

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

From the analysis above, the writer can make some conclusions. First of all, we can conclude that Captain is described as the round character. His characterization is changing and developing through the play. At the beginning he was a smart and educated man who always thought and did based on his common sense. His weak character was not revealed yet. On the contrary, we caught the first impression of the Captain that he was a strong man. He seemed used to be the decision-maker in his household. He was also rather arrogant. He seemed to have self-confidence since he was considered as a clever scientist. He could make a sensible argument about something using his formal words to show his intelligence.

Then his characterization changed. The weakness of his personality starts to be seen. We start to realize that his weakness is already there from the beginning. His contradiction in every speech and action prove it. He becomes a hysterical man and there is no remainder in him that he was a sensible educated man.

If we are questioning about the Captain's attitude and point of view toward women, especially toward women around him, the answer is he underestimates them. However, he still needs them unconsciously to complete the lack of motherhood love in his life.

Captain is a representation of the playwright. Captain's inner conflict (contradiction) is identical to his creator's. They have something in common: the feeling of rejected and betrayed from their mothers. They also try to find the substitute of the maternal love from their mothers in their wives. They lack of self-confidence and have disorder personalities, caused by their inner conflict, that make them unable to solve their problems appropriately as educated men. According to Dr. Susan Forward in her book *Men Who Hate Women and the Women Who Love Them* that is cited by Jaine Carter, PhD, et al; since Strindberg depicted Captain as an intellectual, we can say that Captain is the Professor Henry Higgins-type of misogynist. This kind of misogynist will underestimate women for he has higher intelligence than them (Carter par. 5).

The second conclusion is about Laura. Laura, as the antagonist character, cannot be said as the round character since from the very beginning the readers have already known about the real Laura. She can simply be said as the flat character that is not developed into a better or worse character. From the first time she talks to her husband, we can see that she tries to find a way to defeat her husband. She is already tired of being defeated, even though in their marriage life she often acts as the chief of their household. She is thirst for power. She wants the absolute power over their daughter, so she can decide anything for Bertha without regarding any other opinion, especially from her husband. She will do anything to get it, no matter what the risks or consequences she has to face, and she stays on her way. Finally she gets what she always wants: their daughter for her own. She successfully gets rid of her husband out of her way.

Laura is Strindberg's unconscious expectation of his mother. He created Laura to a mother he wanted, a mother he did not have in his real life. A mother who loves him, and will do anything to keep her child on her side.

At the same time Laura is a representation of women that he hates. Remember, he also hates his mother. That is why he depicted her as a wicked creature. This playwright is skillful in arranging to whom the sympathy of his audiences will go to. By illustrating the character of Laura as the wicked woman, the antagonist; and Captain as the victim of Laura's wickedness, the protagonist one; Strindberg directs his audiences to have sympathy for the Captain and to hate Laura. Then he will get endorsement from the audiences for his misogyny.

The finishing touch of the story given by Strindberg is surprising. Although may be the readers or the audiences can presume that the woman character will be the winner in the end, but the result for the captain is shocking. He becomes an insane man and dies of a stroke. This is also the way of Strindberg to get sympathy for Captain from his audiences or readers.

BIBLIOGRAPHY