a bit short, there's not a lot separating me from anyone you might pass in the streets" (Moyes, 2012: 21).

Based on the quotation above, it can be stated here that the main character narrated called Louisa Clark. The narration of this character occurs at the beginning structure of the plot. In the quotation above, this main character depicted as a woman who was twenty six years old feels anxious about losing her job. In this time she lost her job and before that she ever worked at Cafe but then stopped from her job. She was jobless until she found a job as caregiver at Will Traynor house. In addition, she was twenty six years old and has a short physical body.

The setting of the story exposed at the beginning structure of the story of "Me Before You" is the place setting where the main character was in a cafe. It could be seen in the following quotation.

"The day had started like any other day. Everyone I knew hated Monday mornings, but I never minded them. I liked arriving early at the Buttered Bun, firing up the huge tea urn in the corner, bringing in the crates of milk and bread from the backyard, and chatting to Frank as we prepared to open." (Moyes, 2012: 10)



From the quotation above, it can be seen that the data belongs to place setting, because we could found from the sentence, I liked arriving early at the Buttered Bun, firing up the huge tea urn in the corner, bringing the crates of milk and bread from the backyard in a cafe where Louisa worked. Next the place setting exposed in the beginning structure in this novel is the place setting where Louisa went to Granta House to proper job interview.

The writer would like to expose about the time setting in the novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes. The writer will see it from year, month, day, date and hour of the action occurred and some other time signs which are closely related in building this story. The main character depicted in this novel was Louisa Clark with her job as caregiver of Will Traynor. It could be seen in the following quotation.

“Two weeks passed and with them emerged a routine of sort. Every morning I would arrive at Granta House at eight, call out that I was there, and then after Nathan had finished helping Will’s dress, listen carefully while he told me what I needed to know about Will’s meds or, more important, his mood.” (Moyes, 2012: 49)

The data above is called time setting, because it shows about the time. It shows about the time when Louisa worked in Granta House and every morning she would arrived at Granta House at eight. Next the last time setting exposed in the beginning structure in this novel is the time setting when Louisa at Will’s House

The conflict presented by Moyes’s in this novel is the social conflict of the main character. The main character social conflict occurred when Louisa finally move on with long-time boyfriend Patrick and her days with Will were subtly different. The quotation bellow tells us about.

“It may sound as though we didn’t do much. But, in truth, the days with Will were subtly different depending on his mood and, more important, how much pain he was in. Someday I would arrive and I could see from the set of his jaw that he didn’t want to talk to me or to anyone and, nothing this, I would busy myself around the annex, trying to anticipate his needs so that I didn’t have to bother him by asking”. (Moyes, 2012: 106).

Concerning to the data above, it can be analyzed the social conflict here that the day with Will made Louisa felt different with him but it was depended on his mood. And the other days, they tolerated quite well.

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“But on other days we tolerated each other quite well. He didn’t seem mortally offended when I talked to him, as he had as the start. Today appeared to be a pain-free day. When Mrs. Traynor came out to tell us that the cleaners would be another twenty minutes, I made us both another drink and we took a slow stroll around the garden, Will sticking to the path and me watching my satin pumps darken in the damp grass.” (Moyes, 2012: 107)



Concerning to the data above, it can be concluded here that Louisa felt Will had changed his attitude when he talked to her, he didn't seemed mortally offended and it showed about social condition. The main character was in the bedroom and she heard to sets of brisk footsteps. It could be seen in the following quotation.

"I was in the bedroom, going through his drawers in search of a small mirror, when I heard the door. Two sets footsteps, Mrs. Traynor's voice, lifted, anxious. "Georgina, please don't."

The door to the living room was wrenched open. I grabbed the mirror and ran out of the room. I had no intention of being found absent again. Mrs. Traynor was standing in the living room doorway, both hands raised to her mouth, apparently witnessing some unseen confrontation." (Moyes, 2012: 112)

Concerning to the data above, it can be analyzed here that social conflict when Louisa was in the bedroom and she heard two sets footsteps by Mrs. Traynor. She was angry and stood in the living room doorways and both of her hand raised to her mouth. Louisa had no intention of being found absent again. Then Louisa felt uncomfortable heard the conversation about medical advance for Will. It could be seen in the following quotation.

"I felt a little uncomfortable listening in on such a private conversation. But the odd tenor drew me closer. I found myself walking softly toward the door, my socked feet making no sound on the floor." (Moyes, 2012: 115)

Concerning to the data above, it can be described the social conflict here that Louisa felt uncomfortable after heard the conversation about medical advanced for Will. Will tried to kill himself. It can be seen from sentences.

"Look, Daddy and I didn't tell you. We didn't want to upset you. But he tried" She struggled over the words. "Will tried to . . . he tried to kill himself." (Moyes, 2012: 115)

From the data above, we can see that his mother didn't told Will's dad because she didn't wanted to upset him about Will wanted commit to suicide himself. Then, she struggled over the words said that Will tried to kill himself.

Social complication here that Patrick was angry because Louisa didn't came to the extreme Viking to accompany him. The reason Louisa didn't came, because she went to Mauritius Island for holiday and beside that she needed helped to changed Will's mind about to commit suicide himself. It could be seen in the following quotation.

"I stared at the back of his head and the words were out of my mouth almost before I knew what I was saying. "Okay. Will wants to die. He wants to commit suicide. And this trip is my last attempt to change his mind". (Moyes, 2012: 307)

Concerning to the data above, it can be analyzed the social complication here that Louisa was said the truth that Will wanted to die. Louisa said that was her last chanced that she had, it could be seen from the sentence.



“He wants to go to Dignitas. In August. I’m trying to change his mind. This is the last chance I have.” (Moyes, 2012: 307)

Concerning to the data above, it can be shows the social complication here that the last chanced of Louisa to changed Will mind. Louisa arrived in Zurich shortly before midnight. Given the late hour, Mrs. Traynor had, as promised, booked me into a hotel at the airport and said she would sent a car for me at nine the following morning. I had thought I wouldn’t sleep, but I did an odd, heavy, and disjointed trawl through the hours waking up at seven the next morning with no idea where I was. And the day came when Will suicide himself and Louisa felt him loosen a great breath. It could be seen in the following quotation.

“Finally, I felt him loosen a great breath, almost a shudder, and he drew his head back just an inch so that we could see each other clearly. I blinked at him. He gave me a small smile, almost an apology.” (Moyes, 2012: 401)

Concerning to the data above, it can be described the social climax here that Louisa was so sad, because she felt him loosen a great breath. And he drew his head back just an inch so that they could be seen each other clearly for the last time.

The elements of climax depicted in Jojo Moyes is *Me Before You* is about only one type of climax. The climax presented by Moyes’s in this novel is the psychological climax of the main character. The main character psychological climax occurred when Louisa felt her heart was broke, it could be seen in the following quotation.

“And then just like that, my heart broke. My face crumpled, my composure went and I held him tightly and I stopped caring that he could feel the shudder of my sobbing body because grief swamped me. It overwhelmed me and tore at my heart and my stomach and my head and it pulled me under, and I couldn’t bear it. I honestly though I couldn’t bear it.” (Moyes, 2012: 399)

From the data above, we can see that Louisa was broken heart. Her face crumpled and she held him tightly for the last time. She stopped cared all about Will, it overwhelmed at her heart and her stomach, her head it pulled her under and she couldn’t bear it. Honestly Louisa thought she couldn’t bear it.

Kenney states at the end of a story there is everything from the climax to the denouement. The denouement can be as the outcome of the climax. The end of the story when Louisa was in a cafe and she had received a letter from Mrs. Traynor a weak earlier after Will died. It could be seen in the following quotation.

“I know you miss him as desperately as I do. I put down the cup, took a deep breath and then picked up the other letter, the letter that I had carried around with me for almost six weeks now.” (Moyes, 2012: 406)

The quotation above called end, because the quotation shows us about the end what happened in the story. Louisa sat in the shadow of the dark-green cafe, stared down the length of the Rue des Francs Bourgeois. She was received a letter from Mrs. Traynor a weak earlier. After she was knew about the letter, her tear had plopped it. The end of story, Louisa decided paid the bill and stepped out



from the cafe it could be seen in the following quotation.

“I paid the bill, and tucked the letter carefully into my pocket. And stepping out from behind the table, I straightened my bag on my shoulder and set of down the street toward the perfumeries and the whole of Paris beyond.” (Moyes, 2012: 409)

The quotation above called the end, because the quotation show us about the end what happened in the story. The end of this story is when Louisa stepped out from behind the table, and she straightened her bag on her shoulder and sat down the street is called end because it showed the outcome of climax of the story.

CONCLUSION

The author’s arrangement of events (plot) is one of the central elements in fiction that shows or arranges events in three phases, among those: beginning phase, middle phase, and ending phase. The arrangements of those events are based on the connection of cause and effect. The author’s arrangements of event makes us understand about the story in a fiction. The beginning phase is often called exposition. The expositional phase gives us information about the characters and setting in the story. The characters described in the beginning phase of this novel are Louisa Clark, William Traynor, Camilla Traynor and Nathan. Besides, the elements which are told in the beginning phase of this novel are about setting of the story of this novel, for example at the Cafe Buttered Bun which Louisa is narrated to work before she was a caregiver, and at Granta House which Louisa is narrated to work as caregiver of William Traynor. The elements of the beginning phase have a connection with the element of the second phase.

Further, it can be stated that the thing narrated by the author at the middle phase in the novel entitled *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, are about the psychological conflict between the main character with other characters. Then, it will be followed by the complication of the main character. Here, the complication occurred when Louisa decided to accompany Will for holiday to the Island of Mauritius. This complication will continue to the climax of the story. Here, the climax occurred when Will decided to suicide himself in Dignitas. Finally the end of story is ended by Louisa at a cafe in Paris, reading Will’s last word to her in a letter that tell her to ‘live well’. The ending of this novel is not happy ending. The author used progressive plot in arranging the events of the story because the story had been told in chronologically, the first events followed by next events. Or in other words, the story was told base on the sequence of events started from beginning, middle and ending.

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