FROM REVENGE TO FORGIVENESS: MILES RYAN’S ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS PAST AND HIS FUTURE IN NICHOLAS SPARKS’ A BEND IN THE ROAD (A Moral Philosophical Approach)
FROM REVENGE TO FORGIVENESS: MILES RYAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS PAST AND HIS FUTURE IN NICHOLAS SPARKS'

A BEND IN THE ROAD

(A Moral Philosophical Approach)

by
Chrisinta Anggraeni
C0307016

Approved to be examined by the Board of Examiners,
Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Sebelas Maret University

Thesis Supervisor

Dra. Endang Sri Astuti, M.S
NIP. 19520814 198103 2001

The Head of English Department

Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A, Ph.D
NIP. 19670830 199302 1001
FROM REVENGE TO FORGIVENESS: MILES RYAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS HIS PAST AND HIS FUTURE IN NICHOLAS SPARKS' A BEND IN THE ROAD

(A Moral Philosophical Approach)

Chrisinta Anggraeni
C0307016

Examined and approved by the Board of Examiners, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University on April 29, 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chairperson</td>
<td>Dra. Sri Kusumo Habsari, M.Hum., Ph.D.</td>
<td>(</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIP. 19670323 199512 2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Justine Niken Asta, S.S, M.A.</td>
<td>(</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIK. 19860723 201302 01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Examiner</td>
<td>Dra. Endang Sri Astuti, M.S.</td>
<td>(</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIP. 19520814 198103 2001</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Examiner</td>
<td>Drs. Hendarto Rahardjo, M.A.</td>
<td>(</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>NIP. 19520721 197903 1004</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Dean Faculty of Cultural Sciences
Sebelas Maret University

Drs. Riyadi Santosa, M.Ed., Ph.D.
NIP. 19600328 198601 1001
PRONOUNCEMENT

Name : Chrisinta Anggraeni
Student Number : C0307016

This research entitled *From Revenge to Forgiveness: Miles Ryan’s Attitude Towards His Past and His Future in Nicholas Sparks’ A Bend in the Road (Moral Philosophical Approach)* is neither a kind of intended plagiarism nor written by other. All works and pieces of writings consulted in this research are cited properly.

If someday it can be proven that I cheat, I am ready to take any consequences given to me from the English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University.

Surakarta, April 2015

Researcher

Chrisinta Anggraeni
MOTTO

It is not the most intellectual or the strongest of species that survives; but the species that survives is the one that is able to adapt to and adjust best to the changing environment in which it finds itself.

Charles Darwin
DEDICATION

This Thesis is dedicated to:

My beloved mother and father
My family
My best friends
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First of all, I would like to thank GOD, my Savior. Every second chances that has been given is a proof of Your heavenly forgiveness. Forgiveness that You want us to be able to give as well unto every single others who is in fault. You have given all blessing and guidance, possible or even unexpectedly, in every step of my life. I believe in this particular process, the accomplishment process of my thesis, has been one of your little wonder to me. It is one of the very many wonders You have prepared for me including all the things I will work on and experience in the future until then I finish my life on earth. All the glory and honor is for You alone forever and ever, amen.

During the writing process of this thesis, I realize that I have received tons of encouragements from many people. Therefore, I would like to express my deepest gratitude here. To the Dean of Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Sebelas Maret University, Drs. Riyadi Santoso, M.Ed., Ph.D. and to the Head of English Department, Drs. Agus Hari Wibowo, M.A., Ph.D., I thank for all the supports given to us and for being so kind in taking care of us. I am deeply grateful that you have been trying so hard to encourage us reach our graduation. I thank all my lecturers of the English Department, for the great lessons about everything.

To Mrs. Fitria Akhmerti, S.S, M. A., my Academic Supervisor, I thank her for all supports and advices given to me during my study in English Department. My chairperson of thesis examination, Dra. S.K. Habsari, M. Hum., Ph. D., I thank for your big help in giving me enlightenment for my writing pieces during my revision process to make my writing a little more readable. I am doom without
your help, thank you so much. To my Thesis Supervisor, Dra. Endang Sri Astuti, M.S., I thank you for being such a great mentor that I could always run to during my writing process and for all your patience in such a long period of thesis consulting. Thank you for all guidance and advices for the better of my thesis as well as personal advices for the better of me.

To my beloved Mom and Dad and also my family, I thank for so many supports and prayer that you all have given. I thank for the whole time that I was allowed to receive all the generous gifts, from energy to every matter that counts, in helping me to struggle through all the difficulties. It brings me to all kinds of emotion that I can reach the finish line here. I wish to God I can pay you back.

To my besties, who have always been such dependable supports. You are the places I can turn to when things went blank to my eyes. Thanks to you that I can finally write this gratitude on the paper. I can reach this step because of every prayer you said and every single thing great and small I received from you all. I pray to God that you'll always be blessed in all time.

Last but not least, I’d like to say thanks for all those people who have been lending me their ears to listen and sharing a heart to understand me. To those whose names have not been addressed personally above, I thank you for being so kind and always being so willing to take care of me.

I realize that this thesis is far from perfect, but I hope that it can give a contribution to the world of English literature.

Surakarta, April 2015

Chrisinta Anggraeni
TABLE OF CONTENT

TITLE ........................................................................................................................... i
Approval of the Thesis Supervisor ........................................................................... ii
Approval of the Board Examiners ......................................................................... iii
PRONOUNCEMENT ...................................................................................................... iv
MOTTO .......................................................................................................................... v
DEDICATION ................................................................................................................ vi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT ................................................................................................... vii
TABLE OF CONTENT .................................................................................................. ix
ABSTRACT ................................................................................................................... xi

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION
A. Research Background ............................................................................................ 1
B. Scope of Study .......................................................................................................... 7
C. Research Problem .................................................................................................... 7
D. Research Objective .................................................................................................. 7
E. Research Benefit ...................................................................................................... 8
F. Research Methodology ............................................................................................. 8
   a. Type of Research ................................................................................................. 8
   b. Data and Data Source ......................................................................................... 9
   c. Data Collecting Technique ................................................................................ 9
   d. Data Processing Technique ............................................................................... 9
G. Theoretical Approach .............................................................................................. 10
H. Thesis Organization ................................................................................................. 15

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW
A. Literature as Moral Agent ..................................................................................... 17
B. The Utility Principle in Utilitarianism .................................................................... 18
C. Moral Philosophical Approach .............................................................................. 20
D. Revenge and Forgiveness ..................................................................................... 21

ix
a. Seeking-Revenge Brain................................................................. 22
b. Forgiveness Instinct .................................................................. 24
E. Biography of Nicholas Sparks and His Idea About Forgiveness ........ 26

CHAPTER III: DISCUSSION
A. The Revenge in Miles Ryan ......................................................... 30
   a. Miles Ryan’s Resentment.......................................................... 30
   b. Miles Ryan’s Distracted Behavior.......................................... 32
   c. Miles Ryan’s Reaction Towards Situation Related to His Wife’s Case ................................................................. 36
B. The Forgiveness in Miles Ryan ..................................................... 47
   a. Internal Factors Prior to Cause the Change in Miles Ryan’s Attitude ........................................................................... 47
   b. External Factors Prior to Cause the Change in Miles Ryan’s Attitude ........................................................................... 59

CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION
A. Conclusion .................................................................................. 66
B. Recommendation ......................................................................... 68

BIBLIOGRAPHY
ABSTRACT

Chrisinta Anggraeni. C0307016. 2015. From Revenge to Forgiveness: Miles Ryan’s Attitude towards His Past and His Future in Nicholas Sparks’s A Bend in the Road. Undergraduate Thesis. Faculty of Cultural Sciences Sebelas Maret University.

The first objectives of this research are to describe revenge and forgiveness in moral philosophical point of view as it is seen from utilitarian theory. The second objective is to describe the way Nicholas Sparks portrays revenge and forgiveness morally with elaboration to his idea of both attitude in Christian value. Seen from moral philosophical point of view, this research emphasizes in the process of Miles Ryan’s consideration before taking decision. The result of his decision is associated with the moral value in general understanding of revenge and forgiveness. Aside from that, it is also associated with contextual situation that is experienced by Miles Ryan in the story.

This research uses a descriptive qualitative method. Main data of this research were all taken from the novel starting from event sequences, main and supporting character’s act during the process of getting to know each other, and the narration in the novel. As the theoretical concept of moral, to conclude the right and wrong, the research uses John Stuart Mill’s theory of moral philosophy called Utilitarianism. Since it uses moral philosophical approach, author’s vision is to be taken into account. Thus it contains Christian values as depicted in the Bible to look at the character’s attitude in the work. Another supporting concept that is added in the research is from Michael McCollough’s concept of forgiveness that presents many kind of forgiveness to classify Miles Ryan’s forgiveness.

Through the research scholars can study about how reasonable a desire of revenge to happen to a particular person with a specific situation. The more Miles insist on taking revenge would be the more difficult for him to get over his past, hence the more difficult for him to forgive. In the last moment he learned to perform forgiveness although it was not the ideal type of forgiveness as describe in the concept. The elaboration between utilitarian principle, author’s vision through Christian values, and forgiveness concept attempts to find out the possibility of how both attitudes can happen as well as its judgment based on the theory.

Keywords: revenge, forgiveness, moral philosophy, utilitarianism