

CHAPTER IV

A. Conclusion

We can see Mrs. Arbuthnot's struggle to keep the spirit of sexual equality from her fight to Lord Illingworth. As we know that Illingworth is the father of Mrs. Arbuthnot's illegitimate son, Gerald, who refused marriage all those years ago but she doesn't wanna surrender to him. She keeps her spirit up to take care her child by herself without husband who spoilt her life like Lord Illingworth. She wants to prove to Lord Illingworth, although she is woman, she can work hard for earning her child living, she can survive to face all of problems that she had run. She proves that women can be as strong as man in surviving her life and once she proves that she can stand still in her own feet without Lord Illingworth's help and even thought he doesn't take responsibility as the father of her child, Gerald. In the other hand Mrs. Arbuthnot, Apparently a respectable widow who does good work among the poor and is a regular churchgoer. She declines invitations to dinner parties and other social amusements, although she does visit the upper class characters at Lady Hunstanton's, since they all appear to know her and her son, Gerald. However, the audience soon realise that she has a secret past with Lord Illingworth who is the father of her son, Gerald. Gerald Arbuthnot is The illegitimate son of Mrs. Arbuthnot and Lord Illingworth. Gerald's young and

rather inexperienced character represents the desire to find a place in society, and gain high social standing. His naïvety allows him to accept uncritically what society deems as proper, and his belief in honour and duty is what leads him to insist upon his parents' marriage.

B. Summary Of The Thesis

I choose the drama *A Woman of No Importance* as the subject of research of my thesis consists of five chapter.

The first chapter are background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the problem, theoretical framework, metode of research, benefit of the research, and systematical of the presentation.

The second chapter is the analysis of intrinsic elements which consist of characterization, plot and settings.

The third chapter is the analysis of the drama *A Woman of No Importance* by using feminism concept

The fourth chapter is the combination of intrinsic and extrinsic elements.

The fifth chapter is the closing which consists of conclusion and summary of the thesis.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Code, Lonair, ed., 2002. *Encyclopedia of feminism theories*: Routledge.

<http://www.wikipedia.co.id/feminism/css/.htm>

Minderop, Albertine, 1999. *Memahami teori-teori: sudut pandang, teknik penceritaan dan arus kesadaran dalam telaah karya sastra*. Jakarta: Universitas Darma Persada.

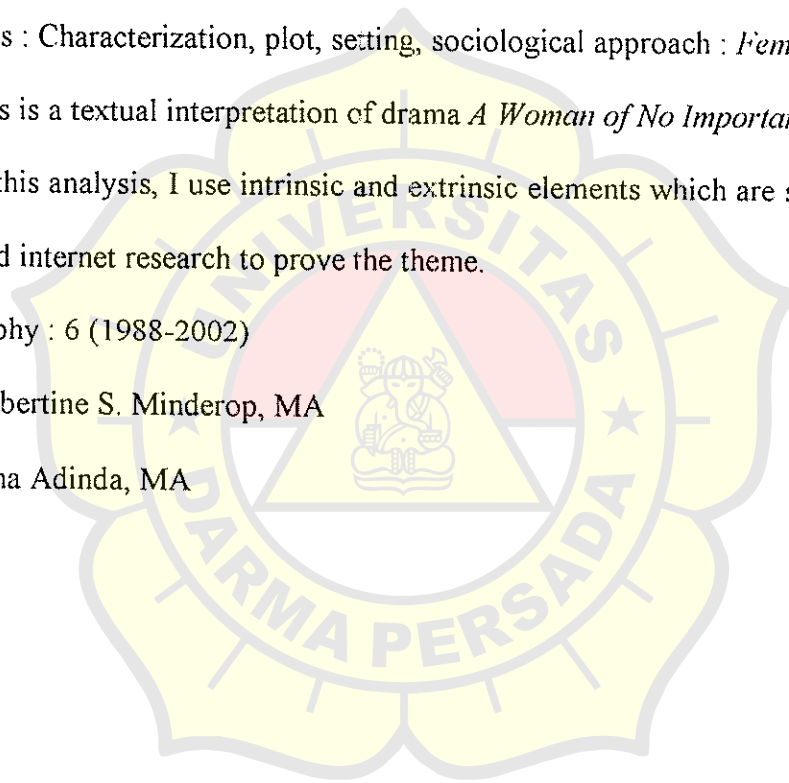
Nurgiantoro, Burhan. 1995. *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*. Yogyakarta: Universitas Gajah Mada.

Pickering James H and Jeffery D. Hooper. 1980. *Concise Companion to Literature*. New York: Macnillan Publishing co. Inc.

Wilde, Oscar, 1988. *A Woman of No Importance*, New York: Vintage Books

ABSTRACT

1. Yoeke Kartono
2. The Struggle of Woman To Get Her Right Back and Get Promotion Sexual Equality as A Central Point in Wilde's *A Woman of No Importance*.
3. VI + Bibliography + 63, pages, 2008.
4. Key words : Characterization, plot, setting, sociological approach : *Feminism*.
5. This thesis is a textual interpretation of drama *A Woman of No Importance* by Oscar Wilde. In this analysis, I use intrinsic and extrinsic elements which are supported by library and internet research to prove the theme.
6. Bibliography : 6 (1988-2002)
7. Dr. Hj. Albertine S. Minderop, MA
Dra. Karina Adinda, MA



SYNOPSIS

The story takes place among the British nobility. A young man, Gerald Arbuthnot, has just been offered a job as a secretary to a cynical, but amusing aristocrat, Lord Illingworth. He is a man of about 45 and a bachelor. He is witty and clever and a practised flirt, who knows how to make himself agreeable to women. He is Mrs. Arbuthnot's former lover and seducer and the father of Gerald Arbuthnot. Also, he has a promising diplomatic career and is shortly to become Ambassador to Vienna. He enjoys the company of Mrs. Allonby, who has a similar witty and amoral outlook to his own, and who also engages in flirting. His accidental acquaintance with Gerald, to whom he offers the post of private secretary, sets in motion the chain of events that form the main plot of the play. When Rachel Arbuthnot, Gerald's mother, comes to meet her son's mentor, she discovers that he is Gerald's father who abandoned them both years earlier. When Lord Illingworth's identity is revealed, Gerald demands that his mother marry the lord. She refuses and Gerald rejects Illingworth. Apparently Mrs. Arbuthnot is a respectable widow who does good work among the poor and is a regular churchgoer. She declines invitations to dinner parties and other social amusements, although she does visit the upper class characters at Lady Hunstanton's, since they all appear to know her and her son, Gerald. However, the audience soon realises that she has a secret past with Lord Illingworth who is the father of her son, Gerald.

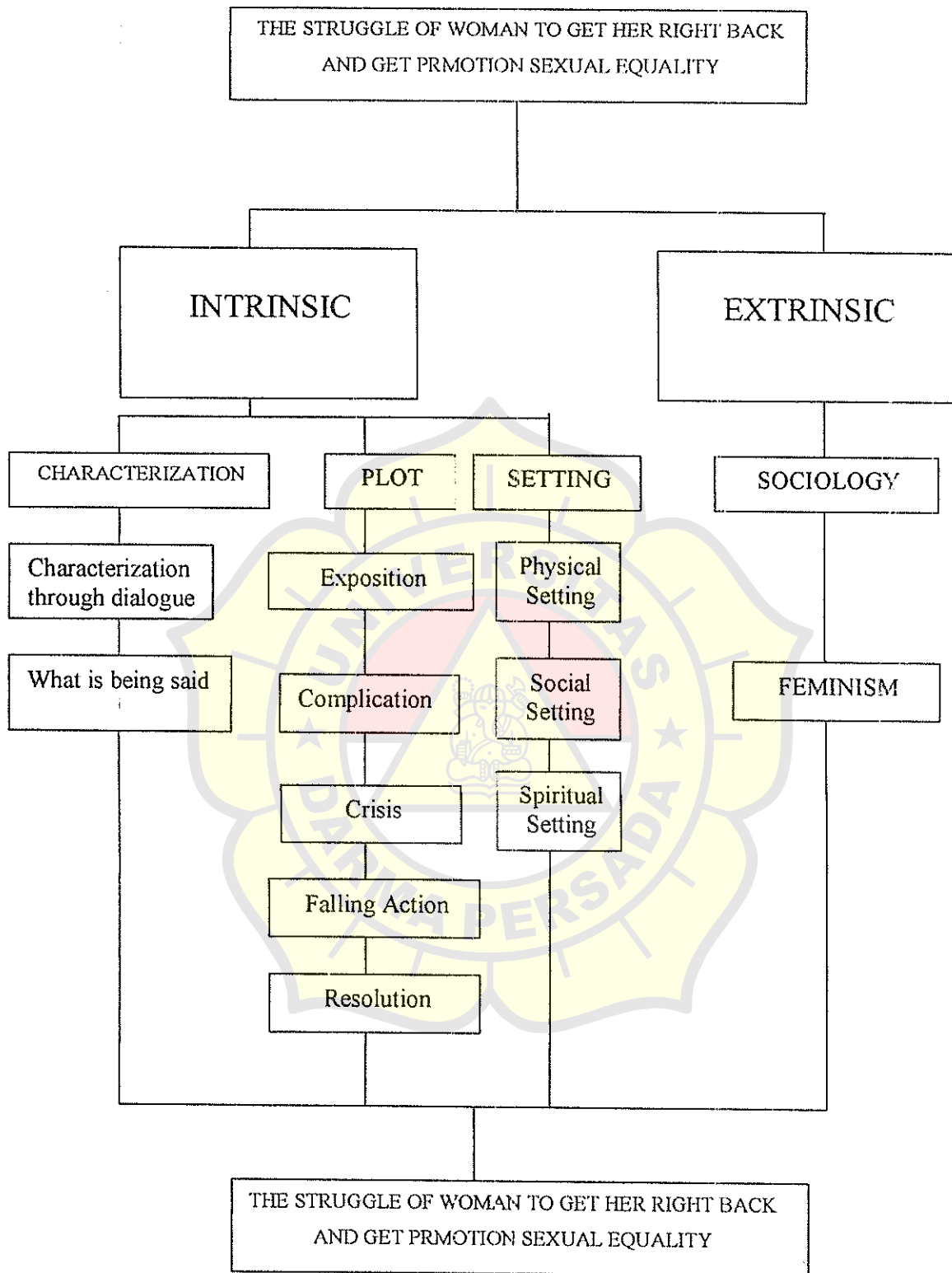
Illingworth represents the aristocracy--cynical and reckless. He, nonetheless, becomes the vehicle for many honest and amusing observations about British society. He sums up the state of society: "To get into the best society, nowadays, one has to either feed people, amuse people, or shock people--that is all!" Of the aristocracy, he says, "The English country gentleman galloping after a fox--the unspeakable in full pursuit of the

uneatable." "To win back my youth, Gerald," he remarks, "there is nothing I wouldn't do--except take exercise, get up early, or be a useful member of the community." Yet as much as Illingworth criticizes the excesses, he is a willing participant. Wilde has Illingworth, who feels nothing for anyone, express a view that lies at the heart of the play, "Nothing is serious except passion." What is that passion? Rachel Arbuthnot's love for her son and her shame about the past, both of which Illingworth is incapable of understanding.

What is Gerald's future to be? All the "best" people tell Gerald, who is young and inexperienced, that being Lord Illingworth's secretary will bring him wealth and position, and he is entranced. He accepts uncritically what society deems as successful and proper. Gerald sees his mother's redemption through marriage--a most conventional resolve--to the man who wronged her. Gerald sees the unfeasibility of the marriage only through his mother's intervention.

Talk about the characters, Mrs. Arbuthnot, the woman whom Illingworth calls of no importance, who embodies the characteristics which make the play timely: adherence to principles and respect for life. She despises the way in which Illingworth and his class toy with people's affections and ruin lives on a whim. The future she wants for Gerald is quite different, and is expressed most clearly by the character Hester (Sara Wolf), an American heiress, who becomes Gerald's fiancée: "We are trying to build up life on a better, truer, purer basis than life rests on here.... You shut out from your society the gentle and the good. You laugh at the pure and simple.... Living, as you all do, on others and by them, you sneer at self-sacrifice, and if you throw bread to the poor, it is merely to keep them quiet for a season.... Oh, your English society seems to me shallow, selfish, foolish."

SCHEME



AUTHOR'S BIBLIOGRAPHY

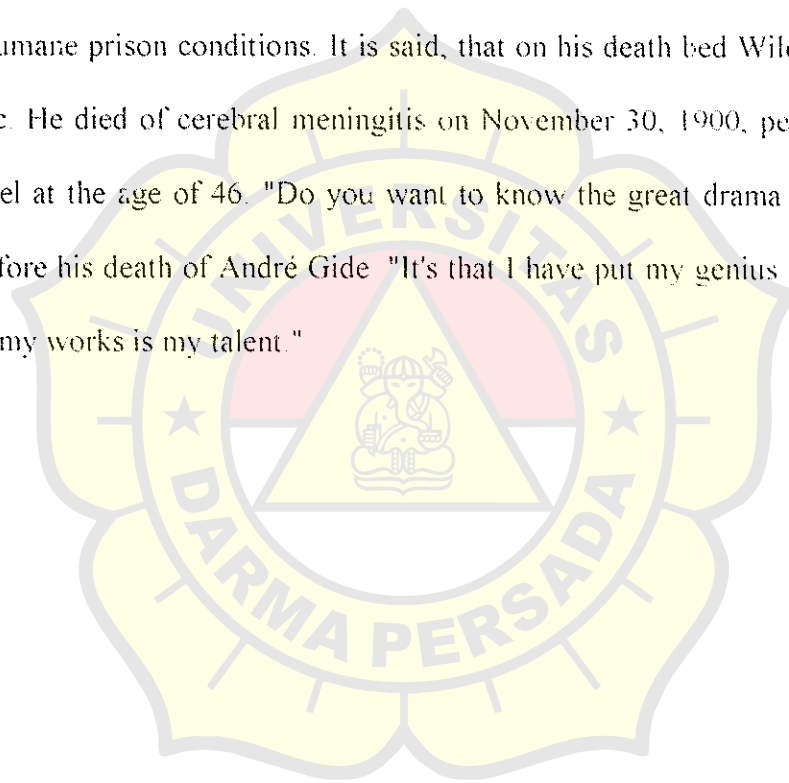
Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie Wills Wilde was born in Dublin to unconventional parents. His mother, Lady Jane Francesca Wilde (1820-96), was a poet and journalist. Her pen name was Sperenza. According to a story she warded off creditors by reciting Aeschylus. Wilde's father was Sir William Wilde, an Irish antiquarian, gifted writer, and specialist in diseases of the eye and ear, who founded a hospital in Dublin a year before Oscar was born. His work gained for him the honorary appointment of Surgeon Oculist in Ordinary to the Queen. Lady Wilde, who was active in the women's rights movement, was reputed to ignore her husband's amorous adventures.

Wilde studied at Portora Royal School, in Enniskillen, County Fermanagh (1864-71), Trinity College, Dublin (1871-74) and Magdalen College, Oxford (1874-78), where he was taught by Walter Pater and John Ruskin. Already at the age of 13, Wilde's tastes in clothes were dandy's. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* was published first by *Lippincott's Magazine* in 1890 and in expanded book form in 1891, added with six chapters. Wilde made his reputation in theatre world between the years 1892 and 1895 with a series of highly popular plays. *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) dealt with a blackmailing divorcée driven to self-sacrifice by maternal love. In *A Woman of No Importance* (1893) an illegitimate son is torn between his father and mother. *An Ideal Husband* (1895) dealt with blackmail, political corruption and public and private honour. *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895) was a comedy of manners.

Wilde was first in Wandsworth prison, London, and then Reading Gaol. When he was at last allowed pen and paper after more than 19 months of deprivation, Wilde had

became inclined to take opposite views on the potential of humankind toward perfection. During this time he wrote *DE PROFUNDIS* (1905), a dramatic monologue and autobiography, which was addressed to Alfred Douglas. "Everything about my tragedy has been hideous, mean, repellent, lacking in style. Our very dress makes us grotesques. We are the zanyies of sorrow. We are the clowns whose hearts are broken." (*De Profundis*)

After his release in 1897 Wilde lived under the name Sebastian Melmoth in Berneval, near Dieppe, then in Paris. He wrote *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*, revealing his concern for inhumane prison conditions. It is said, that on his death bed Wilde became a Roman Catholic. He died of cerebral meningitis on November 30, 1900, penniless, in a cheap Paris hotel at the age of 46. "Do you want to know the great drama of my life," asked Wilde before his death of André Gide "It's that I have put my genius into my life: all I've put into my works is my talent."



CURRICULUM VITAE



Personal Details

Name : Yoeke Kartono
Date of Birth : Pati 22 Agustus 1931
Nationality : Indonesian
E-mail : www.yoeke_kartono@yahoo.com
Phone : (021) 4717655
Sex : Female
Religion : Moslem

Formal Education

2004-2008 Student of English Department at Darma Persada
University, East Jakarta
2000-2004 ABA PERTIWI JAKARTA

Interest

Reading a book and watching news