

SYMBOLISM AND THEIR MEANINGS IN *THE LITTLE PRINCE*

A THESIS



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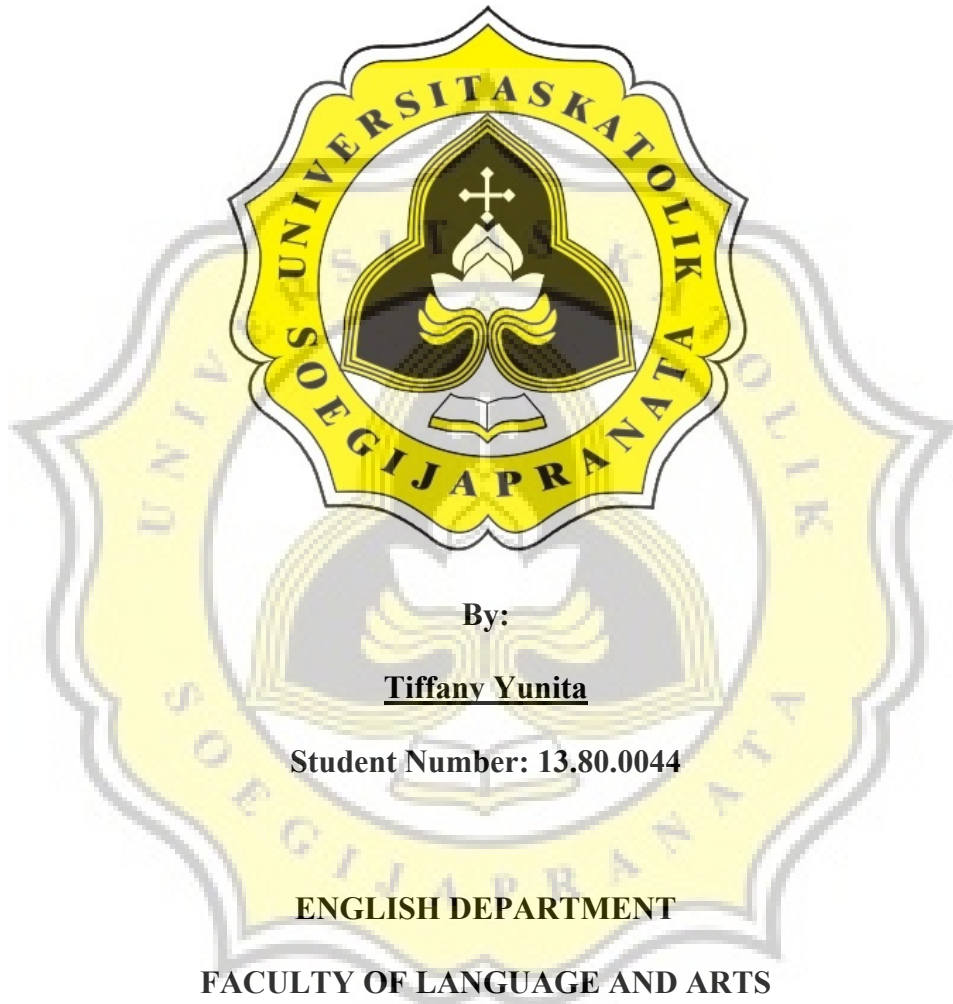
SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

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SYMBOLISM AND THEIR MEANINGS IN *THE LITTLE PRINCE*

**A Thesis Presented as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement to Obtain the
Bachelor Degree in the English Literature Study Program**



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*Gravity explains the motions of
the planets, but it cannot explain
who sets the planets in motion*

-Isaac Newton-



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Good life is one peaceful inside. Life is about karma. So, first of all, I should be thankful to the Universe which leads every movement in my life, and to the nature which gives me a good life. I just want to say to this to everyone who reads this shabby thesis: Love each other since the time and the place where we live right now is a messy world, a world which is full of hatred and prejudice. This personal message and selfish point of view are things that encourage me to finish writing this thesis.

Secondly, I would thank my family that gives me the happiest moment in my life, especially to my loveable nephews: Dylan, Darryl, Reynard, and my only one niece Gwen. You all, with your small smiles and hands have shown me how colorful the world is. You make me want to be a great aunty for you.

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Then, I thank all my friends teaching me to be sociable, and understanding me as a merely human being. You are beautiful in your own way. I love you all. I do apologize for

not being able to mention all friends' names one by one. What I need to say here is that you are special in different ways. You will always live in my heart.

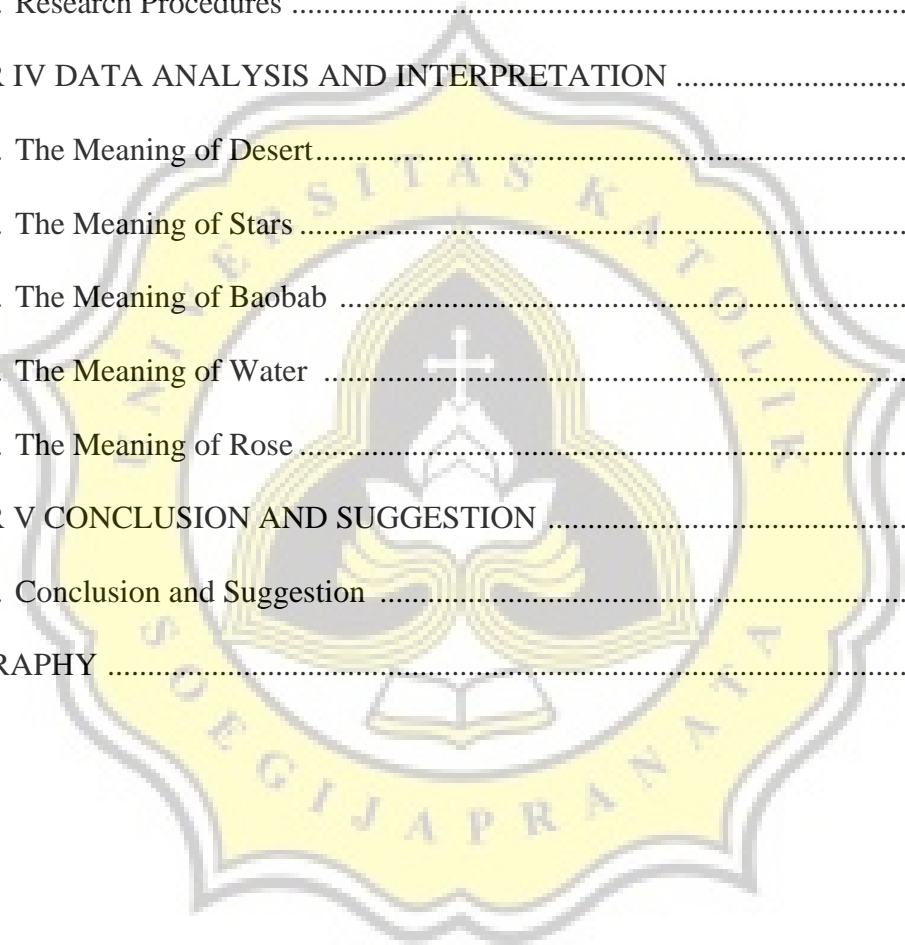
Lastly, thanks for everything that has happened in my life. I wish everyone leads a beautiful life. As a sweet reminder: please always love yourself. You are small among the billions of human beings. However, there must be reason for each of us to live in this world. For karma: do not worry too much about karma. There is good karma in life.



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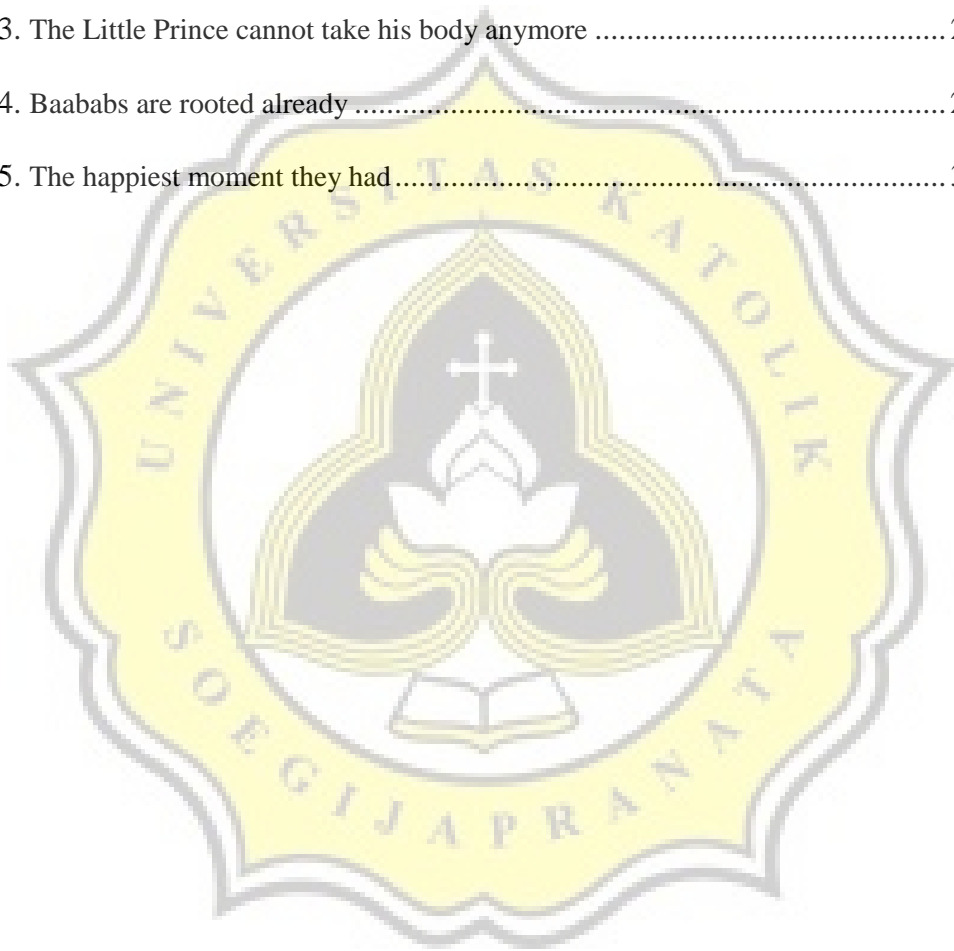
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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to find out major symbols in *The Little Prince* novel. It has been known that symbol is part of literary work like poems, songs, paintings, dramas; narratives which have messages that are indirectly delivered by symbols. The writer also compared the denotative meaning of each symbol with its symbolic meaning to make people understand that the symbols used have different meaning with its real meaning. The method used in this study is qualitative method because this method is suitable to examine the symbols used in the novel. From the research that has been done, the writer found that in *The Little Prince* novel there are some symbols that build the story into one and have great impact from the beginning until the end of the story. The writer found five major symbols in the story there are Desert, Stars, Baobab, Water, and Rose. These five major symbols are related one another in the story and make the story more fascinating.



ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui symbol – symbol utama yang ada dalam novel *The Little Prince*. Seperti yang sudah di ketahui bahwa sebuah karya literature erat hubungannya dengan simbol seperti dalam puisi, lagu, lukisan, drama, cerita yang memiliki pesan tersirat didalamnya dan secara tidak langsung di sampaikan dalam bentuk simbol. Peneliti dalam menganalisa hal ini juga akan membandingkan arti denotative dengan arti sebuah hal secara simbolik sehingga orang bisa memahami bahwa sebuah hal biasanya akan memiliki arti yang berbeda dengan arti sesungguhnya. Metode analisa yang digunakan adalah kualitatif karena metode inilah yang sangat tepat untuk memecahkan masalah yang ada dan dalam proses menganalisa simbol tidaklah dibutuhkan kalkulasi yang mendalam. Dari pnelitian yang sudah dilakukan, penulis menemukan bahwa didalam novel *The Little Prince* ada beberapa symbol yang membangun cerita menjadi satu dan memiliki pengaruh besar dari awal sampai akhir cerita. Penulis menemukan lima symbol utama didalam cerita yaitu, Gurun, Bintang, Baobab, air, dan Mawar. Lima simbol tersebut berkaitan satu dengan yang lain didalam cerita dan membuat cerita tersebut menjai lebih menarik..



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

In order to analyze a work of literature, someone may consider the elements outside the work itself, or focus attention to the work itself as a whole entity. In his well-known book *Theory of Literature*, Wellek and Warren (1949) points out that here are two major methods to studying literature, there are extrinsic method and intrinsic method. Extrinsic method covers all environmental factors from the author of the story such as biographical, psychological, sociological, philosophical, and other arts (music, sculpture, painting), while the intrinsic element is cover what in the works itself by putting aside the environmental factors and focus on the work itself such as plot, characters, setting, world-view, and tone (p. 221).

Another intrinsic element, relevant to this research, is symbolism. Symbolism has big part in literary work because “Symbolism (is) one of the most important aspects of serious imaginative literature” (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986, p. 58). Symbol is the common thing used by people to make something become easier to be understood by other. A symbol is something solid that represent things more than itself (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986), for example, white dove as a peace symbol or black cat as a bad luck symbol.

To sum up, symbolism in literature is like a tool for the author to deliver their messages, so they will be understood by the reader completely. The sense

of messages will be different when the author uses symbolism. By using symbol, one message can become powerful. In a case where a male character wants to say that a women's pretty face will not last forever, the author will not use a blunt expression like "Pretty women will be pretty among the ugliest as they are getting old " but he will say "You know, flower will wither someday" instead. Upon reading the expression, the reader will wonder why the author say 'flower' that 'wither,' then reader will use their imagination to interpret the meaning of "flower" in relation to "women", and to interpret the meaning of "wither" in relation to "getting old." When the reader understands what the symbols relate to, it means the author succeeds to get reader's attention.

Symbolism does not only give powerful message (Green, 2013), but also adds the richness of a story and shares the author philosophies (O'neal, 2013). For example, when a woman says to a man 'the best part of you is your eyes because I can see myself in it,' it makes the sentence richer because this one sentence can be interpreted differently by different people. Some readers can only catch the literal meaning of 'eyes' as the best part of the person or some other readers can recognize the symbol represented by eyes which means that the woman wants to say that the man is her soul-mate. The example of the author's philosophies can be found in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* novel by *Lewis Carroll* where he puts his philosophies on mathematician concept in this novel. In the part where Alice falls into a rabbit hole and eats cake that changes her into 3 inches height and where Alice smokes a hookah pipe and is back to her normal size, *Lewis Carroll* wants to show his philosophies about

mathematics' limited concept that Alice needs to eat the right balance to make herself into the right size (Bayley, 2009).

After the explanations about symbolism as a tool for the author, people can find that not only the author that gets advantage by using symbolism in their work but the reader could gain some advantage. The use of symbolism in literary work could help to broaden reader's mind because like the example *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* before, people could understand about mathematic concept by read it. To recognize symbolism, there are some processes where people should use their imagination. Without imagination, understanding literary works which have many symbolisms are difficult. That is why people who read a lot of literary work can gain advantage. That is the reason symbolism is one of interesting topics to be examined.

Here I try to find out how symbolism is used in *The Little Prince* by *Antoine de Saint-Exupery*. The symbolism in *The Little Prince* novel will be the object of analysis in this thesis in which the researcher examines the symbolism and explains the meaning of the symbols in this novel. This novel is originally written in French and translated into English. It was published on 6 April 1943 in both languages. The Little Prince is not an ordinary novel because the written style is like children's book but the writer addresses all ages especially adults. Some people also call this novel an autobiography of the author who is an aviator who experienced being lost in Sahara Desert (Le Petit Prince Licensing). This novel has been translated into over 250 languages and gets most vote for the best book of the 20th century in France (Goodreads.Inc, 2007). The most fascinating feature about this book is the fact that the author uses symbols to

deliver his message to adult in children's writing style. The author's style might sound childish, but his way to deliver symbols has a deep meaning when people see it from different point of view. The author, in my opinion, succeeds to tone down the complexity of the story into children's level. The main purpose of this research is to find the symbols used and their meanings in the novel.

1.2. FIELD OF THE STUDY

The field of this study is literature, especially symbol using Symbolism Approach

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of this study is symbolism in *The Little Prince* novel. Although there are a lot of symbolisms in this novel but I only focus on major symbols and their meaning in *The Little Prince*.

1.4. PROBLEM FORMULATION

This study has purpose to address this following question: What are the symbols and their meanings in *The Little Prince*?

1.5. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of this study is to find out the symbols and their meanings in *The Little Prince* novel.

1.6. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

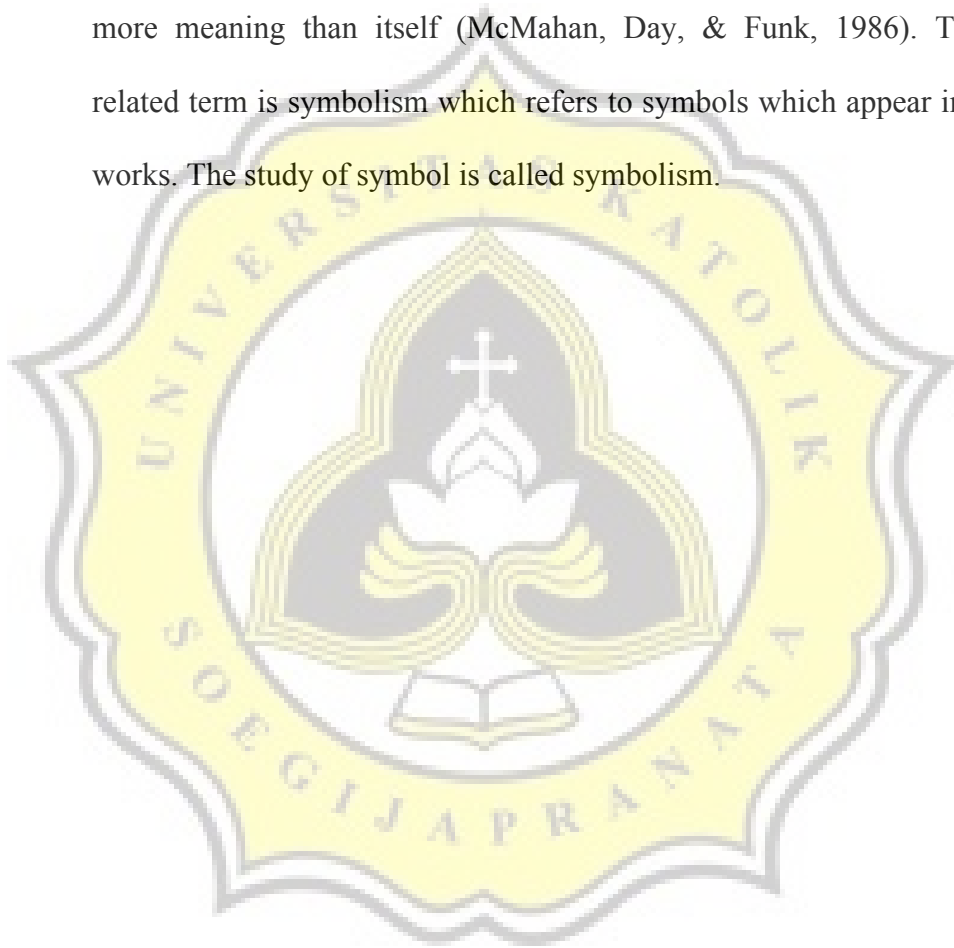
This study is expected to offer more knowledge about symbolism in *The Little Prince* and Pickering and Hooper's theory is used to identify the symbols and their meanings. As the writer knows, readers should train themselves and read a lot of book to understand symbolism in stories. Therefore, from this study

hopefully the readers can get a lot of information about symbolism in literature especially written texts employing many symbolisms.

1.7. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- symbol

Symbol is a thing that is not concrete and always stands for or gives more meaning than itself (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986). The other related term is symbolism which refers to symbols which appear in literary works. The study of symbol is called symbolism.



CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

As it has been mentioned before, symbol is thing standing for other things beyond its literal meaning. The point of creating symbol is that people can communicate their ideas deeper and simpler. Symbol can also be an expression of people's thought or feeling toward life and death. For example, Ankh is an Egyptian symbol which is symbolizing life and immortality (Mark, 2016). Symbols can be found in daily life as well like red light means stop in road traffic safety. Even people's names are used to symbolize other things. But commonly, symbol is found in literary works like movie, poet, music.

2.1. Theories of Symbol

The word symbol is derived from Latin word "symbolum" which means "creed, token, mark" and from Greek word "symbolon" which means "token, watchword, sign." It is taken from the root words "syn" which means "with or together" and "ballein" which means "throwing" or which nearly means "throwing together." (McCormack, ¶ 1)

Symbolism as symbol that appears in literary work was a literary movement in nineteenth century (Fadaee, 2011). Symbolism term was used for arts in the beginning and then it is spread to other literary works like book. It was when writers started to use symbolism in their work. But, before people talk about symbolism, people should understand symbol and what is symbol.

2.1.1 Sign

When people talk about symbol, they will also talk about sign because symbol is the part of sign. Charles Sanders Peirce as cited by English and Kirshner (2015) divides how sign stands for its denoted object into three ways:

1. Icon

Peirce's definition of icon is "...a sign that denotes its object by virtue of a quality which is shared by them but which icon has irrespectively of the object" (p. 236). In the other hand, icon means the imitation of the object or the concept. For example, a picture of a house, even though it may look simple, imitates the represented object, a house.

2. Index

Index is "...a sign that denoted its object by virtue of an actual connection involving them, one that Peirce also calls a real relation in virtue of its being irrespectively of interpretation" (p. 236). Index does not imitate nor resemble the represented object but it does resemble something that implied the represented object. Index that is used to label hazardous chemicals is skull and crossed bones, to inform that the chemical stuffs are poisonous. Skull and crossed bones do not resemble the represented object but it implied the cause.

3. Symbol

Symbol is "... a sign that denoted its object solely by virtue of the fact that it will be interpreted to do so. The symbol consists in a natural or conventional or logical rule, norm, or habit, a habit that lacks (or has shed) dependence on the symbolic sign's having a resemblance or real connection to the denoted object." (p. 236)

Symbol is totally different from the represented object and needs to be learned to understand. Icon can be a symbol, for example, floppy disk is an icon for "save data" in computer although the floppy disc becomes more like a symbol nowadays since floppy disk is not used anymore.

2.1.2 Kinds of Symbol

Sylvan Barnet in his book *Literature: Thinking, Reading and Writing critically* (1997, p. 906) mentions two kinds of symbols: natural symbol and conventional symbol. Natural symbols, meaning those related to nature, might be different from one culture to another. For example, sun symbolizes birth but in another culture sun symbolizes gods. Different from natural symbol, conventional symbol means that all people accept that the symbol stands for something other than itself. The meaning of symbol is widely accepted and known in many cultures. The heart, for example, is conventionally interpreted as the symbol of love.

Pickering and Hoepfer in their book *Concise Companion to Literature* talked about three kinds of symbol (Pickering & Hoepfer, 1981, pp. 71-72):

1. Traditional symbol

Traditional symbol is a symbol related to the common things in society or culture. It is recognized and accepted widely or in another word universally known (p. 71). For example, yin yang in Chinese culture as a symbol of a balance between positive and negative which is acknowledged by most people.

2. Original symbol

Original symbol is a symbol that is not related to the traditional symbol; its meaning depends on the context (p. 72). For example, blue color in map means everything related with water, but blue color in weather information means cold weather.

3. Private symbol

Private symbol is a symbol that has a deeper meaning than original symbol. It is created by a person as the result of his imagination and knowledge about belief or philosophy (p. 72).

For example, small speck of dust in *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss is a symbol of a fetus. Private symbol may have different meaning from each other.

2.1.3. Steps to Recognize Symbol

A symbol is neither easy nor difficult to be recognized as it is like a hidden message where people need practice to recognize it in a literary work. According to Laurence Perrine in his book *Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense*, for reader, it is important to follow some steps to recognize symbols in a story by observing the following cautions (Perrine, 1974):

1. The story itself must furnish a clue that a detail is to be taken symbolically (emphasis). Symbol in a story will give signal to the reader that it exists by repeating or emphasizing it.
2. The meaning of a literary symbol must be established and supported by the entire context of the story.
3. To be called a symbol, an item must suggest a meaning different in kind from its literal meaning. A symbol is something more than the representative of a class or type.
4. A symbol may have more than one meaning. It may suggest a cluster of meanings.

Similar but not the same to Laurence, McMahan, Day & Funk in their book *Literature and the Writing Process* (1986) generalized that most of the authors of a story will emphasize a term by repeating it many times or use the term as a title. Important symbols will be placed in the beginning and the end of the story.

2.1.4 Meaning of Symbol

After people find out what symbol is and how to identify symbol, people try to know what the meaning of symbol is. Carl Gustav Jung is a psychotherapist and psychiatrist, who talks about symbol from psychological point of view. Carl Jung in Benjamin Nagari book's *Music as Image: Analytical Psychology and Music in Film* believes that dream can be interpreted in symbolic form by saying that dream is "a spontaneous self-portrayal, in symbolic form, of actual situation in the unconscious" (Nagari, 2015). Jung inferred that the unconscious state of a person reflects the actual situation of that person.

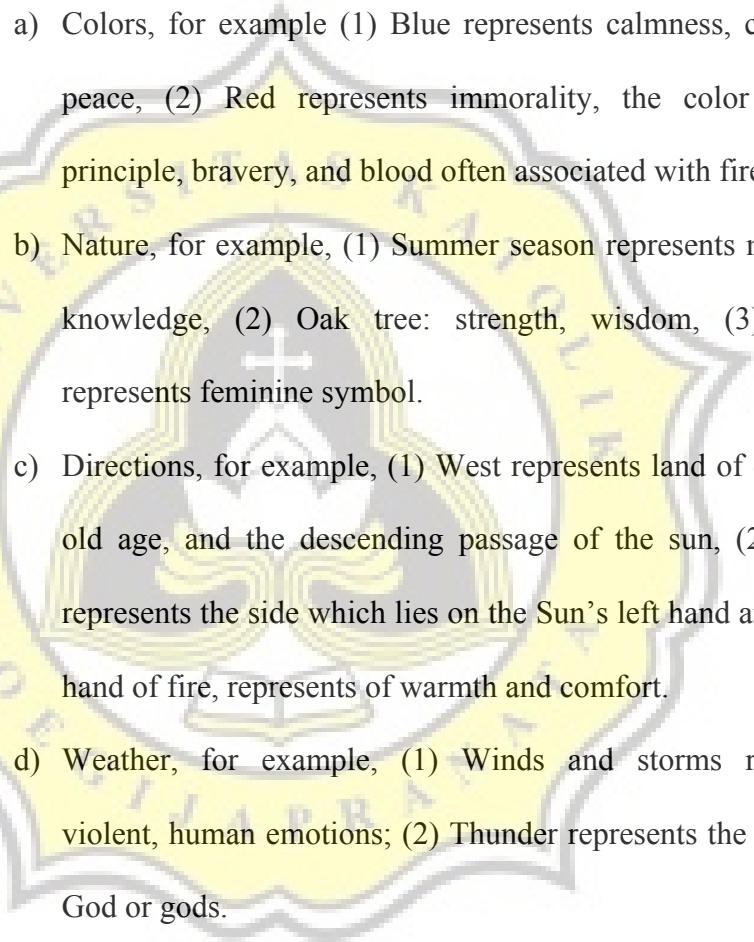
Kenneth Burke, the American literary theorist also talked about symbol. In I. C. Baianu articles about symbol, Bruke said that people tend to create symbols by learning from what they see, from their life experience and from symbols used in the past (I. C. Baianu, 2010).

J.E.Cirlot in his *Dictionary of Symbols* said that everything in symbolism has meaning and purpose that are sometimes easily to be recognized and sometimes not, and everything in it will leave trace or signature which make people try to examine and interpret it (J.E.Cirlot, 2001, hal. xliii).

There are some variety of symbols that can be categorized into some groups depend on the meaning. Christian symbol is a symbol used in Christianity which meanings are related to what the

bible has. For example, apple in Christian symbol means temptation or original sin.

Examples of conventional or traditional symbols have been thoroughly written by Jean Chevalier. The examples of these symbols are presented below (Chevalier, Gheerbrant, & Brown, 1996):

- 
- a) Colors, for example (1) Blue represents calmness, coolness, peace, (2) Red represents immorality, the color of life principle, bravery, and blood often associated with fire.
 - b) Nature, for example, (1) Summer season represents maturity, knowledge, (2) Oak tree: strength, wisdom, (3) Moon represents feminine symbol.
 - c) Directions, for example, (1) West represents land of evening, old age, and the descending passage of the sun, (2) South represents the side which lies on the Sun's left hand and is the hand of fire, represents of warmth and comfort.
 - d) Weather, for example, (1) Winds and storms represent violent, human emotions; (2) Thunder represents the voice of God or gods.
 - e) Animals, for example, (1) Fox represents slyness, cleverness, (2) Salmon represents instinct, sacred wisdom.
 - f) Walls, for example, (1) Barriers represents between people, shuts out the world.
 - g) Human body parts, for example, (1) Bones represents the framework of the human body, since it contains bone marrow

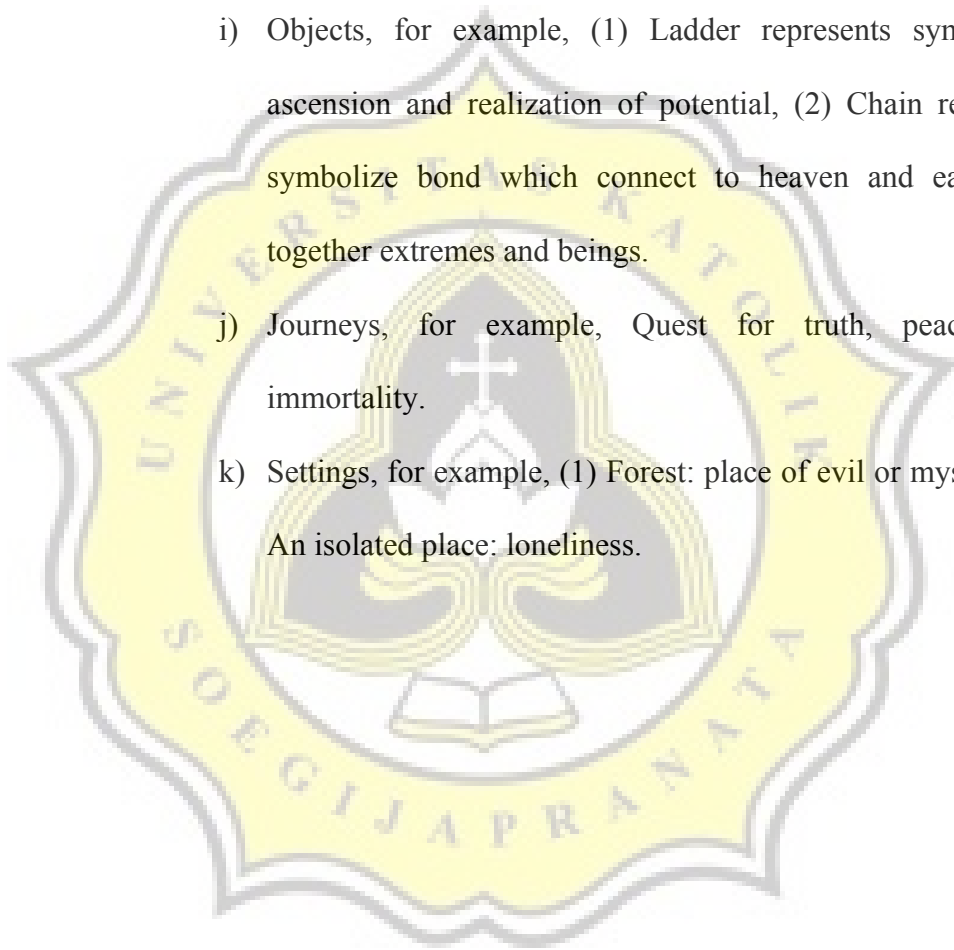
it symbolize strength and virtue, (2) Eyes represents windows to the souls.

h) Clothing, for example, (1) Mask represents externalize demonic tendencies, (2) Cloak represents symbol of human trickery.

i) Objects, for example, (1) Ladder represents symbols of ascension and realization of potential, (2) Chain represents symbolize bond which connect to heaven and earth, ties together extremes and beings.

j) Journeys, for example, Quest for truth, peaceful or immortality.

k) Settings, for example, (1) Forest: place of evil or mystery, (2) An isolated place: loneliness.

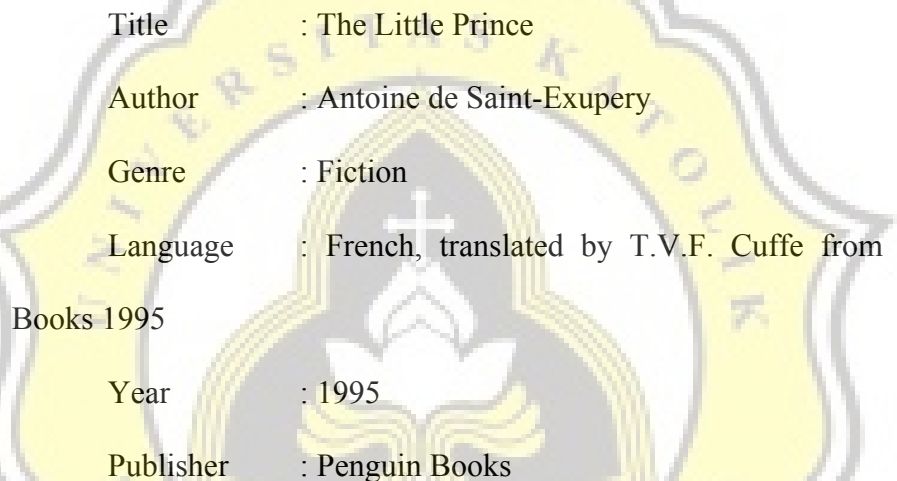


CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Sources

In this research, the researcher used two kinds of source data. The first is the primary data from *The Little Prince* Novel, and here are the details of the book:



Title	: The Little Prince
Author	: Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Genre	: Fiction
Language	: French, translated by T.V.F. Cuffe from Penguin Books 1995
Year	: 1995
Publisher	: Penguin Books

The second sources of data were other books and articles about symbols. The researcher used qualitative research to find out symbols and to explain their meanings in *The Little Prince* novel, the object of the research. The researcher used qualitative research to get more detailed understanding of this issue, because qualitative research is “to develop theories when partial or inadequate theories exist for certain populations and sample or existing theories do not adequately capture the complexity of the problem” and also quantitative research which using numbers and statistical analysis do not fit in to solve the problem (Creswell, 2007, p. 40). The analysis of data was

based on other related researches which were from written sources, articles, books and other online sources.

3.2 Research Procedure

Here the researcher had read *The Little Prince* novel for a long time before. But then she studies Literature and knows about literary work deeper. Since she knows symbols in literary work and had read the novel, she realized that *The Little Prince* novel has a lot of symbols. *The Little Prince* novel was quite famous novel abroad. My sister suggested the researcher to analyze the novel since she likes the novel so much. My major sponsor agreed that *The Little Prince* novel was an interesting book to be analyzed. That was the reason I decided to choose and examine symbolism in *The Little Prince* novel.

To examine this research, the researcher did some steps. First, the researcher who had already re-read the whole novel carefully figured out the symbolism in the novel. Second, the researcher analyzed the major symbolisms in the novel. Then, the researcher explained symbols in the novel and their meaning.

CHAPTER 4

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

After analyzing *The Little Prince* novel by Antoine de Saint-Exupery the researcher found five major symbols. They are Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose. The researcher explains all five symbols Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose one by one based on Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory (1981) about symbols. In the early one or two paragraphs of the analysis the researcher talks about denotative meaning of each symbol to present the readers with the factual meaning of the symbols. In the second part, the researcher explains the meaning of the five symbols. In the last part, the researcher explains what kind of symbols those five symbols are according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory.

4.1 The Meaning of Desert

In this novel, desert symbolizes the loveliest but saddest place. Desert itself comes from Egyptian hieroglyph that is pronounced 'tésert'; and in Latin verb known as 'deserere' which means "to abandon". It becomes the meaning of desert that people know these days (Middleton, 2009, pp. 1-2).

Desert is a place commonly known for its hot and arid condition where hardly any animal or plant can survive. Desert is always related with lack of water for it is almost impossible to find any water even if there are wells in the desert (US Army Armor School, 1977). However, some plants or animals can adapt the harshest weather in the desert, so do human (National Geographic Partners, LLC) It should be known that desert is not of a single type only. There are several types of desert:

hot deserts and cold deserts, sandy deserts and rocky deserts, foggy deserts and sunny deserts, barren deserts and lush deserts.

Desert with its charm has inspired novelist, poets, artists and film-makers to make a literary work with desert as its theme. Desert is also the birth place for three world's great religions.

Sahara desert is mentioned in *The Little Prince* novel as the main setting of the story. Sahara desert is the largest desert in the world which covers nine million square kilometers of North Africa. Because Sahara desert is huge; that it is across ten countries in North Africa, Sahara Desert has different label from different country such as the Ténéré desert, the Libyan Desert, the Egyptian desert, the Nubian Desert, and the Bayuda desert (Middleton, p. 7). Sahara Desert name is from Arabic word "Sahara" which means desert. Sahara Desert which is located in North Africa is the largest hot desert in the world with temperature that reaches 50 degrees Celsius in daytime and below 0 degree at nighttime (Bitesize Authors, 2014), so the temperature in the desert is extremely hot at daytime and extremely cold in nighttime.

Sahara desert is the place where the narrator in *The Little Prince* novel, who is an aviator, has an air crash. His airplane's engine broke when unfortunately no one flies with him. The aviator repairs his airplane all alone to survive death.

In Sahara people hardly get something to eat and drink because only some animals and plants can bear its extreme weather. People may die from starvation and thirst if people stay there too long. Although human can survive without food for quite long time but without water it is a different story. Human cannot survive

without water for around a week in a normal weather (Spector, 2014), but in an extreme weather like in Sahara it would be less than a week.

In this first part, when the aviator is lost in Sahara Dessert, he draws attention by saying “It was a matter of life or death: I had barely enough drinking water to last a week” (p. 7). It means that he will not survive if he cannot finish his repairing job in less than one week because it is almost impossible to find water resources around him. The aviator believes that by fixing the engine he can at least get out from frightening place like the Sahara Desert and gets some help in other places. Here the desert is symbolizing death by the fact that almost none of living things can survive the extreme condition like Sahara Desert.

The desert here is not only a symbol of death but also a symbol of loneliness as the aviator is all alone in Sahara Desert with a little possibility of seeing other people. The narrator expresses his loneliness by saying “On the first night, then, I went to sleep on the sand a thousand miles from all human habitation. I was more isolated than... (p. 8)” The aviator shows how desperate he is when he gets lost in desert all by himself. The narrator emphasizes his lonely feeling by stating “thousand miles away from all human habitation” many times in the beginning of the story. The narrator wants to say how afraid he is being trapped in the strange place like Sahara Desert and threatened by death. The narrator brings the reader mind to imagine the possibility that people lose and die alone in Sahara Desert No one will find their deceased body. And they miss their home and miss people they love. Then, surprisingly he meets the Little Prince who wakes him up a day after he sleeps in Sahara Desert.

The narrator does not only tell how he is lost in Sahara Desert but also tells when the Little Prince came to earth at the first time and landed in Sahara Desert. When the Little Prince arrived on earth for the first time, he did not see any people and met a snake that explained to him that he landed in a desert and no one lives there. Here the little prince also feels lonely as can be seen in his question and statement to the snake “Where are the people?... it’s little lonely in the desert... (p. 59)” It shows a condition that most people who are in the desert will feel lonely even when the little Prince can has the snake to talk to. Another thing that makes the little prince feels lonelier is when he stands up on the top of mountain in Sahara Desert and the only thing that answer him is the echo (Figure4.1). Then the little prince starts to feel homesick and misses his flower.

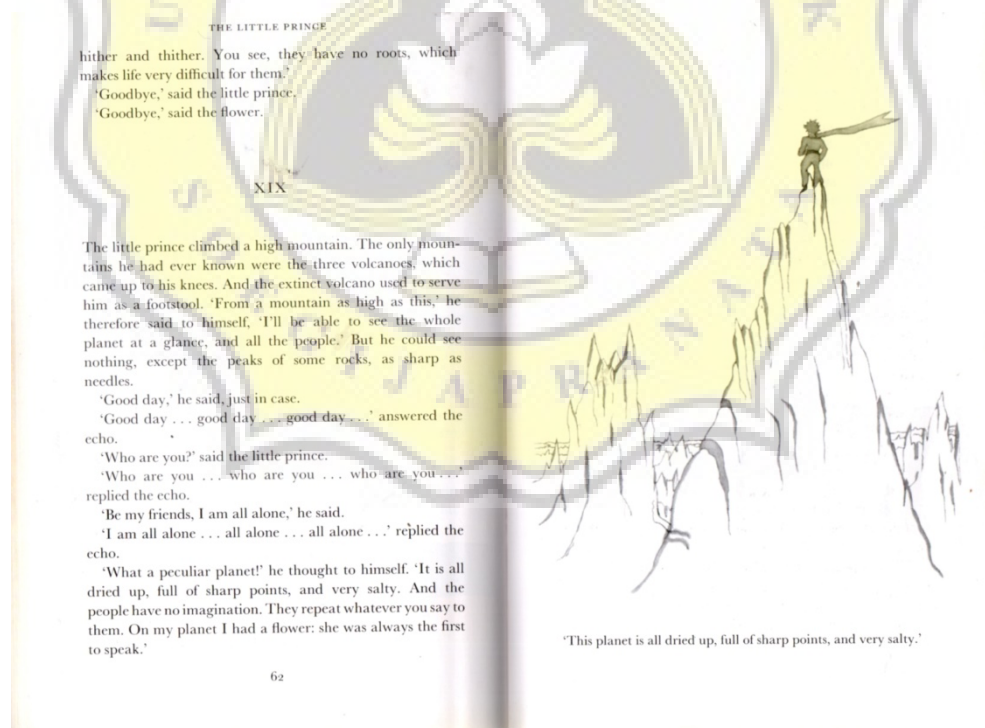


Figure 4.1. Little Prince feels lonely in desert (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

In Sahara Desert, the Aviator and the Little Prince, who meet in an eerie way about to die, spend time together and become friends. Slowly the Little Prince

reveals to the Aviator about who he is, why he comes, what his journey is and what kind of planet he is from. Both of them felt lonely when they landed in Sahara Desert for the first time, but then they feel different after they meet. The aviator is scared of death while the Little Prince is scared of being lonely. When the Little Prince says “It’s good to have a friend, even if you are about to die. (p. 75)”, the aviator says “He does not understand the danger (p. 75)”.

Later, like the Little Prince, the aviator starts to love the desert and does not think that desert is a place of death. Instead, the aviator describes the desert as a beautiful place that gives him something powerful in silence (Figure 4.2).

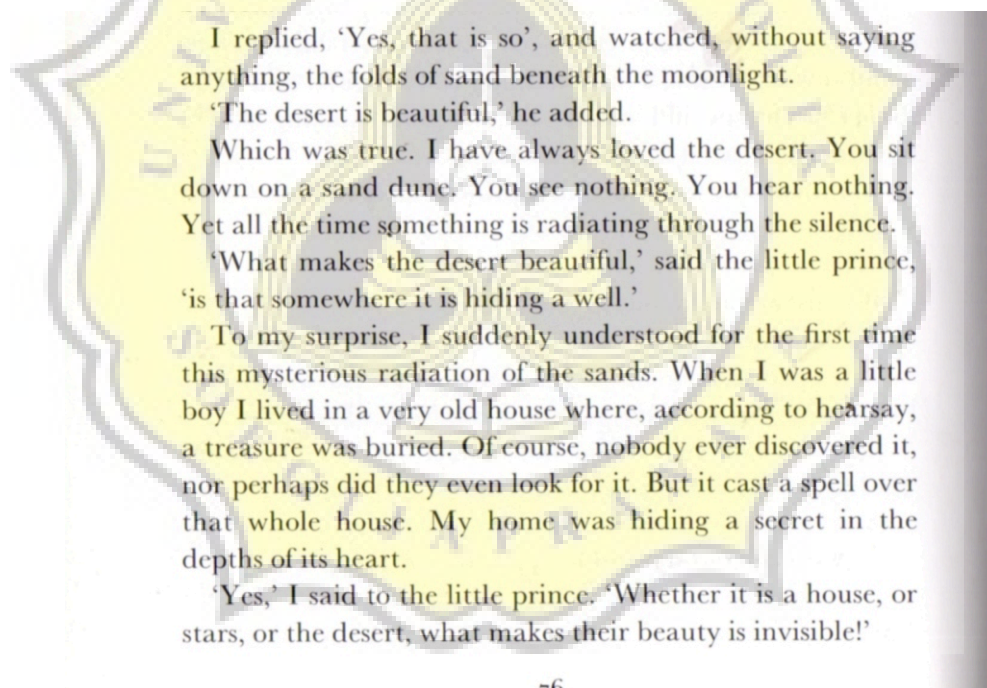


Figure 4.2. The Aviator loves the desert (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Since the aviator meets the Little Prince, miraculously good things keep coming. They absurdly find a well with water in Sahara Desert. Then in the next day the aviator successfully finishes his repairing job. When the aviator is going to tell the good news to the Little Prince, the Little Prince is bitten by a snake. In order to

go back to the place where he comes from the Little Prince should be bitten by the snake on the day he returns home, the star.

Since then Sahara Desert is not same as before, it is not place of death or loneliness anymore for the Aviator but, the saddest place because he loses his one and only friend in Sahara Desert. However, it is also the loveliest place because of his beautiful memories with the Little Prince.

The first time when the aviator loses in desert, the author creates the desert as a symbol of death and loneliness. But the meaning of loneliness is transformed when in the next day the aviator is woken up by the little prince's voice that asks him to draw a sheep. The aviator does not believe that he meets the Little Prince. He still mentions how far he is from human habitat many times even after he meets the Little Prince. Later, after they are together for quite some time, the aviator seems to forget the danger of death. Good things come together with the Little Prince presence.

At the beginning the author wants to show that desert symbolizes death and loneliness. According to *A Dictionary of Literary Symbols* by Michael Ferber, desert has the same meaning as a forest which is “traditionally dark, labyrinthine, and filled with dangerous beasts” (p. 78) or shortly full of mystery and dangerous. It means it is impossible for people to survive when they are lost in either the forest or the desert. In its actual form, desert is not labyrinthine but people who walk in the desert do not know either they walk in the right direction or they just make a circle. When forest is filled with beasts, desert has extreme weather and dangerous spiteful snakes. Furthermore, in Chevalier et al's dictionary of symbols, (1996), desert is included in setting symbol. It is an isolated place where people rarely pass. Desert

symbolizes loneliness. Similarly, Perrine (1974) identifies desert as a symbol which have multiple meaning like death and loneliness.

Generally, desert symbolizes a place which is full of mystery and dangers. So, when the reader of *The Little Prince* novel visualizes desert, they think about death. Here in the novel, according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory, desert is a private symbol (p. 72) desert as the symbol of loneliness is broken by the Little Prince's presence, and desert as the symbol of death is broken by good things that keep coming from the Little Prince presence.

4.2 The Meaning of Stars

Stars symbolize the home for purer souls. Stars are sphere of gas that produces energy. As a result, it produces light through nuclear process. Sun is also a star which is made from hydrogen and helium fused together to be heavier. Dust in the space may be released from a dead star. Stars have colors that indicate its temperature. For example, blue is for the hottest and red is for the coolest. Supernova explosion is the greatest way star can die because stars will spread its heavier elements into space (Lawrence, 2012). Until these days still no one knows how many stars exist in our universe, and how many stars people can see with bare eyes in a clear sky. The greatest of stars that shine at night makes many cultures believe that stars in the sky are heavens (National Geographic Partners, LLC).

Stars in *The Little Prince* novel are stars that people can see with bare eyes at night, not sun as a star. In the beginning stars have been mentioned several times without deep meaning. It is when the narrator tells the journey of the Little Prince to some planets that stars have deep meaning.

The Little Prince had visited the stars in the planet which is inhabited by a king. The stars are just subjects that should obey all king's order because the king's reign over everything. When the Little Prince first arrived and saw what the king can do, he was amazed by the king's power. When the time goes by, the Little Prince starts to feel bored because there is nothing to do in the king's planet. So, the Little Prince tries to leave the king's planet. Then, the king orders the Little Prince to do a lot of things but the king never listens to what Little Prince asks. The King orders the Little Prince to become a minister of justice until the ambassador makes him stay in king's planet. Even the king claims that he reigns over everything, but still he cannot make the Little Prince stay in his planet.

In the fourth planet, the stars are worth of diamond for the business men who live there. The business man is always busy counting the stars he owns and he keeps buying another star. Different from the king who rules over the stars, the businessman owns the starts because nobody ever claims them before. Although the business man has millions of stars but he cannot use them nor collect them. The businessman's experience is different from the Little Prince's experience that has a scarf and wears it; who owns flowers and collect them. The Little Prince never agrees with the way other people see stars.

Stars in this novel have several meanings, but there is only one meaning that the author wants to emphasize. When the Little Prince lands on the Earth for the first time, he feels amazed and says "...does the stars glow so that someday everyone can find a way back to their own?..."(p. 58). Here the Little prince draws attention by saying that people will be back to the stars. Then, the snake who talks to him says that Little Prince is made from purer stuff and will be back to his planet if the snake

bites the Little Prince. The Little Prince also talks about flower and stars. He says that if someone loves a flower among the millions stars, people will be happy by only looking at the night sky. By looking at the beautiful stars, the Little Prince channels his longing for the flowers he plants in his own planet.

In the end, the Little Prince is bitten by the snake on his anniversary of landing on earth. As the Little Prince needs to return home on his anniversary, he walks to look for the place he landed for the first time. The stars shine directly above him. Before the Little Prince leaves earth, he gives stars in the sky to the aviator as a present by saying that the Aviator will be the only one who has stars that can laugh since the Little Prince will live on one of million stars in the sky and will laugh from there later. The Little Prince says that stars are guides for travelers, problem to solve for scientists, gold for businessman, and merely little lights or silence for the others. Stars then have different meaning for the aviator and the readers.

Stars are traditionally impossible to carry a single meaning. For example, stars mean spirits who struggle against darkness since stars are shining in the dark night sky and the others believe that stars are intercommunication between human world and the other world (J.E.Cirlot, 2001).

In *The Little Prince's* story, it has been explained that stars have different meaning for each person. However, the Little Prince as the main character never agrees with people's opinion. For the Little Prince, stars are special. One of the stars in the sky is his home. He believes that the reason the stars is shining is to let people find way to go home later. People can see that here in *The Little Prince* novel, stars area home for purer souls; that souls will return to the stars and the bodies will decease and get back to earth. The snake indirectly explains the concept by saying

“... I return them to the earth from whence they came. But you are made of purer stuff, and you come from a star” the snake seems only talks about the Little Prince but match it with what Little Prince says (Figure 4.3) that everybody will pass that stage when they going to die, stars is the home for all purer souls.

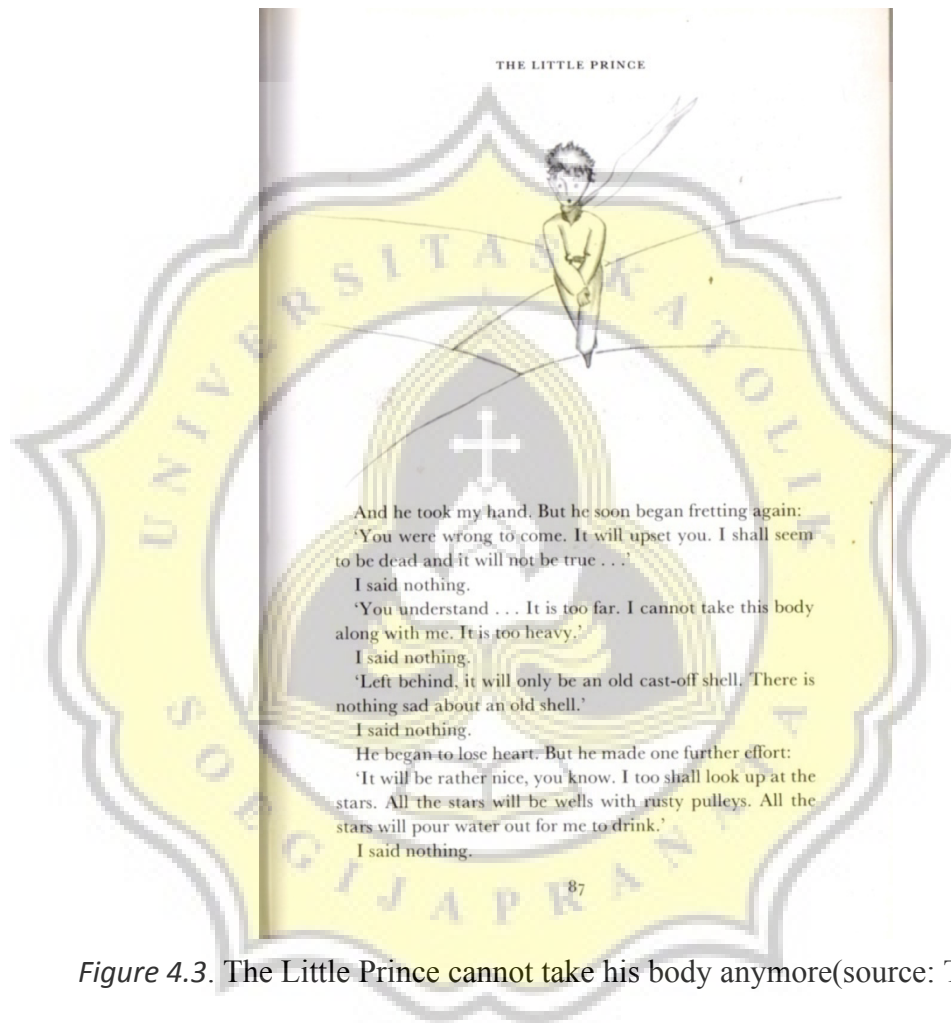


Figure 4.3. The Little Prince cannot take his body anymore(source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Stars in *The Little Prince* are traditional symbols (p. 71) according to the Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory (1981) and are included in nature symbol according to Chevalier's dictionary of symbols. As explained earlier, traditionally stars symbolize spirits or intercommunication between earth and others world. Here the author says that stars symbolize home for purer souls. The meaning of stars in the

book fits with the one in which stars are spirits and another world. While the author emphasizes how the “home” feels in the story, it represents people’s believe that souls or spirits come from stars and that the universe is the other world. That is the special meaning of stars that the author conveys to the readers. Stars in *The Little Prince* novel is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory about how to recognize symbols. Perrine’s theory shows that stars have multiple meaning. For some character, stars symbolize diamond, subject, and problem but once again the author emphasizes the meaning of stars in the novel as home for purer souls.

4.3 The Meaning of Baobabs

Baobabs symbolize problem. Baobabs tree has *Adansonia Digitata* as the scientific name. The name was given by Linnaeus and the generic name of *Adansonia* was given to honor Michel Adanson, a French naturalist who had been in Senegal, Africa in the eighteen century and described Baobabs in 1771 (Sidibe & Williams, 2002). Baobabs can grow to the height up 18-20 meters with branches that look stiff and roots that are stout out from ground up to 10 meter in diameter (Sidibe & Williams, p. 15). From the description, people can imagine how massive the Baobab tree is. Baobab tree naturally grows in the south of Saharan Desert. It is then expanded to another place in Africa and outside Africa. The massive Baobab tree is used as water reservoirs due to its hollowed trunk. The amount of water that people can collect from Baobab hollow should not be ignored. I It has been recorded that people can save 200 gallons to 4000 gallons of water and can keep it fresh for years if the hollowed trunk is closed thoroughly. Baobab’s hollow is not only saving water but is also used by small animals and human as a shelter or storage (Sidibe & Williams, pp. 23-24).

Beside the fact that baobabs can live for hundred years and save water, every part of baobab is useful and good for health. Baobab leaves are the most important source of irons and many minerals. Native people of Africa use to eat it whether boiled or eaten freshly. The other useful part of Baobab is its fruit pulp; the source of vitamin and seeds that can increase the protein digestibility (Sidibe & Williams, pp. 47-48). The usefulness of every part of Baobabs forms an ecosystem that supports life around it. No wonder if Baobab is the real Tree of Life for people in Africa.

Baobabs come out in *The Little Prince* novel as huge trees that grow in a small planet where of the Little Prince is from. The tree has different meaning from what the Africans believe.

Baobabs are special plants in this story, the aviator learns about baobabs in the third day he is lost in Sahara Desert. It is when the Little Prince asks question about whether the sheep eats small bushes or not. The aviator agrees that the sheep eat bushes. What makes the aviator wonder is when the Little Prince says “Then it follows that they also eat baobabs.” (p. 18). The aviator knows that baobabs are not small bushes and he thinks that it is a strange statement. People know that Baobabs is huge plant, bigger than an elephant, so it is impossible for a sheep to eat baobabs. Even an elephant cannot eat the whole baobabs. The Aviator reminds the Little Prince about it. But then, the Little Prince wisely answers “Baobabs, before they grow big, start off small.” (p. 19). Yet, the aviator still cannot understand why the Little Prince wants the sheep to eat the baby baobabs. The answer is that because baobabs in the Little Prince’s planet are a big problem.

While the real baobab is a big plant which live for years and grow massive, but its root does not destroy earth. In the Little Prince's planet, the baobab tree's roots destroy the planet. Good plants come from good seeds and bad plants come from bad seeds and Baobabs seeds, bad seeds are infested in the Little Prince's planet.

The Little Prince realizes that baobab is a bad plant. Then in the morning after he cleans himself up, he washes and dresses his planet. Plants will grow and no one will know what kind of plant it will become because in its early stage, plants always look alike. The Little Prince must be careful to dress his planet. He has to choose which plant is a good plant and which one is a bad plant because no one wants to kill a good plant like rose, for example. Here the aviator learns that Baobabs in Little Prince's planet are bad seeds that become bad plants. Baobabs have a great impact to the Aviator so he warns all children on earth to be aware of Baobabs, so he draws a magnificent baobabs picture in the book.

While Baobab is the source of life for African people, in *The Little Prince* novel, it symbolizes a big problem. Tree is the same as stars which has multiple meaning. Tree is the most important of traditional symbol; even some genus of tree symbolizes something different. Tree in general symbolizes the life of the cosmos: its consistence, growth, proliferation, generative and regenerative processes (J.E.Cirlot, p. 347). In Christianity, tree symbolizes two different things: Tree of Life or Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil that is written in Genesis (p. 219). Different from the traditional symbol, Baobab in the Little Prince's planet is a big problem. The Little Prince keeps his planet from disaster by clean up and plucks out baby baobabs

When the Little Prince talks about baobab as a bad plant, the Aviator explains that there are a good plant and a bad plant. "...Good seed come from good plant and bad seed from bad plant" (p. 20). Here the aviator wants to say that seed comes from plant, not the other way around. So, if the Little Prince diligently plucks the baby Baobabs then slowly the baobabs will be gone from the Little Prince's planet for good because no more seed will infest the Little Prince's planet. The aviator then says that seeds are invisible and will grow into innocent little shoots at first. People should pluck them out only if they grow into bad plants. People should get rid of the bad plant or problem once they realize that they will grow as terrible plants. The Little Prince also adds that it is boring to clean and choose the plants carefully every day because bad plant and good plant resemble each other in the early youth. Even when it is a boring thing to do, but the Little Prince has to keep on doing the weeding to avoid disaster because no one can tackle baobabs down if they are rooted already (Figure 4.4).



Figure 4.4. Baobabs are rooted already (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

The fact that baobabs are huge plants that can live a hundred of years and hard to be killed can be found in both the real life and in the story. The difference is that baobabs in *The Little Prince* symbolize problems, while those in Africa are the source of life. There is no specific symbol for baobabs traditionally but, generally tree symbolizes good things like growth, generative and consistence. It means that based on Pickering and Hoeper's Theory (1981),baobabs in *The Little Prince* is private symbols because Baobabs symbolize problem that should be thrown away.

Baobab is included in nature symbol according to Chevalier's dictionary of symbols and is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory. The writer marks baobab as a bad plant and changes the image of the baobab in the entire story. The writer wants to deliver the message that a small problem that will grow bigger if people neglect it. No matter how trivial the problem is but people must solve and finish it before it ruins their life. Problems are like baobabs which grow in a small place and ruin the pot. Then, when the trees get bigger, they can destroy the planet The Little Prince informed that after people wash and dress themselves up, they should wash and dress their planet. It shows that people should be self-discipline both for themselves and for other so small problems will not become big problems.

4.4 The Meaning of Water

Water symbolizes soul nourishment. Water is important for any life forms in earth. Water is rooted from Indo-European 'wodor/wedor' which then turns into English word 'water' (Jha, 2015). People use water for many things in life like sanitation and hygiene that are important for health (Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, 2008). Although water is important but water can be dangerous for human life. Water can be the medium for natural disaster like Tsunami and diseases like

contaminated water (Jha, 2015) Water in *The Little Prince* novel water is like a treasure because it is strangely found in Sahara Desert.

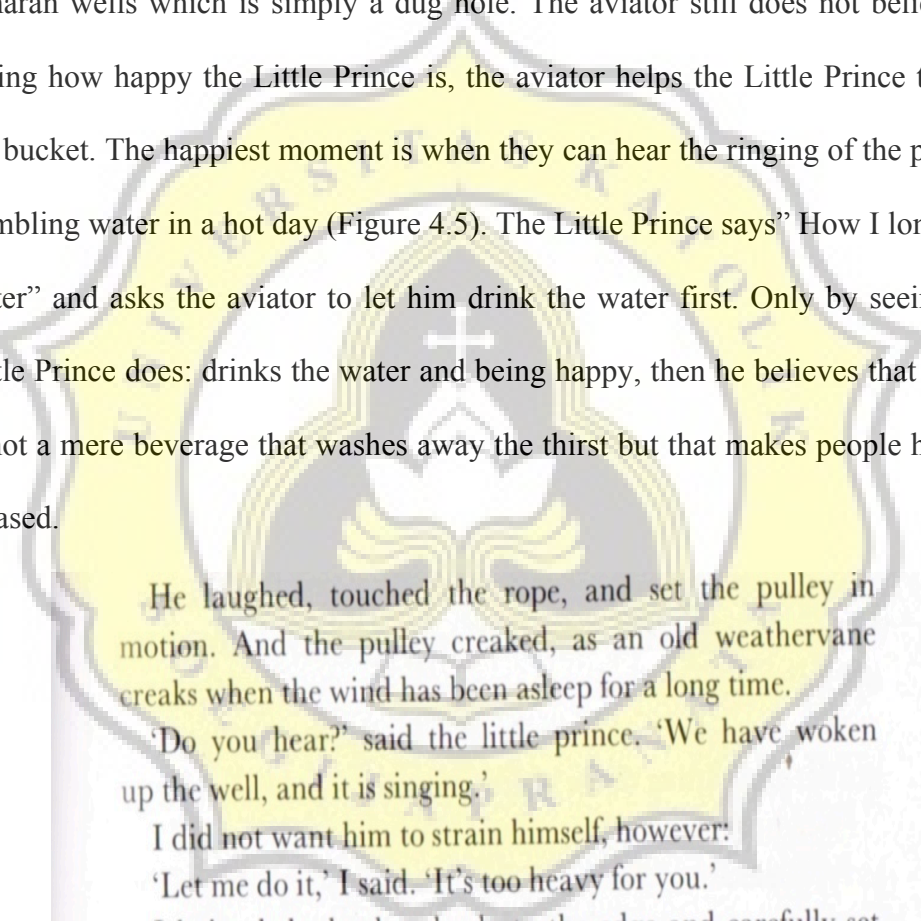
Water is the important thing for the aviator since he is lost in Sahara Desert. Many times the aviator mentions that water is what he needs the most to survive from desert. Water is also mentioned when the aviator explains the Little Prince's rose which is watered every day. The last thing that the Little Prince gives to the aviator before the Little Prince goes is a rose. By watering his rose, the Little Prince shows his love to the rose.

Water becomes a more serious thing when the Little Prince meets a merchant on earth. The merchant sells pills of great time-sever in which people will not feel thirsty anymore if they swallow one each week; and they can save fifty-three minutes every week. In fifty-three minutes people can do anything they want. At that time the Little Prince surprisingly says "..., I would take my time walking slowly towards the nearest fountain water." The aviator hears Little Prince's story while he drinks his last water supply and does not really like the Little Prince's statement about the pills by saying "..., I have nothing left to drink, and I too should be happy if I could take my time walking slowly towards the nearest fountain of water!". The aviator has no time to looking for water since he has not finished his repairing job. After talking about the Little Prince relationship with the fox, suddenly the Little Prince knows what is in the aviator minds and says that he is thirsty too and asks the aviator to look for a well.

The aviator just follows the Little Prince although he believes that it is impossible to find water, let alone well in the desert. They walk for several hours until night comes. The aviator gets a little fever because of thirst, and he wonders

whether the Little Prince feels thirsty. The Little Prince replies the question with irrelevant answer “water may also be good for the heart”. The aviator cannot understand what the Little Prince means but he says nothing.

The next day, surprisingly, the Little Prince and the aviator find a well, a strange well. The well is just like a normal well with pulley and bucket, unlike Saharan wells which is simply a dug hole. The aviator still does not believe it but seeing how happy the Little Prince is, the aviator helps the Little Prince to pull up the bucket. The happiest moment is when they can hear the ringing of the pulley and trembling water in a hot day (Figure 4.5). The Little Prince says” How I long for this water” and asks the aviator to let him drink the water first. Only by seeing all the Little Prince does: drinks the water and being happy, then he believes that the water is not a mere beverage that washes away the thirst but that makes people happy and pleased.



He laughed, touched the rope, and set the pulley in motion. And the pulley creaked, as an old weathervane creaks when the wind has been asleep for a long time.

‘Do you hear?’ said the little prince. ‘We have woken up the well, and it is singing.’

I did not want him to strain himself, however:

‘Let me do it,’ I said. ‘It’s too heavy for you.’

I hoisted the bucket slowly to the edge and carefully set it down. The song of the pulley was ringing in my ears, and in the still trembling water I could see the trembling sun.

‘How I long for this water,’ said the little prince. ‘Give me some to drink.’

And I understood what he had been looking for.

Figure 4.5. The happiest moment they had(source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Water is mentioned again after the Little Prince is bitten by a snake. The Little Prince tells the aviator once again that important things cannot be seen but it should be felt by heart. It is the same as the time they find water. It is the most beautiful thing that they ever been through as companion.

When The Little Prince gives the aviator stars as a present, the gift is like the water that they drank together. The gift should be felt by heart. And the last time before the Little Prince leaves the Aviator, he tells the aviator that he will have stars, five hundred millions of it as well as wells with rusty pulleys that pour the water out for him to drink; that he will never be lack of water anymore.

Here in *The Little Prince*, water has deeper meaning than mere water that people use to take for granted. Water is one of four classical elements along with earth, fire, and air. With fire, earth, wood, and metal, water is also one of five elements in Chinese culture, Taoism (Jha, 2015). Traditionally, water is symbolizing rebirth and regeneration just like baptism in Christian belief in which water symbolizes the washing away of people sins and the rebirth of a new person (J.E.Cirlot, p. 365). Different from the traditional symbol, in *The Little Prince*, water is nourishment for the souls, not a medium to wash away sins or a medium of rebirth.

The Little Prince does not feel thirsty since he arrives on earth, but he says to the merchant that he will walk slowly to the nearest fountain of water. It shows that the Little Prince does not feel thirsty but he will look for water that can fulfill his heart. The Little prince also invites the aviator to look for a well with him although the invitation confuses the Aviator at that time. For the Aviator, the water taken from the wells is like a present in Christmas day. Just by looking at the Little Prince

drinking the water, the aviator feels happy. At that time, he also understands what the Little Prince means by saying that water is gladden heart.

The Little Prince also tells the Aviator that on earth people do not know what they are looking for while the actual answer can be found in a single rose or a handful of water. The Little Prince statement shows that water is something important for the soul not for the physical body only. It is true that water is the most important things for the body, but here in *The Little Prince* water is nourishment for the soul. People will not literally die if they do not nourish their soul but they will be alive as a human with no heart. Before the Little Prince goes back to the star, he says that he shall be living on one of the stars in the sky and stars will pour unlimited water for him; water that nourishes his soul. For the Little Prince, drinking the water with the Aviator is the happiest moment and vice versa.

People know that it is hard to find water in Sahara Desert. People will desperately look for water. However, The Little Prince and the Aviator find the water in the desert. Water is like a big present for the Aviator who is nearly died because of thirst. What makes people feel glad, happy, peace, thankful and everything good for heart are the soul nourishment. Water that the Little Prince waits for so long is the moment where he finds water in the desert with the Aviator, the Little Prince only true friend on earth. And the water that the Aviator looks for is the real water to wash away his thirst. In the end the Aviator realizes what Little Prince feels about water. Then stars, the place where Little Prince goes after bitten by a snake is the fountain which will pour the water for Little Prince. It has been mentioned that stars is the home for purer souls and there will be no other place as such to nourish all the souls. The Little Prince watered his rose every day at his own

planet before he went to do his journey. It means that the Little Prince gives the rose, soul nourishment to make the rose healthy.

Water is a private symbol (p. 72) based on Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory and is included in nature symbol in Chevalier's dictionary of symbols. Water in *The Little Prince* novel is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) because it represents soul nourishment for the main character in the story and it is supported by the novel context. Water as traditional symbol symbolizes rebirth and regeneration which is different from *The Little Prince* novel where water is the soul nourishment. Water will never be nourishment for soul if people do take it for granted. When people really need the water, it is then when they realize how water can keep the soul alive. Even when the aviator only sees the Little Prince, he realizes that water can make souls feel better and healthier. The sweetness of water, ringing of the pulleys and the sound of trembling water are blending into one beautiful march that creates wonderful feeling that they will never find anywhere else.

4.5 The Meaning of Rose

Rose symbolizes Lover. Rose is a flowering plant included in family Rosaceae. Rose is not an ordinary plant because it is used in many aspects of human life. For example, cosmetics uses, supplement, and celebration. It makes rose valuable. Rose is a plant which stem has thorns. Some roses like 'Rosa indica L' smell good and are used as perfume or room refreshers (Leghari, 2016). People used to grow rose in their garden because of their beautiful flowers with various colors and tones(Britannica). Rose appears at the first time in *The Little Prince* novel before the little prince arrives on earth; in his own planet, B612.

Rose is a plant that Little Prince loves so much. Not all kind of roses, just the one and only rose in his planet. The aviator knows about Little Prince's rose because the Little Prince asks "..., will it (the sheep) therefore eat flowers?" (p. 24). Then the Aviator answers that sheep eats everything they see including flowers with thorns. It makes the Little Prince shock and wonder what the use of the thorns are if they cannot protect the rose from the world. The aviator that is still scared of death tries to fix his airplane and feels annoyed because the Little Prince keeps asking about the thorns that for him are not more important than his repairing job. The aviator says that thorns are only the way the flower being malice to others. The aviator shows that the question does not seem to be important for him, but the Little Prince does not like the aviator's idea and anger. The Little Prince believes that nothing is more important than flower which can die by a single bite of a sheep. The Little Prince is afraid that his flower will be eaten by sheep and his days will be so blue. After seeing how sad the Little Prince is, the Aviator feels guilty and starts to console the Little Prince by promising him to draw a muzzle for the sheep and shield for the Rose to make the Little Prince feel better. But it does not work.

Rose is found by the Little Prince when he dresses and cleans up his planet. He keeps eye on the little shoot which starts to produce flower. Rose is not like other flower that grows in Little Prince planet. The rose found by the Little Prince symbolizes a female lover. She takes more time to grow because she wants to bloom perfectly. It is true that the Rose awakes beautifully. The Little Prince was amazed by the Rose's sweetness and realized that Rose was fascinating. Even though the Little Prince loved his Rose so much but then the Little Prince began to doubt his Rose. The way Rose talks shows that she is invulnerable with her naïve lie. But, she

does not want to admit it. She always makes the Little Prince feels sorry and makes him downhearted.

The Little Prince, then, left Rose. But then he regrets his decision to leave Rose. He realizes how much Rose is important for him. He blames himself by saying that he is the one who does not understand Rose and is too young to understand love. The last time Little Prince took care of Rose, Rose still acted similarly; she acted as if she was invulnerable. But, at the end she admitted her feeling toward the Little Prince. The Little Prince who was moved by Rose's word stepped back and felt disturbed. But then Rose told him to keep his word, leave her, and begin his journey.

The Little Prince never knows that flower he loves the most is a rose until he lands on earth. He feels extremely sad after he finds out that his flower is a common flower. He goes to garden of roses and finds out that his Rose is not special; it is just same as like the other roses. The Little Prince still feels uncomfortable with the way Rose talks and begins to remember how annoying she is. Then the more Little Prince thinks about it, the more he becomes sad. He cries a lot because he thinks he has a special flower; it makes him a great prince but he is not. Unexpectedly, the Little Prince meets the fox who teaches him about the act of taming or creating ties that later makes him change his point of view about his beloved Rose. The fox explains what tame is and how tame makes the common thing becomes special by doing some rituals which takes some time. The Little Prince agrees with what the fox says and he begins the ritual by coming over the fox' place every day to make special ties. The rituals the Little Prince does to tame the fox are different from time to time. The fox does not want the Little Prince because what the Little Prince wants

is just to tame the fox. The Little Prince does not understand that his act of taming the fox will hurt it. The fox is going to get hurt because the fox is going to miss the Little Prince when Little Prince leaves. But the fox says that every time it misses the Little Prince, it will look at the corn field that is as bright as Little Prince's hair. It also says that the sound of Little Prince steps will remain in its heart.

During their encounters, the fox asks the Little Prince to talk to the roses and it will tell a secret to the Little Prince. The Little Prince then realizes that his Rose is the most precious Rose, the only one in the world. Other roses are nothing for him because he takes care of his Rose and he will die for his Rose. His Rose has tamed his heart; his Rose used to make his day and his Rose needs him to give love and care.

Everybody will see the Little Prince's Rose the same as the other roses apart from the Little Prince. That is the reason taming or creating ties is important. As promised the fox tells the Little Prince a Secret. The fox says that all things that is important cannot be seen by eyes but felt by heart. By then the Little Prince always remembers taming and being tamed, Fox's secret and Fox's last message that he must be fully responsible with what he has tamed no matter what. About what is important, the Little Prince tells the aviator that people on earth is strange because they look for many things, do not know where to go and never realize the answer that can be easily found in a single rose or a handful of water. Then before the Little Prince leaves the earth, he says that he still remembers that he is responsible for his Rose, one of the reasons the Little Prince must go back to his star.

Rose commonly symbolizes many things depends on the color and numbers of petal. For example, blue rose symbolizes impossibility and seven petal rose

symbolizes perfection (J.E.Cirlot, p. 275). Rose is a flower and most flowers symbolize girl. But rose is the one associated as the most beloved and the most beautiful one. Rose symbolizes a young, vulnerable and virginal or pure girl (Ferber, p. 173). Here in *The Little Prince*, Rose is symbolizing a lover. Rose is blooming in the Little Prince's planet. Its beauty caught the Little Prince's eye. The Rose needs the Little Prince to take care of her because she cannot live without the Little Prince, while the Little Prince falls in love with the Rose from the time it first blooms. Rose in *The Little Prince* is described as a flower that blooms carefully. As a result, the flower looks prettier than the other flower. The Rose is different not only by it looks but also by the way it talks naïvely to the Little Prince.

The way Rose talks sometimes irritates the Little Prince's feeling and it makes the Little Prince decide to leave Rose and begin his journey to learn other things. After he visits the earth, in the end the Little Prince realizes how important his Rose is. The Little Prince learns how to love his Rose since he meets the Fox who tells him a secret to always be responsible for what they loved. The Little Prince who misses his rose so much then makes a big effort to come back to his planet and leaves his only friend, the Aviator. Therefore, the Rose in *The Little Prince* novel is a common symbol, according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory(1981) because it symbolizes love and according to et al (1996), the Rose is included in nature symbol. Additionally, Rose is identified as a symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory on symbols because Rose is a plant that keeps coming out until the end of the story and the meaning of the Rose is not a mere plant that the Little Prince wants to protect but as a plant that he loves the most.



CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

Symbolism is an interesting thing to study because many writers use symbols to deliver their message. Not only the medium to deliver a message but symbols is also used to catch the reader attention to keep on reading a story. The researcher is interested to study symbolism because the researcher finds *The Little Prince* as a novel that uses a lot of symbols deliver its message and to make the story richer. Therefore, the researcher starts to question what the symbols are and what their meanings are in *The Little Prince*. In order to answer the questions the researcher starts to examine the novel and gets the answers.

The researcher found five major symbols in *The Little Prince* novel. They are Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose. Desert is the first symbol that the researcher found Desert itself in real life is an abandoned place with harsh weather where no one wants to live in. But, in the book, *The Little Prince*, desert symbolizes the loveliest but the saddest place that is contradictive with its real meaning. Desert in Pickering and Hoeper's is included in Private Symbols. The second symbol is Stars. Stars are part of heavenly bodies in the universe that burn themselves to shine and can eventually die. In *The Little Prince*, stars symbolize home for purer souls. Stars in Pickering and Hoeper's are included in Traditional Symbols. The third symbol in the story is Baobab. Baobab is a tree that is used to grow in the desert because its huge size can survive for hundred years in harsh terrain. People who live in a desert can depend on it to live. In *The Little Prince*, baobab is a problem since baobab is too big for the Little Prince's Planet. In Pickering and Hoeper, Baobab is

included in Private Symbols. The fourth symbol is water. It is an important element of nature for any organism that lives on earth including for human. Water is used as sanitation for healthiness, but water can also cause natural disaster. In *The Little Prince*, water is more than sanitation or beverage, water is soul nourishment which people need the most. The moment the Little Prince and the Aviator find water in Sahara Desert, water is soul nourishment for them. Water in Pickering and Hoepfer is included in Private symbols. The fifth and the last symbol is a Rose, Rose is a flowering plant that has various colors and good smells to be used as perfume. In *The Little Prince*, a rose symbolizes a lover which makes the Little Prince falls in love. And Rose in Pickering and Hoepfer is included in Traditional Symbols.

Finally, the readers can see that in the novel that is not as thick as *Harry Potter* novel, there are five major symbols that weave a whole story into an interesting book that has rich message. The symbols in the story can also give the readers great impact in the way they see the five things mentioned in the story. The readers will see those five things differently from those who have not read the book. The readers tend to keep the message in their mind. The researcher believe that other books like *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *Harry Potter*, and *Animal Farm* have more symbols that can be studied to enrich student in learning literature.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

In order to analyze a work of literature, someone may consider the elements outside the work itself, or focus attention to the work itself as a whole entity. In his well-known book *Theory of Literature*, Wellek and Warren (1949) points out that there are two major methods to studying literature, there are extrinsic method and intrinsic method. Extrinsic method covers all environmental factors from the author of the story such as biographical, psychological, sociological, philosophical, and other arts (music, sculpture, painting), while the intrinsic element is cover what in the works itself by putting aside the environmental factors and focus on the work itself such as plot, characters, setting, world-view, and tone (p. 221).

Another intrinsic element, relevant to this research, is symbolism. Symbolism has big part in literary work because "Symbolism (is) one of the most important aspects of serious imaginative literature" (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986, p. 58). Symbol is the common thing used by people to make something become easier to be understood by other. A symbol is something solid that represent things more than itself (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986), for example, white dove as a peace symbol or black cat as a bad luck symbol.

To sum up, symbolism in literature is like a tool for the author to deliver their messages, so they will be understood by the reader completely. The sense

of messages will be different when the author uses symbolism. By using symbol, one message can become powerful. In a case where a male character wants to say that a women's pretty face will not last forever, the author will not use a blunt expression like "Pretty women will be pretty among the ugliest as they are getting old " but he will say "You know, flower will wither someday" instead. Upon reading the expression, the reader will wonder why the author say 'flower' that 'wither,' then reader will use their imagination to interpret the meaning of "flower" in relation to "women", and to interpret the meaning of "wither" in relation to "getting old." When the reader understands what the symbols relate to, it means the author succeeds to get reader's attention.

Symbolism does not only give powerful message (Green, 2013), but also adds the richness of a story and shares the author philosophies (O'neal, 2013).

For example, when a woman says to a man 'the best part of you is your eyes because I can see myself in it,' it makes the sentence richer because this one sentence can be interpreted differently by different people. Some readers can only catch the literal meaning of 'eyes' as the best part of the person or some other readers can recognize the symbol represented by eyes which means that the woman wants to say that the man is her soul-mate. The example of the author's philosophies can be found in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland novel by Lewis Carroll where he puts his philosophies on mathematician concept in this novel. In the part where Alice falls into a rabbit hole and eats a cake that changes her into 3 inches height and where Alice smokes a hookah pipe and is back to her normal size, Lewis Carroll wants to show his philosophies about

mathematics' limited concept that Alice needs to eat the right balance to make herself into the right size (Bayley, 2009).

After the explanations about symbolism as a tool for the author, people can find that not only the author that gets advantage by using symbolism in their work but the reader could gain some advantage. The use of symbolism in literary work could help to broaden reader's mind because like the example Alice's Adventures in Wonderland before, people could understand about mathematic concept by read it. To recognize symbolism, there are some processes where people should use their imagination. Without imagination, understanding literary works which have many symbolisms are difficult. That is why people who read a lot of literary work can gain advantage. That is the reason symbolism is one of interesting topics to be examined.

Here I try to find out how symbolism is used in *The Little Prince* by AntoinedeSaint -Exupery. The symbolism in *The Little Prince* novel will be the object of analysis in this thesis in which the researcher examines the symbolism and explains the meaning of the symbols in this novel. This novel is originally written in French and translated into English. It was published on 6 April 1943 in both languages. *The Little Prince* is not an ordinary novel because the written style is like children's book but the writer addresses all ages especially adults. Some people also call this novel an autobiography of the author who is an aviator who experienced being lost in Sahara Desert (Le Petit Prince Licensing). This novel has been translated into over 250 languages and gets most vote for the best book of the 20th century in France (Goodreads.Inc, 2007). The most fascinating feature about this book is the fact that the author uses symbols to

deliver his message to adult in children's writing style. The author's style might sound childish, but his way to deliver symbols has a deep meaning when people see it from different point of view. The author, in my opinion, succeeds to tone down the complexity of the story into children's level. The main purpose of this research is to find the symbols used and their meanings in the novel.

1.2. FIELD OF THE STUDY

The field of this study is literature, especially symbol using Symbolism Approach

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The scope of this study is symbolism in The Little Prince novel. Although there are a lot of symbolisms in this novel but I only focus on major symbols and their meaning in The Little Prince.

1.4. PROBLEM FORMULATION

This study has purpose to address this following question: What are the symbols and their meanings in The Little Prince?

1.5. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The objective of this study is to find out the symbols and their meanings in The Little Prince novel.

1.6. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

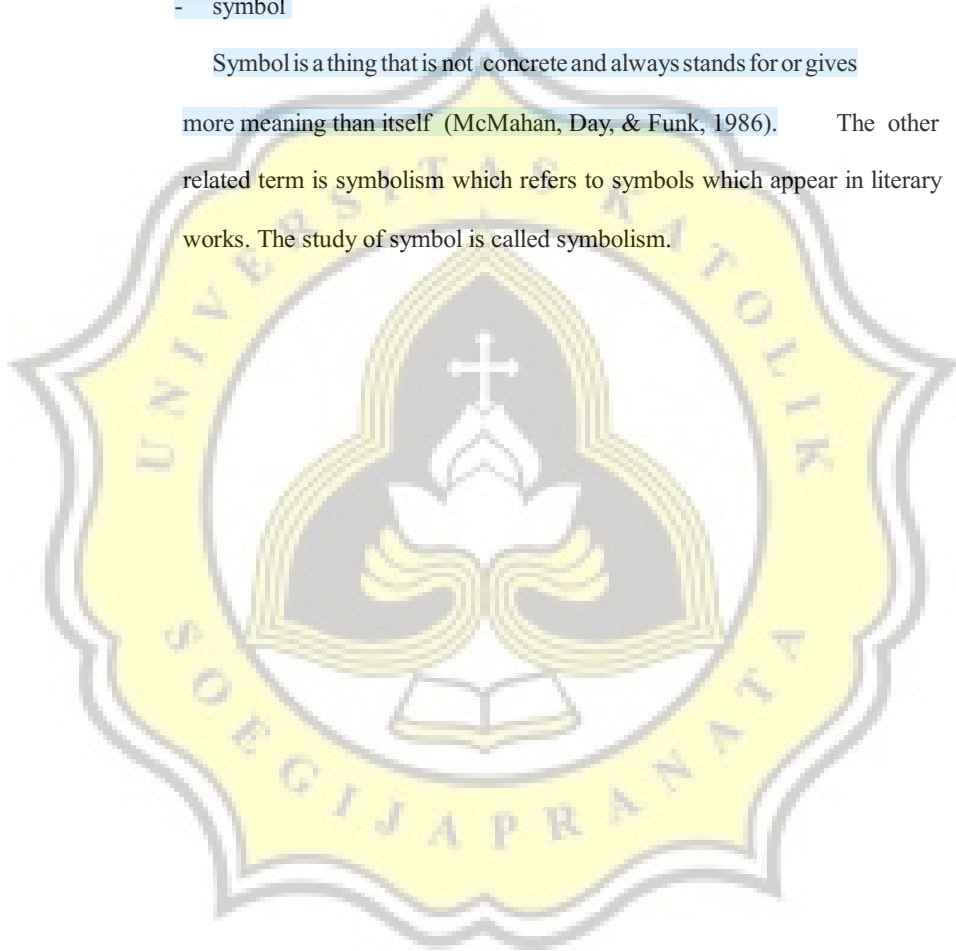
This study is expected to offer more knowledge about symbolism in The Little Prince and Pickering and Hooper's theory is used to identify the symbols and their meanings. As the writer knows, readers should train themselves and read a lot of book to understand symbolism in stories. Therefore, from this study

hopefully the readers can get a lot of information about symbolism in literature especially written texts employing many symbolisms.

1.7. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- symbol

Symbol is a thing that is not concrete and always stands for or gives more meaning than itself (McMahan, Day, & Funk, 1986). The other related term is symbolism which refers to symbols which appear in literary works. The study of symbol is called symbolism.



CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

As it has been mentioned before, symbol is thing standing for other things beyond its literal meaning. The point of creating symbol is that people can communicate their ideas deeper and simpler. Symbol can also be an expression of people's thought or feeling toward life and death. For example, Ankh is an Egyptian symbol which is symbolizing life and immortality (Mark, 2016). Symbols can be found in daily life as well like red light means stop in road traffic safety. Even people's names are used to symbolize other things. But commonly, symbol is found in literary works like movie, poet, music.

2.1. Theories of Symbol

The word symbol is derived from Latin word "symbolum" which means "creed, token, mark" and from Greek word "symbolon" which means "token, watchword, sign." It is taken from the root words "syn" which means "with or together" and "ballein" which means "throwing" or which nearly means "throwing together." (McCormack, ¶ 1)

Symbolism as symbol that appears in literary work was a literary movement in nineteenth century (Fadaee, 2011). Symbolism term was used for arts in the beginning and then it is spread to other literary works like book. It was when writers started to use symbolism in their work. But, before people talk about symbolism, people should understand symbol and what is symbol.

2.1.1 Sign

When people talk about symbol, they will also talk about sign because symbol is the part of sign. Charles Sanders Peirce as cited by English and Kirshner (2015) divides how sign stands for its denoted object into three ways:

1. Icon

Peirce's definition of icon is "...a sign that denotes its object by virtue of a quality which is shared by them but which icon has irrespectively of the object" (p. 236). In the other hand, icon means the imitation of the object or the concept. For example, a picture of a house, even though it may look simple, imitates the represented object, a house.

2. Index

Index is "...a sign that denoted its object by virtue of an actual connection involving them, one that Peirce also calls a real relation in virtue of its being irrespectively of interpretation" (p. 236). Index does not imitate nor resemble the represented object but it does resemble something that implied the represented object. Index that is used to label hazardous chemicals is skull and crossed bones, to inform that the chemical stuffs are poisonous. Skull and crossed bones do not resemble the represented object but it implied the cause.

3. Symbol

Symbol is "... a sign that denoted its object solely by virtue of the fact that it will be interpreted to do so. The symbol consists in a natural or conventional or logical rule, norm, or habit, a habit that lacks (or has shed) dependence on the symbolic sign's having a resemblance or real connection to the denoted object." (p. 236)

Symbol is totally different from the represented object and needs to be learned to understand. Icon can be a symbol, for example, floppy disk is an icon for "save data" in computer although the floppy disc becomes more like a symbol nowadays since floppy disk is not used anymore.

2.1.2 Kinds of Symbol

Sylvan Barnet in his book *Literature: Thinking, Reading and Writing critically* mentions two kinds of symbols: natural symbol and conventional symbol. Natural symbols, meaning those related to nature, might be different from one culture to another. For example, sun symbolizes birth but in another culture sun symbolizes gods. Different from natural symbol, conventional symbol means that all people accept that the symbol stands for something other than itself. The meaning of symbol is widely accepted and known in many cultures. The heart, for example, is conventionally interpreted as the symbol of love.

Pickering and Hoepfer in their book *Concise Companion to Literature* talked about three kinds of symbol (Pickering & Hoepfer, 1981, pp. 71-72):

1. Traditional symbol

Traditional symbol is a symbol related to the common things in society or culture. It is recognized and accepted widely or in another word universally known (p.71). For example, yin yang in Chinese culture as a symbol of a balance between positive and negative which is acknowledged by most people.

2. Original symbol

Original symbol is a symbol that is not related to the traditional symbol; its meaning depends on the context (p. 72). For example, blue color in map means everything related with water, but blue color in weather information means cold weather.

3. Private symbol

Private symbol is a symbol that has a deeper meaning than original symbol. It is created by a person as the result of his imagination and knowledge about belief or philosophy (p. 72).

For example, small speck of dust in *Horton Hears a Who* by Dr. Seuss is a symbol of a fetus. Private symbol may have different meaning from each other.

2.1.3. Steps to Recognize Symbol

A symbol is neither easy nor difficult to be recognized as it is like a hidden message where people need practice to recognize it in a literary work. According to Laurence Perrine in his book *Literature: Structure, Sound and Sense*, for reader, it is important to follow some steps to recognize symbols in a story by observing the following cautions (Perrine, 1974):

1. The story itself must furnish a clue that a detail is to be taken symbolically (emphasis). Symbol in a story will give signal to the reader that it exists by repeating or emphasizing it.
2. The meaning of a literary symbol must be established and supported by the entire context of the story.
3. To be called a symbol, an item must suggest a meaning different in kind from its literal meaning. A symbol is something more than the representative of a class or type.
4. A symbol may have more than one meaning. It may suggest a cluster of meanings.

Similar but not the same to Laurence, McMahan, Day & Funk in their book *Literature and the Writing Process* (1986) generalized that most of the authors of a story will emphasize a term by repeating it many times or use the term as a title. Important symbols will be placed in the beginning and the end of the story.

2.1.4 Meaning of Symbol

After people find out what symbol is and how to identify symbol, people try to know what the meaning of symbol is. Carl Gustav Jung is a psychotherapist and psychiatrist, who talks about symbol from psychological point of view. Carl Jung in Benjamin Nagari book's *Music as Image: Analytical Psychology and Music in Film* believes that dream can be interpreted in symbolic form by saying that dream is "as spontaneous self-portrayal, in symbolic form, of actual situation in the unconscious" (Nagari, 2015). Jung inferred that the unconscious state of a person reflects the actual situation of that person.

Kenneth Burke, the American literary theorist also talked about symbol. In I. C. Baianu articles about symbol, Burke said that people tend to create symbols by learning from what they see, from their life experience and from symbols used in the past (I. C. Baianu, 2010).

J.E. Cirlot in his *Dictionary of Symbols* said that everything in symbolism has meaning and purpose that are sometimes easily to be recognized and sometimes not, and everything in it will leave trace or signature which make people try to examine and interpret it (J.E. Cirlot, 2001, hal. xliii).

There are some variety of symbols that can be categorized into some groups depend on the meaning. Christian symbol is a symbol used in Christianity which meanings are related to what the

bible has. For example, apple in Christian symbol means temptation or original sin.

Examples of conventional or traditional symbols have been thoroughly written by Jean Chevalier. The examples of these symbols are presented below (Chevalier, Gheerbrant, & Brown, 1996):

- a) Colors, for example (1) Blue represents calmness, coolness, peace, (2) Red represents immorality, the color of life principle, bravery, and blood often associated with fire.
- b) Nature, for example, (1) Summer season represents maturity, knowledge, (2) Oak tree: strength, wisdom, (3) Moon represents feminine symbol.
- c) Directions, for example, (1) West represents land of evening, old age, and the descending passage of the sun, (2) South represents the side which lies on the Sun's left hand and is the hand of fire, represents of warmth and comfort.
- d) Weather, for example, (1) Winds and storms represent violent, human emotions; (2) Thunder represents the voice of God or gods.
- e) Animals, for example, (1) Fox represents slyness, cleverness, (2) Salmon represents instinct, sacred wisdom.
- f) Walls, for example, (1) Barriers represents between people, shuts out the world.
- g) Human body parts, for example, (1) Bones represents the framework of the human body, since it contains bone marrow

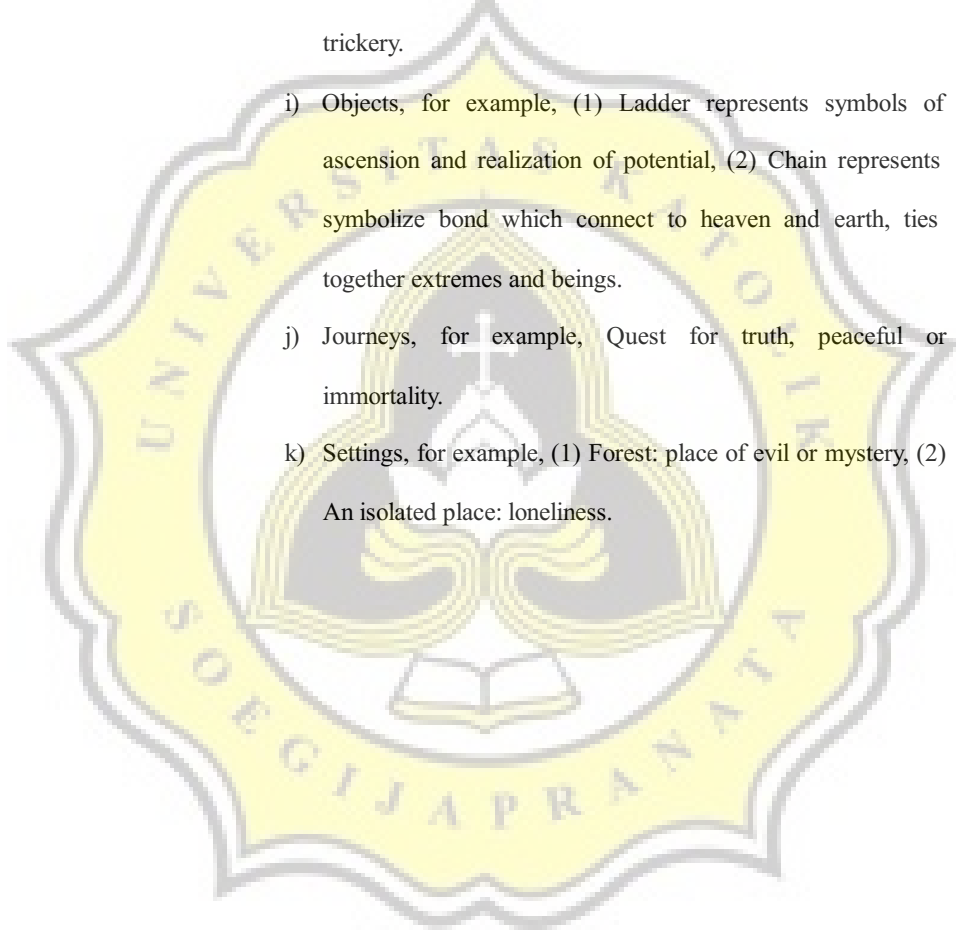
it symbolize strength and virtue, (2) Eyes represents windows to the souls.

h) Clothing, for example, (1) Mask represents externalize demonic tendencies, (2) Cloak represents symbol of human trickery.

i) Objects, for example, (1) Ladder represents symbols of ascension and realization of potential, (2) Chain represents symbolize bond which connect to heaven and earth, ties together extremes and beings.

j) Journeys, for example, Quest for truth, peaceful or immortality.

k) Settings, for example, (1) Forest: place of evil or mystery, (2) An isolated place: loneliness.



CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Sources

In this research, the researcher used two kinds of source data. The first is the primary data from The Little Prince Novel, and here are the details of the book:

Title : The Little Prince
Author : Antoine de Saint-Exupery
Genre : Fiction
Language : French, translated by T.V.F. Cuffe from Penguin Books 1995
Year : 1995
Publisher : Penguin Books

The second sources of data were other books and articles about symbols. The researcher used qualitative research to find out symbols and to explain their meanings in The Little Prince novel, the object of the research. The researcher used qualitative research to get more detailed understanding of this issue, because qualitative research is “to develop theories when partial or inadequate theories exist for certain populations and sample or existing theories do not adequately capture the complexity of the problem” and also quantitative research which using numbers and statistical analysis do not fit in to solve the problem (Creswell, 2007, p. 40). The analysis of data was

based on other related researches which were from written sources, articles, books and other online sources.

3.2 Research Procedure

Here the researcher had read The Little Prince novel for a long time before. But then she studies Literature and knows about literary work deeper. Since she knows symbols in literary work and had read the novel, she realized that The Little Prince novel has a lot of symbols. The Little Prince novel was quite famous novel abroad. My sister suggested the researcher to analyze the novel since she likes the novel so much. My major sponsor agreed that The Little Prince novel was an interesting book to be analyzed. That was the reason I decided to choose and examine symbolism in The Little Prince novel.

To examine this research, the researcher did some steps. First, the researcher who had already re-read the whole novel carefully figured out the symbolism in the novel. Second, the researcher analyzed the major symbolisms in the novel. Then, the researcher explained symbols in the novel and their meaning.

CHAPTER 4

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

After analyzing The Little Prince novel by Antoine de Saint-Exupery the researcher found five major symbols. They are Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose. The researcher explains all five symbols Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose one by one based on Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory (1981) about symbols. In the early one or two paragraphs of the analysis the researcher talks about denotative meaning of each symbol to present the readers with the factual meaning of the symbols. In the second part, the researcher explains the meaning of the five symbols. In the last part, the researcher explains what kind of symbols those five symbols are according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory.

4.1 The Meaning of Desert

In this novel, desert symbolizes the loveliest but saddest place. Desert itself comes from Egyptian hieroglyph that is pronounced 'tésert'; and in Latin verb known as 'deserere' which means "to abandon". It becomes the meaning of desert that people know these days (Middleton, 2009, pp. 1-2).

Desert is a place commonly known for its hot and arid condition where hardly any animal or plant can survive. Desert is always related with lack of water for it is almost impossible to find any water even if there are wells in the desert (US Army Armor School, 1977). However, some plants or animals can adapt the harshest weather in the desert, so do human (National Geographic Partners, LLC) It should be known that desert is not of a single type only. There are several types of desert:

hot deserts and cold deserts, sandy deserts and rocky deserts, foggy deserts and sunny deserts, barren deserts and lush deserts.

Desert with its charm has inspired novelist, poets, artists and film-makers to make a literary work with desert as its theme. Desert is also the birth place for three world's great religions.

Sahara desert is mentioned in The Little Prince novel as the main setting of the story. Sahara desert is the largest desert in the world which covers nine million square kilometers of North Africa. Because Sahara desert is huge; that it is across ten countries in North Africa, Sahara Desert has different label from different country such as the Ténéré desert, the Libyan Desert, the Egyptian desert, the Nubian Desert, and the Bayuda desert (Middleton, p. 7). Sahara Desert name is from Arabic word "Sahara" which means desert. Sahara Desert which is located in North Africa is the largest hot desert in the world with temperature that reaches 50 degrees Celsius in daytime and below 0 degree at nighttime (Bitesize Authors, 2014), so the temperature in the desert is extremely hot at daytime and extremely cold in nighttime.

Sahara desert is the place where the narrator in The Little Prince novel, who is an aviator, has an air crash. His airplane's engine broke when unfortunately no one flies with him. The aviator repairs his airplane all alone to survive death.

In Sahara people hardly get something to eat and drink because only some animals and plants can bear its extreme weather. People may die from starvation and thirst if people stay there too long. Although human can survive without food for quite long time but without water it is a different story. Human cannot survive

without water for around a week in a normal weather (Spector, 2014), but in an extreme weather like in Sahara it would be less than a week.

In this first part, when the aviator is lost in Sahara Dessert, he draws attention by saying “It was a matter of life or death: I had barely enough drinking water to last a week” (p.7). It means that he will not survive if he cannot finish his repairing job in less than one week because it is almost impossible to find water resources around him. The aviator believes that by fixing the engine he can at least get out from frightening place like the Sahara Desert and gets some help in other places. Here the desert is symbolizing death by the fact that almost none of living things can survive the extreme condition like Sahara Desert.

The desert here is not only a symbol of death but also a symbol of loneliness as the aviator is all alone in Sahara Desert with a little possibility of seeing other people. The narrator expresses his loneliness by saying “On the first night, then, I went to sleep on the sand a thousand miles from all human habitation. I was more isolated than... (p. 8)” The aviator shows how desperate he is when he gets lost in desert all by himself. The narrator emphasizes his lonely feeling by stating “thousand miles away from all human habitation” many times in the beginning of the story. The narrator wants to say how afraid he is being trapped in the strange place like Sahara Desert and threatened by death. The narrator brings the reader mind to imagine the possibility that people lose and die alone in Sahara Desert No one will find their deceased body. And they miss their home and miss people they love. Then, surprisingly he meets the Little Prince who wakes him up a day after he sleeps in Sahara Desert.

The narrator does not only tell how he is lost in Sahara Desert but also tells when the Little Prince came to earth at the first time and landed in Sahara Desert. When the Little Prince arrived on earth for the first time, he did not see any people and met a snake that explained to him that he landed in a desert and no one lives there. Here the little prince also feels lonely as can be seen in his question and statement to the snake “Where are the people?... it’s little lonely in the desert... (p. 59)” It shows a condition that most people who are in the desert will feel lonely even when the little Prince can has the snake to talk to. Another thing that makes the little prince feels lonelier is when he stands up on the top of mountain in Sahara Desert and the only thing that answer him is the echo (Figure 4.1). Then the little prince starts to feel homesick and misses his flower.

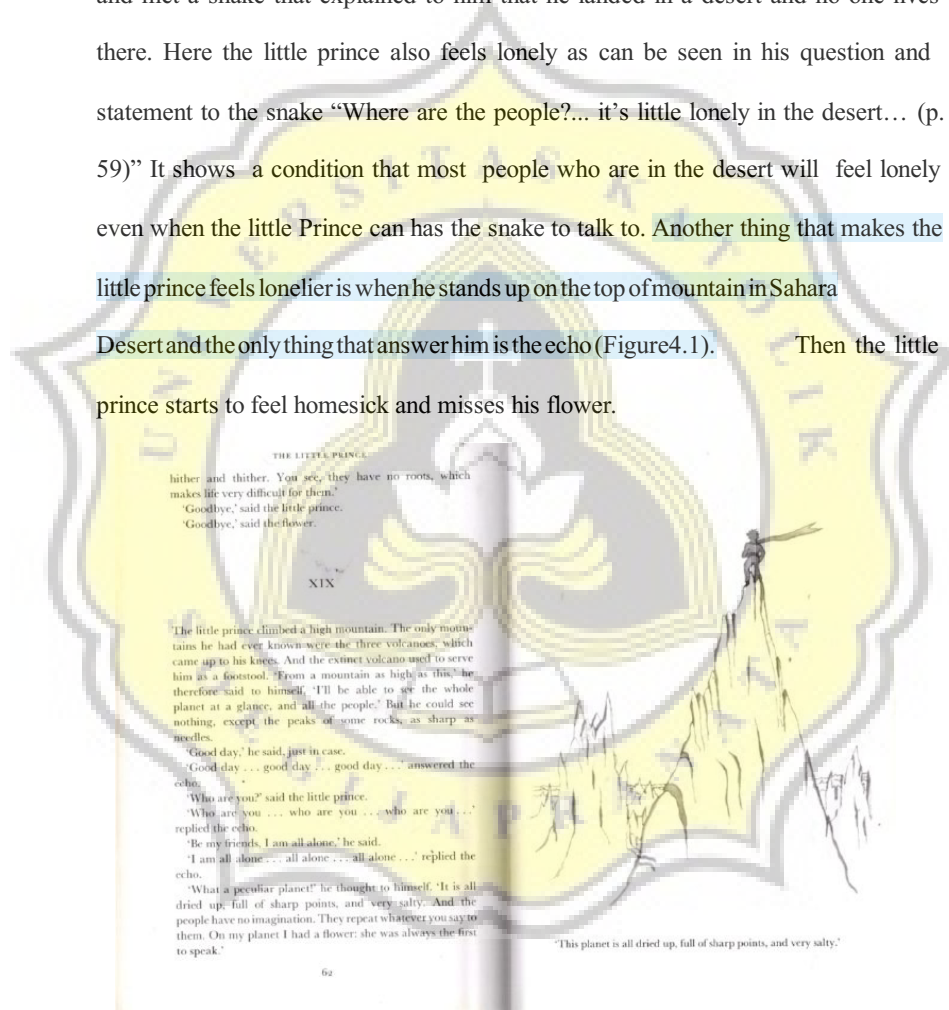


Figure 4.1. Little Prince feels lonely in desert (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

In Sahara Desert, the Aviator and the Little Prince, who meet in an eerie way about to die, spend time together and become friends. Slowly the Little Prince

reveals to the Aviator about who he is, why he comes, what his journey is and what kind of planet he is from. Both of them felt lonely when they landed in Sahara Desert for the first time, but then they feel different after they meet. The aviator is scared of death while the Little Prince is scared of being lonely. When the Little Prince says “It’s good to have a friend, even if you are about to die. (p. 75)”, the aviator says “He does not understand the danger (p. 75)”.

Later, like the Little Prince, the aviator starts to love the desert and does not think that desert is a place of death. Instead, the aviator describes the desert as a beautiful place that gives him something powerful in silence (Figure 4.2).

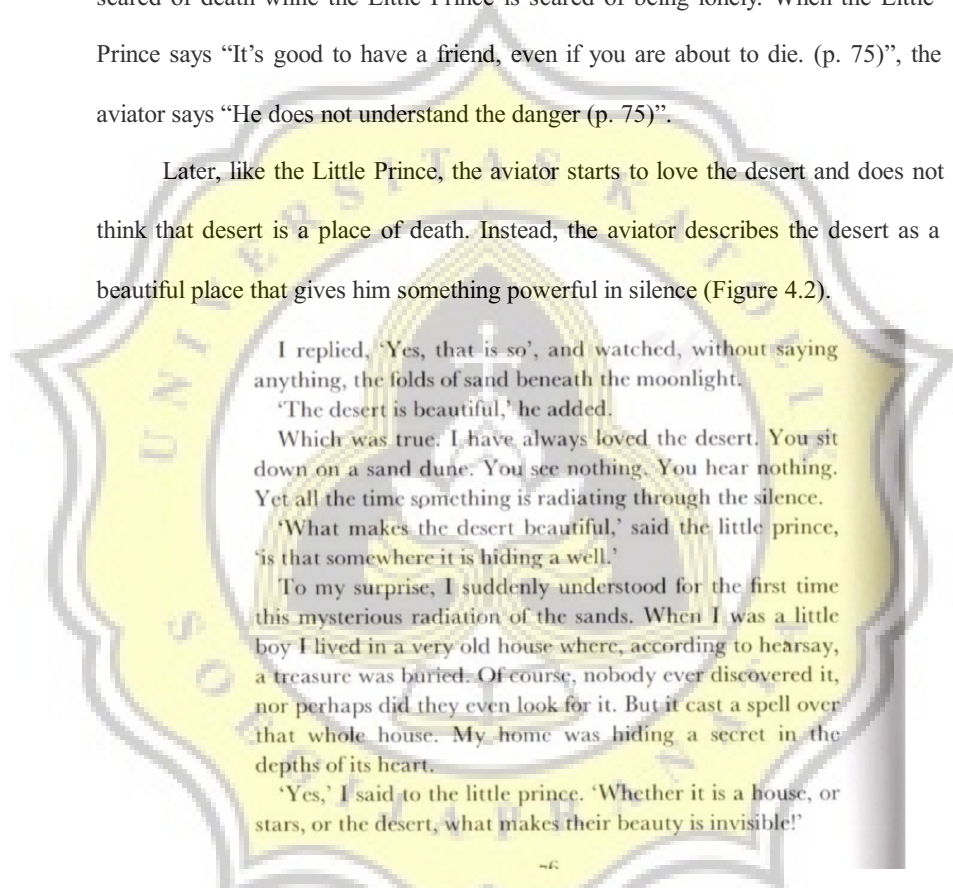


Figure 4.2. The Aviator loves the desert (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Since the aviator meets the Little Prince, miraculously good things keep coming. They absurdly find a well with water in Sahara Desert. Then in the next day the aviator successfully finishes his repairing job. When the aviator is going to tell the good news to the Little Prince, the Little Prince is bitten by a snake. In order to

go back to the place where he comes from the Little Prince should be bitten by the snake on the day he returns home, the star.

Since then Sahara Desert is not same as before, it is not place of death or loneliness anymore for the Aviator but, the saddest place because he loses his one and only friend in Sahara Desert. However, it is also the loveliest place because of his beautiful memories with the Little Prince.

The first time when the aviator loses in desert, the author creates the desert as a symbol of death and loneliness. But the meaning of loneliness is transformed when in the next day the aviator is woken up by the little prince's voice that asks him to draw a sheep. The aviator does not believe that he meets the Little Prince. He still mentions how far he is from human habitat many times even after he meets the Little Prince. Later, after they are together for quite some time, the aviator seems to forget the danger of death. Good things come together with the Little Prince presence.

At the beginning the author wants to show that desert symbolizes death and loneliness. According to A Dictionary of Literary Symbols by Michael Ferber, desert has the same meaning as a forest which is "traditionally dark, labyrinthine, and filled with dangerous beasts" (p.78) or shortly full of mystery and dangerous. It means it is impossible for people to survive when they are lost in either the forest or the desert. In its actual form, desert is not labyrinthine but people who walk in the desert do not know either they walk in the right direction or they just make a circle. When forest is filled with beasts, desert has extreme weather and dangerous spiteful snakes. Furthermore, in Chevalier et al's dictionary of symbols, (1996), desert is included in setting symbol. It is an isolated place where people rarely pass. Desert

symbolizes loneliness. Similarly, Perrine (1974) identifies desert as a symbol which have multiple meaning like death and loneliness.

Generally, desert symbolizes a place which is full of mystery and dangers. So, when the reader of The Little Prince novel visualizes desert, they think about death. Here in the novel, according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory, desert is a private symbol (p. 72) desert as the symbol of loneliness is broken by the Little Prince's presence, and desert as the symbol of death is broken by good things that keep coming from the Little Prince presence.

4.2 The Meaning of Stars

Stars symbolize the home for purer souls. Stars are sphere of gas that produces energy. As a result, it produces light through nuclear process. Sun is also a star which is made from hydrogen and helium fused together to be heavier. Dust in the space may be released from a dead star. Stars have colors that indicate its temperature. For example, blue is for the hottest and red is for the coolest. Supernova explosion is the greatest way star can die because stars will spread its heavier elements into space (Lawrence, 2012). Until these days still no one knows how many stars exist in our universe, and how many stars people can see with bare eyes in a clear sky. The greatest of stars that shine at night makes many cultures believe that stars in the sky are heavens (National Geographic Partners, LLC).

Stars in The Little Prince novel are stars that people can see with bare eyes at night, not sun as a star. In the beginning stars have been mentioned several times without deep meaning. It is when the narrator tells the journey of the Little Prince to some planets that stars have deep meaning.

The Little Prince had visited the stars in the planet which is inhabited by a king. The stars are just subjects that should obey all king's order because the king's reign over everything. When the Little Prince first arrived and saw what the king can do, he was amazed by the king's power. When the time goes by, the Little Prince starts to feel bored because there is nothing to do in the king's planet. So, the Little Prince tries to leave the king's planet. Then, the king orders the Little Prince to do a lot of things but the king never listens to what Little Prince asks. The King orders the Little Prince to become a minister of justice until the ambassador makes him stay in king's planet. Even the king claims that he reigns over everything, but still he cannot make the Little Prince stay in his planet.

In the fourth planet, the stars are worth of diamond for the business men who live there. The business man is always busy counting the stars he owns and he keeps buying another star. Different from the king who rules over the stars, the businessman owns the starts because nobody ever claims them before. Although the business man has millions of stars but he cannot use them nor collect them. The businessman's experience is different from the Little Prince's experience that has a scarf and wears it; who owns flowers and collect them. The Little Prince never agrees with the way other people see stars.

Stars in this novel have several meanings, but there is only one meaning that the author wants to emphasize. When the Little Prince lands on the Earth for the first time, he feels amazed and says "...does the stars glow so that someday everyone can find a way back to their own?..."(p. 58). Here the Little prince draws attention by saying that people will be back to the stars. Then, the snake who talks to him says that Little Prince is made from purer stuff and will be back to his planet if the snake

bites the Little Prince. The Little Prince also talks about flower and stars. He says that if someone loves a flower among the millions stars, people will be happy by only looking at the night sky. By looking at the beautiful stars, the Little Prince channels his longing for the flowers he plants in his own planet.

In the end, the Little Prince is bitten by the snake on his anniversary of landing on earth. As the Little Prince needs to return home on his anniversary, he walks to look for the place he landed for the first time. The stars shine directly above him. Before the Little Prince leaves earth, he gives stars in the sky to the aviator as a present by saying that the Aviator will be the only one who has stars that can laugh since the Little Prince will live on one of million stars in the sky and will laugh from there later. The Little Prince says that stars are guides for travelers, problem to solve for scientists, gold for businessman, and merely little lights or silence for the others. Stars then have different meaning for the aviator and the readers.

Stars are traditionally impossible to carry a single meaning. For example, stars means spirits who struggle against darkness since stars are shining in the dark night sky and the others believe that stars are intercommunication between human world and the other world (J.E.Cirlot, 2001).

In The Little Prince's story, it has been explained that stars have different meaning for each person. However, the Little Prince as the main character never agrees with people's opinion. For the Little Prince, stars are special. One of the stars in the sky is his home. He believes that the reason the stars is shining is to let people find way to go home later. People can see that here in The Little Prince novel, stars area home for purer souls; that souls will return to the stars and the bodies will decease and get back to earth. The snake indirectly explains the concept by saying

“... I return them to the earth from whence they came. But you are made of purer stuff, and you come from a star” the snake seems only talks about the Little Prince but match it with what Little Prince says (Figure 4.3) that everybody will pass that stage when they going to die, stars is the home for all purer souls.

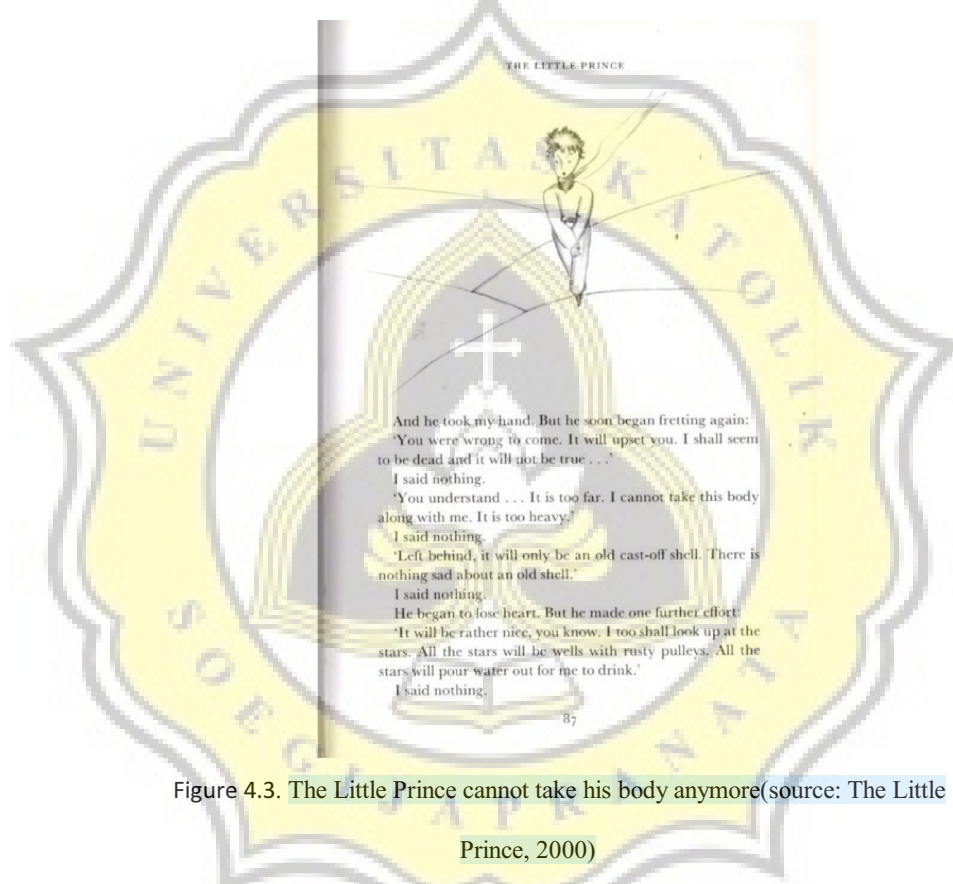


Figure 4.3. The Little Prince cannot take his body anymore (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Stars in The Little Prince are traditional symbols (p. 71) according to the Pickering and Hooper's Theory (1981) and are included in nature symbol according to Chevalier's dictionary of symbols. As explained earlier, traditionally stars symbolize spirits or intercommunication between earth and others world. Here the author says that stars symbolize home for purer souls. The meaning of stars in the

book fits with the one in which stars are spirits and another world. While the author emphasizes how the “home” feels in the story, it represents people’s believe that souls or spirits come from stars and that the universe is the other world. That is the special meaning of stars that the author conveys to the readers. Stars in The Little Prince novel is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory about how to recognize symbols. Perrine’s theory shows that stars have multiple meaning. For some character, stars symbolize diamond, subject, and problem but once again the author emphasizes the meaning of stars in the novel as home for purer souls.

4.3 The Meaning of Baobabs

Baobabs symbolize problem. Baobabs tree has *Adansonia Digitata* as the scientific name. The name was given by Linnaeus and the generic name of *Adansonia* was given to honor Michel Adanson, a French naturalist who had been in Senegal, Africa in the eighteen century and described Baobabs in 1771 (Sidibe & Williams, 2002). Baobabs can grow to the height up 18-20 meters with branches that look stiff and roots that are stout out from ground up to 10 meter in diameter (Sidibe & Williams, p.15). From the description, people can imagine how massive the Baobab tree is. Baobab tree naturally grows in the south of Saharan Desert. It is then expanded to another place in Africa and outside Africa. The massive Baobab tree is used as water reservoirs due to its hollowed trunk. The amount of water that people can collect from Baobab hollow should not be ignored. It has been recorded that people can save 200 gallons to 4000 gallons of water and can keep it fresh for years if the hollowed trunk is closed thoroughly. Baobab’s hollow is not only saving water but is also used by small animals and human as a shelter or storage (Sidibe & Williams, pp. 23-24).

Beside the fact that baobabs can live for hundred years and save water, every part of baobab is useful and good for health. Baobab leaves are the most important source of irons and many minerals. Native people of Africa use to eat it whether boiled or eaten freshly. The other useful part of Baobab is its fruit pulp; the source of vitamin and seeds that can increase the protein digestibility (Sidibe & Williams, pp.47-48). The usefulness of every part of Baobabs forms an ecosystem that supports life around it. No wonder if Baobab is the real Tree of Life for people in Africa.

Baobabs come out in The Little Prince novel as huge trees that grow in a small planet where of the Little Prince is from. The tree has different meaning from what the Africans believe.

Baobabs are special plants in this story, the aviator learns about baobabs in the third day he is lost in Sahara Desert. It is when the Little Prince asks question about whether the sheep eats small bushes or not. The aviator agrees that the sheep eat bushes. What makes the aviator wonder is when the Little Prince says "Then it follows that they also eat baobabs." (p.18). The aviator knows that baobabs are not small bushes and he thinks that it is a strange statement. People know that Baobabs is huge plant, bigger than an elephant, so it is impossible for a sheep to eat baobabs. Even an elephant cannot eat the whole baobabs. The Aviator reminds the Little Prince about it. But then, the Little Prince wisely answers "Baobabs, before they grow big, start off small." (p.19). Yet, the aviator still cannot understand why the Little Prince wants the sheep to eat the baby baobabs. The answer is that because baobabs in the Little Prince's planet are a big problem.

While the real baobab is a big plant which live for years and grow massive, but its root does not destroy earth. In the Little Prince's planet, the baobab tree's roots destroy the planet. Good plants come from good seeds and bad plants come from bad seeds and Baobabs seeds, bad seeds are infested in the Little Prince's planet.

The Little Prince realizes that baobab is a bad plant. Then in the morning after he cleans himself up, he washes and dresses his planet. Plants will grow and no one will know what kind of plant it will become because in its early stage, plants always look alike. The Little Prince must be careful to dress his planet. He has to choose which plant is a good plant and which one is a bad plant because no one wants to kill a good plant like rose, for example. Here the aviator learns that Baobabs in Little Prince's planet are bad seeds that become bad plants. Baobabs have a great impact to the Aviator so he warns all children on earth to be aware of Baobabs, so he draws a magnificent baobabs picture in the book.

While Baobab is the source of life for African people, in The Little Prince novel, it symbolizes a big problem. Tree is the same as stars which has multiple meaning. Tree is the most important of traditional symbol; even some genus of tree symbolizes something different. Tree in general symbolizes the life of the cosmos: its consistence, growth, proliferation, generative and regenerative processes (J.E.Cirlot, p. 347). In Christianity, tree symbolizes two different things: Tree of Life or Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil that is written in Genesis (p. 219). Different from the traditional symbol, Baobab in the Little Prince's planet is a big problem. The Little Prince keeps his planet from disaster by clean up and plucks out baby baobabs

When the Little Prince talks about baobab as a bad plant, the Aviator explains that there are a good plant and a bad plant. "...Good seed come from good plant and bad seed from bad plant" (p. 20). Here the aviator wants to say that seed comes from plant, not the other way around. So, if the Little Prince diligently plucks the baby Baobabs then slowly the baobabs will be gone from the Little Prince's planet for good because no more seed will infest the Little Prince's planet. The aviator then says that seeds are invisible and will grow into innocent little shoots at first. People should pluck them out only if they grow into bad plants. People should get rid of the bad plant or problem once they realize that they will grow as terrible plants. The Little Prince also adds that it is boring to clean and choose the plants carefully every day because bad plant and good plant resemble each other in the early youth. Even when it is a boring thing to do, but the Little Prince has to keep on doing the weeding to avoid disaster because no one can tackle baobabs down if they are rooted already (Figure 4.4).



Figure 4.4. Baobabs are rooted already (source: The Little Prince, 2000)

The fact that baobabs are huge plants that can live a hundred of years and hard to be killed can be found in both the real life and in the story. The difference is that baobabs in The Little Prince symbolize problems, while those in Africa are the source of life. There is no specific symbol for baobabs traditionally but, generally tree symbolizes good things like growth, generative and consistence. It means that based on Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory (1981), baobabs in The Little Prince is private symbols because Baobabs symbolize problem that should be thrown away.

Baobab is included in nature symbol according to Chevalier's dictionary of symbols and is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory. The writer marks baobab as a bad plant and changes the image of the baobab in the entire story. The writer wants to deliver the message that a small problem that will grow bigger if people neglect it. No matter how trivial the problem is but people must solve and finish it before it ruins their life. Problems are like baobabs which grow in a small place and ruin the pot. Then, when the trees get bigger, they can destroy the planet. The Little Prince informed that after people wash and dress themselves up, they should wash and dress their planet. It shows that people should be self-discipline both for themselves and for other so small problems will not become big problems.

4.4 The Meaning of Water

Water symbolizes soul nourishment. Water is important for any life forms in earth. Water is rooted from Indo-European 'wodor/wedor' which then turns into English word 'water' (Jha, 2015). People use water for many things in life like sanitation and hygiene that are important for health (Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality, 2008). Although water is important but water can be dangerous for human life. Water can be the medium for natural disaster like Tsunami and diseases like

contaminated water (Jha, 2015) Water in The Little Prince novel water is like a treasure because it is strangely found in Sahara Desert.

Water is the important thing for the aviator since he is lost in Sahara Desert. Many times the aviator mentions that water is what he needs the most to survive from desert. Water is also mentioned when the aviator explains the Little Prince's rose which is watered every day. The last thing that the Little Prince gives to the aviator before the Little Prince goes is a rose. By watering his rose, the Little Prince shows his love to the rose.

Water becomes a more serious thing when the Little Prince meets a merchant on earth. The merchant sells pills of great time-sever in which people will not feel thirsty anymore if they swallow one each week; and they can save fifty-three minutes every week. In fifty-three minutes people can do anything they want. At that time the Little Prince surprisingly says "..., I would take my time walking slowly towards the nearest fountain water." The aviator hears Little Prince's story while he drinks his last water supply and does not really like the Little Prince's statement about the pills by saying "..., I have nothing left to drink, and I too should be happy if I could take my time walking slowly towards the nearest fountain of water!". The aviator has no time to looking for water since he has not finished his repairing job. After talking about the Little Prince relationship with the fox, suddenly the Little Prince knows what is in the aviator minds and says that he is thirsty too and asks the aviator to look for a well.

The aviator just follows the Little Prince although he believes that it is impossible to find water, let alone well in the desert. They walk for several hours until night comes. The aviator gets a little fever because of thirst, and he wonders

whether the Little Prince feels thirsty. The Little Prince replies the question with irrelevant answer “water may also be good for the heart”. The aviator cannot understand what the Little Prince means but he says nothing.

The next day, surprisingly, the Little Prince and the aviator find a well, a strange well. The well is just like a normal well with pulley and bucket, unlike Saharan wells which is simply a dug hole. The aviator still does not believe it but seeing how happy the Little Prince is, the aviator helps the Little Prince to pull up the bucket. The happiest moment is when they can hear the ringing of the pulley and trembling water in a hot day (Figure 4.5). The Little Prince says” How I long for this water” and asks the aviator to let him drink the water first. Only by seeing all the Little Prince does: drinks the water and being happy, then he believes that the water is not a mere beverage that washes away the thirst but that makes people happy and pleased.

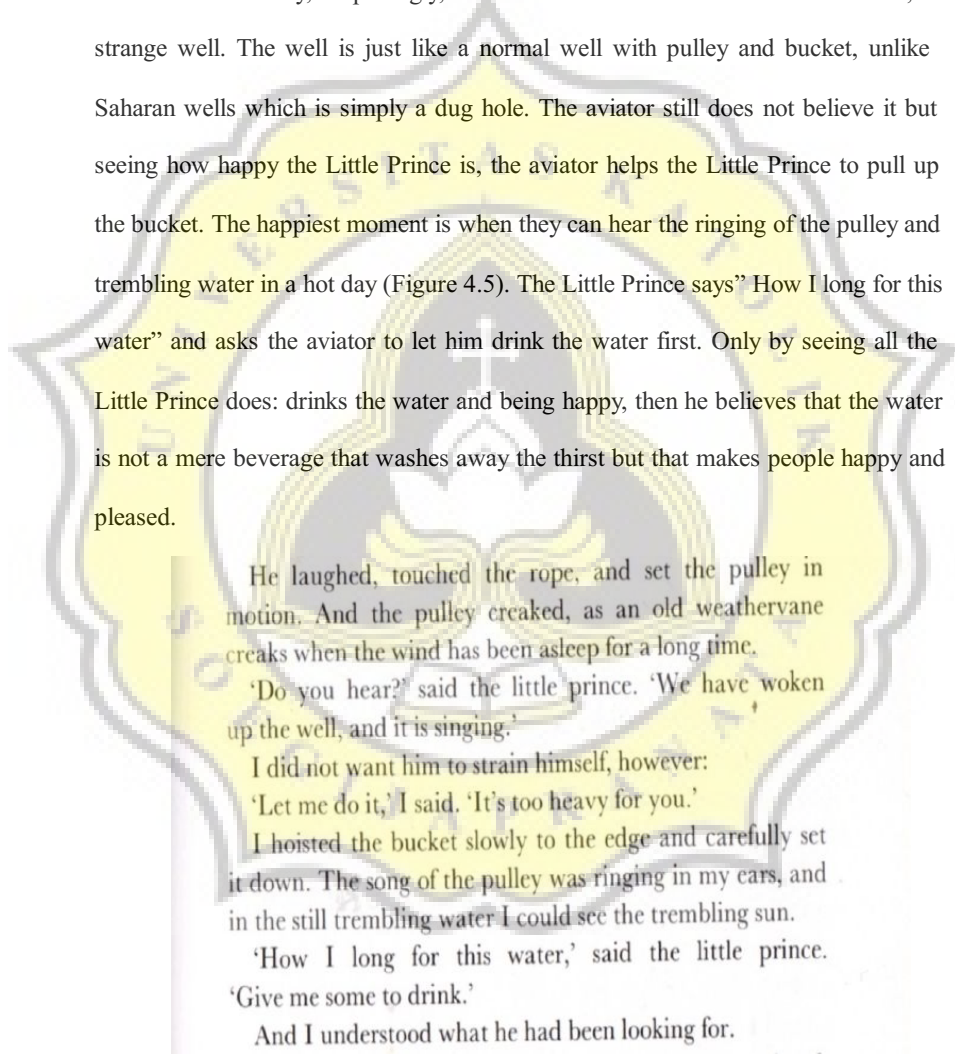


Figure 4.5. The happiest moment they had(source: The Little Prince, 2000)

Water is mentioned again after the Little Prince is bitten by a snake. The Little Prince tells the aviator once again that important things cannot be seen but it should be felt by heart. It is the same as the time they find water. It is the most beautiful thing that they ever been through as companion.

When The Little Prince gives the aviator stars as a present, the gift is like the water that they drank together. The gift should be felt by heart. And the last time before the Little Prince leaves the Aviator, he tells the aviator that he will have stars, five hundred millions of it as well as wells with rusty pulleys that pour the water out for him to drink; that he will never be lack of water anymore.

Here in The Little Prince, water has deeper meaning than mere water that people use to take for granted. Water is one of four classical elements along with earth, fire, and air. With fire, earth, wood, and metal, water is also one of five elements in Chinese culture, Taoism (Jha, 2015). Traditionally, water is symbolizing rebirth and regeneration just like baptism in Christian belief in which water symbolizes the washing away of people sins and the rebirth of a new person (J.E.Cirlot, p. 365). Different from the traditional symbol, in The Little Prince, water is nourishment for the souls, not a medium to wash away sins or a medium of rebirth.

The Little Prince does not feel thirsty since he arrives on earth, but he says to the merchant that he will walk slowly to the nearest fountain of water. It shows that the Little Prince does not feel thirsty but he will look for water that can fulfill his heart. The Little prince also invites the aviator to look for a well with him although the invitation confuses the Aviator at that time. For the Aviator, the water taken from the wells is like a present in Christmas day. Just by looking at the Little Prince

drinking the water, the aviator feels happy. At that time, he also understands what the Little Prince means by saying that water is gladden heart.

The Little Prince also tells the Aviator that on earth **people do not know what they are looking for** while the actual answer can be found in a single rose or a handful of water. The Little Prince statement shows that water is something important for the soul not for the physical body only. It is true that water is the most important things for the body, but here in The Little Prince water is nourishment for the soul. People will not literally die if they do not nourish their soul but they will be alive as a human with no heart. Before the Little Prince goes back to the star, he says that he shall be living on **one of the stars in the sky and** stars will pour unlimited water for him; water that nourishes his soul. For the Little Prince, drinking the water with the Aviator is the happiest moment and vice versa.

People know that it is hard to find water in Sahara Desert. People will desperately look for water. However, The Little Prince and the Aviator find the water in the desert. Water is like a big present for the Aviator who is nearly died because of thirst. What makes people feel glad, happy, peace, thankful and everything good for heart are the soul nourishment. Water that the Little Prince waits for so long is the moment where he finds water in the desert with the Aviator, the Little Prince only true friend on earth. **And** the water that the Aviator looks for is the real water to wash away his thirst. In the end the Aviator realizes what Little Prince feels about water. Then stars, the place where Little Prince goes after bitten by a snake is the fountain which will pour the water for Little Prince. It has been mentioned that stars is the home for purer souls and there will be no other place as such to nourish all the souls. The Little Prince watered his rose every day at his own planet before he went to do

his journey. It means that the Little Prince gives the rose, soul nourishment to make the rose healthy.

Water is a private symbol (p. 72) based on Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory and is included in nature symbol in Chevalier's dictionary of symbols. Water in The Little Prince novel is identified as symbol based on Perrine (1974) because it represents soul nourishment for the main character in the story and it is supported by the novel context. Water as traditional symbol symbolizes rebirth and regeneration which is different from The Little Prince novel where water is the soul nourishment. Water will never be nourishment for soul if people do take it for granted. When people really need the water, it is then when they realize how water can keep the soul alive. Even when the aviator only sees the Little Prince, he realizes that water can make souls feel better and healthier. The sweetness of water, ringing of the pulleys and the sound of trembling water are blending into one beautiful march that creates wonderful feeling that they will never find anywhere else.

4.5 The Meaning of Rose

Rose symbolizes Lover. Rose is a flowering plant included in family Rosaceae. Rose is not an ordinary plant because it is used in many aspects of human life. For example, cosmetics uses, supplement, and celebration. It makes rose valuable. Rose is a plant which stem has thorns. Some roses like 'Rosa indica L' smell good and are used as perfume or room refreshers (Leghari, 2016). People used to grow rose in their garden because of their beautiful flowers with various colors and tones (Britannica). Rose appears at the first time in The Little Prince novel before the little prince arrives on earth; in his own planet, B612.

Rose is a plant that Little Prince loves so much. Not all kind of roses, just the one and only rose in his planet. The aviator knows about Little Prince's rose because the Little Prince asks "..., will it (the sheep) therefore eat flowers?" (p. 24). Then the Aviator answers that sheep eats everything they see including flowers with thorns. It makes the Little Prince shock and wonder what the use of the thorns are if they cannot protect the rose from the world. The aviator that is still scared of death tries to fix his airplane and feels annoyed because the Little Prince keeps asking about the thorns that for him are not more important than his repairing job. The aviator says that thorns are only the way the flower being malice to others. The aviator shows that the question does not seem to be important for him, but the Little Prince does not like the aviator's idea and anger. The Little Prince believes that nothing is more important than flower which can die by a single bite of a sheep. The Little Prince is afraid that his flower will be eaten by sheep and his days will be so blue. After seeing how sad the Little Prince is, the Aviator feels guilty and starts to console the Little Prince by promising him to draw a muzzle for the sheep and shield for the Rose to make the Little Prince feel better. But it does not work.

Rose is found by the Little Prince when he dresses and cleans up his planet. He keeps eye on the little shoot which starts to produce flower. Rose is not like other flower that grows in Little Prince planet. The rose found by the Little Prince symbolizes a female lover. She takes more time to grow because she wants to bloom perfectly. It is true that the Rose awakes beautifully. The Little Prince was amazed by the Rose's sweetness and realized that Rose was fascinating. Even though the Little Prince loved his Rose so much but then the Little Prince began to doubt his Rose. The way Rose talks shows that she is invulnerable with her naïve lie. But, she

does not want to admit it. She always makes the Little Prince feels sorry and makes him downhearted.

The Little Prince, then, left Rose. But then he regrets his decision to leave Rose. He realizes how much Rose is important for him. He blames himself by saying that he is the one who does not understand Rose and is too young to understand love. The last time Little Prince took care of Rose, Rose still acted similarly; she acted as if she was invulnerable. But, at the end she admitted her feeling toward the Little Prince. The Little Prince who was moved by Rose's word stepped back and felt disturbed. But then Rose told him to keep his word, leave her, and begin his journey.

The Little Prince never knows that flower he loves the most is a rose until he lands on earth. He feels extremely sad after he finds out that his flower is a common flower. He goes to garden of roses and finds out that his Rose is not special; it is just same as like the other roses. The Little Prince still feels uncomfortable with the way Rose talks and begins to remember how annoying she is. Then the more Little Prince thinks about it, the more he becomes sad. He cries a lot because he thinks he has a special flower; it makes him a great prince but he is not. Unexpectedly, the Little Prince meets the fox who teaches him about the act of taming or creating ties that later makes him change his point of view about his beloved Rose. The fox explains what tame is and how tame makes the common thing becomes special by doing some rituals which takes some time. The Little Prince agrees with what the fox says and he begins the ritual by coming over the fox' place every day to make special ties. The rituals the Little Prince does to tame the fox are different from time to time. The fox does not want the Little Prince because what the Little Prince wants is just

to tame the fox. The Little Prince does not understand that his act of taming the fox will hurt it. The fox is going to get hurt because the fox is going to miss the Little Prince when Little Prince leaves. But the fox says that every time it misses the Little Prince, it will look at the corn field that is as bright as Little Prince's hair. It also says that the sound of Little Prince steps will remain in its heart.

During their encounters, the fox asks the Little Prince to talk to the roses and it will tell a secret to the Little Prince. The Little Prince then realizes that his Rose is the most precious Rose, the only one in the world. Other roses are nothing for him because he takes care of his Rose and he will die for his Rose. His Rose has tamed his heart; his Rose used to make his day and his Rose needs him to give love and care.

Everybody will see the Little Prince's Rose the same as the other roses apart from the Little Prince. That is the reason taming or creating ties is important. As promised the fox tells the Little Prince a Secret. The fox says that all things that is important cannot be seen by eyes but felt by heart. By then the Little Prince always remembers taming and being tamed, Fox's secret and Fox's last message that he must be fully responsible with what he has tamed no matter what. About what is important, the Little Prince tells the aviator that people on earth is strange because they look for many things, do not know where to go and never realize the answer that can be easily found in a single rose or a handful of water. Then before the Little Prince leaves the earth, he says that he still remembers that he is responsible for his Rose, one of the reasons the Little Prince must go back to his star.

Rose commonly symbolizes many things depends on the color and numbers of petal. For example, blue rose symbolizes impossibility and seven petal rose

symbolizes perfection (J.E.Cirlot, p. 275). Rose is a flower and most flowers symbolize girl. But rose is the one associated as the most beloved and the most beautiful one. Rose symbolizes a young, vulnerable and virginal or pure girl(Ferber, p. 173). Here in The Little Prince, Rose is symbolizing a lover. Rose is blooming in the Little Prince's planet. Its beauty caught the Little Prince's eye. The Rose needs the Little Prince to take care of her because she cannot live without the Little Prince, while the Little Prince falls in love with the Rose from the time it first blooms. Rose in The Little Prince is described as a flower that blooms carefully. As a result, the flower looks prettier than the other flower. The Rose is different not only by it looks but also by the way it talks naïvely to the Little Prince.

The way Rose talks sometimes irritates the Little Prince's feeling and it makes the Little Prince decide to leave Rose and begin his journey to learn other things. After he visits the earth, in the end the Little Prince realizes how important his Rose is. The Little Prince learns how to love his Rose since he meets the Fox who tells him a secret to always be responsible for what they loved. The Little Prince who misses his rose so much then makes a big effort to come back to his planet and leaves his only friend, the Aviator. Therefore, the Rose in The Little Prince novel is a common symbol, according to Pickering and Hoepfer's Theory(1981) because it symbolizes love and according to et al (1996), the Rose is included in nature symbol. Additionally, Rose is identified as a symbol based on Perrine (1974) theory on symbols because Rose is a plant that keeps coming out until the end of the story and the meaning of the Rose is not a mere plant that the Little Prince wants to protect but as a plant that he loves the most.



CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

Symbolism is an interesting thing to study because many writers use symbols to deliver their message. Not only the medium to deliver a message but symbols is also used to catch the reader attention to keep on reading a story. The researcher is interested to study symbolism because the researcher finds *The Little Prince* as a novel that uses a lot of symbols deliver its message and to make the story richer. Therefore, the researcher starts to question what the symbols are and what their meanings are in *The Little Prince*. In order to answer the questions the researcher starts to examine the novel and gets the answers.

The researcher found five major symbols in *The Little Prince* novel. They are Desert, Stars, Baobabs, Water, and Rose. Desert is the first symbol that the researcher found Desert itself in real life is an abandoned place with harsh weather where no one wants to live in. But, in the book, *The Little Prince*, desert symbolizes the loveliest but the saddest place that is contradictive with its real meaning. Desert in Pickering and Hoepfer's is included in Private Symbols. The second symbol is Stars. Stars are part of heavenly bodies in the universe that burn themselves to shine and can eventually die. In *The Little Prince*, stars symbolize home for purer souls. Stars in Pickering and Hoepfer's are included in Traditional Symbols. The third symbol in the story is Baobab. Baobab is a tree that is used to grow in the desert because its huge size can survive for hundred years in harsh terrain. People who live in a desert can depend on it to live. In *The Little Prince*, baobab is a problem since baobab is too big for the Little Prince's Planet. In Pickering and Hoepfer, Baobab is

included in Private Symbols. The fourth symbol is water. It is an important element of nature for any organism that lives on earth including for human. Water is used as sanitation for healthiness, but water can also cause natural disaster. In The Little Prince, water is more than sanitation or beverage, water is soul nourishment which people need the most. The moment the Little Prince and the Aviator find water in Sahara Desert, water is soul nourishment for them. Water in Pickering and Hooper is included in Private symbols. The fifth and the last symbol is a Rose, Rose is a flowering plant that has various colors and good smells to be used as perfume. In The Little Prince, a rose symbolizes a lover which makes the Little Prince falls in love. And Rose in Pickering and Hooper is included in Traditional Symbols.

Finally, the readers can see that in the novel that is not as thick as Harry Potter novel, there are five major symbols that weave a whole story into an interesting book that has rich message. The symbols in the story can also give the readers great impact in the way they see the five things mentioned in the story. The readers will see those five things differently from those who have not read the book. The readers tend to keep the message in their mind. The researcher believe that other books like Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Horton Hears a Who, Harry Potter, and Animal Farm have more symbols that can be studied to enrich student in learning literature.

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