

ABSTRACT

Aloysius Abel : *The Young Captain's Feeling and Moral Reasoning of Helping Leggatt in 'The Secret Sharer'*

This study is an analysis on the characters of 'The Secret Sharer' with two objectives. The first objective is to find out how the young captain feels about himself and about Leggatt, that is, his state of mind which makes him come to attain the decision of helping Leggatt. The second one is to find out the young captain's moral reasoning toward the incident aboard the *Sephora*.

Based on the principle that literature creates a certain reality and does not only reflect the reality, this study employs an objective approach. Concerning the method used, this is a library research. Within this method, the technique I have used is describing the characterization of the main characters by showing the lines which support the description. To facilitate the analysis, this study uses theories of human attitude and behavior, including the levels of moral reasoning.

This study results in two main conclusions. Firstly, the young captain feels strange to himself. Then, he learns about his own potentials. In this situation, his meeting Leggatt is a self-identification. This self-identification is facilitated by his sympathy towards Leggatt because of their similarities, both physically and mentally. Secondly, it is found out from this study that the young captain's moral reasoning which results from his internalization of meeting Leggatt is a universal ethical principle orientation, the highest level of moral reasoning.