

THE ANALYSIS OF 'TONE' IN THE MONKEY'S PAW BY W.W.JACOBS

Zunus Indrawan

Student of English Education Study Program

Muhammadiyah University of Bengkulu

Email: zunusindrawan@gmail.com

Abstract

This study aims to understand the Tone of the story of The Monkey's Paw By W.W. Jacobs Knowledge of the fic element Tone which aims to increase appreciation reader. This research is qualitative research with textual methods. Textual methods will investigate and analyze literary works with an emphasis on content analysis. According to Guba and Lincoln (in Moleong, 2005: 220), content analysis is done by interpreting and making conclusions through the identification of specific themes in the text objectively and systematically. Therefore, the Monkey's Paw By W.W.'s short story Jacobs serves to show that everything that will be done must be full of consideration and think of the consequences that will occur. This paper analyzes the short of The Monkey's Paw, one of the famous short stories by W.W. Jacobs. The results of this study reveal that W.W. Jacobs has shown what will happen from actions that ignore his words, especially about the consequences. The author hopes that this paper can be useful for readers in develop knowledge about plans as one element of fiction and can help readers to understand the tone of the story of the story of The Monkey's Paw By W.W. Jacobs.

Keywords: Tone, qualitative research, quotations, the story of The Monkey's Paw By W.W. Jacobs.

A. Introduction

This story tells about a pair of white families in England, Mr. and Mrs. White and their son, Herbert. They who want three requests that symbolized with the monkey paw that has the mystical power, gave by a poor to Sergeant Major Morris, as a friend of Mr. White. Regardless of the consequences of the request they want, which results from they losing their beloved son. The three requests are the request of Mr. White to have money amount of two hundred pounds, Mrs. White, who hope Herbert's son would come back to life, and Mr. White made the last hope that his son would die and be buried again.

In the story of The Monkey's Paw By W.W. Jacobs, the author wants to convey the contents of the story through various settings that occur in the story. Settings are the background from which the story incident occurred. It is not just a place, it includes places where, when, and social conditions where the story moves together. This can include the atmosphere, tone, and feelings of the story such as gloomy, cheerful, sad, pleasant etc.

This article focuses on setting "Tone". Where the author describes the background atmosphere that occurred before and after the three requests occurred, that symbolized with the monkey's paw that has mystical powers. "Tone" is often expressed by connotations of words. For

example, certain expressions might be interpreted as sarcasm. In the short story *The Monkey's Paw* by W.W. Jacobs there is a setting about "Tone". Like in this short story, there is a quote that proves the 'Tone' Setting that happens to the story. Based on the explanation above, the writer wants to do research about the Setting "Tone" that the author intended in the short story.

B. Literature Review

1. The Concept of Literature

Literature is imaginative writing in the sense of fiction (Eagleton, 2003:1). It means that literature is a work that using the writers' imagination as the main point. The writer can generalize their imagination in several kinds, like story, drama, situation or the result of an analysis.

Diyanni (2001: 6) says: "That is a literary work of fiction that is created based on the spontaneous surge of emotion that is able to express the beauty of the good aspects of the capability-based aspects of language as well as aspects of meaning".

According to Lang (2007: 19), literature is an expression of the human being in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, passion, confidence, in a concrete form that evokes the picture of charm with the tools of language. Literature is one of part of the art that is always existing in human culture for thousands of years ago (Semi, 2012: 1). Literature is divided into three kinds namely, oral literature, written literature, and modern literature. It is clear that literature already existed in human culture in thousands of years ago.

There are several definitions of literature, such as literature is an art, literature is spontaneous expression from the deep feeling, literature is the expression of thinking that is presented in language, literature is a living inspiration that is presented in beauty form and literature is all of the books that contain human feelings with purity touch, independent view and present in a beauty form (Rokhmansyah, 2013: 2).

From all of the definitions, the researcher concluded that literature had several definitions. There was no reason to say that literature as art only because all of the books that contain human feelings with purity touch, independent view and present in a beautiful form are called literature also.

There are several ways of expressing ideas, especially in a literary work. There is a literary work that brings us to the world of imagination and makes us away from reality. It has to be different with a literary work that needs our interpretation meaning. Literature is a product of creative activity it is an art (Welleck and Warren, 1956). According to Jones (1986) literature, in It broaden sense includes all written materials. Literary works include prose, poetry, drama, and novel.

Literary work is imaginative or creative writing and the short story is one kind of it. In a short story, there are many elements which build the unity of the whole story. One of the elements of fiction is "Tone". In the piece of fiction, every section of text has something particular feel.

The expression of a story or scene is achieved into three elements-tone, mood, and style "Nada" is the interpretation and thought of the reader towards the atmosphere that occurs in a story. In a story with first-person POV, tone can also be the narrator's behavior based on the reader.

In non-fiction, a tone is the writer's attitude toward subject matter and reader. So the author might be considered as someone who knows everything or someone who is rude or humble. The scene or tone of the story, which is expressed through the attitude of the narrator, can easily be in the form of fear or fear, distrust or detachment, or maybe it doesn't matter snarkiness or arrogance. Whatever attitude the narrator can take, the scene or story can continue. Then, this study added a particular analysis about the element of fiction "Tone" in the short story *The Monkey's Paw* By W.W.Jacobs.

2. Definition of Tone

In the fiction element "Tone" This refers to the attitude of the fictional writer to the subject and to the reader. The "Tone" of the writer creates an atmosphere or mood for the story. The author's "tone" can be humorous, satirical, passionate, passionate, sarcastic, demeaning, and so on. "Tone" can be anything the author chooses. For instance, humor is an important tone in children's literature. Types of humor used by writers include surprise, exaggeration, incongruity, absurdity, and parody.

The choice of author's diction often reveals the tone. "Tone" is often expressed by connotations of words. For example, certain expressions might be interpreted as sarcasm. Other expressions can be interpreted as vulgar. "Tone" is the reader response to writing. The mood that the writer creates in the reader's mind.

"Tone" is a hidden behavior from writers who talk about listeners, material, and subjects in a literary work. "Tone" has the emotional meaning of the whole story. Like depression, happy, sad, and funny and many more. "Tone" can be explained in various ways, through grammar, word choice and theme choices. and imaging, description, symbolism, and sound of words in combination (poetry, rhythm, musicality).

"Tone" refers to the use of words and the writing style of the writer to convey his attitude to a topic. "Tone" is often defined as what the writer feels about the subject. What the reader feels is known as the mood. In literature, the tone is conveyed through the author's use of language, including word choice, phrasing and sentence structures. "Tones" are in the details included or omitted in the text.

C. Methodology

This research is qualitative research with a textual method. The textual method will investigate and analyze the literary work with an emphasis on content analyzes. According to Guba and Lincoln (in Moleong, 2005:220), this content analyzes is conducted by interpreting

and making conclusion through identification the specific theme within texts objectively and systematically.

This research design is part of the qualitative method, that allowed the writer to describe a phenomenon by presenting the facts in rich detail without attempting to interpret them. Semi (2012: 28) state that qualitative research was done without giving priority in numbers, but focused on the deep understanding of the interaction between concepts that are analyzed. It means that the qualitative research focused on the understanding in the concept of the research. The researcher used this research described the element of fiction "Tone" in the short story *The Monkey's Paw* By W.W.Jacobs.

D. Research Finding And Discussion

This chapter will focus on the element of fiction "Tone" in the short story *The Monkey's Paw* By W.W.Jacobs. What is meant by "Tone" It refers to the fiction writer's attitude toward his/her subject and toward the readers. In non-fiction, a tone is the writer's attitude toward subject matter and reader. So the author might be considered as someone who knows everything or someone who is rude or humble. The tone of the writer creates an atmosphere or mood for the story. The tone of the writer can be funny, satirical, passionate, sarcastic, demeaning, and so on. Tones can be whatever the author chooses. For instance, humor is an important tone in children's literature. Types of humor used by writers include surprise, exaggeration, incongruity, absurdity, and parody.

The choice of author's diction often reveals the tone. "Tone" sometimes expressed as a parable of words. For example, certain expressions might be interpreted as sarcasm. Other expressions can be interpreted as vulgar. "Tone" also about the effect of writing on the reader. The mood that the writer creates in the reader's mind.

W.W. Jacobs presents the above insights in one of his famous short stories, the story of *The Monkey's Paw* (1902). *The Monkey's Paw* is a classic "three request" story that doubles as a horror story and memorial story; remind us that unwanted consequences often accompany best intentions.

This story tells about a pair of white families in England, Mr. and Mrs. White and their son, Herbert. They who want three requests that symbolized with the monkey paw that has the mystical power, gave by a poor to Sergeant Major Morris, as a friend of Mr. White. Regardless of the consequences of the request they want, which results from they losing their beloved son. The three requests are the request of Mr. White to have money amount of two hundred pounds, Mrs. White, who hope Herbert's son would come back to life, and Mr. White made the last hope that his son would die and be buried again.

1. Tense of Tone

Tense tones are also common in literary works and are usually found in scary stories or mysteries. Tense tone triggers fear and anticipation of the reader. Often, we feel enthusiastic waiting for the

continuation of the story or very nervous when reading a tense work. Then the tone that occurs can be seen from the quote below:

"If you could have another three wishes," said the old man, eyeing him keenly, "would you have them?"

"I don't know," said the other. "I don't know."

He took the paw, and dangling it between his forefinger and thumb, suddenly threw it upon the fire. White, with a slight cry, stooped down and snatched it off. (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 3).

This part implicitly tells us that the tense tone that happened when Mr. White holding the monkey's nails suddenly was taken from his hand by Sergeant Morris and suddenly threw it on the fire. But Mr. White with a little scream bent and snatched it back while talking if you didn't want Morris, then just give me a bite. I don't want to, it's better to let it burn. throw it at the fire. If you save it, don't blame me for what happened.

"It moved," he cried, with a glance of disgust at the object as it lay on the floor. "As I wished, it twisted in my hand like a snake." (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 4).

The above quote shows that there has been a tense tone after the monkey's nails are held by hand and hope that there will be two hundred pounds of what they expect hard. That causes the nails to move and causes them to scream with disgust at the object when lying on the floor. And after the reaction happened nothing happened what they had expected from the monkey cookie. And those who ignored Morris's warnings about the consequences.

2. Horror of Tone

This tone of voice is threatening in nature. It talks about the core fears that people have and requires them to deal with that fear. Then the tone that occurs can be seen from the quote below:

In the brightness of the wintry sun next morning as it streamed over the breakfast table, he laughed at his fears. There was an air of prosaic wholesomeness about the room which it had lacked on the previous night, and the dirty, shriveled little paw was pitched on the side-board with a carelessness which betokened no great belief in its virtues. (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 4).

The quotation above, especially in the section "There was an air of prose wholesomeness about the room which had a lack of previous night, and the dirty, shriveled little paw was pitched on the sideboard with a carelessness which pretended no great belief in. it is virtues. " shows that there is a feeling of fear in Herbert. Herbert fears when he sleeps and feels a strange atmosphere about a room that was never there the night before. Small, dirty and wrinkled feet placed

sideways on the sides of the board. And never imagined that would happen to him.

3. Sad of Tone

Sadness is a real part of the human condition. In many situations, our saddest days say who we are as humans. When incorporated as a tone in writing, the reader becomes sympathetic with the characters or the author and this empathy will keep them engaged with the narrative. Then the tone that occurs can be seen from the quote below:

"I'm sorry - " began the visitor.

"Is he hurt?" demanded the mother wildly.

The visitor bowed in assent. "Badly hurt," he said quietly, "but he is not in any pain."

"Oh thank God!" said the old woman, clasping her hands. "Thank God for that! Thank - "

She broke off as the sinister meaning of the assurance dawned on her and she saw the awful confirmation of her fears in the others averted face. She caught her breath, and turning to her slower-witted husband, laid her trembling hand on his. There was a long silence.

"He was caught in the machinery," said the visitor at length in a low voice.

"Caught in the machinery," repeated Mr. White, in a dazed fashion, "yes."

He sat staring out the window, and taking his wife's hand between his own, pressed it as he had been wont to do in their old courting days nearly forty years before.

"He was the only one left to us," he said, turning gently to the visitor. "It is hard." (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 5).

The above quote shows that there has been a sad tone in the sentence. With the arrival of a visitor who wears good, and uses a silk hat with a shiny new color. Without them realizing that the person was the person who brought bad news from the fate of his son Herbert, as well as people who would give him two hundred pounds, from what they had wanted from the monkey's nails so far. Taking a breath, and turning to her husband, sitting staring out the window of the old woman's face was white, her eyes staring and her breath not heard.

Mr. White dropped his wife's hand, and rising to his feet, gazed with a look of horror at his visitor. His dry lips shaped the words, "How much?"

"Two hundred pounds," was the answer.

Unconscious of his wife's shriek, the old man smiled faintly, put out his hands like a sightless man, and dropped, a senseless heap, to the floor. (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 6).

This quote tells us that anger and sadness mixed together are happening. By showing the quote "gazed with a look of horror at his visitor" and "Unconscious of his wife's shriek". Without them realizing that the consequences and worries that Sergeant Morris had warned about their desire to own the object. Their desire for a request was two hundred pounds which had been replaced by the life of their child one or the other. Smiling faintly, reaching out like a person who can't see, and dropping that senseless stack.

4. Gripping of Tone

"*WHAT'S THAT?*" cried the old woman, starting up.

"A rat," said the old man in shaking tones - "a rat. It passed me on the stairs."

His wife sat up in bed listening. A loud knock resounded through the house.

"It's Herbert!"

She ran to the door, but her husband was before her, and catching her by the arm, held her tightly.

"What are you going to do?" he whispered hoarsely.

"It's my boy; it's Herbert!" she cried, struggling mechanically. "I forgot it was two miles away. What are you holding me for? Let go. I must open the door."

"For God's sake don't let it in," cried the old man, trembling. (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 7,8).

The last quote above shows that in the last part of the story there is a gripping tone. Fear is anxious in the atmosphere of the night. Mrs. White's strong desire to turn her child back through the second request. The quote also shows Mr. White's fear that night, hoping that what his wife expected from his second request did not happen. And finally Mr. White used his third and final request to stop everything that had happened. We can conclude that W. W. Jacobs wants to describe and convey a moral message to us as readers to be able to feel the tone that occurs in the story. And at the end of the story, there is a quote that shows this:

The knocking ceased suddenly, although the echoes of it were still in the house. He heard the chair drawn back, and the door opened. A cold wind rushed up the staircase, and a long loud wail of disappointment and misery from his wife gave him the courage to run down to her side, and then to the gate beyond. The street lamp flickering opposite shone on a quiet and deserted road. (*The Monkey's Paw*, p. 8).

Here it is clear that everything has ended when Mr. White's third and final wish has taken place. In the quotation, it explains that Mr. White's disappointment and regret for all this. Regardless of the

words of Sergeant Morris about the consequences that will be received, causing the children they love to take lives.

E. Conclusion

As previously analyzed, the results of the analysis found elements of fiction namely "Tone" that happened and we can find it in the story of *The Monkey's Paw* By W.W. Jacobs. like the gripping, sad, angry, tense, and frightening "Tone" that happens in the story. Ignoring warnings about the consequences that will result in the loss of one's life. regret at the end, disappointment, and sadness experienced by Mr. White's family gave us a very valuable and meaningful lesson.

Overall, W.W.Jacobs successfully shows us as readers how important it is to listen to and heed someone's words and warnings about the consequences that will occur if we have that. Not just for mere satisfaction, causing someone's life to be lost. The author also gives advice to all readers, that we must know the origin, warning, and consequences that will occur if we have it so that there is no prolonged regret and sadness as happened in the story of *The Monkey's Paw* By W.W. Jacobs.

References

- Suhadi, Agung. "Methodology: Nathaniel Hawthorne's *Birthmark And Rappacini's Daughter*". *A Feminism Reading* 2. 1(2015) 4.
- Ridho Ahmad, Rahayu Pipit. "Literature Review: Aditi Das Bhowmik *Friends Forever*" *Plot Analysis of Story*. 3.
- Ridho Ahmad, Rahayu Pipit. "Abstrak: Aditi Das Bhowmik *Friends Forever*" *Plot Analysis of Story*. 3.
- Moleong. *Metodology Penelitian Kualitatif*. Bandung: Remaja-Rosdakarya. (2000).
- Jacobs, W.W. *The monkey's paw – American literature*. (2015). Retrieved on 11 January. 2019, from <https://americanliterature.com>.
- Sparknotes LLC. *The monkey's paw*. (2016). Retrieved on 11 January 2019, from www.m.sparknotes.com.
- Jacobs, W. W. & Louis, N. P. London: Samuel French. Ricoeur "Theory of Interpretation." *A Method for Understanding Text* (Course Text). (2012)
- Patterson, Amanda. "155 Words To Describe An Author's Tone". *Writes write*. Web. 27 June 2014. Retrieved on 11 January 2019.
- Lara, Adair. 7 Ways to Perfect Your Writing "Tone". *Writersdigest.com*. Web. 27 September 2011. Retrieved on 11 January 2019.
- Tone, Davehood59. *Wordpress.com*, 2010./02/08. An element of Fiction. Web. 6 January 2019.
- Tone, Writerswrite.co.za/155-words-to-describe-an-authors. Web.6 Januari 2019.
- Prose, Study.com/academy/lesson/tone-vs-mood-interpreting-meaning. Web. 6 January 2019.
- Fiction. Theeditorsblog.net, 2013/04/19. Tone Mood Style the Fell. Web. 6 January 2019.

An element of Short Story. <https://www.dreamerswriting.com/academic>.
Web. 6 January 2019.

Fiction. Pdf. www.unm.edu/~hookster/Elements. Web. 6 January 2019.

Tone.htm. users.humboldt.edu/tduckart. Web. 6 January 2019.

Tone, writingexplained.org/grammar-dictionary. Web. 6 January 2019.

Tone, dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english. Web. 6 January 2019.