

CHAPTER II

SYNOPSIS OF THE SOUND AND THE FURY

The theme of William Faulkner's The Sound and The Fury is the decay of Compson family. The main characters which are discussed in this thesis are the four Compson's children: Quentin, Candace (Caddy), Jason, and Benjamin (Benjy) who is an idiot. The four Compson's children, especially Benjy, are lacking of their parents' affection and attention. Mr. Compson is a lawyer, but always drunk, while Mrs. Compson (Caroline) is hardly ever in good health.

Because the four Compson's children are lacking of their parents' affection, they look for affection from their nigger householder, Dilsey. Quentin, as the eldest son, however, is close to his father than his mother. It is just the opposite of Jason who is closer to his mother than his father. While Caddy, as the only daughter, is very close with Benjy. Caddy is the mother-figure for Benjy because Caddy gives much attention to Benjy and she can take care of Benjy in the way Mrs. Compson cannot.

The decay of Compson family begins from the condition of Mr. and Mrs. Compson. Although Mr. Compson is a known lawyer, he cannot leave his habit of drinking. Of course this bad habit influences his attention to his family. Mrs. Compson or Mrs. Caroline is hardly ever in

good health. All the time she complains of the condition of the family especially of her idiot son, Benjy. Because Mr. and Mrs. Compson are "busy" with their own problems, the role in ruling their children is not success.

The next "calamity" occurs upon this family is when Caddy loses her virginity. Caddy has love affair with Dalton Ames and they had done sexual intercourse, so Caddy is pregnant. Dalton Ames is not a good man. He left Caddy soon after that "calamity". Caddy was in a hard situation because she would have a baby without having a husband. In such situation Caddy found a figure that can protect her, namely Quentin. Quentin is a figure that is able to accept reality. He was not angry to Caddy for her affair with Dalton Ames and he failed his will to kill Dalton Ames who has made Caddy losing her virginity. Quentin thought these were useless, because however, that "calamity" has happened and when both Caddy and Dalton Ames did sexual intercourse, they loved each other.

Unfortunately, longer and longer the manifestation of Quentin's love toward Caddy is different. His love of a brother toward his sister changes to a love between a man and a woman. Then, Quentin and Caddy committed incest. Mr. and Mrs. Compson does not know what has happened to Quentin and Caddy. They still thought over Caddy's pregnancy. To give Caddy relaxation, Mrs. Compson takes Caddy

to French Lick, Indiana. While they take vacation, Quentin at home confesses to his father that he has committed incest with Caddy. Quentin has tried to accept the reality by realizing that what he had done was wrong and not to be done more time. But Quentin couldn't forgive himself, then he committed suicide by drowning.

While in Indiana, Caddy meets Sidney Herbert Head who, next, becomes her husband. Caddy promises to Jason that Herbert will give Jason job in Herbert's bank. It is only unproved promise because Herbert divorces Caddy shortly after knowing that he is not the father of Caddy's baby, Quentin II. Then Caddy goes home and gives her baby to her mother to be looked after, and she leaves home and never to return. However, Caddy sent some money to Jason for Quentin II's allowance regularly. Everytime he got money from Caddy, he took the greater account of the money to be saved in his own room, and he only give the smaller account to Quentin II.

When Quentin II is teenage, she grows up to be a pig-headed and rebellious girl. Because Mrs. Compson is dead, Jason becomes the leader of the family and he is the one who fights Quentin II everytime she is out during school time. Quentin II was suspicious to her uncle as having stole her money everytime she got the money from her mother. Once, Quentin II entered Jason's room and stole

his money which was actually Quentin II's right. Then she run away with a carnival man using that money.

BAB III
PSYCHOANALYSIS THEORY OF
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