

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having analyzed F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Beautiful and Damned, the present writer will conclude his analysis. Through his discussion the present writer tries to present characteristics of the social condition of America during 1920's which is well known as the Roaring Twenties, when the new American culture was born and the old culture was replaced. These are pictured through the characteristic of the Roaring Twenties which is reflected by the three major characters: Anthony, Gloria and Maury.

Seeing that the author in this novel portrays the Roaring Twenties, the present writer decides to use Roaring Twenties as the extrinsic background to support his discussion. Through his analysis the present writer would like to reveal the characteristic of the Roaring Twenties. There are three dominant characteristics of the Roaring Twenties the present writer portrays. The first characteristic of the Roaring Twenties is freedom from restraint and fighting of moral tradition, the second is the orientation of money and the third is distrusting.

The first characteristic discussed is free from restraint and fighting moral tradition. This Roaring Twenties characteristic is the reflection of young generations of America, who lost the meaning and the purposes of their life and try to find it from amusement, which can be gained from irresponsible lifestyle such as: drinking and having parties. This Roaring Twenties characteristic is reflected through the three major characters, who live their life hedonistically. The portrayal of the major characters' irresponsibility also can be seen from Anthony and Gloria's marriage; both are unprepared to live in a marriage, for Gloria is not mature enough and Anthony does not have any job to support himself and his family. Maury Nobel in this novel is described to dislike the existence of moral system. The statement above is the portrayal of Roaring Twenties characteristic, when people fight against restraint.

The second Roaring Twenties characteristic analyzed is orientation of money. This characteristic actually is the effect of social condition of American during Roaring Twenties, when people became materialistic, for the reason that money is important in society and it also shows one's social status. This Roaring Twenties characteristic is portrayed by Anthony who is described here as a materialistic character. Anthony's materialistic character can be seen from his ambition to get his multimillionaire grandfather's money.

The last characteristic of the Roaring Twenties discussed is distrusting. This is actually the reflection of society during the Roaring Twenties, when people seem difficult to trust the others. This Roaring Twenties characteristic in

this novel is portrayed by Gloria. It can be seen from her reaction to all of their servants, especially to their Japanese servant named Tana.

The Beautiful and Damned pictured the social condition of a high class society which is represented by the two major characters: Anthony and Gloria. Those two major characters in the novel are the representation of American during the Roaring Twenties. Anthony is the representation of old American who was influenced by the new American, which is represented by Harvard, his college. This can be seen from the portrayal of the Anthony before and after he studies at Harvard. Anthony's marriage to Gloria and Anthony's waiting for his grandfather's money here represent the failure of Americans to achieve the meaning and the purposes of their life. Anthony wants to gain a happier future from his marriage but his dreams are not fulfilled. He also desires to live happily, by getting his grandfather's money. But when he finally gets it, he still feels his life empty.