

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION

The research purposes to discuss the natural and supernatural symbolism in Washington Irving's *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* and *Rip Van Winkle*. There are two objectives of the study. The first problem is to find and describes the meaning of natural and supernatural symbolism from the two stories. The second problem is to find the symbols that are related to the main characters in the stories. This research is descriptive research because it shows the symbols of natural and supernatural to describe the meaning and to relate them with the main character. Moreover, this research uses library research. There are two approaches used in the research. The first is psychological approach to deal with the characters. The second is structural approach to deal with symbol meaning.

Ichabod Crane is the main character from the story *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. He loves to read and listen to stories of witchcraft, ghost, and urban legend. His hobby is the opposite from his courage. He must endure living in small village called Sleepy Hollow. He experiences many strange and mysterious things in this village. One day, he encounters the urban legend of Sleepy Hollow, the headless horseman. From the day after, Ichabod cannot be found again in this village only his hat remains.

Another story is *Rip Van Winkle*, the story of good kind man named Rip. He is accompanied by his dog to go to the Katskill mountain to hunts

some animals. Later, he meets mysterious man who asks for help to carry a keg of liquor to his place. After arriving at the mysterious man's place, Rip drinks the brew and falls to deep sleep for twenty years. While he is asleep, the world has changed. When Rip wakes up, he does not understand what happening to him. Only after his daughter tells him that he has been missing for twenty years. The party Rip meets on that night is actually the legendary Hudson party.

The second problem is the natural and supernatural symbolism relates to the main character of the two stories. In the first story, the supernatural symbolism has a big impact to Ichabod Crane as the main character. Brom uses Ichabod weakness as his advantage to win Katrina's heart. At the end, he is successful to scare away Ichabod from the Sleepy Hollow by using the disguise of headless horseman. The second story is Rip with the supernatural events that occurs near peak Katskill mountain. Rip's life is never be the same as before because many of his friends have already died, his wife died and his children now become adult.

In conclusion, people usually do not care about what their surroundings. They only care about themselves. They should be aware of the other life that may live near our world, as the spirit world is not much different from real world. The two stories share common events of supernatural in human society. From the story of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, some symbols can be revealed. There are Ichabod's appetite symbolizes his greedy, the songs of psalm symbolizes the repellent of evil, the dark forest symbolizes the

mystical condition of Sleepy Hollow, the big tulip tree symbolizes the portal from the spirit comes to real world, and the headless horseman symbolizes fear. The first story can be concluded as the explained supernatural because in the end of the story the headless horseman is Brom's prank. From the second story *Rip Van Winkle*, can be found some symbols. There are Wolf symbol as loyal, the inn as laziness, mysterious man symbolizes the gatekeeper and the Hudson party symbolizes the unsettling business in life. The second story can be concluded as the accepted supernatural because the supernatural element of the ghost of Hendrick Hudson crew cannot be explained.

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