

## APPENDIX

### A. Synopsis

The story The Turn of The Screw is told by the governess as the narrator. The governess is a young woman who has been brought up as the simple daughter of a poor country parson. This inexperienced woman comes up to London to answer an advertisement for a governess, which is inserted by a fine gentleman. The governess has been impressed by the elegance and free manner of the gentleman, who is her master to be; thus she falls instantly and passionately in love with him, even though she met him only twice.

The governess is appointed to take charge of two children, Miles and Flora, who are the nephew and the niece of her master. The master has hired her on the condition that she must never trouble him, "never appeal nor complain nor write about anything," and that she is to handle all problems herself. In other words, she is to take complete charge of Miles and Flora, to be placed under her authority.

The governess would never have accepted the place, if it had not been for her passion; she could not bring herself to disappoint her master when he seemed to beg for her favor. The master had so powerfully attracted her, however, she scarcely admits it, even to herself, for in her heart she knows that her love is completely hopeless. The object of her hopeless affection is only her master, who can never regard her as anything other than a governess.

Then the governess goes down to Bly (the name of the house where she begins her new occupation as a governess) and finds herself no longer a poor parson's daughter but the head of a considerable country establishment. The governess loves her position and the children very much and this way, she secretly wishes that her master could see how well she is doing. She is carried away to the point of ecstasy by the beauty of Miles and Flora, who are described as perfect little children and figured in such sweet and innocent ways.

Those conditions above could supply the material for a nervous breakdown in a woman of no experience and of unstable physical background like the governess. At any rate, she instantly becomes the victims of insomnia. The very first night, she fancies that she hears a light footstep outside her door, the cry of child in the far distance and other more serious symptoms, such as reporting to see the apparition of ghosts, in the figure of a man and a woman, to Mrs. Grose, the housekeeper, and moreover, to manage her efforts in convincing Miles and Flora of the apparition of ghosts.

For the time being, the governess and Mrs. Grose have become immediate friends, and they agree on most things; it makes Mrs. Grose believe what the governess says about the possibilities of the ghosts. After consulting Mrs. Grose about the apparition, the governess finds out that the male ghost, Peter Quint, is the former valet of the master, and the female ghost, Miss Jessel, was the children's former governess, who has been intimate and familiar with the children and both had died about a year ago. Upon further explanation, the governess grabs the idea from the inadvertent and careless hints about Peter

Quint and Miss Jessel, (that both died mysteriously) thus the extraordinary plan of evil is going to be created by the governess based on the hints.

Knowing that her love to the master is hopeless, and that she must never bother him, she creates her own imagination of evil to Miles and Flora, on the purpose to attract her master's attention, so that she can be a hero in her master's eyes. The only way to accomplish it, she must save the children from danger, and she may have the opportunity to save them by giving them enemies. That is the relationship of the governess' hopeless love and her creative logic of hallucination. The enemies the governess creates for Miles and Flora, are the source of evil and damnation, which finally send the children to great horror, those are the severe and horrible torment and even death.

## **B. Biography**

Henry James was born in New York City, on April 15, 1843. He was the brother of a philosopher-scientist and also a psychologist named William James. His father, Henry James Sr., spent his time combining interest of theology and philosophy also often writing essays and treatises on aspects of religion and philosophy, and developing certain degree of mysticism. Henry James was much influenced by the patrician attitude of his father.

Henry James had no formal education, he was privately educated by his tutors. In his youth, his father took the family to Europe in order to pursue stimulating conversation and intellectual ideas. Young James had already had an everlasting impression on the European life.

After their returning to America, James settled in New England and studied at Cambridge, the center of American intellectual thought. During those times, James met the first great influence on his literary career. In Boston, James entered Harvard Law School (1862), but discontinued his study since he preferred to devote himself to writing.

By the late 1860's, James had finished some reviewing and had sold some fictitious work to the Atlantic Monthly. He went to Europe on his own and returned again to Cambridge and New York to develop his literary career, but at the end, he realized that Europe was more suitable for his writings. In 1876, James made up a great decision to take up residence abroad. After traveling to various parts of the world, James lived the rest of his life near London. Until 1915, he retained his American citizen of England in protest over America's

failure to enter the war against Germany. James was naturalized as a British subject in 1915, and was awarded Order of Merit in January 1916. Henry James died on February 28, 1916.

James had written many novels which applied terms of realism, psychological aspects which communicated the more intense realization of character and situation. James had published various literary works, such as; A Passionate Pilgrim and Other Tales (1875), Roderick Hudson (1876), The American (1877), The Portrait of a Lady (1881), which is considered James' greatest novel, a volume called The Two Magics consisting of Covering End and The Turn of The Screw (1899), and many more.

On this occasion, the thesis writer would like to discuss one James' novel titled The Turn of The Screw. The Turn of The Screw is basically a ghostly tale, which is considered another favorite genres of James, that is bizarre stories. There were times when the fictions of Henry James show him experimenting at every turn, selecting themes reflecting to his career, during the times when he was regarded a "lost" author, unwanted by illiterate world. The psychological aspects of Henry James, during the times of his failure, presented him the idea of writing stories related to his personal experiences and he himself; including creating the theme of The Turn of The Screw.

The idea of writing The Turn of The Screw, was absolutely related to the conversation about the deplorable scarcity of really effective and heart-shaking ghost story James heard from Edward Benson, Archbishop of Canterbury. The general outline was about a tale dealing with unhappy and apparently haunted

children in an English country house. The Archbishop narrative was only a “shadow of a shadow”, but it excited James and gave him the situation for The Turn of The Screw.

According to some critics, the content and themes of this novel more or less can be found in James’ own experiences and James himself. James had read many supernatural and ghostly tales. As revealed by recent biographers, notably Leon Edel, it is said that some of James’ personal experiences seem to have sharpened and deepened James’ realization of dire ubiquity of fear and evil. Edel has pointed out that The Turn of The Screw can be taken as a gruesome tale of the ghostly, as a fascinating story of a psychiatric case, or as “ a projection of Henry James’ own haunted state”. There are aspects between ambiguity and realism in this novel, which illustrates how determinedly James came to grips with the murkiest recesses of the unconscious, the irrational, and the most profound “inner life” of men and women.

Like other readers, James himself could not understand happens in this story, that Archbishop Benson had given him the impression of mystery, which James had transmitted, but to understand it, it is just “gleams and glooms”.

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demikian mengembangkan Ilmu Pengetahuan, menyetujui bahwa karya ilmiah saya yang berjudul The Causes and Effects of The Governess' Hallucination in Henry James' The Turn of The Screw beserta perangkat yang diperlukan (bila ada) untuk disimpan, dipublikasikan dan atau diperbanyak dalam bentuk apapun oleh Universitas Kristen Petra bagi keperluan akademis.

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