ANAGNORISIS PLOT TWISTS AS A ROOM FOR WOMEN'S VOICES: A STUDY OF THE FEMALE MAIN CHARACTERS IN TWO SHORT STORIES

A Research Paper

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for *Sarjana Sastra* Degree of English Language and Literature Study Program



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Sebuah skripsi yang diajukan untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra pada Fakultas Pendidikan Bahasa dan Sastra

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ABSTRACT

What women experience is often considered a private domain. Consequently, women's voices are not given much attention and are taken for granted, even though women's experiences need to be voiced to create a more just world for all. This study explored how the anagnorisis plot twists in Kate Chopin's "The Story of an Hour" (1894) and Roald Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter" (1953) create a room for the female characters, Mrs. Mallard and Mary Maloney to express their voices. Using a qualitative descriptive approach and textual analysis, the study examined how anagnorisis plot twists serve as tools for women's voices to be heard. The study used three steps: identifying key dialogues and monologues, categorizing these elements, and interpreting them through Woolf's feminist perspective (1929) and the concept of anagnorisis plot twist. It is found that the anagnorisis plot twists in both stories construct a "room" where the main characters' needs and feelings can be expressed temporarily. The brief moments emphasize the women's struggles against their husbands' restraints, which reflect the patriarchal society. The stories imply that while women might claim their identities and voice their opinions, they often feel trapped by the patriarchal standards that limit them. It highlights the struggles women face in patriarchal environments when even brief moments of empowerment are taken away by societal norms. The two short stories criticize the patriarchal society and its ability to suppress women's voices.

Keywords: anagnorisis, feminist, short stories, Virginia Woolf, women's voices

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