

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having analysed the elements of plot in Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Hound of The Baskervilles and their effects on the readers, I come to the conclusion that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is a brilliant writer as he can make the three elements of plot, namely, suspense, surprise, and artistic unity, complete each other well in the story. Consequently, the story becomes more interesting to be followed by the readers. So skilful is Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in applying the three elements of plot that The Hound of The Baskervilles becomes the most famous of all detective novels and is still popular until now.

I find that the three elements of plot in The Hound of The Baskervilles are well defined as they can complete each other well. Suspense in the story makes the readers curious what will happen next and makes the readers keep on reading until the end of the story. Doyle also gives surprises to the readers which make the readers 'shocked' because what they expect will happen is not the same as what really happens in the story. Both suspense and surprise are related to artistic unity, which gives logical explanation, so it makes the story have a logical cause and effect relationship.

The events which shows Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's skills in applying suspense, surprise and artistic unity can be seen in the event when Sir Charles'

body is found by his servant, Barrymore. There are footprints of an animal around Sir Charles' body; this makes the readers curious to know what is the cause of Sir Charles' death and do the footprints have any relationship with it. After the readers are made curious, Doyle eventually surprises the readers by saying the cause of Sir Charles' death is the hound which runs after him and makes him get a heart attack outside the Baskerville Hall. This surprises the readers because they assume the cause of Sir Charles' death is a sudden heart attack. After surprising the readers, Doyle gives a logical explanation that the hound runs after and attacks Sir Charles because the hound is trained by Mr Stapleton, who knows Sir Charles' heart is weak and Sir Charles pays attention to the myth of the Baskerville family about the hound so Stapleton will not be suspected as the murderer.

Another event which shows how skilful Sir Arthur Conan Doyle is in applying the three elements of plot is when Sir Henry's (Sir Charles' cousin) boots are missing at the hotel, which makes the readers want to know who takes the boots and do the boots have a relationship with the murderer. Still, the readers are surprised when the boots are found at Mr Stapleton's house. It surprises because no one assumes Mr Stapleton takes the boots, but, in the end, Doyle gives a logical explanation, consequently, the readers know that the boots are used by Mr Stapleton to train the hound: Stapleton trains the hound to attack a person who wears the part of the clothing which has been put on the hound, so Stapleton uses the boots with a plan to kill Sir Henry. Besides this event, Doyle also applies suspense, surprise and artistic unity as brilliantly as this in other events.

The purpose of the author in applying the three elements of plot is not only to make the readers keep on reading but also to make readers more involved in the

story. The readers can feel how the character feels; they also feel as if they are Sherlock Holmes and try to solve the problem by finding out who is the murderer. The way Sir Arthur Conan Doyle applies the three elements of plot makes the characters more lifelike; besides, it also creates more surprise, which the readers expect from a detective novel.

Having studied the novel, I am of the opinion that the more skilful the author is in applying suspense, surprise and artistic unity in a novel, the more interesting the story becomes, and it can make the readers involved in the story the story also can be accepted by the readers and they will not feel 'cheated' by the story. I am also of the opinion that The Hound of The Baskerville is as worthy to be analysed as other literary works, even though it is sometimes not considered to be 'true literature' but only a detective story.