CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

Having read the novel, finally I conclude my analysis in this chapter. I find that the protagonist in *Resurrection* is a dynamic character. The protagonist is represented by Nekhlyudov, a Russian aristocrat. The protagonist experiences changes in his life from bad to good one. The characteristics of the protagonist can be revealed through his speech, reaction, and direct comment, and the most dominant technique is speech.

In Leo Tolstoy’s *Resurrection*, I find out that the protagonist at first is portrayed as a person with bad characteristics. He is portrayed as an aristocrat with stereotypical characteristics such as self-centered and promiscuous, weak-principled, arrogant, and pretentious. Then he experiences some events in his life, the protagonist’s characteristics change into good ones, he becomes unselfish, responsible, high-principled, outspoken, and modest. These good characteristics are very contrast if it is compared to his characteristics before.

Tolstoy presents the protagonist as a Russian aristocrat. Russian aristocrats at that time are commonly portrayed as people who never care about other people’s condition, as also can be seen from Nekhlyudov who is portrayed in the first part of the novel as self-centered and promiscuous, weak-principled,
arrogant, and pretentious. Though he is portrayed as a typical aristocrat, still, Nekhlyudov is portrayed to have sincere heart because he actually wishes to be a better person, unlike the aristocrats in general. The change that happens to the protagonist is caused by people who suffer around him, especially experienced by Katusha, a woman who is once close to him. His guilty feeling and conscience drive him to become a better person. The protagonist also helps the poor people, which is unlikely to happen before. He helps them owing to the fact that he feels sympathy for the lower class people who suffer.

In relation to the change of the protagonist, I discover that Tolstoy presents the protagonist as a portrait of a person who wants to repent. From the portrayal, the readers can more or else notice that the changes can occur to anyone. It actually can be seen from the title of the novel itself, Resurrection, which means raised from death, and in this context, the protagonist is raised from the ‘death’ of his moral conscience; from someone who has bad personality and does not care about other people into a person who cares for other people. So from these changes I conclude that Tolstoy gives profound message to the readers that one should change his/her bad characteristics and start a new life by doing good things in one’s life. Tolstoy also wants to uplift the aristocrats’ image that not all aristocrats are bad. He presents the protagonist as a man who realizes his mistakes. From that representation, the readers can recognize that not all of Russian aristocrats at that time have bad characteristics. For those reasons, I think Tolstoy has succeeded in portraying the protagonist as the tool to convey his message.
Related to real life, I think the novel shows some useful knowledge and moral lesson concerning the humanity. I am also inspired to always change into a better person just like the protagonist. I also hope that the readers will adopt the novel as one of their references and guidance in undergoing their life in the society. For particular reason, I consider that Leo Tolstoy’s *Resurrection* to be worth reading and analyzing.