

**CHARACTERIZATION
IN
FIVE SELECTED SHORT STORIES**



A THESIS

**Presented to the Faculty of Letters
Hasanuddin University Ujungpandang
In Partial Fulfilment of the Requirement
to Obtain A Sarjana Degree in English**

BY

NURMINA SALEH

Reg. Number 90 07 032

UJUNG PANDANG

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Hasanuddin
UNIVERSITY
1995

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FAKULTAS SASTRA

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UNIVERSITAS HASANUDDIN

FAKULTAS SASTRA

Pada hari ini, Selasa tanggal 31 Oktober 1995, Panitia Ujian Skripsi menerima dengan baik skripsi yang berjudul :

CHARACTERIZATION IN FIVE SELECTED SHORT STORIES

yang diajukan dalam rangka memenuhi salah satu syarat ujian akhir guna memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris pada Fakultas Sastra Universitas Hasanuddin.

Ujungpandang, 31 Oktober 1995

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Finally, she realizes that this thesis is still far from being perfect. Therefore, corrections, suggestions, and recommendation from the readers are still needed to improve this thesis.

The Writer

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A B S T R A K

Skripsi ini berisikan hasil analisis dari lima naskah cerita pendek pilihan, yaitu: "My Oedipus Complex", "A Small, Good Thing", "Killings", "The Egg", and "Eveline", yang dikarang oleh pengarang yang berbeda, yaitu Frank O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Andre Dubus, Sherwood Anderson, and James Joyce. Penulis memilih cerita pendek dari pengarang yang berbeda dengan tujuan untuk mengetahui bagaimana kelima pengarang tersebut menampilkan tokoh-tokohnya sehingga ceritanya dapat betul-betul menarik bagi pembaca. Disamping itu, untuk mengetahui gaya tiap pengarang dalam menampilkan tokoh-tokohnya sehingga membedakannya dengan pengarang yang lain.

Dalam menganalisis kelima cerita pendek tersebut penulis menggunakan pendekatan intrinsik dengan menekankan pada penggambaran dan pengembangan tokoh cerita oleh pengarang. Dengan pendekatan tersebut, maka penulis akan menganalisis tokoh demi tokoh, dalam hal ini tokoh utama yang terdiri dari anggota keluarga dalam kelima cerita tersebut.

Dari analisis yang penulis lakukan, ternyata bahwa walaupun tokoh-tokoh dari kelima cerita pendek pilihan tersebut ditampilkan oleh pengarangnya dengan caranya tersendiri, namun semuanya bertutur tentang bagaimana reaksi manusia terhadap suatu peristiwa dan bagaimana kemampuan manusia dalam memahami suatu masalah.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Writing

Fiction is one of the most interesting and profitable forms of literature. It represents all aspect of life, so we can learn so much from it about ourselves and others, as well as about the world we live in. In other words, one who reads fiction can get an added value because he or she can learn so much from it about human problems and difficulties.

By reading fictions, we are able to share in the significant human experience of other people. We can also know how an author interprets his or her life or other people's in a society and what they mean to him or her. Eventhough we can not deny that fictions are usually concerned with fictitious people or events since they are produced through the imagination of the author. But, the source of imagination or inspiration sometimes comes from the reality, for instance politic and the living society, the result are mixed with the author's interpretation.

As one of literary genres, fictions is, then devided into some forms. One of those forms is short story. Different from the others, short story is shorter and can be read at a single sitting, and it presents an

artistic and unified impression of life (A.Grove Day, 1953 : 4).

To understand further about short story, Joseph F. Trimmer (1989 : 1-2) gives a definition as follows :

"Traditionally, the short story has been defined as a work of fiction that is unified by a structured plot in which a chain of circumstances and events is separated from the rest of human experience and treated as a coherent whole".

In order to understand and appreciate what an author wants to convey to us, we have to pay attention to some elements which build up a short story. In other words, our appreciation of a story can be increased if we understand more about the aspect that an author make use of in telling his story. They are character, theme, plot, setting, point of view, etc. All of the elements form a unity, they are connecting and supporting each other. So, it is important to know these elements.

As one of the most important element of the story, character have been specially created by authors. When authors create characters, they select some aspects of ordinary people, develop some of those aspects whilst playing down others, and put them together as they please. The methods by which writers or authors create, reveal, and develop characters is called characterization (Trimmer, 1989 : 3).

Authors of fiction have at their disposal a number of ways to reveal the character of person about whom they

are writing. Perhaps the most important method is through what they have the characters themselves do, say, and think. This is an especially good way of developing character because it allows readers to make their own estimates of the character of persons they read about.

Based on the statement above, the writer decided to analyze the characterization of five selected short stories. They are "My Oedipus Complex", "A Small, Good Thing", "Killings", "The Egg", and "Eveline". The writer takes them from two books, one of them is an anthology of short fiction entitled "fictions" by Joseph F. Trimmer, and the second one is a selection stories entitled "*Modern Short Stories : The Uses of Imagination*" which edited by Arthur Mizener.

The five short stories above are written by different authors. They are Frank O'Connor, Raymond Carver, Andre Dubus, Sherwood Anderson, and James Joyce. The writer selects the five short stories written by different authors to be analyzed because she wants to know how the five authors reveal to their readers the personality of the characters they create and how they present their character. The writer feels that there is an advantage to be derived from reading and analyzing some stories of different authors.

An author make his or her story significant by presenting human problems. The five selected short

stories present human problems in general and family problem in particular. In *"My Oedipus Complex"*, the authors describes about the young child 'Larry' has unconcious desire to his mother and hatred to his father. It is caused by he was very close to his mother when his father went for war. *"A Small, Good Thing"* dramatizes the reactions of a mother and father when their son is struck down by a hit and run driver. Then *"Killings"* dramatizes a father's plot to seek revenge for his son's death. In *"The Egg"*, a young narrator recounts his parents' unsuccessful attempt to triumph over disillusionment and fulfill their dreams. While in *"Eveline"*, the author describes about Eveline faces conflict in her inner feeling between staying with her family or going with her lover.

By analyzing the characterization of the five short stories, the writer attempts to find out what the authors try to present through the story. And, some experiences and attitudes in the stories are shown by the characters can be used as examples to be compared with our life.

One thing the writer has to describe that she chooses to analyze the short story because she realizes that many students prefer to analyze novel rather than short story, so she wants to show that by analyzing short story, we can gain more knowledge about human problem. And, reading short story does not like when we read novel. Because the basic difference between them is

length. A short story may be only 500 words long (the short-short story), or it may run from 12.000 to 15.000 words (the novelette) (Carlsen, G.Robert 1985 : 852). So, we do not need a lot of time to read short story and as the writer said before that we can learn so much from it, just like if we read a novel. Finally, we may know and understand people and ourselves better, and we become to know how life should be in an ideal level.

1.2 The Scope of Problem

Based on the title of this thesis "Characterization in Five Selected Short Stories", the writer wants to analyze the characterization or the ways by which writers or authors create, reveal, and develop characters in the five selected short stories. So, the writer will analyze how the five authors reveal to their readers the personality of the characters they create.

Because of the five short stories describe about family and their problem, so, the characters of these stories are the members of the family. Thus the writer is going to analyze and discuss how the five authors create, reveal, and develop the main character in each story in this case the member of the family, only.

Generally, authors develop a character in one or more ways. According to G. Robert Carlsen (1985 : 230),

in order to reveal to their readers the personality of the characters they create, the authors or writers generally develop a characters in the following ways :

- by how the character acts
- by what the character says and thinks
- by how the other characters react to the character, including what they say and think about the individual
- by implicit or explicit comparisons between one character and another or others
- by physical descriptions of the character
- by direct statements revealing the writer's idea of the character.

Based on some points above, the writers wants to analyze how the five authors develop the main character in those ways. And, the five short stories are analyzed and discussed separately.

1.3 The Objective of Writing

The main objective that the writer wants to achieve in this thesis is to reveal the characterization of the five selected short stories in order to actualize their themes. Another important thing is to reveal the authors' ways to develop the character and their description of the problems in each of their short stories.

Finally, the writer wants to know the typical style of developing character of the five authors.

1.4 Methodology

In doing this analysis, the writer uses intrinsic approach. This approach is limited to understand the five short stories through their elements which build up a story. The writer wants to discuss the subject as shown in the title. So, she does not want to make any critics or conclusion about the story, but she wants to make a descriptive analysis of the five short stories especially the characterization of them. In other words, the method of procedure followed to achieve the purpose of this study is descriptive.

To support this analysis, the writer uses two methods of research. The first one is the data collection and the second is the data analysis. The writer collects the data from the five short stories. In this matter, the data is all the sentences, phrases, and clauses which related to this analysis. The writer seeks for and read some textbooks, and other printed materials that have relationship with the analysis as well.

The collected data is, then, analyzed based on the sets of theories and any valid opinions. And, each short story will be analyzed separately.

1.5 The Sequence of Writing

This thesis consists of four chapter and is arranged as follows :

Chapter one is introduction which consists of background of writing, scope of problem, objective of writing, methodology, and the sequence of writing.

Chapter two deals with theoretical background and the authors. So, there will be the presentation of short story and its aspects--the writer means some theories or definition relating to short story are reviewed-- and the biography of the authors and their works.

Moving to chapter three or the core of this thesis, there will be an analysis of characterization of the five selected short stories in successive arrangement.

After all analysis have been done, the writer will conclude what she has analyzed. This point is in chapter four.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND AND THE AUTHORS

2.1 Theoretical Background

This chapter deals with the presentations and discussion of literature on which the writer bases her analysis in the following chapter-analysis. The chapter simply aims at giving a general idea of the theoretical limits of the problem and directing the presentation of data and their analysis what follows.

In this part, some theories or definitions relating to analysis are reviewed. The discussion on short story and its aspects- especially characterization- dominates this chapter since it is the main point of this analysis. The writer has based her information from several sources such as from Joseph F. Trimmer's *Fictions* (1989), Robert Carlsen's *American Literature, Themes and Writers* (1979) and *American Literature, A Chronological Approach* (1985), Joseph V.Landy's *Insight; A Study of the Short Story* (1972), Ann Charters' *The Story and Its Writer; An Introduction to Short Fiction* (1987), and some *Encyclopedias*.

According to Trimmer (1989:1), "One of the most difficult terms to explain is the basic one : What is a short story ?" What he says is reasonable, for there are

many different opinions about this literary form. Trimmer himself (1989:1) concludes that a short story is a work of prose fiction that is less than 40,000 words in length. Talking about its length, in *American literature, A Chronological Approach* (1985:852) says that a short story maybe only 500 words long (the short-short story), or it may run from 12,000 to 15,000 words (the novelette). Concerning the matter, Cuddon (1979 : 623) acknowledges that "When it comes to classification, the short story is one of the most elusive forms. It is doubtful, anyway, whether classification is helpful. Certainly there seems to be no point in measuring it".

That opinion above is quite right. Despite these uncertainties of its form, we can still have one characteristic of short story that is more essential than its length. The short story has a unity in which we may find a complete work of art. Based on this unity, eventually, there is definition of short story describing it as in *The Story and Its Writer* (Charter, 1987:1365). "a prose narrative usually involving one connected episode or a sequence of related events".

This definition clearly tells us what is in a short story or what this prose fiction consists of. Thus, one of the significant characteristic of a short story is a complete united form consisting of one incident or a closely related sequence of events.

Sharing the same range as other fictions such as novella and novel made short story's elements not entirely different from those. Charters (1987:4) consider that "the elements are characters, setting, point of view, style, theme, and plot". According to Trimmer (1989:3), these basic elements almost always work together to achieve the short story's purpose, direction, and movement. The definition of the elements will be given in the following passage below, and they are adapted from some sources such as Trimmer's *Fictions*, Charters' *The Story and Its Writer*, Perrine's *Literature; Structure, Sound, and Sense*, and some *Encyclopedias*.

Characters are the people who make something happen or produce an effect. (And not always just people) Various authors have experimented with other animals..... and with trees, chairs, and shoes as characters- even as narrators- with varying degrees of success. But when we say character, we usually mean a person. (Charters, 1987: 1368). Another definition about character is given by William E. Buckler et. al. in the introduction of his book "*Stories from Six Authors*" (1960) who states characters are the persons in a story who do things and to whom things happen.

To attain the information about the characters, it is necessary to notice the character as in the *Encyclopedia Americana*, vol. 6 (1982:290), as follows :

"The term "character" also denotes the essential qualities and personality traits of a fictional or real individual. The ability to create compelling, and believable characters is one of hallmarks of the literary artist.

A character in a work of fiction maybe realized in a number of ways. He may be a "flat", two dimensional figure or a "round", three-dimensional figure. A flat character sometimes known as a "type character", is usually lightly sketched without much detail. A round character is a generally a complex personality, a fully realized individual. The chief character or hero of a piece of fiction or drama is usually three-dimensional and is known as the protagonist. His advesary, if any, as known as antagonist".

Talking about character, there is a question which always asked by the readers : how are these characters created ? The answer will depend upon the way in which the author use to create the characters. The methods by which writers create, reveal, and develop characters is called characterization (Trimmer, 1989:3).

Talking especially about characterization, there is a definition given by William Harmon in his book "*A Handbook to Literature*" (1986:81),

"The creation of these imaginary persons so that they exist for the readers as lifelike is called characterization". ()

Furthermore, Wiliam Harmon says that :

"There are three fundamental methods of characterization in FICTION :
(1) the explicit presentation by the author of the character through direct EXPOSITION, either introductory block or more often piecemeal

throughout the work, illustrated by action;
(2) the presentation of the character in action, with little or no explicit comment by the author, in the expectation that the reader will be able to deduce the attributes of the actor from the actions; and (3) representation from within a CHARACTER, without comment on the character by the author, of the impact of actions and emotions on the character's inner self, with the expectation that the reader will come to a clear understanding of the attributes of the character". (1986:81).

Being based on the quotation above we can conclude that authors may present their characters either directly or indirectly. In direct presentation, they tell us straight out, by exposition, what the character are like, or have someone else in the story tell us what they are like. While in indirect presentation, the authors show us the characters in action; we infer what are like from what they think or say or do.

In this thesis, in analysing the five short stories, the writer uses the ways in developing characters, as G. Robert Carlsen says in *American Literature, A chronological Approach* (1985:230) :

"Characterization is the means by which authors reveal to their readers the personality of the characters they create. Writers generally develop a character in one or more of the following ways :

- 1) by how the character acts
- 2) by what the character says and thinks
- 3) by how other characters react to the character, including what they say and think about in the individual
- 4) By implicit or explicit comparisons between one character and another or others
- 5) by physical descriptions of the character
- 6) by direct statements revealing the writer's idea of the character".

The element of fiction which reveals to us the locale and period in which a story occurs is called Setting (Landy, 1972:161). In other formulation, Charters (1987:1369) says : Setting is the place and time of the story. Meanwhile, Trimmer (1989 : 4) limits the setting is the time, place, and social reality within which a story takes place. He adds, ..." setting is much more important. We have to understand where the characters are, in which period of time, in which society and which level in that society if we are to interpret correctly the other elements in the story".

Joseph V.Landy (1972:161-162) says that in many stories the setting is more important, sometimes as important as the characters. It has three principal functions ; 1) it can give immediacy to a story ; 2) the setting can lead atmosphere to a story and thus contribute to its emotional effect; and 3) the setting can enter directly into the meaning of a story.

Another element of short story is point of view. It refers to the way the story is told. As X.J.Kennedy says in his book "*Literature: an introduction to fiction, Poetry, and Drama*" (1991 : 19) that to identify the narrator of a story, describing any part he or she plays in the events and any limits placed upon his knowledge, is to identify the story's point of view.

Talking about point of view, Charters classified

it into two major categories :

- (1) First person narrator (narrator a participant in the story)
 - a. A major character
 - b. A minor character
- (2) Third-person narrator (narrator a nonparticipant in the story)
 - a. Omniscient-- seeing into all characters
 - b. Limited Omniscient-- seeing into one or, infrequently, two characters.

The first-person narrator uses the pronoun "I" and the third-person narrator uses the pronoun "he", "she", and "they". The first-person narrator can move freely within the fictional world, and he or she can approach other the fictional characters as closely as one human being can approach another, but the narrator has no way or understanding these character except by observation of what they say and do. (1987 : 1370-1371).

The Third-person narrator has two general kinds i.e. the omniscient and the limited omniscient point of view. In the omniscient point of view, the teller knows everything there is to know about all the characters, both inside and out (what they think and feel as well as what they do). Limited omniscient narration is usually confined to revealing the thoughts of one character. The narrator tells the story without really evaluating or commenting on the actions, which speak for themselves.

The language the author uses in narration is called style. There are two aspects of style, according to Charters, i.e. irony and symbol. Irony is a term that suggest some sort of discrepancy between what is said and the reality, where as symbol is usually defined as something that stands for something else (Charters, 1987: 1372-1374).

Theme is one of the elements of short fiction. The theme of a story is whatever general idea or insight the entire story reveals (Kennedy, 1991:114). To Charters, theme is generalizations about the meaning of a story, he adds, theme is an abstract formulation of that truth, the author's vision of the meaning of life (1987: 1374-1375).

Trimmer gave some principles about theme. According to him, since a good short story is likely to rise a number of related issues and pose a number of complex questions for perceptive readers, we may find it difficult to decide which is the most important theme, which potential statement of theme best integrates all our perceptions and insights about the story (1982:7-8). Then, Trimmer adds, our view of theme finally must be broad enough to include the whole story and its implications.

Since the short story is defined as prose narrative usually involving one connected episode or a sequence of related events, the elements of plot is basic to this

literary form (Charters; 1987:1365). Plot is the sequence of incidents or events of which a story is composed (Perrine, 1956:41). The events, as Charters states, are usually related by causation, and their meaning lies in this relation.

Charters, then, divided plot into four parts. The first part is called exposition in which the author introduces the characters, scene, time, and situation. The second part is called the rising action; it shows the dramatization of events that complicate the situation and gradually intensify the conflict. The third one is climax, where the rising action (complication and conflict) come to the further development and to a moment of crisis. And in the fourth part, which is called falling action, the problem or conflict proceeds toward resolution (1987:1366-1367).

Meanwhile, in *"American Literature, a chronological approach"* (1985:849) plot is divided into three major elements. They are exposition, conflict, and climax. The exposition is explanatory information given in a piece of writing about characters, setting, time, and prior happenings so that the reader can understand the action that follows. Conflict is a struggle between opposing forces in a literary work. Then climax or turning point is the point of highest interest and emotional involvement for the reader.

For all the definitions and classifications above,

the writer hopes that short story and the elements which build it up is already clear. And now, the analysis has been able to be begun (see chapter III).

2.2 Biography of The Authors and Their Works

The biography of the author would reveal some of the correlations between the author's own experiences and the content of his or ^{her} works. In *"A Handbook for Student Writers"*, John R. Willingham and Donald P. Warders (1978:120) state that, "We could choose any author's life for tracing its echoes in his or her work: his or her place of birth and development, awareness of social and political issues, notion of how and for what ends people live and work, understanding of nature and its endless process, store of human types and variety. In short, from their lives, including their reading of other authors, writer select details of plot and theme by which they tell us what experience seems to mean".

The following biography of the authors of the five selected short stories are derived from some sources. They will be presented separately

2.2.1 Frank O'Connor

The following biography of Frank O'Connor and his works are taken from the book *"The Story and its Writer"*

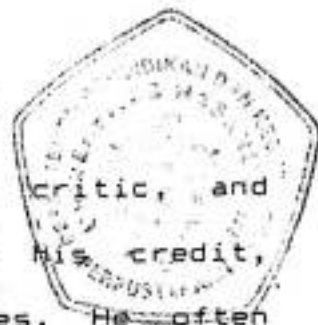
which edited by Ann Charters and it was published by Longman in 1985.

Frank O'Connor was the pseudonym for Michael Francis O'Donovan (1903-1966), who was born in Cork, Ireland. His parents were so poor that he attended school only through the fourth grade, at the Christian Brother School in Cork. During the Irish-struggle for independence from England (1918-1921) he was briefly a member of Irish Republican Army. For several years thereafter he worked as a librarian in Cork and Dublin; it was at this time that he began using his pseudonym so he would not jeopardize his job as a public official. He had began to be a painter or a writer. "I discovered by the time I was sixteen or seventeen that paints cost too much money, so I become a writer because you could be a writer with a pencil and a penny notebook".

When O'Connor was twenty-eight years old, the Atlantic Monthly published his story "*Guests of the Nation*", which he later said was an imitation of Isaac Babel's stories in *Red Cavalry*. His first collection of stories appeared that the same year (1931), and from then on he made his living as a writer.

During the 1950s he lived in the United States, teaching at Harvard and North Western and publishing two excellent critical works about fiction, *The Mirror in the Roadway* (1956), a study of the modern novel and *The Lonely Voices* (1963) a history of the short story.

O'Connor was a prolific writer, editor, critic, and translator. With almost fifty books to his credit, including fourteen volumes of short stories. He often rewrote his stories several times, even after they were published, so many of them appear in different versions in his various volumes.



O'Connor was productive in many literary forms, but his greatest achievement was in the short story. Primarily indebted to Anton Chekov as his model, he declared himself to be an old-fashioned storyteller, believing that a story should have the sound of a person speaking. This gives his fiction an engaging tone, confirming--as do Chekov's stories-- the author's basically sympathetic attitude toward his characters. In praising O'Connor's stories the noted Irish poet William Butler Yeats said that he was doing for Ireland what Chekov did for Russia.

2.2.2 Raymond Carver

The following information about Raymond Carver is derived from two books. They are: *"The Story and its Writer"* by Ann Charters (1985:1096) and *"Fictions"* by Joseph F. Trimmer (1989:138).

Raymond Carver (1938-1988) was born in Clatskanie, Oregon. He grew up in a logging town in Oregon, where his father worked in a mill and his mother held odd jobs.

After graduating from high school, Carver married at the age of eighteen and had two children. Working hard to support his wife and family, he managed to enroll briefly in 1958 as a student at a Chico State College in California, where he took a creative writing course from a then-unknown young novelist named John Gardner. Carver remembers that he decided to try to become a writer because he liked to read pulp novels and magazines about hunting and fishing. He credits Gardner for giving him a strong sense of direction as a writer: "A writer's values and craft. This is what the man-taught and what he stood for, and this is what I've kept by me in the years since that brief but all important time."

In 1963 Carver received his B. A. degree from Humboldt State College (now California State University, Humboldt) in Northern California. The following years he studied writing at the University of Iowa. But the 1960s were difficult for him and his wife.

I learned a long time ago when my kids were little
I learned a long time ago when my kids were little and we had no money, and we were working our hearts out and weren't getting anywhere, even though we were giving it our best my wife and I, that there were more important things than writing a poem or a story. That was a very hard realization for me to come to. But it came to me, and I had to accept it or die. Getting milk and food on the table, getting the rent paid, if a choice had to be made, than I had to forget writing.

Carver's desire to be a writer was so strong that he kept on writing long after the "cold facts" of his life

told him he ought to quit. His first collection of stories, *Will You Please Be Quiet, Please*, was nominated for a National Book Award in 1976. Four more collections of stories followed in the next decade, along with four books of poetry. The spare, laconic conversational style and bleak atmosphere of Carver's fiction have evoked comparisons to the stories of Sherwood Anderson; both writers describe what one New York Times critic has called "the country of arduous life." Like that of Anderson before him, Carver's skillful, quiet voice is a strong influence on a generation of young writers, making him America's preeminent contemporary short story author.

After further study at the University of Iowa, Carver worked briefly as an editor for Science Research associates before accepting several positions as a lecturer in creative writing at the University of California, Berkeley, the Writing Workshop at the University of Iowa, and the University of Texas at El Paso. In 1980 he became a Professor of English at Syracuse University. He died in the summer of 1988, at the age of 50, at his home in Port Angeles, Washington. He contributed poems and stories to many literary periodicals and such national magazines as *Esquire* and *Harper's*. The story "*A Small, Good Thing*," which will be analyzed reprinted from "*Cathedral*" (his collected stories).

2.2.3 Andre Dubus

Andre Dubus was born in 1936 in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and received his undergraduate degree at McNeese State College. Upon graduation, Dubus was commissioned as a lieutenant in the Marine Corps and rose to the rank of Captain before he left the service in 1964 to pursue graduate work in creative writing at the University of Iowa. In 1966 Dubus accepted a professorship at Bradford College, where he continues to teach modern fiction and creative writing.

He has published his short stories in journals such as *Sewanee Review*, *Carlton Miscellany*, and *North American Review*. His first novel, the *Lieutenant* (1967), based on his military experience, received excellent reviews, as did his novella and his collections of stories, including *Separate Flights* (1975), *Adultery and Other Choice* (1977), *Land Where My Fathers Died* (1984), and *The last Worthless Evening* (1986). "Killings" reprinted from *Finding a Girl in America* (1980), is the story will be analyzed in this thesis.

The biography of Andre Dubus above is derived from Joseph F. Trimmer's book "*Fictions*" (1989:321).

2.2.4 Sherwood Anderson

The source of Sherwood Anderson's biographical sketch below is, too, derived from the book "*The Story*

and Its Writer" (1985 : 448).

Sherwood Anderson (1876-1941), born the son of jack-off-all-trades father in Camden, Ohio, spent his youth drifting with his family from town^{to town} in midwestern America. He did not publish his first book until he was over forty years old. Later, when he analyzed the impulse toward writing fiction that he had experienced after working for many years as a newsboy, farm laborer, stable boy, factory hand, and advertising copywriter, Anderson recalled that he said to himself, "I will take some fellow, a little like my self, something of the same circumstances, same experiences in life. I'll put him down on paper, his life, his relations with others, the story of the things that happen to him, how he feels-- all this on sheets of paper. It seemed to me, when I began to do it. that I could, by writing, push my self, as self. far off. I could get my self, as self, in the unimportant position I deserved. I become, for the nonce, to myself, just a passing thing, just one of along, long procession of men ... any one other figure in the procession certainly as important as myself ... a kind of new gladness inside."

Dissatisfied with the commercial spirit of the advertising business, Anderson made friends with writers in Chicago and began publish his own poetry and fiction. The poet Carl Sanburg encouraged him, but Anderson's

literary style was most influenced by *Three Lives*, an early book of the expatriate American writer Gertrude Stein, which he felt revolutionized the language of narrative. In 1916 he published his first novel, *Windy McPherson's Son*. He followed it with another novel and a volume of poetry, but he did not receive wide recognition until 1919, with the book *Winesburg, Ohio*. This was a collection of related stories, including "Hands", about life in small town, that developed the theme of youth in revolt against the repressive conventions of materialistic society. It was followed by other important collections of stories: *The Triumph of the Egg* (1921), *Horses and Men* (1923), and *Death in the Woods and Other Stories* (1933). In his time Anderson was a strong influence on Ernest Hemingway, William Faulkner, and John Steinbeck. The best of his stories like "Hands", "I'm a Fool", and "Death in The Woods," have an enduring vitality and are important contributions to the achievement of the American short story.

The characteristic tone of Anderson's short fiction is melancholy reminiscence. His stories are largely autobiographical, often recalling the tales told by his father or other members of his family. In an understated fashion, Anderson weaves carefully selected realistic details into a narrative that moves by apparently formless associations of thought and feeling, but is actually a controlled progression of fully dramatized

situations. At the heart of "*Death in the Woods*", as of all his best work, is Anderson's obsession with the theme of love denied and life destroyed by an uncaring hostile environment. His importance in literary history is accurately summed up in William Faulkner's statement that Anderson was "the father of my generation of American writers and the tradition of American writing which our successor will carry on".

2.2.5 James Joyce

The source of James Joyce's biographical sketch is derived from the book "*Fictions*" by Joseph F. Trimmer (1989 : 608).

James Joyce (1882-1941) was born in Dublin, Ireland, and was given a strict Jesuit education at schools such as Belvedere College in Dublin. During his last year at Belvedere began to reject his Catholic faith, choosing instead to study modern languages at University College, Dublin. Joyce's literary hero was playwright Hendrik Ibsen, whose plays embodied a theme that intrigued Joyce: the cost of individual rebellion in the face of community conformity. So that he could read and write about Ibsen's plays, Joyce taught himself Norwegian. In 1902, Joyce left home, religion, and country to spend the rest of his life as an exile in Europe. He lived briefly in Paris, Trieste and Zurich.

teaching school and writing stories about the various forms of intellectual paralysis he perceived in his homeland. Joyce published these stories, *Dubliners*, in 1914 and then, in 1916, produced a semiautobiographical account of his own development as a writer, *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. In 1920 Joyce moved back to Paris, where he found support and sympathy for the literary innovations in his masterpiece, *Ulysses* (1922). Complex and uncompromising in its language, the book created such a public controversy that it was banned in America until a high court cleared the way for its publication in 1933. Ignored and often misunderstood, Joyce spent the remaining years of his life working on his final experimental epic, *Finnegans Wake* (1939).

CHAPTER III

A N A L Y S I S

When we talk about short story, we are always concerned with the important aspect which occupies the author's mind the create it. The aspect is the character. It is one of the tools of the author to build up his story. Character helps to show the process of facts which will be described by the author in the plot. It means that the author has to consider the aspect. In other words, a quality of the short story is mostly determined by the capability of the author in creating his or her characters. Thus, an author of the story must be able to observe human nature and from his observations, he or she is able to create life like characters.

Each author of short fiction puts his or her own emphasis on character. An attentive reader can perceive that Frank O'Connor and Sherwood Anderson, for example, did not develop characters in the same way. They have at their disposal a number of ways to reveal the character of persons about whom they are writing. Perhaps the most important method is through what the characters themselves do, think, and say. This is an especially good way of developing character because it allows readers to make their own estimates of the character of the persons they read about.

Therefore, the writer of this thesis -- as mentioned in chapter I-- would like to analyze how the five authors reveal to their readers the personality of the characters they create. In this case the personality of the main characters.

The following paragraphs is a brief character analysis about those people who are directly involved in the story. The procedure of this analysis is : firstly, the writer tries to identify the characters in the story. Then, the characters will be qualified, the qualification is based on the method of developing characters which the writer has presented in chapter II. Finally, the writer concludes and compares the results of these analysis of the five selected short stories.

To make this analysis more systematic, the five selected short stories, are analyzed successively. The first one is *"My Oedipus Complex"*, the second one is *"A Small, Good Thing"*, Thirdly *"Killings"*, the fourth is *"The Egg"*, and the last one is *"Eveline"*.

3.1 My Oedipus Complex

"My Oedipus Complex" tell us about the boy, named Larry, who has a family problem. His father joined the war, so he must leave his son and his wife. Everyday Larry get attention and love just from his mother. Meanwhile, his father never gives him any attention. He is not close to his father.

Because of these, Larry wants his mother for himself alone and to be rid of his father. In the other words, he has unconscious desire for his mother and hatred for his father. According to the psychologist, the boy has feeling like that, suffers from a disease called Oedipus Complex --In Freudian Psychology ; an unconscious sexual desire by a young boy for his mother combined with hatred of his father (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English)-- so, we can say that Larry is psychologically abnormal.

But at the end of the story, Sonny (Larry's brother) is born. The same his father, Larry hates his brother, because he thinks that Sonny demands too much his mother's attention. His father also complains because Sonny always cries at night. One day, Larry protests about the situation in their home. His protest is heard by his father. It is because they are both jealous with Sonny who always required considerable attention from mother. Finally, Larry and his father reconcile.

In this story, the author presents four characters, but one of them is not like the others characters. The character just supports the three characters in this story. They are Larry (narrator), Mick (Larry's father), Larry's mother (the author did not mention her name), and Sonny (Larry's brother as a supporter).

In order to know the author's way of creating the characters in this story, the writer would like to analyze the three characters one by one. Let us see the following analysis.



L a r r y

Larry is a young boy whose father was an army. His father's name is Mick and his mother's name did not mentioned by the author. His age was five years when his father went for war. To support these statements, we can see in the following description :

Father was in the army all through the war-- the first war, I mean-- so, up to age of five, I never saw much of him, and what I saw did not worry me.

(Page 137.)

From the quotation above, we know that Larry's father was in the army all through the World War I, when Larry was five years old. So, Larry has enjoyed a long monopoly of the affection of his mother during his soldier-father's absence. Because of that, Larry more closes to his mother than his father. The close relationship between Larry and his mother give side effect to Larry. He suffers a disease called Oedipus Complex. According to Freud's theory this is a desire of the male child to overthrow the father and possess the

mother (the boy's desire for the mother as the sexual object). (Robert B. Burns, 1986 : 247, and Michael Siegal, 1985 : 21).

The following are some lines quoted from the dialogue, reflecting Larry's desire as a young boy whose love his mother.

"Mummy," I said, "do you know what I'm going to do when I grow up?"

"No, dear," she replied. "What?"

"I'm going to marry you," I said quietly.

Father gave a great guffaw out of him, but he didn't take me in. I knew it must only be pretence. And Mother, in spite of everything, was pleased. I felt she was probably relieved to know that one day Father's hold on her would be broken.

"Won't that be nice?" she said with a smile.

"It'll be very nice," I said confidently. "Because we're going to have lots and lots of babies."

(Page 146)

Another attitude of Larry which shows that he wants his mother for himself alone and to be rid of his father when his father come back from the war. He looks jealous and dislike to his father, when he saw his father talk to his mother, who looked anxious. Let us see the following paragraph :

The irony of it ! That every day when he came into dinner he took off his boots and put on his slippers, donned the dirty old cap he wore about the house to save him from colds, crossed his legs, and began to talk gravely to Mother, who looked anxious. Naturally, I disliked her looking anxious, because it destroyed her good looks, so I interrupted him.

(Page 139)

For Larry, as perhaps to many children, the relation between his mother and father seem a bit mysterious, and he can not understand why his father makes love to his mother. Larry was jealous of his father when he saw his mother sleep with his father in one bed. He felt it was not fair. Because before his father come back from war, every time he pointed out to his mother that it is waste of making two beds while they could sleep altogether in one bed. But his mother had told him that it was healthier if they did not sleep in one bed. When he saw his mother and father sleep in one bed, Larry was dislike this condition. It can be seen as follows :

Father said nothing, but lit his pipe and sucked it, looking out into shadows without minding Mother or me, I knew he was mad. Every time I made a remark Mother hushed me irritably. I was mortified. I felt it wasn't fair; there was even something sinister in it. Every time I had pointed out to her the waste of making two beds when we could both sleep in one, she had told me it was healthier like that, and now here was this man, this stranger sleeping with her without the last regard for her health !

(Page 142)

Everyday--since his father come back from war-- Larry feel that he does not compatible with his father and he does not like his father presence. He thinks that his mother pays more attention to his father than him. He could not come into Mother's room and climbed into the big bed again-- as he did before-- so that he did not disturb his father in the morning. Larry began to feel

that he had got competition from his father to get his mother attention and affection. Let us see what Larry and his mother talked about :

"Larry, I want you to promise me something."

"What is it ?" I asked.

"Not to come in disturb poor Daddy in the morning. Promise ?"

"Poor Daddy" Again ! I was becoming suspicious of everything involving that quite impossible man.

"Why ?" I asked.

"Because poor Daddy in worried and tired and he doesn't sleep well."

(Page 142)

Because of those incidents, Larry boring and begun to think -- with his children thinking -- that whose house does he stay now ?

"That has nothing to do with it," she said with a firmness that was new to me. "Daddy wants to sleep Now, do you understand that ?"

I understood it only too well. I wanted to talk, he wanted to sleep-- whose house was it, anyway ?

(Page 143, 144)

Larry's heart rebelled toward the situation like that, so he try to get his parents' attention. when they are talking seriously. Here we can see that Larry begin to have no regard to his parents. He did not show respectful to his parents anymore. Let us notice the line which reflects his attitude to his parents :

.....That very day when he came in to dinner he took off his boots and put on his slippers, donned the dirty old cap he wore about the house to save him

from colds, crossed his legs, and began to talk gravely to Mother, who looked anxious, because it destroyed her good looks, so I interrupted him.

(Page 139)

If Larry begin to interrupt their talking. Larry's mother will admonish him. It makes him surprise, because Larry never heard his mother's words like that before. We can find in the following quotation :

"Do be quite, Larry !" she said impatiently.
"Don't you hear me talking to Daddy ?"
This was the first time I had heard those ominous words, "talking to Daddy," and I couldn't help feeling that if this was how God answered prayers, he couldn't listen to them very attentively.

(Page 139)

Larry would not give in his father to get his mother's attention. There were some incidents which have done by Larry that made his father angry with him. One morning when his father was still sleeping, Larry went into his mother's room and talked to his mother. Larry deliberately talked to his mother in high voice, so his father awake. Larry's father was upset, but he said nothing. Then, he went to the kitchen and made tea for himself and his wife and none for Larry. As a child, Larry who always wants to get attention from his parents, he became to hate to his father who treats him like that. Larry asked his mother for a cup of tea, too. But his mother asked him to drink from her saucer. Let us see the following passages :

He got up early and made tea but though he brought Mother a cup he brought none for me.

"Mummy," I shouted, "I want a cup of tea, too."

"Yes, dear," she said patiently. "You can drink from Mummy's saucer."

That settled it. Either Father or I would have to leave the house. I didn't want to drink from Mother's saucer; I wanted to be treated as an equal in my own home, so just to spite her, I drank it all and left none for her. She took that quietly, too.

(Page 142)

Then, the author described that Larry's brother was born. His name was Sonny. Eventhough Larry craves a young brother, but he considered that it was a calamity. Larry -- like his father -- disliked Sonny, because he felt that Sonny was a new rival in getting his mother attention.

Larry also think that his mother pay much attention to his brother, Sonny. It makes him jealous with Sonny. Larry was described in the narrative below :

And calamity it was ! Sonny arrived in the most appalling hullabaloo -- even that much he couldn't do without a fuss -- and from the first moment I disliked him. He was always difficult child -- so far as I was concerned he was always difficult -- and demanded far too much attention. Motner was simply silly about him, and couldn't see when he was only showing off.

(Page 147)

From all description above, we may conclude that Larry -- just like another children whose the same age as Larry -- has attitude like naughty, always try to get

attention of another people around him, the capacity of ego is high, and he can remember the incident which happened in the past. But, one thing that makes Larry is different with another children whose the same age as him is Larry suffers a disease called *Oedipus Complex*. It is caused by situation at the time, Larry gets too much attention and affection just from his mother. Meanwhile, he never gets those from his father, because his father joins the war.

At the end of the story, we can see that Larry and his father become reconciled. Larry's father realizes himself and try to please his son. He also tries to be more close with his son. Finally, Larry also responds to his father's wish. The situation above happened because Larry and his father have the same problem-- they both try to get mother's attention but the mother has no consideration now for anyone but Sonny who still a baby-- So, they are jealous with Sonny.

To show that he also pays attention to his son, Larry's father give Larry a really nice model railway at christmas.

At Christmas he went out of his way to buy me a really nice model railway.

(Page 148)

Larry's Father

In this story, Larry's father was an army who was sent to the battlefield. His name is Mick. As an army.

Mick was willing to be sent to the battlefield, eventhough he had to left his wife and son for a long time.

Father was in the army all through the war --the first war, I mean-- up to the age of five, I never saw much of him, and what i saw did not worry me.

(Page 137)

From the narrative above we know that Mick left his son, Larry, until Larry's age was five years old. Therefore, Larry never saw much of him and Mick could not give his affection and attention to his son. Larry got affection and attention from his mother only. It made him more close to his mother than his father.

To Larry, his father like Santa Claus. In this case, he wants to describe about his father by comparing directly the quality of the frequency of his father's coming home to Santa Claus -- We can imagine how many times Santa Claus come to a house in a year, of course, not more than once. Let us see what Larry describes about his father :

.....Sometimes in the early morning I heard the slamming of the front door and the clatter of nailed boots down the cobbles of the lane. These were Father's entrances and exits. Like Santa Claus he came and went mysteriously. (Page 137)

Since came back from war, Mick did not try to bring him close to Larry. Eventhough he realized that he did not close to his son, he did not do anything until his wife asked him to take Larry for a walk -- as a one way to make they close -- Larry's narrative below supports the statement above :

In the afternoon, at Mother's request, father took me for a walk. This time we went into town instead of out the country, and I thought at first. In my usual optimistic way, that it might be an improvement

(Page 139)

The incompatibility between Mick and his son was clear when they went into town together. Look at the following passage :

.....Father and I had quite different notions of a walk in town. He had no proper interest in trams, ship, and horses, and the only thing that seemed to divert him was talking to fellows as old as himself. When I wanted to stop he simply went on, dragging me behind him by the hand; when he wanted to stop I had no alternative but to do the same

(Page 139, 140)

Then, Larry also described his father like a mountain. He said that because of his father's attitudes when they both went into town. Let's see Larry's narrative below :

..... He seemed to be settling himself forever. I pulled him by the coat and trousers, but, unlike Mother who, if you were to persistent, got into a wax and said : "Larry, if you don't behave your self, I'll give you a good slap," Father had an extraordinary capacity for amiable inattention. I sized him up and wondered would I cry, he seemed to

be too remote to be annoyed even by that. Really, it was like the wrenching and pummeling entirely, or else glanced down with a grin of amusement from his peak. I had never met anyone so absorbed in himself as he seemed.

(Page 140)

Mick did not care about how to bring up his son, and he lets that problem done by his wife. Say for example when Larry disturbed the soundness of his sleep, Mick would let his wife to make Larry understands that Mick could not be disturbed because he was tired. Let us see the conversation between Larry and his mother :

"Well, you know, don't you, that while he was at the war Mummy got pennies from the Post Office ?"

"From Miss MacCarthy ?"

"That's right. But now, you see, Miss MacCarthy hasn't any more pennies, so Daddy must go out and find us some. You know what would happen if he couldn't ?"

"No," I said, "tell us."

"Well, I think we might have to go out and beg for them like the poor old woman on Fridays. We wouldn't like that, would we ?"

"No," I agreed. "We wouldn't."

"So you'll promise not to come in and wake him ?"

"Promise."

(Page 143)

If Larry played with Mick's toys -- all sorts of military equipment -- his mother got up and took the box from him and said :

"You musn't play with Daddy's toys unless he let you, Larry," she said severely, "Daddy doesn't play with yours."

(Page 145)

Mick just growled, and taking down the box again to see Larry lifted anything. For Mick some of those curious are very rare and valuable.

There were some more examples which showed that Mick let the responsibility for bring up Larry to his wife only. He did not even try to find out why his son hate him and, try to discuss with his wife the way out of that problem. Beside, that Mick felt that Larry's attitudes disturb him and as a result, he and his son are not close each other.

Furthermore, after Sonny -- Larry's brother -- was born when he heard Larry's complaint about him, Mick was conscious. He, then, thought that he could not have hostile feelings towards his son, because they are in the same problem, now -- they were both jealous with Sonny. The following passage describes about the statement above

One evening, when father was coming in from work, I was playing trains in the front garden. I let on not to notice him; instead, I pretended to be talking to myself, and said in a loud voice: "If another bloody baby comes into this house, I'm going out."

Father stoped dead and looked at me over his shoulder.

"What's that you said?" he asked sternly.

"I was only talking to myself," I replied, trying to conceal my panic. "It's private."

He turned and went in without a word. Mind you, I intended it as a solemn warning, but its effect was quite different. Father started being quite nice to me.

(Page 147)

Since at the time, Mick who did not care with Larry before, changed his attitude. He begins to understand his son and tries to more close with Larry. Moreover, Mick was disturbed by Sonny's presence.

Then, in one night, Mick went to Larry's room and layed beside Larry. Larry and his father reconcile finally. It is because they are both jealous with Sonny who always required considerable attention from Mother. At Christmas, Mick gave Larry a really nice model railway as an expression of his affection and attention to Larry.

Larry's Mother

After reading this short story, we can conclude that Larry's mother is a very good mother.

As a mother who was left by her husband for a war, She just stayed at home and brought up her son until her husband came back from the war. Every night before sleeping, she asked her son pray God that send father back save from the war to them. Moreover, in the certain of time Larry's mother would ask her son going into town to heard Mass at St. Augustine's and said prayer for father.

She always said to Larry a true thing. Look, for example, when Larry wanted a new baby like the neighbor; his mother said that she can not afford a baby till father came back. But on the other hand, the boy evaluates his mother very simple that opinion.

.... Ours was the only house in the terrace without a new baby, and mother said we couldn't afford one till Father came back from the war because they cost seventeen and six. That showed how simple she was ..

(Page 138)

When her husband came back from war, of course as a wife, she has to pay attention and affection to him. She tried to do the best for her husband and son. But there was a problem which made her heart was broken. She saw that her husband and son couldn't be close each other. They are both hostile to each other. Larry hates his father because he thought that the presence of his father broke his chance to spend the time with his mother. So, Larry always tries to disturb the talk between his father and mother. But Larry's father did not understand yet that his son always does that because he can not be ready with the presence of his father.

Here, we can see that Larry's mother was a wise mother. In giving attention to her husband and son, she was fair. Because of the incompatibility of her husband and son, sometimes they squabble each other.

If it happened, she did not take side with anyone. She would give understanding to them. Look at some examples when Mother gives understanding to Larry while making some disturbances in order to get his mother attention :

"Just a moment, Larry !" she said gently.
This was only what she said when he had boring visitors, so I attached no importance to it and went on talking.

"Do be quiet, Larry !" she said impatiently.
"Dont you hear me talking to Daddy ?"

(Page 139)

.....Several times I tried to change the subject without success.

"You must be quiet while ^{Daddy} is reading, Larry,"
Mother said impatiently.

(Page 140)

"Larry, I want you to promise me something."

"What is it ?" I asked.

"Not to come in and disturb poor Daddy in the morning, promise ?"

"Poor Daddy" again ! I was becoming suspicious of everything involving that quiet impossible man.

"Why ?" I asked.

"Because poor Daddy is worried and tired and he doesn't sleep well."

(Page 142)

For mother that was a critical situation. Because of the presence of Sonny, of course, needed so much attention from her. Eventhough, she knew that Larry and his father also needed her attention, she could not let her baby for that time. Moreover, she did not know that Larry and his father were jealous of Sonny. But they eventually become reconciled.

3.2 A Small, Good Thing

"A Small, Good Thing", tells about Scotty, a boy who will be eight years old. In his birthday (on Monday morning), he was hit by a car when he was going to school. In that accident, unfortunately, the driver run away. Eventhough he was a little wobble, he tried to walk home. But, after he was at his house, and telling his mother

about it, he suddenly lay back on the sofa, closed his eyes, and went limp. His mother, Ann, woke him up, but when she couldn't wake him up, she hurried to the telephone and called her husband at work. Then, Howard, the boy's father called an ambulance for the child and left for the hospital himself.

Of course, the birthday party was canceled. The boy was in the hospital with a mild concussion and suffering from shock. But, Dr. Francis, the doctor who treats the boy had emphasized, no coma, when he saw the alarm in the parents' eyes.

When their child was in the hospital, Ann and Howard always be in the hospital, too. They went home just for a short while to bathe and change clothes. The relationship between them became more close than before.

Finally, Scotty passed away. It makes Ann and Howard become sad, because Scotty was the only child. Even though they were in a big problem like that, they have got some good experiences since their son was in the hospital. Those experiences make them know about what happens and what other people around them do.

In this story, the author presents some characters. They are Scotty, Ann (Scotty's mother), Howard (Scotty's father), Dr. Francis, the baker, and some supporting characters. In this story, the writer would like to analyze three characters of them. They are : Scotty, Ann, and Howard. Here is the analysis :

Scotty

Scotty is a boy who will be eight years old. He is an only child. His father's name is Howard and his mother's name is Ann. In his birthday (on Monday morning), when he was walking to school with another boy, he was hit by a car. It happened when he was stepping off the curb at an intersection and was immediately knocked down by a car. Let us see a description of how Scotty was hit by a car :

On Monday morning, the birthday was walking to school with another boy. They were passing a bag of potato chips back and forth and the birthday boy was trying to find out what his friend intended to give him for his birthday that afternoon. Without looking, the birthday boy stepped off the curb at an intersection and was immediately knocked down by a car. He fell on his side with his head in the gutter and his legs out in the road. His eyes were closed, but his legs moved back and forth as if he were trying to climb over something. His friend dropped the potato chips and the started to cry. The car had gone hundred feet or so and stopped in the middle of the road. The man in the driver's seat looked back over his shoulder. He waited until the boy got unsteadily to his feet. The boy wobbled a little. He looked dazed, but okay. The driver put the car into gear and drove away.

(Page 139)

From the quotation above, we know that Scotty was hit by a car because of his fault. He stepped off the curb at an intersection without looking around. Eventhough he was a little wobble, he tried to walk home. He did not cry, and he did not have a word to say. After he was at his house, he was telling his mother about it.

but his suddenly laid back, on the sofa, closed his eyes, and went limp. His mother wake him up, but she could not do it. As a result, She hurried to dial number and called her husband at work.

As the only child, Scotty was closed with his mother and father. His mother loves Scotty very much, more than his father does. It can be seen when his mother ordered a cake for Scotty's birthday party. That was a decorated cake with a space ship and launching pad under a sprinkling of white stars, and a planet made of red frosting at the other end. She ordered favorite chocolate, as well. All of them showed that she always pays attention to his son's favorite.

Scotty also was loved by his father very much. When he was pass away, his father was weep. His father always remembers Scotty, especially when he saw Scotty's things that were scattered around the living room.

Ann Weiss (Scotty's Mother)

Ann Weiss is Scotty's mother. She is thirty-three years old. At the beginning of the story, the author shows that Ann Weiss loves her son very much. It can be seen when her son, Scotty, will have a birthcay, she ordered a cake for Scotty's birthday party which was decorated with Scotty's favorite thing. Let us see the passage below :

Saturday afternoon she drove to the bakery in the shopping centre. After looking through a loose-leaf binder with photographs of cakes taped onto the pages, she ordered chocolate, the child favorite. The cake she chose was decorated with a space ship and launching pad under a sprinkling of white stars, and a planet made of red frosting at the other end. His name, SCOTTY, would be in green letters beneath the planet.

(Page 138)

As a mother, Ann Weiss, felt worry so much when her son was hit by a car. And she could not be calm, until her husband called an ambulance for their child. All of the statement above can be seen in the passage below :

..... But after the birthday boy was inside his house and was telling his mother about it -- she sitting beside him on the sofa, holding his hand in her lap, saying, "Scotty, honey, are you sure you fell all right, baby?" thinking she would call the doctor anyway -- he suddenly lay back on the sofa, closed his eyes, and went limp. When she couldn't wake him up, she hurried to the telephone and called her husband at work. Howard told her to remain calm, and then he called an ambulance for the child and left for the hospital himself.

(Page 139)

Ann also worried about her son when her son's eyes stayed closed and he didn't wake up. She just sat in the chair beside the bed and looked at the child. She was waiting for him to wake up and be all right. Then she could begin to relax. Because of that, she won't go home and get a little rest as her husband asked her.

Eventhough they have a big problem like that, Ann can be pray, anyhow, she asked her husband to do the same:

"I've been praying," she said.
He nodded.

She said, "I almost thought I'd forgotten how, but it came back to me. All I had to do was close my eyes and say, 'Please God, help us -- help Scotty,' and the rest was easy. The words were right there. Maybe if you prayed, too," she said to him.

"I've already prayed," he said. "I prayed this afternoon -- yesterday afternoon, I mean -- after you called, while I was driving to the hospital. I've been praying," he said.

"That's good," she said.

(Page 142, 143)

It shows that Ann entrusts this matter to God. But, as a human being, sometimes Ann was scared to death of her son. She neither wanted to eat anything or to go home, until her husband make sure that he would take care of Scotty.

We can also conclude that Ann was not a stubborn one as we think before. She did whatever her husband asked her to do, as she loves her husband very much.

..... You go home for an hour and freshen up. Then come back.

She tried to think about it, she was too tired. She closed her eyes and tried to think about it again. After a time, she said, "Maybe I will go home for a few minutes. Maybe if I'm not just sitting right here watching him every second, he'll wake up and be all right. You know? Maybe he'll wake up if I'm not here. I'll go home and take a bath and put on clean clothes. I'll feed Slug. Then I'll come back."

.....
"I won't be gone long," she said.

"Just sit and rest for a little while when you get home," he said. "Eat something. Take a bath. After you get out of the bath, just sit for a while and rest. It'll do you a world of good, you'll see. Then come back," he said. Let's try not to worry. You heard what Dr. Francis said.

(Page 145)

Ann was a realistic one. It can be proved at the end of the story. Before she know that the Baker's reason to call her and talked about Scotty (In this case, the Baker is refered to the cake). She was so angry with him and try to kill him. But when the baker give his reason to do that and try to tell his situation which make him do that, Ann and her husband become understand that problem. They talked on with the baker finally. The following paragraph reflects that :

"Smell this," the baker said, breaking open the dark loaf. "It's a heavy bread, but rich, "They smelled it, then he had them taste it. It had the taste of the molasses and coarse grains. They listened to him. They ate what they could. They swallowed the dark bread. It was like daylight under the flourescent trays of light. They talked on into the early morning, the high, pale cast of light in the windows, and they did not think of leaving.

(Page 154)

Sometimes Ann can change into the different one. She who always be a calm mother, suddenly be angry with the baker. After knowing that the Baker was the man who always calls her and her husband and talked about Scotty, the wife and husband were very angry to the baker. At the time, Ann wanted to kill the baker. All of her attitude indicated that she loves her son very much and she felt so sad of Scotty's death. At the ^{same} time, the baker who did not know anything call her and ask about the cake that

has named Scotty. To know Ann's attitude as mentioned above, please see the following paragraphs :

"I know bakers work at night," Ann said. "They make phone calls at night, too. You bastard," she said.

.....
"My son's dead," she said with a cold, even finality. "He was hit by a car Monday morning. We've been waiting with him until he died. But, of course, you couldn't be expected to know that, could you ? Bakers can't know everything-- can they, Mr. Baker ? But he's dead. He's dead, you bastard !" just as suddenly as it had welled in her, the anger dwindled, gave way to something else, a dizzy feeling of nausea. She leaned against the wooden table that was sprinkled with flour, put her hands over her face, and began to cry, her shoulders rocking back and forth. "It isn't fair," she said. "It isn't, isn't fair."

.....
Ann wiped her eyes and looked at the baker. "I wanted to kill you," she said. "I wanted you dead."

(Page 152, 153)

Howard (Scotty's Father)

Howard was Scotty's father. She was a good husband for Ann, his wife, and a good father for Scotty, his only son. We can conclude that he was a lucky man. It is because he got a success in his career and family. His parents were still alive, his friend from college had gone out to take their places in the world. The author described that statement as follows :

.....
Until now, his life had gone smoothly and to his satisfaction-- college, marriage, another year of college for the advanced degree in business, a junior partnership in an investment firm. Fatherhood He was happy and, so far, lucky-- he know that. His

parents were still living, his brothers and sister were established, his friends from college had gone out to take their places in the world. So far, he had kept away from any real harm, from those forces he knew existed and that could cripple or bring down a man if the luck went bad, if things suddenly turned.

(Page 139, 140)

As a man who always gets a success in his life, Howard gets a little shock when his son, Scotty, had been hit by a car and was in the hospital. But we can find that he was very resolute in facing the misfortune. His firmness can be seen in the passage below :

.....
Howard told her to remain calm, remain calm, and then he called an ambulance for the child and left for the hospital himself.

.....
"Why doesn't he wake up, Howard? I don't understand, if he's all right."

Howard put his hand against the back of her head. He ran his fingers through her hair. "He's going to be all right. He'll wake up in a little while. Dr. Francis knows what's what."

After a time, he said, "Maybe you should go home and get some rest. I'll stay here. Just don't put up with this creep who keeps calling. Hang up right away."

(Page 139, 140)

Howard loves his wife very much, so does his wife. We can see how loving he was. He also pay much attention to his wife and his son. These are some lines quoted from the dialogue, reflecting Howard's attention :

Howard put his hand against the back of her head. He ran his fingers through her hair. "He's going to be all right. He'll wake up in a little while. Dr. Francis knows what's what."

After a time, he said, "Maybe you should go home and get some rest. I'll stay here. Just don't put up with this creep who keeps calling. Hang up right away."

.....
"Go home for a while, and then come back and spell me in the morning. It'll be alright. What did Dr. Francis say? He says Scotty's going to be all right. We don't have to worry. He's just sleeping now, that's all."

.....
"All right," Howard said. After a while, he said, "Honey, why don't you do it? why don't you go home? and check on things and then come back? It'll do you good. I'll be right here with him. Seriously," he said. "We need to keep up our

strength on this. We'll want to be here for a while even after he wakes up."

.....
"I'll be right here," he said. "You go on home, honey. I'll keep an eye on things here."

.....
"Just sit and rest for a little while when you get home," he said. "Eat something. Take a bath. After you get out of the bath, just sit for a while and rest. It'll do you a world of good, you'll see. Then come back," he said. Let's try not to worry. You heard what Dr. Francis said.

(Page 140,141,145)

In one scene, we see that Ann says by herself about Howard's attention to her. She felt this is the first time they got a trouble. It means that Howard himself never involved in Ann and Scotty's problems before. But, if we read the whole story, we can see that was caused by Ann had never let Howard involved in it.

3.3 Killings

This story tells about how a father had a revenge to the person who murdered his beloved son, the murder is because of lady. He, at last, killed the killer of his son with his friend and attempted to leave out his trail.

In this story, the author presents some characters. They are Matt Fowler (Father of Frank, Steve, and Cathleen), Ruth (Matt's wife), Steve, Cathleen, Frank, Willis Trottier (Matt's friend), Mary Ann (Frank's Lover), and Richard Strout (Marry Ann's ex-husband). But in this time, the writer wants to analyze some of them. They are Matt Fowler, Ruth, Steve, Cathleen, and Frank. Let us have a look at the analysis below :

- Matt Fowler

Matt fowler is the father of Frank, Steve, and Cathleen. He is husband of Ruth and had just lost his youngest son, Frank, of death. He had been living for thirty-one years with Ruth, but sometimes he was still not knowing what Ruth talked to his friends about.

At the beginning, he approved the relation between his son, Frank, and Marry Ann and did not make a problem about Marry Ann's status at the time. He usually debated about that with his wife.

"The divorce doesn't mean anything," he said. She was young and maybe she liked his looks and then after a while she realized she was living with a bastard. I see it as a positive thing.

(Page 325)

From this quotation, we can see that Matt Fowler was very sure of his words. Eventhough, he really did not know about Marry Ann's problem with her husband. Matt Fowler was proud of Frank. So that he was so sad in the death of Frank that was killed by his rival, strout. Matt Fowler, as a father, feels very sad. He could not forget the killing. He, then, planned to kill Richard Strout.

Matt Fowler's plan to kill Richard Strout was not just caused by his love to Frank. But, it was also caused by his wife's crying all the night. This made Matt Fowler thinks what he had to do.

We can conclude that Matt Fowler was ready to take serious risks. Then, he prepares something which relates to his revenge. In doing that plan, he was helped by his friend, Willis Trottier. Their plan was done in the evening.

After they succeeded Killing Strout, they put Strout's body in hole which they had made a few days before and covering leaves and grass in order to leave their trail out.

Then, Willis and Matt were going back to town :

"They left Strout's car in Boston, in front of an apartement building on Commonwealth Avenue. When they got back to town Wills drove slowly over the bridge and Matt threw the keys into the Marrimack.

(Page 333)

However, he never be silent after that. And his wife knew his act to Strout, but she accepted. He still kept in his heart because he did not know the effect of his act.

- R u t h

Ruth is the wife of Matt Fowler and mother of Frank, Steve, and Cathleen. She was in deep sorrow of Frank's death. She knew the relation between Frank and Marry Ann. She actually did not approve that relation because Mary Ann was in the process of divorce, Marry Ann had two children and she was four years older than Frank.

From all of her attitude, we can conclude that, Ruth was a good mother and she considered her son before her self. It can be proved when she objected the relation and debated this to her husband, Matt Fowler. She knew Marry Ann was in trouble with her marriage and this could make conflict to her beloved son.

One day Ruth asked Marry Ann to bring her two children, but Marry Ann had not brought her children because she was embarrassed. It was the reason that Ruth telling to her husband to put Marry Ann into a corner.

At the time Frank was murdered, Ruth had suffered very much and had avenged to the killer. Whenever she saw Richard Strout, Ruth would cry and remembered her son, and this made Matt Fowler sad and revenge, too. Ruth knew her husband plan, but she kept silent. In her inner

feeling, she actually expected the death of Richard Strout.

Ruth approved about the killing, it may be concluded from the following lines :

"Tell me," she said.
He started from the beginning, in the parking lot at the bar ; but soon with his eyes closed and Ruth petting him, he spoke of Strout's house the order, the woman presence, the picture on the wall.

(Page 334)

Ruth actually supported the action that was done by her husband, as the revenge on the murder of her son, Richard Strout. So, she would be comfortable and silent.

- S t e v e

He is the oldest son of Matt Fowler, He is twenty eight years old and has got married. He and his wife lived at Baltimore in which Steve was a manager in a branch office of a bank.

Steve has brown hair. He also suffered about the death of his younger brother. All of his attitude was described by the author in the first paragraph. Although he hated Richard Strout and said that he should kill him before the grave of his brother, in the end of the story he did not do his intention until his father had done.

- C a t h l e e n

Cathleen is the middle child at Matt Fowler. She has got married, too, and live with her husband in Syracuse. However, her role in the story is little and almost never told by narrator, except that she was the sister of the victim of killing in the story.

She just appeared in Matt Fowler's mind as her father when she was a little girl and usually carried to play skating with her brothers by her father.

- F r a n k

Frank is the youngest child and son of Matt Fowler. His age was twenty-one years, eight months, and four days. Although he died, he was also a central character. He comes up from the beginning to the end of this story.

He buried near Marrimack. When he was alive, he was waiting for September for graduate school in economics and working as a lifeguard at Salisbury Beach. Frank was six feet tall, an inch and a half taller than Matt Fowler. His Father had been proud when Frank at Seventeen outgrew him.

In the place he worked, he met Marry Ann who was in first month of divorce. Marry Ann usually spent her days at the beach with her two sons. Frank, then made love with her, although he knew than Marry Ann was four years older than him, but he did.

One night Frank was beaten by Strout who was still husband of Marry Ann legally. His right eye and both lips bright and swollen. His parents worried him, but Frank comforted them and said that he would take Karate. He ignored dangerous of relation between he and Marry Ann. From his attitude like that, we can conclude that Frank was a man who was ready to take serious risks.

Frank, then, died because he was shot by Richard Strout -Marry Ann's husband-. He was shot in front of Marry Ann's children. At the time, they were sitting on the living room floor watching television. Frank sitting on the couch and Marry Ann just returning from the kitchen with a tray of sandwiches. Strout came in to the front door and shoot Frank twice in the chest and once in face with a 9 mm automatic gun.

The death of Frank awake the avenge in heart of the Fowlers. This makes the conflict and develops to the story.

3.4 The Egg

This story illustrates the situation in the chicken farm business that was experienced by a little boy, in which his father and mother opened chicken-farm business. The way of telling story involves a little boy as narrator.

In this story, there are only three central characters showed by the author emphasizes the little boy.

- Father

He is the father of the character "I". He was illustrated by his only kid as cheerful and kindly man. When he was young, he usually posted in Ben Head's Saloon for drinking. At forty-five years old now, he was a bald-headed man and little fat.

Until he was thirty-four years old, he worked as a farm-hand for a named Thomas Butterworth. He married the character I's mother at thirty-five in the spring season.

To enlarge his business, he brought his family to rent ten acres of poor stony land on brig's Road, eight miles from Bidwell, and launched into chicken raising. Here, he began to develop chicken business and faced a sum of chicken disease such as pip, cholera and so on. After ten years he and his wife had struggled to make their chicken farm pay, they gave up and began another business.

Father brought his family again to move into the town of Bidwell, Ohio and embarked restaurant business. For ten years he was busy in chicken farm had made little patches in his head, this was presented by his son :

..... All during our ten years on the chicken farm he had worked as laborer on neighboring farms and most of the money he had earned had been spent for remedies to cure chicken diseases, on Wilmer's White Wonder Cholera Cure or Professor Bidlow's Egg Producer or some other preparations that mother found advertised in the poultry papers. There were two little patches of hair on father's head just above his ears. I remember that as a child I used to sit looking at him when he had gone to sleep in a chair before the stove on Sunday afternoons in the winter.
.....

(Page 40)

Father and mother, then, opened the restaurant at Pickleville, in the train station area. At Pickleville, they worked hard as they did before. Then, they had an idea to entertain the people as the guests of the restaurant.

Furthermore, father attracted the guest's attention by showing his ability to put the egg into the bottle without breaking it. First, he heated the egg in the pan of vinegar and then the egg became soft, after that he put the egg into the bottle, the egg in the bottle became harder like before.

One day, father intended to show his ability where Joe Kane, son of the merchant in Bidwell, was there. That was bad, he was failure - the egg broke in his hand -, and Joe Kane laughed at him. Father was shy and angry. As the result he closed the restaurant early. That always happened to Father, if he was dissatisfied with his entertainment, he decided to close the restaurant for the night and get into bed.

- Mother

In this story the writer does not mention her name. She married Father when Father was thirty-five years old. She was a school teacher last time. She was a tall silent woman with long nose and troubled grey eyes. For herself she wanted nothing, but for her husband and her son, she was incurably ambitious.

She likes reading books and magazine such as history of Garthfield, Lincoln and other Americans that rose from poverty to Fame and greatness.

After she had married, she helped her husband had managed and worked as labourers in the farm. She proposed to her husband to opening restaurant. So, they moved to Pickleville and embark restaurant business. Then, she talked of it for years and one day went off with family and rented an empty store building.

In the restaurant, they prepared pie and coffee for visitors. She was ambitious and wanted her only son to rise in the world and get into school. So, her son would be a man of towns.

She and her husband worked hard. They, then, decided to entertain visitors who came for dinner or lunch in their restaurant. In managing their business, they shifted each other. If mother to be on duty in the morning till evening, father rested and slept, so did Father.

Mother and Father deliberately opened their restaurant all day - twenty-four hours - in order to serve the visitors well and increase their income to get better life. Mother always supported Father's business and helped him everything that had to be done. That is why the writer concludes that she was a good wife for her husband and a good mother for her son as well.

- The Character "I"

He was ten years old, a young boy who loves so much his mother and father. In the story, he had role both as narrator and character. He was born in the spring when his father was thirty-six. He tells us about his childhood in chicken farm and business of his father.

The first venture into which the two people went turn out badly. They rented ten acres of poor stony land on Grigg's Road, eight miles from Bidwell, and launched into chicken raising. I grew into boyhood on the place and got my first impressions of disaster and if, in my turn, I am a gloomy man inclined to see the darker side of life, I attribute it to the fact that what should have been for me the happy joyous days of childhood were spent on a chicken farm.

(Page 39)

He expressed his idea about his mother and father. He said that his mother was a tall silent woman with a long nose and troubled grey eyes. This boy was little lazy because his needs always given

by his parents. He rarely helped them, and his activity was only school and playing.

This boy knew that his father and mother worked hard because they had ambitious and wanted him to rise in the world. to get into a town school and become a man of the towns. He, then, presented how his father had an idea to entertain the people who came to eat at their restaurant. He also, told us the craziness of his father in entertaining their guests through his father's skill in putting the egg into a bottle without breaking it.

When his father was failure one day in front of Joe Kane, he has a little boy asked himself about the process of an egg became hen or cock and became egg again. He actually was a little boy, naive and full of question in his brain. He tells naively what he saw and heard.

3.5 Eveline

Eveline tells about the girl who was confused between staying at home or going with her lover. If she went, she would happy with her lover and if she stayed, she kept her promises to her mother to care home and family. What presented is from Eveline's mind.

Eventhough this story described some characters, but in this point the writer just wants to analyze two of them. They are Eveline and her father. Have a look to the following analysis :

- E v e l i n e

Eveline was over nineteen years old and she is a sister of Harry and Ernest. She worked in the store and her wages was seven shillings a week. She had to go to the market to find food or meals and care two young children. But she always gets unfair treatment from her father because she is a girl. Eventhough she was treat like that, she still does her work. She has to do that because she had promised to her mother -- who was dead -- to keep the home together as long as she could.

Eveline had a lover who was a sailor named Frank. She planned to go away with her lover to Buenos Aires, because Frank promised for a better life, respect, and love for her. Besides, Frank had prepared her a house. However, she was in doubt :

She had consented to go away, to leave her home. Was that wise ? she tried to weigh each side of the question. In her home anyway she held shelter and food ; she had those whom she had known all her life about her. Of course she had to work hard, both in the house and at business. What would they say of her in the Stores when they found out that she had run away with a fellow ? Say she was a fool, perhaps ; and her place would be filled up by advertisement. Miss Gavan would be glad. She had always had an edge on her, especially whenever there were people listening.

(Page 41)

If she remembered again her father treatment's to her, she decides to go away. Besides, her father knew their relation or their affair and had forbidden her, but they met secretly.

Eveline was a good daughter and a wise woman as well. It can be seen when she got two choices ; her own interest or her family. In fact she put her family interest as a priority. She realized that her father was getting old, so if she went away, her father would miss her and there was no person caring him and her two brothers.

At last, in the Seaport she canceled to go with her lover, because she considered the consequences if she goes.

- Eveline's Father

He was a father of Eveline, Harry and Ernest. His wife had been died, so he lived with his children. From this story, we can see that he was a strong-minded man. He was never be fair to Eveline because Eveline was a girl. He forced Eveline to work hard and said that the money was difficult to get. Actually the reason was right, but his unfair attitude to his daughter was described by Eveline as follows :

..... She would not be treated as her mother had been. Even now, though she was over nineteen, she sometimes felt herself in danger of her father's violence. She knew it was that had given her the palpitations. When they were growing up he had gone for her, like he used to go for Harry and Ernest, because she was a girl ;

(Page 42)

He did not approve Eveline's relation to Frank because he knew situation of a sailor. It reflects to the following quotation :

"I know these sailor chaps," he said.
One day he had quarelled with Frank, and after she had to meet her lover secretly.

(Page 43)

Sometimes he showed his nice behavior to Eveline ^{when} his wife was still alive, as described in the following :

..... Sometimes he could be very nice. Not long before, when she had been laid up for a day, he had read her out of ghost story and made toast for her at fire. Another day, when their mother was alive, they had all gone for a picnic to the Hill of Howth. She remembered her father putting on her mother's bonnet to make the children laugh.

(Page 43)

He never understood Eveline's feeling, so that Eveline planned to escape with her lover in order to get better live and love. However Eveline chose to stay and had promise to keep and care two young brothers, home, and family to her mother. He himself was be old and Eveline realized that.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Through the analysis of this thesis, we can see that in of the five selected short stories, the characterization used by the authors are not same one another. In *"My Dedipus Complex"*, Frank O'Connor presents the personality of the characters created by using indirect presentation. He shows us the characters in action through what they think, say or do. We know Larry, his father, and mother from what Larry thinks, says or does. In this story, Frank O'Connor as the author, using a first person narration. Here, we identify the characters of the story are not from the author but from a person whom the author has created in the story. The narrator of this story is Larry.

Different from the previous story, the authors of *"A Small, Good Thing"*, *"Killings"*, *"The Egg"*, and *"Eveline"*, present the personality of the characters as they create by using direct presentation. They tell us straight out, by exposition, what the characters are like. We have seen in the four short stories that the narrator of the stories is someone else who tell us what the characters are like. The teller knows everything about all characters, what they think, feel and what they do as well.

In "*A Small, Good Thing*", we know about Scotty, Ann, and Howard from the exposition of the teller. So does in "*The Killing*", we know Matt Fowler, Ruth, Steve, Cathleen, and Frank from the exposition of the teller and some of the dialogue of the characters. Sherwood Anderson, the author of "*The Egg*", tries to accompany us understand through point of view of a little boy, in other words he is using the first personal point of view, I. So, the narrator is involved in the story. Different from the previous stories, this story does not have any dialogue at all. In "*Eveline*", the author of this story presents Eveline's mind by the narrator of the story.

Eventhough the characterization are used by the authors are different, but all of the authors try to describe about how the people react to the incident that happened around them and their ability to understand the thing.

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