

ANALYSIS OF THE SCARLET LETTER'S NOVEL BY NATHANIE HAWTHORNE

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Abstract

The novel takes place in a Puritan village in New England. Hester Prynne is the main character, a young woman who had a child out of wedlock. Hester thinks she is a widow, but her husband Roger Chillingworth is still alive when he arrives in New England and hides his identity. He discovers that as retribution for her adultery, his wife is required to wear the red letter A on her dress. Chillingworth develops an obsession with figuring out who Hester's lover is after she refuses to reveal his identity. Chillingworth continues to afflict him when he discovers that the man in question is Arthur Dimmesdale, a pious young minister who is the leader of those urging her to name the child's father. Dimmesdale becomes increasingly ill as a result of guilt. The heroine, Hester, is shown to be independent and never truly repentant for her adultery with the minister. She believes that their deep love for one another inspired their actions. She is initially derided, but over time, many of her critics are silenced by her compassion and dignity.

Key words: Analysis, novel, Nathanie Hawthorne, The Scarlet letter

INTRODUCTION

After it was first published in 1850, *The Scarlet Letter* was a best-seller and an instant hit. The 2,500 copies that were printed sold out in less than two weeks. This book's popularity over the past few decades is not without reason (Mertania & Amelia, 2020). The reason for this is that Nathaniel Hawthorne writes a story that is full of moral lessons, characters' conflicts, and a plot that makes the reader feel for each character's anxiety (Afrianto & Gulö, 2019), (Pranoto, 2021). According to (Novanti & Suprayogi, 2021), this storied novel about a woman with a red letter "A" serves as a symbol with a lot of meaning. About how people view sin and how courage to confess, judge, and accept shame can be difficult for each person in different ways (Puspita & Pranoto, 2021), (Al Falaq et al., 2021). The author does a good job of criticizing how people think about sin and shame because it is so connected to the beliefs and culture of American society at the time (Suprayogi & Pranoto, 2020), (Puspita, n.d.). *The Scarlet Letter*, which means "Aksara Duka" in Indonesian, is essentially a love story that tells the conflict of romance in a way that is so different and ironic (Nurmala Sari & Aminatun, 2021), (Amelia, 2021b). Where the risks they face are more prominent in the love story (Gulö & Nainggolan, 2021).

The setting of this novel is Puritan Boston, and the story centers primarily on Hester Prynne, the main female character (Suprayogi, Samanik, & Chaniago, 2021b). It is common knowledge that Hester had a daughter without a father. Hester was a married woman in this state (Kardiansyah, 2019). The husband intends to accompany Hester to Boston, but there appears to have been no communication for two years (Samanik, 2019), (Cahyaningsih & Pranoto, 2021). On the other hand, Hester gave birth to a daughter even though the husband never showed up. There was widespread belief at the time that Hester

gave birth to an illegitimate child as a result of her affair with another man (Setri & Setiawan, 2020). When they saw this, the puritans got mad and made Hester stand on a stage in the middle of the city with a red "A" on her chest as a punishment. A sign indicating "adultery" or infidelity for life. Hester and her child were subjected to this as social retribution for a grave sin that all of society will remember for the rest of her life (Nababan & Nurmaily, 2021), (Qodriani & Wijana, 2020b). Hester stood strong and gracefully in front of the crowds of people who had insulted her as she reluctantly accepted her punishment. Hester allegedly saw a man, her legal husband, standing among the crowd of people who were praising and punishing her at the same time. According to (Suprayogi, Puspita, et al., 2021) Hester herself was reluctant to reveal the identity of the man who had an affair with her. Hester's legal husband visited her in prison under the alias Roger Chillingworth in order to conceal his identity because he did not want his wife's adultery to be known (Amelia & Daud, 2020), (Suprayogi, 2019). Chillingworth, himself a highly educated scientist, acknowledges that he was disabled in an accident that prevented him from traveling to Hester as planned. Additionally, Chillingworth approached Hester with the sole intention of concealing his status as Hester's legal husband (Fithratullah, 2021). Even if Hester refused to reveal the identity of the sinner who was having an affair with his wife, he also stated that he would find out for himself (Journal et al., 2021), (Kardiansyah & Salam, 2020). Hester carried out her sentence in a calm and unwavering manner; she had graciously accepted her fate and did not mind wearing the red mark on her chest (Amelia, 2021a). Hester was released from prison after a few years and decided to live among puritans in a quiet, remote part of the city. Hester lives happily with Pearl, her 7-year-old daughter. He even works as an embroiderer, and his exquisite embroidery is quite well-known (Qodriani & Kardiansyah, 2018), (Pranoto & Suprayogi, 2020). As a reminder of his transgressions, Hester embroidered the red mark on his shirt. However, the local government planned to divorce Hester from Pearl one day because they were concerned that she would not be able to properly raise her (Samanik & Lianasari, 2018). Hester also asks the well-known young Boston puritan priest Arthur Dimmesdale for help as a result of this. Dimmesdale was successful in persuading the government to reverse their decision to segregate the mother and child thanks to his positive image (Suprayogi & Eko, 2020), (Suprayogi, Samanik, Novanti, et al., 2021). Dimmesdale is well-known as a pastor who is well-mannered and speaks words that the community trusts (Samanik, 2021). He is a leader in the community (Qodriani & Wijana, 2021). However, Roger Chillingworth has noted that Dimmesdale's odd behavior can sometimes be smelled. As stated by (Kuswoyo et al., 2020) Chillingworth, a scholar and scientist, had recently approached Dimmesdale while pretending to be his best friend. Dimmesdale, on the other hand, appears to be under a lot of mental pressure for the wrongs he has done, but he can't tell the public because of his reputation. In an effort to avenge himself for the shameful deed of having an affair with Hester, Dimmesdale always whipped himself in the back (Puspita, 2021).

LITERATURE REVIEW

The pressure in Dimmesdale's heart for not being honest and not daring to stand up for Hester made his behavior all the more obvious to Chillingworth's eyes. One day Hester meets Dimmesdale in the woods and plans to run away with Pearl (Suprayogi, Samanik, & Chaniago, 2021a). With doubt and desperation Dimmesdale slipped out at night and at that moment he saw a collection of constellations that were bright but seemed to form a series of letters 'A', which he interpreted as a revelation from God (Qodriani & Wijana, 2020a), (Fadilah & Kuswoyo, 2021). Unbeknownst to him, on the other hand there was a figure of Chillingworth who witnessed the situation and was increasingly convinced that

Dimmesdale was Hester's mistress. At the end of the story, their plan to leave apparently failed because Chillingworth had known everything (Istiani & Puspita, 2020). The public who knew it were angry and led Hester and Pearl to the stage (Purwaningsih & Gulö, 2021), but at the same time Dimmesdale also came forward and revealed the biggest secret he had been keeping all this time (Fakhrurozi et al., 2021). A red mark with the letter 'A' was engraved on the surface of the skin right on his chest. Apparently Dimmesdale had carved out his chest all along to feel the same punishment and shame as Hester and Pearl.

METHOD

In this study, the writers utilized library research techniques and subjective depiction. This study utilized a subjective methodology zeroing in on story understanding. Subjective means examination dependent principally upon a constructivist viewpoint with respect to a singular's encounter that has been by and large or socially built. The information hotspot for this study was a novel entitled *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. Information assortment strategies were performed by exploring or perusing sources in books, the web, as well as in past exploration reports, and others. Most understudies can find their assets in the library, information on the main libraries, experience with the chapter by chapter guide and other reference works, about complex is surely a fundamental apparatus for pretty much every understudy of writing. The information examination procedure utilized in this study is clear investigation. To help this information, the specialists looked for important information from different sources. Information investigation is the methodical course of considering and orchestrating information from meetings, perceptions, and records by coordinating the information and concluding what is significant and which should be contemplated. also, make determinations that are straightforward.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Gold-colored thread has been finely embroidered on the scarlet letter A that Hester is required to wear. It reflects the novel's numerous contrasts, such as those between order and transgression, civilization and wilderness, adulthood and childhood, as well as beautifully crafted human artifacts. The gap between appearance and reality gets worse as society tries harder to keep out wild passions. The ostensibly respectable members of the community frequently exhibit the greatest depravity, while the apparent sinners frequently exhibit the greatest virtue.

This novel *The Scarlet Letter* carries a dark and ironic theme of how humans view sin, how their judgment and feelings are perceived from the human part. Based on this story, some of the human values that can be taken away are how a person needs to be held accountable for what he has done. Like what Hester did as a form of accountability for the risk of sin taken. Hester's sin was wrong, but by accepting the consequences and responsibility freely, at least Hester was able to make peace with himself and live quietly. He even sincerely wore the scarlet letter until the end of his life carved on the tombstone. Instead, Dimmesdale is present as a symbol of human nature that also has fear and regret for not being able to act the same way as Hester. In fact, various good images and compliments What Dimmesdale gave to him only made him feel more guilty.

Another moral value was symbolized by a puritan society in which they felt the right to judge Hester and his son only by a mistake. The public should not be able to judge and judge Their fellow believers, apparently, were able to commit the same sin. Roger

Chillingworth as Hester's legal husband was also a symbol of a learned human being who saw the situation with a more scientific approach, but himself was no more than a man. from a petty figure who dared not be honest and took part in judging Dimmesdale. Both Chillingworth and Dimmesdale are represented by two opposing attitudes, as they view the world scientifically and religiously. But as fellow humans they both stand in parallel. The two both want Hester's love. On the other hand Hester himself stood as a human being capable of equating logic and a belief became more human. He is the most realistic humanitarian image of all time. and sinful, have humanity, genuine feelings, brave responsibility, tough and sincere. This is the best exception we can do. From Hester Prynne the author seems to want to say that humans are not God, so that as imperfect beings we should be more human beings without judging each other. each other's noodles.

The novel also creates fascinating connections between psychological repression and social oppression. The pathology of a society that needs to scapegoat and alienate its so-called sinners can be seen in Dimmesdale's physical and mental manifestations of his illness, as well as his affliction caused by his guilty secret. Personal integrity eventually manages to escape social control. The *Scarlet Letter* effectively captures the emergence of individualism and self-reliance from America's Puritan and conformist roots, perhaps more than any other book. Chillingworth's irrational desire for vengeance ultimately renders him morally reprehensible. Dimmesdale dies in Hester's arms after publicly confessing his adultery, broken by his own guilt. As she gets ready to start a new life in Europe with her daughter Pearl, Hester is the only person brave enough to face the future. Hester returns to New England after a number of years to continue bearing the scarlet letter "ON A FIELD, SABLE, THE LETTER A, GULES" is engraved on both her and Dimmesdale's tombstones after she passed away.

CONCLUSION

Basically *The Scarlet Letter* or in Indonesian means "Sara Guda" is a work of romance that tells the story of romance conflict in a different and ironic way. Where romance is more concerned with the risks they have to take. The novel takes on the Puritan setting of Boston, where the female lead character Hester Prynne is the main focus of the story. Hester was a woman known to have given birth to a daughter without a father. In this condition Hester was a married woman. The husband was planning to follow Hester to Boston, but apparently it hasn't been reported in two years. On the other hand, the husband did not come, but Hester gave birth to a daughter. At that time, the public believed that Hester was cheating on another man until he gave birth to an illegitimate child.

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