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The literary Analysis of Stories of O’ConnerThe way he expresses his grief for the lateThe wnnnt5hyhjn

A Good Man Is Hard to Find by Flannery O’Connor begins in the house where the family is planning their trip to Florida. The story manifests the inert opinion of the author about the consequence of life. Like numerous other writings of the writer, this specific story displays her profound spiritual vision and its use in her literary pieces efficiently to highlight on the place of holy thought in one’s life style. It also exposes O’Connor’s expert use of local style and the indigenous vernacular. The other story of the author is A temple of the holy Ghost. The story is in 3rd-person but from the standpoint of the child, who is a only 12 year old girl. It is about the girl who is isolated and wants grace in her life. In both the stories the author is presenting us with a lot of themes and literary devices like plot construction, setting, imagery etc.

This story A Good Man is hard to Find is the master piece of literary pieces of the author. It is written in the American southern gothic style. The author presents the theme of the good and evil, religion, manipulation, family etc (*A Good Man Is Hard to Find Themes*). The most protuberant theme in the story is that of evil and good. In the story the grand ma sees the goodness in the form of being decent and dressing in a good manner. She has her own superficial view of goodness. However later in the story she faces the real evil in the form of The Misfit with no guilt at all. This understanding of what goodness is, as contrast to the real evil is the central theme of the story. The theme of religion in the story represents itself when the grandma prays to the Jesus in front of The Misfit in the expectation to charm his spiritual sense. The reality is the total opposite of that. He had thought about the Jesus more seriously than her and he had no belief in Jesus, and this leads him to think that there is no actual right or wrong and no ultimate point of life. Flannery O'Connor assumed her story "A Good Man is Hard to Find" as a account of good, evil, and heavenly elegance. Other critics, nevertheless, have gotten in it somewhat more cynical manner. A lot of them take it as the story of a self-centered lady who employs manipulation to achieve what she needs but is ultimately unable to save herself by her acts. There are numerous instants in the story when the grandma manipulates other people, as well as her family members and the criminal.

The other story of Conner that is A Temple of The Holy Ghost is representing the themes of Solitude, grace, pride, and acceptance (McManus). It is told in the third person and is positioned about a young, unnamed 12 year-old girl. From the start of the story the author is focusing on the themes of isolation and pride. These two themes are interwoven and go side by side in the story. The girl whom the story is about is living an isolated life. The theme is manifested in the story when we see that the girl does not sit with her cousins in the back seat rather she sits in front seat and keeps her head out of the window. Here we find the theme of pride and isolation. The girl loves to daydream about being a saint in her room. She eagerly wants grace in her life. But her pride does not let her think that the grace is not achieved in isolation or in feeling superior to other.

In the beginning of the story the setting of the story is in Atlanta and the family travels towards the south to Toombsboro. There's a sufficient amount of indigenous flavor along the way: we see old farms, Red Sammy's barbeque place, and some marvels too.The other half of the story is in the trench and the place is unknown and the trench is near ten feet below the road. On the other side of the road there is a forest too. The era in which it took place is not mentioned in the story but the cars and the reference to the book Gone with the wind shows that the era is of 1940s. About the other story A Temple of the Holy Ghost the setting is not much mentioned too. However, there is one place that is important to understand the context of the story. The church is the place where the transformation is seen in the character of the girl. She desperately wants grace in her life and she has a firm belief in religion too. The incident at the church is eye opening moment for her and at the return from the church she no more feels isolated.

The plot of the stories is woven closely and the audiences do not find a breach. The story A Good Man is hard to Find presents us with an initial situation that there is a criminal and he is lurking into the future of the characters (*A Good Man Is Hard to Find Plot Summary - Schoolbytes*).

 Next is the conflict that we see in the story. The family encounters an accident but no one is killed. The pleasant vacations suddenly turn into the unpleasant scenario. After that the complication arises when the Misfit the serial killer at large shows up. The situation is worsened when the grandmother tells him that she knows him. Then he kills all the family members one by one and only the grandma is left alive. Then the climax is the grandma’s acceptance of reality. She finally seeks grace but the suspense part is only in the last sentence when the grandma is shot in the chest three times by the killer. The denouement is the last part when the chaps of The Misfit return and her orders them to take her body and throw it. But the conclusion is the total reversal of what he did previously, he says that it is not the real pleasure in life (O'Connor).

The temple of the Holy Ghost begins with the fantasy of the young girl that is only 12-year-old and is in the want of grace. She is somewhat isolated from the other people and is proud too. She becomes fascinated by the saying that she heard by some kids at the show in the local fair. This is the main conflict in the story. The climax of the story occurs when the girl goes to the convent and there she prostrates and suddenly feels that she is in contact with God and prays that she gets rid of her meanness. By the end of the story she comes to know that the show is closed because maybe the hermaphrodite had opened up. She by the end of the story finds the real self of her, and the prayer that she made in the convent comes true.

The strong catholic beliefs of O’Conner are apparent in most of her stories. In the story A temple of the Holy Ghost the religious imagery is vivid and quite obvious (*Tantum Ergo: Religious Imagery in “A Temple of the Holy Ghost”*). The central character of the story the child in loneliness in her chamber, reflects that she will be a saint one day. The apex of the story occurs in a nunnery. It is of great significance. O'Connor used the hermaphrodite to demonstrate that love of Divinity resides in every one of us, no matter they are attractive, horrible, rich, deprived or anyplace between. Even the hermaphrodite, is a ridiculous sign of the harmony of male and female, a shrine of Deity is a divine thing.

The other story is no short of the use of imagery. The visual imagery is the most important one in the story. The hat of grandma is the symbol of her superficial idea of grace and class. She wears that hat to show her class and give an impression that she is a real lady. There is a good amount of the descriptions of the surroundings in which the characters are. In the beginning of the story the common room in which all the family members are sitting is described in minute details. The elders are sitting on the sofa while the kids are sitting on the floor reading the minute pars from the paper. The ditch in which they fall the authors gives us information that it was ten feet away from the road. Also, the description of the jungle is vivid. The imagery used by the author is giving a clear idea about the setting and the atmosphere of the place and time in which the story is represented.

Both the stories of the author are abundant in the use of literary devices. The four literary devices that are discussed in the essay are the most prominent ones. O’Conner expresses a clearly religious theme in both of the stories. He owns catholic religious views depict in the story. The eternal conflict of good and evil presented in the stories highlights the standing of virtue. And the evil or the immoral conducts are condemned in the story.

Works Cited

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