

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

After having analysed the elements of plot in An Inspector Calls, I can conclude that J.B. Priestley is a great detective playwright due to the fact that he succeeds not only in producing a good story which makes the readers feel satisfied after having read the play, but also in creating the elements of suspense, surprise, and artistic unity so perfectly that these elements make the story become interesting to read.

Most of the elements of suspense in J.B. Priestley's An Inspector Calls are full of mysteries so as to make the readers wonder as well as question about both the connection of each character and the plot of the story itself. The readers may ask what kind of connection of each Birling family has with the suicide girl and who Goole really is. Not only does the suspense make the readers feel anxious about what will happen next, but it also makes the readers feel that they are brought into the story and experience the story as though they are the part of characters in the story.

The second element, which is surprise, is so great that it makes the readers feel shocked by some events due to the fact that they appear unexpectedly and unpredictably in the story. Those events show very unusual and strange things so that the readers will be surprised, for example when Goole interrogates each of the Birling family members, it is revealed that each family member knows the suicide girl.

Based on my analysis about suspense and surprise above, I believe that suspense and surprise are linked together to make artistic unity so that the plot in the story will be well-connected. J.B. Priestley puts suspense as well as surprise in the right order and interestingly gives the readers interesting unexpected events in order for the readers to enjoy the play and not to feel bored in reading until the end of the story. In other words, the three elements in An Inspector Calls are related to one another to make the story easily understood.

Generally, in a detective novel, suspense is the most important element because the purpose of a detective novel is to make the readers feel the curiosity in their minds and thoughts. Then, when the readers are trapped in the suspense, they are turned into the unexpected results which make them feel surprised. On account of that, the artistic unity appears as the result of the strong collaboration of suspense and surprise in the story so as to make a good story. Obviously, the example can be seen through the play, An Inspector Calls. At first, the readers do not know what connection that the Birling family and the suicide girl is. The readers only know that the Birling family is a rich and respectable family. When Inspector Goole

interrogates them, all the Birling family members know the suicide girl. The readers wonder why the rich and respectable family as the Birling family has a connection with the suicide girl and what their connection is. Then, the readers feel surprised through the statement of Inspector Goole when he interrogates each of the Birling family members.

Based on my analysis of suspense and surprise in the novel, I find that the element of suspense in the play, An Inspector Calls, is better than the element of surprise due to the fact that it makes the readers feel curious when reading the story. However, the element of surprise in this play is also very thorough to support the element of suspense that it makes the readers feel surprised after they know the facts which they never expect before.

Based on the reasons above, I conclude that J.B. Priestley is successful in uniting the elements of suspense, surprise and artistic unity into the plot of the story so that it becomes relevant and exciting to read, for the simple reason that the three elements of plot are well blended in the plot of the story. It is not surprising that An Inspector Calls turns out to be one of J.B. Priestley most famous detective plays.