

chapter four

C O N C L U S I O N

Having analyzed this short-story, the writer finds that D.H. Lawrence's *The Rocking-Horse Winner* concerns with the problems in a family dealing with the relationship between the mother and the son.

This thesis deals with the analysis of theme by focusing the analysis on the conflict of the main character. However, the writer also analyzes plot, setting, and characters that can support him to describe the theme. Based on the analysis, the writer finds that there are two kinds of the main character's conflicts, the inner conflict and the social conflict. The inner conflict is more dominant in this short-story than the social conflict. Therefore, the writer analyzes it more deeply.

The Rocking-Horse Winner tells about a boy named Paul who lived with his parents who didn't care and love their children. They, especially the mother, only thought about money all the time. As a little child, Paul needed love and care from his mother. This condition arose conflict in Paul.

The need of money also disturbed Paul's need of

playing toys as a little child. This made him unable to enjoy his childhood because the house came to be haunted by an unspoken phrase : *There must be more money!* which would get him stop playing to listen for a moment. And it frightened him terribly.

All of those conditions forced him to search for luck by riding his rocking-horse madly, and he did get luck. This might be so because Paul was a boy who had strong faith and self-confidence; or else, though it is not really mentioned, he might have some kind of superstitious power. His ability in predicting the horse that would win in a coming horse race could be the effect of his strong desire for getting luck to have money for his mother.

If we see the analysis any further, the inner conflict of Paul is not caused by the need of money, because he didn't need money at all. It can be seen when he gave all of the money he had won to his mother. He tried hard to get the money just because he loved his mother and he wanted her to be free from financial problem. The need of money is something usual in every family, but what is unusual in Paul's mother is her greed which made her have bad attitude to her family, especially her son. Therefore, Paul's inner conflict is actually caused by his mother's attitude.

Unconsciously, the mother's bad attitude or greed burdened Paul badly and forced him to get more money, although through his own fantasy, because he loved his

mother and was generous to her. What Paul did in searching for money finally took him to death. The death of Paul is considered as the final result of his conflict, since it happened because of his furious ride on his rocking-horse which is the expression of his inner conflict. Therefore, Paul here can be considered as the victim of his mother's greediness.

Based on the explanation above, the writer concludes that the theme of D.H. Lawrence's *The Rocking-horse Winner* is : Unconsciously or not, a son who loves his mother very much can be psychologically burdened by the attitude of the mother herself.

This can be seen in Paul and his mother. All conflicts experienced by Paul was caused by his mother's attitude. As a little boy, he needed his mother's love and care, and he loved his mother too. However, his mother was so busy with having more money that she could not love him. It burdened Paul psychologically so that he insisted on having money.

If only the mother hadn't been so greedy, Paul would not have experienced his conflicts. Paul's mother was a material woman who would rather neglect her children than live without much money. That's why she was so busy in searching for more and more money that she forgot her obligation as a mother. Her attitude arose some conflicts in Paul. So, through Paul's conflicts we can see the theme of this short-story as mentioned above develop.