

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Anton Chekhov was born in Taganrog, on the Sea of Azov in southern Russia, on January 29, 1860. In March, 1880, his first tale "A letter from the Don land owner Stephan Vladimirovich N." was published in St Petersburg. For the next four years, he draw his characters and themes from the streets of Moscow, he contributes hundreds of anecdotes, sketches, tales, jokes, articles, and dramatic scenes to the humorous magazines of Moscow and St Petersburg. His choice for ordinary people for his characters does not change throughout his career (Hochman, 1972, p.491).

Anton Chekhov, is considered as a father of modern short story and modern play. He is included as one of the most productive Russian writers. His story is based on the realities of the nineteenth century lower middle class and the peasant life, and the reality reflected in his mature writing (<http://people.brandeis.edu/~teuber/chekhovbio.html>). Moreover, Chekhov is also known as "one of the enigmatic Russian writers". It means that his writing is full of riddles. Chekhov's writings are influenced by Gogol, Lermontov and Tolstoy. Besides, the influence of Turgenev is very significant. This is because he learned so much impressive techniques from Turgenev (<http://www.webserver.rcds.rye.ny.us/id/literature/literaturepagesw.html>)

During his early career, Anton Chekhov works as a physician; editor of the literary section of *Russkaya Mysl*. He has produced many literary works and his career as a dramatist, short story writer and novelist brings him to receive several prestigious awards for his literary works. In 1888 he received the Pushkin prize from the division of Russian language and letters of the Academy sciences for his collection stories in The Twilight. In 1899 he was elected honorary academician of the Pushkin section of Belle letters of the academy of sciences. In 1899 he received awarded order of St Stanislav for working in the national education, and he got the Griboedov prize of a society of dramatic writers and opera composers

(<http://people.brandeis.edu/~teuber/chekhovbio.html>). Considering the facts above, The writer is convinced that Anton Chekhov is a great and talented writer in the Russian literature.

Chekhov's important characters are defined in terms of emotions which are hopes, longings and aspirations, and optimism about the future, nostalgia for the past, regrets, frustrations, disappointments and disillusionments in the characters' life. He presents his characters in terms of what they feel about themselves, and other people and the situation in the characters' life and about life in general. What the characters say is pictured as what they feel. (Pitcher, 1973, p.9) Besides, his characters are not only in form of what they feel about themselves which is emotional preoccupations and about people's relation, but also in terms of what they feel about their situation in life and about life in general (Pitcher, 1973, p.11)

Uncle Vanya is a revision of the unsuccessful The Wood Demon which is a rewriting of the melodramatic plot converted again by Chekhov. The Wood Demon is originated around of intrigue, the plot putting them through passionate seductions, arresting complication, desperate and hopeless romances and a happy ending. Uncle Vanya is also converted as an intrigue but marked difference. The seductions are strange, boorish and bungled, the players are indifferent to, oblivious to, repulsed by each other and ultimately their games leave everyone in miserable situation. It can be seen that in both plays the genre and intrigue subplot there is consistency with the thematic concerns of loss, regret, and the wasted life (<http://www.spaknotes.com/drama/unclevanya/canalysis.html>).

Uncle Vanya is a successful play and was first produced in Moscow at the Moscow art theatre on October 26, 1899 (<http://www.peoplebrandeis.edu/~teuber/chekhovbio.html>). Uncle Vanya is more successful than the Wood Demon. This is because there is something in the Wood Demon that is unclear and Uncle Vanya makes it clear (Pitcher, 1973, p.74). Voinitsky's suicide in the Wood Demon from a psychological point of view brings disadvantages to remove the best characters, and in Uncle Vanya Chekhov changes the plot to become Voinitsky's shot at the professor but misses the target. The effect is more true to life. Besides, In Uncle Vanya Chekhov makes the point of contrast more sharply

between the outsiders and the residence not like in the Wood Demon whose contrast is not developed further (Pitcher, 1973, p.75). Uncle Vanya is successful because Chekhov changes a play of action with a play of emotion. (Pitcher, 1973, p.78)

One of the characteristics of Uncle Vanya is that all the characters are consumed with lethargy, boredom, and regret over their unsatisfactory lives. They grumble their old age, mourn the years that they have wasted in drudgery, pine over lost loves. They suffer from a sense of loss without knowing exactly what has been sacrificed (<http://www.spaknotes.com/drama/unclevanya/canalysis.html>).

The writer is amazed by Anton Chekhov's work and prestigious achievements, so she decided to analyze Chekhov's play, Uncle Vanya as her thesis fulfillment. The writer chooses this play because it portrays the social life and love of the educated people. I am interested in this play because this is interesting; the characters are educated people. Voinitsky is one of them. However, he is not successful in his love life, and he only lives in a desperate condition. There is no happiness in his life. Those reasons make her choose the theme of love. In this case he is successful in education but he is not successful in love. The writer chooses only the main character to discuss because the main character's life changes so much since his love is rejected by Yeliena.

Some critics say in A Biographical and Critical Study that "the most obvious feature of love as portrayed by Chekhov is that it almost never works out to satisfaction of either part. ...He seems to have regarded young love as an illusion, but an illusion so beautiful that he repeatedly used it for the evocation of atmosphere" (<http://www.Mockingbird.creighton.edu/ncw/checkcrit.html>). Voinitsky as the main characters cannot get his love, the one that he loves does not love him, but belongs to the professor. Yeliena, the woman that he loves rejects his love. It makes him regret about the years that he has wasted to work for the estate that does not belong to him. He lives in confusion and illusion and he is unsatisfied with his life.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Through the work of Anton Chekhov's Uncle Vanya, the writer would like to analyze Voinitsky's love towards Yeliena and its negative effects on his life.

1.3. Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to reveal Voinitsky's love towards Yeliena and its negative effects on his life.

1.4. Importance of the Study

Chekhov is one of the Russian great writers. He immersed himself in his studies as a means to be independent that made him a successful writer. The thesis writer hope the readers will have a better understanding concerning Voinitsky's love and its negative effects on his life. Moreover, she expects that by reading this thesis, the reader may avoid the bad attitude that Voinitsky has when his love is rejected by Yeliena. Besides, she hopes this thesis encourages other students of the Faculty of Letters to choose Russian literature and Anton Chekhov's work such as his plays or short stories as their thesis.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this thesis is focused on Voinitsky's love towards Yeliena and its negative effects on his life. The analysis is limited to Voinitsky's relation with Yeliena, and the professor, Yeliena's husband, based on characterization and conflict related to Voinitsky.

1.6. Methodology

In analyzing the play, the thesis writer collects the important data to support the analysis. Firstly, the thesis writer conducts library research to search for the information and appropriate theory, articles and criticisms that support the analysis. For the main tool, the thesis writer uses literary theories, which are characterization and conflict to analyze the chosen topic. The theory of characterization will help her to understand Voinitsky's behaviors and character in his relation. The conflict helps the thesis writer analyze the inner and outer

conflicts of Voinitsky. The thesis writer also employs the triangular theory of love in dealing with Voinitsky's love towards Yeliena.

1.7. Organization of the Study

This thesis consists of four chapters. The first chapter is the introduction that consisting of the background of the study, statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, the importance of the study, the scope and limitation, the methodology and the organization of the study. The second chapter is about the review of the related literature with some theories that are used in analyzing the topic. The third chapter discusses Voinitsky's love towards Yeliena and its negative effects on his life. Finally, in chapter four, the writer concludes the whole study.