

## **ANALYSIS OF THE RELIGION ELEMENT IN NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE'S YOUNG GOODMAN BROWN SHORT STORY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Abstract: The objectives of this thesis was to describe the Religion Elements in Nathaniel Hawthorne's Young Goodman Brown. The method applied in this research was descriptive qualitative method. This research used human instrument by herself. The data was analyzed by describing the elements of religion in short story. In collecting the data, the researcher read the short story and in analysing the data the researcher identifying religion element according to Rees theory. Based on the result of data analysis, the researcher found out data that: 1) God (s) and forces in the public square. The first element was belief in God2) sacred symbols (re) defining what is real were staff, meditation, ceremony, holy psalm, pulpit and Bible 3) sacred stories connecting past, present and future was good Cristian's and honest men,and 4) a community worshipping and acting together was Cristian congregation. In conclusion, the religion elements in Young Goodman Brown short story included belief, attitude and action in everyday life.

**Key word:** *Short Story, Religion Element*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a means of communication that is used to transfer information, ideas, and feelings from one person to another. It is used to communicate both in written and spoken form. Considering the importance of the language, the government has drawn

up English as a English franca that should be mastered by the students. English Lingua Franca (ELF) refers to the teaching, learning, and use of the language as a common means of communication for speakers of different native languages. English should be learned by the students at school. According to Pratiwi and Rahmasari in Triyogo and Syaprizal (2018:19), English is an international language that must be mastered, especially in this modern era. Learning English can be done by reading literature. According to Semi (2012:1), literature is one of the branches of art are always in human civilization thousands years ago. The short story is one form of fiction. According Priyatni (2010:127), short story is a story whose length is approximately 17 quarto pages double spaced, solid contents, complete, have unity, and contain the effects of a deep impression. Meanwhile, according to Kosasih (2012:34), the short story is the story according to the short form of physical manifestation. The med short story in generalist simple. Limit dumber of characters. According to Webster (1990:32), religion is a personal set or institutionalized system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices. The important of reading short story is contains much less details than a normal story, thus forcing the reader to think and wonder more and make his/her own conclusions.

Short stories are often used to teach some kind of lesson. Characters in short stories does not need to have names, they can be universal, thus the reader can relate to a certain character. Religious value is a very high value personal for a person is not only about the basic relationship between individual with his God, but the relationship between humans and nature that exists around him as a person's religious form and attitude. Because it will affect all the behavior and attitudes or actions of those people in daily life. A person will be said to be religious if have good morals and character, uphold commendable qualities, and can be shown in behavior and daily actions in community environment. With religious values, can give awareness of understanding and appreciation of religious values a work of fiction in the form of a novel has a religious value as a builder faith. It can convey an author's opinion or give a moral in a way that is entertaining but does not take up much of the reader's time. In this research, the researcher will be analyzed the religion elements of Yong Goodman Brown short story because analyze about religion in a short story teach moral lesson and it is good for the readers.

Based on the description above, the writer interested to conducted a research entitled **“Analysis of Religion Element in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s Young Goodman Brown”**

## **METHOD**

In this research, the researcher applied descriptive research. According to Isaac and Michael (1988:46), descriptive research is used in the literal sense of describing situations and events. It is the accumulation of a data base that is solely descriptive. It does not necessarily seek or explain relationships, test hypotheses, make predictions, or get meanings and implications, although research aim at these more powerful

purposes may incorporate descriptive methods. Isaac and Michael (1985:18), define the descriptive method as the one that describes systematically the fact and characteristics of a given population all or area of interest factually and accurately. The data was collected through primary source and secondary source.

**Primary Source** Sugiyono (2010:87) states that primary source is a source of data that is written by the researcher. In this study, the primary source is take from the short story entitled Young Goodman Brown by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

**Secondary Source**

Sugiyono (2010:87) states that secondary source are documents, texts, and objects about an event created by someone who typically referencethe primary sources for their information. The data will be taken from any kinds of literary books and some relevant materials to support and complete the primary data sources.

**FINDING**

This chapter aimed to present the findings of the research. Based on the formulation of the problem, the researcher found out the religion elements according to Rees in Young Goodman Brown short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The data were described as follow:

**Table 4.1  
The Elements of Religion**

No	The Elements of Religion	Result
	God (s) and forces in the public square.	God
	Sacred Symbols (Re) Defining What is Real	Staff, meditation, holy psalm, pulpit and Bible.
	Sacred Stories Connecting Past, Present and Future	Good Cristians and honestmen
	A Community Worshiping and Acting Together	Christian congregation

Based on the data in the table, it can be concluded that in Young Goodman Brown short story by Nathaniel Hawthorne had fourth elements of religion. The data will be described in following:

**The First Element of Religion**

The first element of religion in this research was God (s) and forces in the public square. The data described in this research as follow:

**Table 4.2  
God (s) and forces in the public square**

No	Result
1.	<i>"My love and my Faith," replied young Goodman Brown, "of all nights in the year, this one night must I tarry away from thee. My journey, as thou callest it, forth and back again, must needs be done 'twixt now and</i>

	<i>sunrise. What, my sweet, pretty wife, dost thou doubt me already, and we but three months married!"</i> <i>"Then <u>God</u> bless you!" said Faith, with the pink ribbons, "and may you find all well, when you come back." (Page 1)</i>
2.	<i>"Amen!" cried Goodman Brown. "Say thy <u>prayers</u>, dear Faith, and go to bed at dusk, and no harm will come to thee." (page 1)</i>
3.	<i>"With Heaven above, and Faith below, I will yet stand firm against the devil!"</i> cried Goodman Brown. While he still gazed upward, into the deep arch of the firmament, and had lifted his <u>hands to pray</u> , a cloud, though no wind was stirring, hurried across the zenith, and hid the brightening stars. (page 7)
4.	<i>"Bring forth the converts!"</i> cried a voice, that echoed through the field and rolled into the forest. (page 10)

### **The Second Element of Religion**

The second element of religion in this research was sacred symbols (re) defining what is real. The data described in this research as follow:

**Table 4.3**  
**Sacred symbols (re) defining what is real**

<b>No</b>	<b>Result</b>
1.	was his <u>staff</u> , which bore the likeness of a great black snake, so curiously wrought, that it might almost be seen to twist and wriggle itself like a living serpent. (page 2-3)
2.	The young man sat a few moments by the road-side, applauding himself greatly, and thinking with how clear a conscience he should meet the minister, in his morning-walk, nor shrink from the eye of good old Deacon Gookin. And what calm sleep would be his, that very night, which was to have been spent so wickedly, but purely and sweetly now, in the arms of Faith! Amidst these pleasant and praiseworthy <u>meditations</u> (page 6).
2.	The young man sat a few moments by the road-side, applauding himself greatly, and thinking with how clear a conscience he should meet the minister, in his morning-walk, nor shrink from the eye of good old Deacon Gookin. And what calm sleep would be his, that very night, which was to have been spent so wickedly, but purely and sweetly now, in the arms of Faith! Amidst these pleasant and praiseworthy <u>meditations</u> (page 6).
3.	In the interval of silence, he stole forward, until the light glared full upon his eyes. At one extremity of an open space, hemmed in by the dark wall of the forest, arose a rock, bearing some rude, natural resemblance either to an altar or a pulpit, and surrounded by four blazing pines, their tops aflame, their stems untouched, like candles at an evening meeting. (page 9)

4.	On the Sabbath-day, when the congregation were singing a <u>holy psalm</u> , he could not listen, because an anthem of sin rushed loudly upon his ear, and drowned all the blessed strain. When the minister spoke from the <u>pulpit</u> , with power and fervid eloquence, and with his hand on the open <u>Bible</u> , of the sacred truths of our religion, and of saint-like lives and triumphant deaths, and of future bliss or misery unutterable (page 13)
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From the information above, it can be concluded that the second element of religion in short story of Young Goodman Brown by Nathaniel Hawthorne were staff, meditation, ceremony, holy psalm, pulpit and Bible.

#### The Third Element of Religion

The third element of religion in this research was sacred stories connecting past, present and future. The data described in this research as follow:

Table 4.4

#### Sacred stories connecting past, present and future

No	Result
1.	<i>"Too far, too far!"</i> exclaimed the goodman, unconsciously resuming his walk. <i>"My father never went into the woods on such an errand, nor his father before him. We have been a race of honest men and good Christians, since the days of the martyrs. And shall I be the first of the name of Brown, that ever took this path and kept"</i> (Page 3)
2.	<i>"We are a people of prayer, and good works to boot, and abide no such wickedness"</i> (page 3)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that since the past time until now they have been a people of prayer, and good works and abide no such wickedness. So, since the past time, they were good people and do not commit a crime.

#### The Fourth Element of Religion

The fourth element of religion in this research was a community worshiping and acting together. The data described in this research as follow:

Table 4.5

#### A community worshiping and acting together

No	Result
1.	<i>"We are a people of prayer, and good works to boot, and abide no such wickedness"</i> (page 3)
2.	When the minister spoke from the pulpit, with power and fervid eloquence, and with his hand on the open Bible, of the sacred truths of our religion, and of saint-like lives and triumphant deaths, and of future bliss or misery unutterable (page 13)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that in the short story of Young Goodman Brown there was a community. The community was people Christians the minister as a head of community, and the others as congregation.

## **RESULT**

### **Discussion**

Prose is kind of literary work. The literary work is the result so fan activity of thinking about human life. An author makes literary works to describe complex human life to the real world. In this research type of prose was a short story Based on the result of this research, the researcher analyzed the element of religion in Young Goodman Brown by Nathaniel Hawthorne There were fourth kinds of religion elements, they were God (s) and forces in the public square, sacred symbols (re) defining what is real, sacred stories connecting past, present and future and a community worshipping and acting together.

First element of religion was God (s) and forces in the public square. Based on the result, the researcher found that the first element was God. The following were the examples of data found in the short story:

*"My love and my Faith," replied young Goodman Brown, "of all nights in the year, this one night must I tarry away from thee. My journey, as thou callest it, forth and back again, must needs be done 'twixt now and sunrise. What, my sweet, pretty wife, dost thou doubt me already, and we but three months married!" "Then God bless you!" said Faith, with the pink ribbons, "and may you find all well, when you come back."(Page 1)*

Based on the information above, it could be seen the conversation between Young Goodman Brown and his wife Faith. His wife believe that God will take care of her husband.

Based on the data above, it could be seen that Young Goodman Brown hand to pray in God. It means that hands to pray is an action or the way to ask to God for help. According to Rees (2017:2), The first element of religion is the belief that divine being sand/or force should relevance to the meaning and practice of politics today and throughout history These beings are sometimes understood as a knowable God or gods, sometimes as mythical and symbolic figures from our ancient past and sometimes as impersonal forces beyond the physical realm. It related by the result, the people in Young Goodman Brown belief to God to take care of them and gives help.

The second element of religion was sacred symbols (re) defining what is real. Based on the result, the researcher found that the second element were staff, meditation, holy psalm, pulpit and Bible. The following were the examples of data found in the short story:

was his staff, which bore the likeness of a great black snake, so curiously wrought, that it might almost be seen to twist and wriggle itself like a living serpent. (page 2-3)

Based on the data, the researcher found the symbol "staff" have magic power likeness of a great black snake, so curiously wrought, that it might almost be seen to twist and wriggle itself like a living serpent.

The young man sat a few moments by the road-side, applauding himself greatly, and thinking with how clear a conscience he should meet the minister, in his morning-walk, nor shrink from the eye of good old Deacon Gookin. And what calm sleep would be his, that very night, which was to have been spent so wickedly, but purely and sweetly now, in the arms of Faith! Amidst these pleasant and praiseworthy meditations (page 6).

Based on the data, the researcher found “meditation” as ritual to clear his mind with his conscience.

In the interval of silence, he stole forward, until the light glared full upon his eyes. At one extremity of an open space, hemmed in by the dark wall of the forest, arose a rock, bearing some rude, natural resemblance either to an altar or a pulpit, and surrounded by four blazing pines, their tops aflame, their stems untouched, like candles at an evening meeting. (page 9)

Based on the story the people doing ceremony. At the ceremony, which took place on a stone altar lit by fire. Ceremony it means as a ritual by them to convert the people.

On the Sabbath-day, when the congregation were singing a holy psalm, he could not listen, because an anthem of sin rushed loudly upon his ear, and drowned all the blessed strain. When the minister spoke from the pulpit, with power and fervid eloquence, and with his hand on the open Bible, of the sacred truths of our religion, and of saint-like lives and triumphant deaths, and of future bliss or misery unutterable (page 13).

Based on the data, the researcher found “holy psalm, pulpit and Bible” as symbols used by pastor or minister given a sermon to his congregation. According to Rees (2017:2), the second element of religion are rituals that re-order the world according to religious principle. Although the word ‘faith’ can be associated with belief in unseen realities, humans throughout time have needed those, touch and smell the sacred. Our senses are portals to the spirit. Therefore, rituals function as tangible symbols of the intangible realm. It related by the result of the research, the people believe that staff had magic power, and mediation as ritual by Young Goodman Brown.

The third element of religion was sacred stories connecting past, present and future. Based on the result, the researcher found that the third element were good Christians and honest men. . The following were the examples of data found in the short story:

*"Too far, too far!"* exclaimed the goodman, unconsciously resuming his walk. *"My father never went into the woods on such an errand, nor his father before him. We have been a race of honest men and good Christians, since the days of the martyrs. And shall I be the first of the name of Brown, that ever took this path and kept"* (Page 3).

Based on the data above, it could be seen that since the past time until now they have been a good Christians and honest men.

*"We are a people of prayer, and good works to boot, and abide no such wickedness"* (page 3)

Based on the data above, it could be seen that since the past time until now they have been a people of prayer, and good works and abide no such wickedness. So, since

the past time, they were good people and do not commit a crime. The third element of religion is teaching traditions based on stories of significant figures, events and ideas from the past and beliefs about the future of time itself like a spoiler alert about the end of the world.

These elements interpreting the past, projecting the future, living now – are basic to the development of political ideologies also (Rees 2017:3). It related by the result of this research that Christians people since the past time until now they have been a good Christians and honest men. They were good people and do not commit a crime.

The last element was a community worshipping and acting together. Based on the result the researcher found the last element of religion was Cristian congragetion. The following were the examples of data found in the short story:

*"We are a people of prayer, and good works to boot, and abide no such wickedness"* (page 3).

Based on the data above, it could be seen that in the short story of Young Goodman Brown there was a community. The community was people Christians. They did a good works to boot and abide no such wickedness.

When the minister spoke from the pulpit, with power and fervid eloquence, and with his hand on the open Bible, of the sacred truths of our religion, and of saint-like lives and triumphant deaths, and of future bliss or misery unutterable (page 13).

Based on the data above, it could be seen that in the short story of Young Goodman Brown there was a community. The community was people Christians the minister as a head of community, and the others as congregation. According to Rees (2017:3), the fourth element common to most religions is the need for believers to belong to a faith community in order to practice sacred rituals and reinforce the truth of sacred stories. Some religious radiations could be described as high demand, requiring tract adherence on rules and standards in order to maintain member ship of the faith community. It related by the result of this research a community in this result was Christian's congregation. The minister as a head of community, and the others as congregation.

Based on the results, it can be concluded that religion is belief, attitude and action in everyday life. Religion is the belief in a god or in a group of gods. Webster (1990:32), religion is a personal set or institutionalized system of religious attitudes, beliefs, and practices. Since the past time people have their own religions. Religion as system of social coherence based on a common group of beliefs or attitudes concerning an object, person, unseen being, or system of thought considered to be supernatural, sacred, divine or highest truth, and the moral codes, practices, values, institutions, traditions, and rituals associated with such belief or system of thought.

## **CONCLUSION**

From the findings and discussions of the research chapter IV, The researcher got conclusion below:

The first element of religion was God (s) and forces in the public square. Based on the result, the researcher found that the first element was God. The people in Young Goodman Brown belief to God to take care of them and gives help.

The second element of religion was sacred symbols (re) defining what is real. Based on the result, the researcher found that the second element were staff, meditation, holy psalm, pulpit and Bible. The people belief that staff had magic power, and mediation as ritual by Young Goodman Brown to clear his mind with his conscience and holy psalm, pulpit and Bible used ritual by their religion.

The third element of religion was sacred stories connecting past, present and future. Based on the result, the researcher found that the third element were good Christians and honest men. Christians people since the past time until now they have been a good Christians and honest men. They were good people and do not commit a crime.

The last elements of religion was a community worshiping and acting together. Based on the result the researcher found the last element of religion was Christian congregation. The minister as a head of community, and the others as congregation.

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