

THE POWER OF LOVE IN NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S RAPPACINI'S DAUGHTER

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Abstract: This research has the purpose of investigating the power of love in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Rappacini's Daughter. This research is in the form of qualitative which resulting the outcome to be in the form of words. The data comes from Nathaniel Hawthorne's Short Story entitled "Rappacini's Daughter" which was published in 1844. In administering this research, psychological approach is the most suitable to be used and was implemented in order to discover the power of love in the literary works through id, ego and superego. The result of the study explains how the power of love occurred through the id, ego and superego from the characters in the short story. It can be concluded that the characters in Rappacini's Daughter indeed expressed their power of love through their intimacy which is id, passion which is ego and commitment which is superego which can be said as the components of the power of love.

Keywords: *Rappacini's Daughter, power of love, id, ego, superego*

INTRODUCTION

Literature teaches many valuable lessons, providing new perspectives on different topics, expanding our understanding, and delivering pleasure with its beautiful language (Ali et al., 2023); (Rorintulus, 2023); (Maru, 2014). As a result, literature isn't merely about beauty but also serves as a valuable tool, helping us learn from life experiences captured in written form. The main goal of literature is to deeply influence the reader's thoughts and feelings.

Literature acts as a reflective surface showcasing the multifaceted aspects of human life, encompassing morality, societal constructs, psychology, and beyond (Rorintulus et al., 2023); (Maru et al., 2023); (Maru et al., 2018). Through literary creations, individuals communicate their thoughts, emotions, and concepts, drawing from personal encounters or the realms of imagination as a means of expression.

Rappaccini's Daughter stands as a compelling demonstration of how literature mirrors human experiences, delving into emotions, love, and relationships. Love's influence is a widely explored theme across various artistic mediums like songs, poems, stories, dramas, novels, films, and paintings. Hawthorne's poignant short story vividly portrays an intense love story between the main figures, Geovanni and Beatrice, making it one of the most gripping tales of love in literature.

The experience of profound love is deeply personal and unique for each individual, often becoming a measure of a relationship's success. Its intensity arises from a mix of physical attraction, the comfort found in growing closeness, and the excitement of navigating complex emotions. Love embodies a passionate and spiritual bond, merging emotional and physical aspects, shared between partners, symbolizing a deep admiration for each other's inherent value. Beyond granting moments of immense joy, it also acts as a gateway to self-discovery.

The impact of the Power of Love varies from one person to another, dependent on their unique perspective. Love has the capacity to infuse spirit into one's life, giving rise to a spectrum of emotions, including happiness, sadness, concerns, and even jealousy.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Psychoanalytic Theory

Psychoanalysis is a field of study that centers its attention on the human personality (Freud, 1991). Psychoanalysis is an approach used in the medical treatment of neurological disorders. It mirrors evolving societal values and contributes to the evolution of these values (Freud, 1991).

According to Maru & Maukar (2021), personality structure according to Freud is based on the structure of id, ego, and superego.

1. Id

Freud, in his perspective, labeled the id as the "pleasure principle" and considered it the initial and core principle of life. Its goal was to free people from pressure or, at the very least, to lessen the pressure so that it remained at that level.

2. Ego

The ego is a facet of personality that holds sway over consciousness, shaped by an individual's interaction with the external world. It operates by mediating between one's desires and the constraints of reality (Komenaung et al., 2021). Consequently, an individual's personality structure is significantly influenced by the ego due to its connection to the world. The ego's role involves managing relationships with the external environment to uphold the overall importance of the personality, fulfilling various needs. Additionally, it regulates and balances the conflicting demands of the id and superego within the psyche.

3. Superego

The superego is a component of the personality that holds the responsibility of evaluating moral standards. It represents an individual's internalized set of societal values, encompassing virtues that define the ethical distinctions between what is considered right and wrong. The development of self-control (self-control) in place of parental control (out control) is the primary function of the superego (Runtukahu, Rorintulus & Sabudu, 2022).

Love

Someone's life changes dramatically when they fall in love with someone special. He or she experiences the appearance of "a new color" in their lives. It could be because he or she has found a special person who can meet all of their love needs.

In general, love is an emotion that includes attention, sexual desire, and attraction to another person. As stated by Sternberg (2004) this demonstrates that love includes intimacy, passion, and commitment as well as other elements. The power of love is a highly potent yet often overlooked reserve that we can access whenever we choose. It involves the deliberate decision to perceive the positive qualities in others (Balley, 2021); (Liando et al., 2021); (Lumowa et al., 2023).

There are several components that the writer gets in analyzing the power of love using Sternberg's triangular love theory, such as:

1. The Power of Love in Intimacy

Intimacy can be said as to pertain to emotions of nearness, attachment, and a sense of connection within affectionate partnerships (Sternberg, 2004). It encompasses the emotions that essentially generate the feeling of warmth in a loving relationship.

2. The Power of Love in Passion

Passion can be said as the desires that result in romance, physical attraction, sexual fulfillment, and associated experiences within loving relationships (Sternberg, 2004). The passion aspect encompasses diverse sources of drive and arousal that contribute to experiencing intense emotions within a loving relationship.

3. The Power of Love in Commitment

Commitment involves the choice to love a specific individual, and in the long run, it pertains to one's dedication and effort to sustain that love over time (Sternberg, 2004). These two aspects of commitment don't always align. You can care for someone without committing to long-term love, or commit to a relationship without acknowledging romantic feelings for the other person.

When taken together, the three components of love produce eight distinct types of love. Realizing that these types of love are, in fact, limited situations is essential: It is unlikely that any relationship will be a pure case of any of them.

Literature

According to M. G. Maru (Maru, 2009), Literature is genuine material, and it's important to acknowledge that literary texts are not primarily crafted to fulfill the requirements of foreign language learners. Literature mirrors human's experience and often paints a society phenomenon (Rorintulus, 2018).

A literary work can produce perfect consciousness by touching the deepest sense of a human being with its power (Wuntu, 2015). Literature can also be defined as a form of expression of someone's journey of life, nature, understanding, feeling, experience and imagination in a written form (Endrawati, Mogeia & Maukar, 2022).

Based on the descriptions, we know that literature is the collective body of texts from a particular culture, language, community, or era. It generally encapsulates imaginative creations and human experiences. Literature is a testament to creative expression, producing pieces that hold aesthetic value while reflecting the societal milieu in which they emerge. (Mutia, 2021).

Hudson (2006) said that literature is a record of someone's experience in life. Furthermore, literature serves as a valuable resource in one's life, serving educational and entertainment purposes. A well-crafted piece of literature excels when it manages to both captivate and enlighten its audience. Such works hold high literary value as they offer enjoyment while imparting positive lessons. In essence, literature encompasses written or performed expressions of human experiences, functioning as an educational and engaging medium.

Short Story

A short story is a skillfully constructed piece of writing, usually shorter in length compared to a novel. It focuses on a small cast of characters and aims to create a unified emotional effect. Often, it prioritizes creating a particular mood or atmosphere rather than intricate plot elaboration. According to Saefudin (2011) a short story can be said as a fiction with the length ranges from 1000 to 20000 words and can be read and finished in a short amount of time.

A short story is a piece of prose fiction that is shorter than a novel (Poe, 2013). As Poe proposed that a short story is best enjoyed in one sitting, usually taking anywhere from half an hour to two hours to read. In modern fiction, the length of a short story can vary widely, spanning from 1,000 to 20,000 words. Moreover, short stories offer a fertile ground for creative experimentation, allowing narratives to be expressed through unconventional prose styles or literary devices.

Romantic Movement

During the late 1700s and mid-1800s, the Heartfelt development primarily originated in Germany but extended its influence globally. This philosophical movement emphasized deep emotional awareness. The core belief of Romanticism was that reason, objectivity, and analysis separate individuals from reality. Nature was not regarded as a subject for experimentation.

Rationalists started the Heartfelt development around the very time that science was growing rapidly. Many individuals were worried that researchers would turn out to be so level headed in their review and tests that they would become separated from their sentiments and virtues.

Nathaniel Hawthorne investigates the possibility of researchers' objectivity in Rappaccini's Daughter. Teacher Baglioni tells Giovanni Guasconti that Dr. Giacomo Rappaccini thinks often more about science than he does about mankind, and Hawthorne shows this in Dr. Rappaccini's analysis on his little girl.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this research, the writer used qualitative research. As stated by Creswell, (2009) qualitative research involves exploring and comprehending the meanings attributed by individuals or groups to a social or human issue. It's an investigative approach that gathers information from various written sources. In this particular study, the research design can be characterized as a structured setup for collecting and analyzing data drawn from Hawthorne's "Rappaccini's Daughter" short story.

In collecting the data, the researcher does some following steps by Yulianti (2012); repetitive reading and taking notes.

The data was analyzed by using psychoanalysis approach. Psychoanalysis approach is the way of discovering about how a human being behaves. (Runtutahu, Rorintulus & Sabudu, 2022).

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

When we talk about love, power naturally comes into play. Consequently, power and love are a word common related. In Rappaccini's Daughter, the scientist Rappaccini

supports his girl Beatrice with the venomous substance of a self-developed, exquisite blossom since birth which makes her become a delightful young lady yet additionally toxic herself. Rappacini chooses Giovanni, a young, attractive man, for his invulnerable young daughter because he sees that she feels alone and isolated due to her poisonous breath toward all creatures and humans. He wants him to become as poisonous as Beatrice through another experiment so that they can live happily ever after.

1. The Power of Love in Intimacy

Freud in Endrawati, Moge & Maukar (2022), stated that psychologically, intimacy is a stage where it happens unconsciously when someone receives a stimulation from outside and as a process of being loved. The stimulus that builds intimacy comes from the action performed by one's companion, such as speech uttered and touch given. Intimacy refers to feelings of closeness, connectedness, and bondedness in loving relationships (Sternberg, 2004). It thus includes within its purview those feelings that give rise, essentially, to the experience of warmth in a loving relationship.

*"Oh, how stubbornly does love--or even that cunning semblance of love which flourishes in the imagination, but strikes no depth of root into the heart--how stubbornly does it hold its faith, until the moment come, when it is doomed to vanish into thin mist! Giovanni wrapt a handkerchief about his hand, and wondered what evil thing had stung him, and soon forgot his pain in a reverie of Beatrice."
(Hawthorne, 1844)*

From the text above, we can see that Giovanni is slowly falling in love with Beatrice. By feeling Beatrice's presence, he felt a new feeling, and felt comfort when he saw Beatrice.

*"Throughout Giovanni's whole acquaintance with Beatrice, he had occasionally, as we have said, been haunted by dark surmises as to her character. Yet, so thoroughly had she made herself felt by him as a simple, natural, most affectionate and guileless creature, that the image now held up by Professor Baglioni, looked as strange and incredible, as if it were not in accordance with his own original conception."
(Hawthorne, 1844)*

Here Giovanni already knew the meaning of his introduction to Beatrice, but it was not like his expectations of Beatrice. He instead feels something different, which eventually makes him fall in love with Beatrice. He definitely has feelings for her. That the writer does not think can be contended against. He is at first drawn to her excellence and secret, and I feel that Beatrice's secret could have turned into the fundamental fascination. She resembles a riddle to him, and he needs to know the response.

"The young man rejoiced, that, in the heart of the barren city, he had the privilege of overlooking this spot of lovely and luxuriant vegetation. It would serve, he said to himself, as a symbolic language, to keep him in communion with Nature. Neither the sickly and thought-worn Doctor Giacomo Rappaccini, it is true, nor his brilliant daughter, were now visible; so that Giovanni could not determine how much of the singularity which he attributed to both, was due to their own qualities, and how much to his wonder-working fancy".

Giovanni was delighted by the arrival of Rappaccini's daughter. He did not stop to express his feelings of happiness in the short stories described by Hawthorne.

"True, there were ugly recollections connected with his first glimpses of the beautiful girl; he could not quite forget the bouquet that withered in her grasp, and the insect that perished amid the sunny air, by no ostensible agency save the fragrance of her breath." (Hawthorne, 1844)

Here we see that Giovanni does a test for Beatrice by bringing flowers, he wants to find a definite answer with what he feels for Beatrice and wants to see how Beatrice responds.

"Giovanni's face evinced many contending emotions. The tone in which the Professor alluded to the pure and lovely daughter of Rappaccini was a torture to his soul; and yet, the intimation of a view of her character, opposite to his own, gave instantaneous distinctness to a thousand dim suspicions, which now grinned at him like so many demons. But he strove hard to quell them, and to respond to Baglioni with a true lover's perfect faith."

Giovanni shows interest in Beatrice just for her unadulterated actual resources and non-verbal communication and start to become hopelessly enamored with this heavenly youthful animal really. Giovanni's affections for Beatrice toward the start of the story are clear.

2. The Power of Love in Passion

Passion, is a psychological element that occurs unconsciously. As stated in Endrawati, Moge & Maukar (2022), passion belongs to the part where passion is a voice of conscience. Passion is a condition where someone is consciously desire for doing something. When someone needs something (id), the condition to fulfill id is called ego (Freud, 1991). The condition to fulfill the desire makes someone willing to do something, for example when the person A is having a crush on the person B, the desire to get connected drives the person A to perform an action on the person B, this action is ego. Passion refers the desire that would often leveled-up to romance, physical attraction, sexual consummation and other love-related phenomena. (Sternberg, 2004). Passion comes from desire in building some intense emotion in a love relationship.

All told, Hawthorne advocates following passion over reason and prioritizing pure, selfless love.

"I would fain have been loved, not feared," murmured Beatrice, sinking down upon the ground.-- "But now it matters not; I am going, father, where the evil, which thou hast striven to mingle with my being, will pass away like a dream--like the fragrance of these poisonous flowers, which will no longer taint my breath among the flowers of Eden." (Hawthorne, 1844)

Beatrice is the best Victorian lady, the heavenly messenger of the home. She is perpetually able to put others in front of herself and acknowledge the impediments of her circumstance and individuals around her. All she requests consequently is to be cherished. Today, such gender-based self-sacrifice might be criticized, but Hawthorne wants us to admire Beatrice because she finds happiness after death.

"I dreamed only to love thee, and be with thee a little time, and so to let thee pass away, leaving but thine image in mine heart" (Hawthorne, 1844).

She accepts that adoration implies focusing on others over herself. Despite how her dad has treated her, she stays cherishing towards him and she cheerfully aids his tasks. Besides, with Giovanni, Beatrice is benevolent and open, savoring the experience of his presence and taking consideration to guard him from her own toxins and the toxins of the nursery, despite the fact that this implies denying herself actual contact with the individual she cherishes. She is benevolent, then when he blames her for harming him, she guarantees she could never have done as such for "a universe of rapture. as she says above, it isn't childish or possessive to exhibit that her affection. Her energy in adoration, magnanimous and unflagging. As a matter of fact, when the individual she cherishes which is her dad, she appears to favor demise to the chance of living with a more skeptical idea of adoration.

Rappaccini's affection was horrendous in light of the fact that it was manipulative and childish, and Giovanni's adoration was disastrous on the grounds that it was harmed by judicious uncertainty among them, their off track or manipulative love prompts the demise of Beatrice, the story's most perfect person. Just Beatrice's affection was eventually beneficial, yet she found no one equivalent to her on the planet, thus she needed to rise to paradise where she could track down cleaner love to match her own.

"Yes, poisonous thing!" repeated Giovanni, beside himself with passion. "Thou hast done it! Thou hast blasted me! Thou hast filled my veins with poison! Thou hast made me as hateful, as ugly, as loathsome and deadly a creature as thyself—a world's wonder of hideous monstrosity! Now, if our breath be happily as fatal to ourselves as to all others, let us join our lips in one kiss of unutterable hatred, and so die!" (Hawthorne, 1844).

From the text above, the writer clearly see that Hawthorne wants to cast a message that love has passion and is really blind. Love will make people embrace snakes. Love will make people drink poisons and people will drink it proudly. This is one of the loves in passion that every people had when they fall in love.

3. The Power of Love in Commitment

Commitment is a part of someone's psychological state that occurs consciously. It means that commitment occurs when someone is fully aware of one's statements and doings (Endrawati, Moge and Maukar, 2022). Commitment occurs when someone has passed the process of id end ego. Furthermore, commitment refers, to the dedication to sustain and nurture love in a long-run relationship (Sternberg, 2004). They are not inherently linked, as it's possible for someone to make a decision to love another person without committing to maintaining that love over the long haul.

The story shows us how a young girl, Beatrice, lays her life for her love. The love wins but it costs two lives for this. The writer finds the commitment that Giovanni has to Beatrice, a girl that he loves.

"That this lovely woman," continued Baglioni, with emphasis, "had been nourished with poisons from her birth upward, until her whole nature was so imbued with them, that she herself had become the deadliest poison in existence. Poison was her element of life." (Hawthorne, 1844).

What is known by Giovanni is that Beatrice has been poisoned, which means touching her could be fatal to him. However, love is a commitment, much more than just a feeling, which in the end is able to make them meet. Loving is a daily decision, which is intentionally and consciously done by people. Emotions are fleeting and transient.

"He remembered Baglioni's remark about the fragrance that seemed to pervade the chamber. It must have been the poison in his breath! Then he shuddered--shuddered at himself!" (Hawthorne, 1844).

He realized that the poison he drank from Beatrice's father, Dr. Rappaccini was already starting to react to his body. How much love Giovanni has, so he commits with his love to drink poison with the girl he loves.

"Giovanni's passion had exhausted itself in its outburst from his lips. There now came across him a sense, mournful, and not without tenderness, of the intimate and peculiar relationship between Beatrice and himself." (Hawthorne, 1844).

He has now become poisoned and poisonous. Beatrice too crosses the limits in the passion. In front of Giovanni, to prove that she is innocence, she drank the antidote. They both then died by drinking the same antidote. It is concluded that in the story, love has taken two innocent lives. Sacrifices are made by committed partner while not expecting anything in return.

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the power of love which are intimacy, passion and commitment did exist in the characters in Rappacini's Daughter. As elaborated above that the power of love affects person from their side of id, ego and superego; where the power of love start in the form of desire then rose into the form of fulfilling the desire and ended with the form of commitment of love.

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