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DAPHNE DU MAURIER'S REBECCA: A STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS

Nuri Fainuddin

Work As a Structure

Basically Literary, a story is a building consisting of several element. A story is a unity or totality of the elements that make a wholeness. The element of the story are called intrinsic structure.

The elements of the story are not separated, they work together to make a good story. In developing it, there is always an interaction among the elements (Sudjiman, 1992: 40). In a work of literature, each element is used or chosen by the writer only in relation with the other elements, they are always interdependent in the story (Koesnoesoebroto, 1988: 28).

Related to literary work as a structure that has a system, Jean Peaget classifies the structure of literary work consisting of three ideas as follow:

1. The ideas of wholeness, internal coherent: its constituent parts will conform to a set of intrinsic laws which determine its nature and theirs:

2. The ideas of transformation procedures, whereby new material is constantly processed by through it:

The Biography of The Author

Daphne du Maurier (May 13, 1907-1989) was born in London. She was an English novelist, best known as the author of Rebecca (1938' film 1940), a gothic romance about love and
mystery in an English estate. She is the granddaughter of the artist, illustrator, and novelist George du Maurier (1834-1896) an author of Tribly and Peter Ibbetson, and the daughter of Sir Gerald du Maurier (1873-1934), an actor manager. She began to writer in her girlhood and published her first novel her mid-twentieth. The loving Spirit (1931). She was educated at home and in Paris as her statement:

"I was brought up and educated at home with my two sisters, and have six months in Paris when I was eighteen. I read extensively in French and English, and start composing poems and writing short stories during adolescence. My earliest literary influence were Catherine Mansfield, Mary Webb, and curiously enough, Guy de Maupassant. Nowadays I care little for contemporary literature, but read for choice Jane Stevenson, etc. My hobbies are anything to do with the country-walking, gardening, bird watching and sailing. My dislike are town life, entertainment, parties and large social gathering. I have to feeling for political party, but I am convinced that human selfishness the root of all the trouble in world, and that no lasting contribution can be made toward universal peace unless every living man and woman stops thinking and working for personal success and profit. I am certain it to possible to live to high standard and be happy and make other people happy, without adopting a censorious and preaching attitude to the rest of humanity. I believe, in the principles of moral re-Armament, but I am definitely not member of the Oxford Group."

She was one of the most popular woman novelist of her generation. She achieved prolonged success with Rebecca. Her uncommon story-telling ability and dramatic sense are disciplined by a prose style above the common level of romantic fiction.

She was married in 1932 to Lt. Col. Frederict Arthur Montague Broning, 2\textsuperscript{nd} D.S.C., of the Grenadier Guards. They had
two daughters and a son, with whom they lived, in peace times, in their country home in Hampshire. In 1941, Col. Browning was made a General, the youngest of that rank in the Empire Forces.

Besides her novels, she is the author of two charming books on her own family—Gerald, a study of her father, and the du Mauriers, which goes back three generation and is delightful genre picture and has historical as well as literary interest. Rebecca, the theme of which is a little reminiscent of Vera, by Elizabeth (Countess Russel), is her best known work and was one of the most widely read novels of its year. It was made into an extremely successful motion picture. Among her other publications were several short story collections and biography of Branell Bronte, Sir Francis Bacon, as well as the autobiography Myself When Young (1977).

Her Principal works are:

1. The Loving Spirit (1931)
2. The Progress of Julius (1932)
3. Gerald: A Portrait (1934)
5. The du Maurier (1937).
6. Rebecca (1938).
7. My Cousin Rachel (1951)
8. Frenchman’s Greek (1942)
9. The Scape Goat (1957)
11. Myself When Young (1977)
12. Hungry Hill.
13. The Parasites.
14. Mary Anne.
15. The Breaking Point
17. The Flight of The Falcon.
Synopsis

Mr. And Mrs. De Winter, for the first time met in the Hotel Cote de Azur in Monte Carlo. By the time, Mrs. De Winter was an orphan who worked to Mrs. Van Hoper as a companion.

Mr. De Winter her to marry when she was asking his permission because she and Mrs. Van Hoper were ready to go to New York. Mrs. Van Hoper disagreed, but they did not care. They continued their intention.

After spending their honey moon for two months, Mr. De Winter brought her to Manderly, his home. His servants welcome their arrival. Mrs. Danvers, the household disliked the new wife of Mr. De Winter. Mrs. De Winter felt that her attitude did not please her.

Mrs. Danvers used her terror to Mrs. De Winter when Mr. De Winter were not at home. She old about her beauty and her daily routine. Mrs. de Winter felt underestimated and felt that Rebecca was better than herself in everything. Mrs. Danvers also told that Mr. De Winter and Rebecca was a suitable couple. From Mrs. Danvers, she knew that a suitable couple. From Mrs. Danvers, she knew that all people in Manderley adored Rebecca.

Mrs. de Winter felt jealous. Beatrice, Mr. De Winter’s sister, said that she was very different from Rebecca. Frank Crawley, Mr. De Winter’s agent, said that Rebecca was a beautiful person, the best creature in the world.

Mrs. de Winter felt that Manderly was not hers. All part in Maderly belonged to Rebecca. Even all things of Rebecca still consisted in Manderly. Rooms that was arranged by Rebecca never changed. The rose garden. Azaleas, and all furniture were arranged by her. The position of everything never changed, though she dies. All tings in Manderley hurt her.

One day, Mandeley celebrated a fancy dress ball, a dancing party. She did not know what clothes to wear. Mrs. Danvers
proposed her to copy a portrait in the gallery. Mrs. Danvers promised that she would not tell about the idea to anyone. Mr. de Winter felt existed. She thought that Mrs. Danvers would become her friend, her companion. She felt very suitable with the idea of her, then she sent the sketch to London. It was the picture of Caroline de Winter, a sister of Maxim’s great-great grandfather.

The party was almost to start, de Winter still wore the gown. She came to the hall with the sound of drum. She intended to make a surprise to all of them. She was very disappointed, because there is no clap, except Mr. de Winter who saw her with his anger and asked her to change the clothes. Mrs. Danvers smiling at her triumphantly. Beatrice went to her room and asked her to wear her dress, a blue dress she wore. Beatrice explained that the costume she wore had been worn by Rebecca in the last part. After Beatrice went to the hall, she wore the blue one and went to the party. Mr. de Winter did not talk to her, though he stood beside her. She was very sad.

In the morning, Mr. de Winter was not at home. Mrs. de Winter felt that her husband hated her very much. Mrs. Danvers came to her and began to terrorize her. Mrs. de Winter should go from Manderly or she should fallen herself down stair. Mrs. de Winter felt sad. She felt that Manderly was not her home. She felt all of that still belonged to Rebecca.

There was a ship struck in the bay of Manderly, by the day. When the diver went down to search the hole of the ship, there was a bot lied beside the ship. That belonged to Rebecca and there was a body lying there, in the cabin of the boat. Mrs. de Winter knew the news from Captain Searle, the Master of the Kerrith Harbour when he came to Manderly to tell Mr. de Winter about the boat.
Before Captain Searle left the house, Mr. de Winter came home. Captain Searle told Mr. de Winter about the boat then he went out.

Mrs. de Winter came to her husband to tell that she was not conscious to hurt him about the gown. She had not purposed that event would remind him very much. Mr. de Winter said that was too late because the boat had been found. That was no use to shape their relationship. Mr. de Winter said that the body laying in the boat was Rebecca. The body laying in the crypt was not her. That was a body that was found in Edgecoombe.

Mr. de Winter said that he killed Rebecca. He told that he did not love Rebecca. Their marriage was not happy. Rebecca bargained him to build Manderley to be a beautiful place and they pretended to be a suitable couple. Although he hated that offering, he followed her because his position in Manderley.

Rebecca arranged the house, also arranged a rose garden, azaleas, cottage in the wood, etc. She was very clever to do that. She used to go to the cottage with Jack Favel and spent the night together. She used to go to London too, and sometimes brought her friends to Manderley.

**Theme**

After reading the story of Rebecca, the writer of this thesis can conclude that the theme of the story is a wife who felt that her husband did not love her because he could not forget his first wife who had everything: breeding, brain and beauty.

Mrs. de Winter was an orphan who had no family. She lived as a companion to Mrs. Van Hopper. The she met Mr. de Winter, a rich man who owned Manderley. Finally, they were married.

In Manderley, Mr. de Winter’s home, she was terrorized by Mrs. Danvers, the house hold. She always told her about Rebecca,
the late first wife of Mr. de Winter. Moreover she could not understand about Mr. de Winter’s attitude, as if he did not love her. She felt under estimate. She was jealous to Rebecca. Mrs. de Winter did not know who Rebecca was exactly. Everyone told Rebecca as if she was the best person. Mrs. de Winter felt that her arrival in Manderley is useless, Furthermore she came from the different social class from Mr. de Winter.

Mrs. de Winter was not in despair. She tried to discuss the problem to her husband. Mr. de Winter. Mr. de Winter asked about her problem. He told her who was Rebecca exactly. Rebecca was not a real wife. Their marriage was only a printed. Everyone knew them as a suitable couple, but they were not really happy.

Plot

Rebecca is kind of complete story since it has elements of plot which are stated by S. Tasrif. All the elements are structured chronologically. Flash back is to used to give problem solving clearly.

The story of Rebecca begins from the situation, the author starts to describe the situation of the characters. This part starts from page 5 until page 17, the story develops to generating circumstances, the events that have relationship start to move. It is in page 17 until page 81. Story continues to develop to the rising action, the situation will be getting to climax, in page 81 until page 251, and the turning point or climax is in page 251 until page 314. The story is finished with denouncement, the author gives the problem solving from all event, in page 314 until page 446.

In the situation, the author starts to illustrate the situation of the characters in page 5 until page 17. The story begins with a kind girl, an orphan who worked as a companion to a snob woman, Mrs. Van Hopper. Mrs. Van Hopper liked travelling to
visit some places, the girl would accompany her wherever she went. The following quotation indicates the statement above.

Funny to think that the course of my existence hung like a thread upon quality of hers. Her curiosity was a disease, almost anemia. At first I had been shocked, wretchedly embarrassed; I would feel like a whipping boy who must bear his master pains when I watched people laugh behind her back, leave a room hurriedly upon her entrance, or even vanish behind a service door on the corridor upstairs.

Sometimes she would employ me as a bait to draw her prey, and, bating my errand, I would be sent across the lounge with a verbal message, the I can of book or paper, the address of some shop or other, the sudden discovery of a mutual friend.

Characterization

The technical illustration of characters or character delineation in Rebecca which is used by the author are a follow:

1. Physical description

The characterization is described by the illustration of physical form of the characters. About Mrs. Van Hopper, Mrs. de Winter as the narrator described as the following:

I can see myself now, bobbed hair and youthful, not powdered face, dressed in an ill fitting coat and skirt and a jumper of my own creation, trailing in the wake of Mrs. Van Hopper like a shy, uneasy colt. She would preside me in to lunch, her short body ill balanced upon tottering, high heels, her bosom and swinging hips, her new hat pierced with a monster quill aslant upon her head, exposing wide expanse of bare as a schoolboy’s knee. One hand carried a gigantic bag, the kind that holds passports, engagement diaries, and bridge scores, while the other hand toyed with that inevitable lorgnette, the enemy to other people’s privacy.
2. Portrayal of thought stream or of conscious thought

The characterization is illustrated through the stream of thought of the character. The following example indicates the statement above:

I supposed I was not major event. Yet if I had been one would have said something, unexpressed opinion, written two words? Unless of course one had taken a dislike to the wife, or thought her unsuitable. Then of course it would be different. Still, Beatrice chat taken the trouble to go up to London and to buy the books for me. She would not have done if the dislike me.

3. Reaction of others to characters

The characterization of characters is illustrated through reaction of other characters to him. For example:

And at half-past three, punctual to the moment. I hear the sound of Beatrice’s car round the sweep of the drive and pull up at the steps before the house.
I run out to meet her, ready dress my gloves in my hand. “Well, my dear, here I am, what a splendid day isn’t it?”
She slammed the door of the car and came up the steps to meet me. She have me a hard swift, kiss, brushing me somewhere near the car.

“You’re not like the other one.” He said.
“Who do you mean?” I said, “What other one?” He shook his head. His eyes were sly again.
He laid his finger again his nose. “Tall and dark she was.” He said.
4. Direct author analysis

The characterization of the character are illustrated directly by the author. For example:

It was Mrs. Danvers. I shall never, forget the expression on her face, loasome, triumphant. The face on an exulting devil. She stood there smiled at me.

Setting

The setting in Rebecca can be divided into three kinds, they are setting of place, setting of time, and setting of social culture. Each setting is described as follows:
1. Setting of Place

The story of Rebecca starts from the meeting of Mrs. de Winter and Mr. de Winer in Monte Carlo. The story continues with their marriage and then Mr. de Winter brought her to Manderley.

The most setting of place was taken in Manderley. It was the place which was owned by Mr. Winter. Manderley was a large place which consisted of a large house, azaleas, happy valley, and cottage in the wood. The large house had many rooms, for example: library, minstrel gallery, morning room, and drawing room. Setting of place indicates that Manderley was a beautiful place and the owner of Manderley was a rich man. It was Mr. de Winter.

2. Setting of Time

The events that happened in Rebecca are not mentioned the year clearly. The description of setting of time only uses terms, for example; in early may, at the end of June, etc.
3. Setting of Social Culture

The social culture of Rebecca are the costume to celebrate fancy dress ball and garden party.

Literary Devices of Rebecca

Literary devices of Rebecca can be divided into point of view and style. Both elements can be described as follows:

1. Point of View

The point of view which is used in Rebecca is First-person omniscient since most readers would find as speaker-narrator using "I" and knowing everything unbelievable and godlike. However it removed from the action. The speaker-narrator in Rebecca is Mrs. de Winter who told the story. The following quotation indicates the statement above:

I found myself in the corridor where I had stood that first morning. I had not been there since, nor had I wished to go. The sun streamed in front the window in the alcove and made gold pattern on the dark paneling.

I was sitting in the little room again. The room like a waiting-room at the station. The policeman was there, bending over me, giving me a glass of water, and someone’s hand was on my arm, Frank’s hand. I sat quite still, the floor, the walls, the figures of Frank and the policemen taking solid shape before me.

Conclusion

1. The structural element of Rebecca, are:
   a. Theme

   The theme of Rebecca is a wife who felt that her husband did not love her because he could not get over his late first wife who had everything; breeding, brain and beauty.
b. Literary Facts

1) Plot

The plot which is used is started from situation. The author begins to describe a situation. The story developed to generating circumstance, the event that have relationship start to move. The story continues to rising action, situation will get to climax, and then story gets the climax. Finally, it is finished with document, the author gives the problem solving from all event.

2) Character

There are two type of characters, they are main and minor character. The main characters are the most important characters in the story. They are Rebecca, Mrs. de Winter, Mr. de Winter and Mrs. Danvers. The minor characters are characters of less importance than those of the main. They are Mrs. Van Hopper, Frank Crawley, Beatrice. Captain Searle, Colonel Julian, Jack Favel and Doctor Baker.

There are several techniques of characterization. They are physical description, portrayal of thought stream of conscious thought, reaction of others, direct author analysis, conversation of others, about the character and reaction to event.

3) Setting

There are there kinds of setting in Rebecca. They are, setting of place, setting of time, and setting of social culture.

c. Literary Devices

1) Point of View

Rebecca uses First-person omniscient since the speaker-narrator using “I” and knowing every unbelievable and to Got-like however removed from the action.

2) Style

The style of Rebecca uses comparison, hyperbole, and slang.
2. Structurally there is a relationship among the element in building up Rebecca. Each element helps each other make that the story has wholeness and totality.

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