



HEROISM IN ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S SHORT STORIES

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Abstract:

Ernest Hemingway, a distinguished writer, is well-known for his writing theory called the "Iceberg Principle." This theory is used to introduce the concept of Heroism, which depicts the images of heroes differently from the traditional stereotype. His novels and collections of short stories were written permeating the Iceberg Principle. Among them, *In Another Country*, *Old Man at the Bridge*, and *The Old Man and the Sea* characterized the heroes with their unique characteristics which readers needed to dig out to get a deeper insight into man's fate with emotional overtones. The current study, with a qualitative and descriptive approach, illuminates Heroism in these short stories. The results show that there are five aspects that Hemingway applied to reflect his Heroism including age, life tragedies, isolation, persistence, and stoicism. Besides, throughout the three stories, one can see the development of Hemingway's heroes as they strive to reach perfection during his literary career.

Keywords: Hemingway, heroism, short stories

1. Introduction

As huge enthusiasts who savor literary art, readers are perhaps familiar with a number of themes found in fiction and nonfiction works from all over the world, ranging from ancient legends to contemporary novels. However, the most popular motif is the protagonist's battles against the villains. The heroes are considerable for the development of building successful pieces, and Heroes cannot be absent in most stories from the East to the West. One can clearly recognize them in every story, such as Achilles, and Hercules in *Greek Mythology*, Sinbad and Ali Baba in *One Thousand and One Nights*, or even the princes in the fairy tales of Grimm and Andersen. Therefore, they create a stereotype about heroic images in our mind that a hero must be young, talented, and strong; they are those who are ready to help the poor, and miserable struggle against their fates, and with their strength and talents, they will defeat the monsters and evils. Kendrick (2010)

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insisted that Greek history's heroic era, which lasted from 1200-800 BC, is when the word "hero" originated. On the one hand, it refers to a heavenly being with a mortal existence. On the other hand, a hero represents a powerful and valiant warrior willing to sacrifice his life in order to gain everlasting fame while still existing in society and living on in the memories of his descendants.

Ernest Hemingway is especially regarded as one of the prominent members of the *Lost Generation* of the 20th century, as is common knowledge. It is believed that Hemingway is a myth, not just in today's culture, but also in American literature. Hemingway progressively creates his own unique style (Zheng, 2019). The gifted American author creatively breathed a new life into the traditional heroes to build a different perspective on a hero. Hemingway's heroes are merely regular individuals without any superhuman gifts, his heroes are not easy to recognize if he stands by others; his heroes may have no special devotion to society; and even his heroes are just wanderers without any clear objective. However, through their lives, personalities, and tragedies, they still have a significant influence on the other characters and the storyline inside each piece. In other words, Hemingway's heroes are the knights without shields, swords, and armor, he is considered a "tragic" hero. Besides, he has essentially written on the same issue throughout his life: "*Grace Under Pressure*" (Zheng, 2019). It is fascinating and remarkable to discuss any of Hemingway's heroic characters. This term from Hemingway's characters illustrates how important it is to persevere through tough moments.

Myriad studies investigated Heroism in Hemingway's works, but most of them only focused on a single piece and little about the connections among sources. Therefore, this research is conducted to deeply drill into Hemingway's Heroism in the field of short stories, including *In Another Country* (1927), *Old Man at the Bridge* (1938), and *The Old Man and the Sea* (1952).

Throughout the research process, this study attempts to answer two questions:

- 1) How is Heroism reflected in Ernest Hemingway's short stories?
- 2) How did Hemingway's heroic characteristics change over time?

The study aims to discuss the features and the changes of Hemingway's heroes over time, so it will deliver to readers a deeper understanding of Heroism which makes Hemingway's outstanding writing style striking through time. Thus, readers and particular EFL learners may employ these results to thoroughly achieve, logically interpret, and finally sharpen their critical thinking skills in Hemingway's other works.

2. Literature Review

The theory is really an impressive principle, each story leaves readers with indescribable emotions. It also requires readers to apply their knowledge and critical thinking, as well as connect with personal experience thoroughly, to perceive the most meaningful value, and the most satisfying feeling when savoring Hemingway's pieces. Xie (2008) supposed that Hemingway left out the necessary detail from a storyline that may contribute to enhancing it. He compared the structure of his hypothesis to that of an iceberg, where

just one-eighth was visible above the water's surface while the other seven-eighths were submerged. In Hemingway's stories, the iceberg's hidden portion represents implication. It subtly mixes the sensibility and critical faculties of literature and allows readers to delve into the underlying meaning through the works' arresting imagery.

Dieguez (2010) referred to Burhans (1960) and reevaluated Hemingway's heroes. He wrote that Hemingway's characters are the mirror reflecting his own life, they are similar to him in the way that his heroes struggle to prevail despite absurdity, as well as being physically and psychologically injured; they are similar to him in the way that they share their gloomy perspective on life, which combines the greatest pessimism with heroic generosity, they are similar to him in the way that they conceal their issues and continue with their aim; and they are similar to him in the way that they force themselves to the limit, just as he does, by fighting in other countries, hunting in Africa, and boxing in or outside of the box.

Debata and Phil (2013) described Hemingway's heroes they go beyond the typical role of a hero and establish new ground in terms of meaning. Many of the characters in Hemingway's books and stories are referred to as "heroes" because they still uphold some of the conventional attributes of noble people and idealized figures, alongside fortitude, courage, faith, endurance, and dignity.

Fadhil (2019) insisted that Hemingway seeks everlasting rules that empower individuals. He has his suspicions about the traditional, impersonal notions of courage or bravery as a means of advancing society. Notwithstanding, a person may be brave in some circumstances but not in other senses. A person could be powerful in battle but not powerful enough to seduce a woman. Hemingway looks for concepts that endure and are relevant in all circumstances and eras. He asserts that a person's natural capacity for self-improvement is his own value.

Samad (2022) compared the code hero of Hemingway in two works *The Killers* and *The Old Man and the Sea* and found that there is almost a thirty-year difference between these two Hemingway compositions, which represents a significant improvement in the author's view on life and a change in perspective. It demonstrates how, over these thirty years of his life, Hemingway overcame obstacles and death, broke through the pessimistic walls, and successfully journeyed to the road of optimism.

Generally, it seems that Hemingway's heroes always prove that although nature and life are likely to destroy them, they will not be defeated without any resistance. Furthermore, to them, there is no concept of "surrender"; instead, they are willing to sacrifice, embrace death, and fight till their last breath. They seem to assert that even without any blessing of life, one must raise his heads, adapt, struggle, and overcome adversity.

3. Results

3.1 Aspects that reflected Hemingway's Heroism

3.1.1 Age

In each story, it seems that the heroes are no longer young, they have already witnessed and experienced most of the ups and downs of life. In *In Another Country*, the age of the Major is not revealed, but his military title is a signal to confirm that he is an aging man. Of course, to get the title "Major" he had live a very long time with death and offered several special devotions to the military. The old man in *Old Man at the Bridge* said that he was in the year of seventy-six. As the same as the Major in *In Another Country*, Santiago's age is a secret. By the description of his appearance, his age is not a small number. His body displays uncountable scars and injuries along with the passage of time, which represent the long period of extreme days he had to deal with to lead his life. These persons are in the winter of their lives, when other people rest at home, savoring the strings of carefree days with their family, and no longer partaking in the chaotic world outside. In fact, they still struggle outside with nature and society to survive. The senility appears in the images of the heroes to define that they are insignificant to the community; they are in a passive circumstance; and this is a weakness that may deter them from battling against the adversities.

3.1.2 Life Tragedies

The heroic characters in each story have their own battle to fight, and suffer a life full of ups and downs. The Major is the most miserable character in the story of *In Another Country* because he has to suffer a lot of loss and misery. First, after serving in the war, the hand of the Major has suffered serious damage, and his hand had been withered and become as little as a baby's. Although time can ease his pain, it can never heal his spiritual, physical, and mental wounds. In fact, a handicapped hand is a great loss, and especially for the Major, it is also a misfortune. He used to be the greatest Italian fencer, so it is a wonderful achievement, a magnificent milestone, and even an everlasting pride for him to be proud of. Unfortunately, his wound scattered all his life's accomplishments. No one can believe a disabled person with an injured hand can be a fencer, he even encounters difficulties in his daily routine. He cannot, under any circumstances, practice fencing, nor serve in the military. Second, he has to procrastinate his marriage to serve in the war and wait until he is totally invalid from the war. When a person attends to a war party, the day of comeback is an impossible wish in every soldier's mind. Millions of warriors are sent to the battlefield, but the number of those who come back can be counted on one hand. For the Major, his marriage procrastination is a fruitless hope. Perhaps, even when the war destroyed his perfect inherent body and robbed him of a long period of life, he still has a reason to move forward in life. He hopes to have a small home with his wife, and savor the rest of his life with love and happiness. Ironically, His misery does not end in the war, it continues to torture and ruin his last little yearning. The most painful tragedy that occurred was the death of his young wife. His wife's death happens as swiftly as the wind, and no one can believe this mournful reality, especially the Major.

There is an ironic image implied in this situation. Absolutely, the Major's wife is still young, she is much younger than he is, and she is waiting for his returning war. As a result of his age and the severity of the war, the Major is more likely to be killed in battle and leave his wife alone. However, things are never what they seem, the person at risk is still alive to turn back, and death comes to the one living out on the battlefield.

Also, the old man in *Old Man at the Bridge* suffers many rough moments in his life. First, he has to run and escape the severe attack of the Fascist force. The second tragedy in his life is loneliness. He lives alone with his animals, but he has to leave his hometown in San Carlos and his animals, which he takes care of. Exactly, this place is meaningful and nostalgic for him, he shows that he only worries about his animal, and he only mentions it throughout his conversation with the narrator. When his place was occupied by the war, he lost everything, he had nowhere to go, and he had no reason to go to Barcelona. Therefore, the thought that his animal is safe also is the last blessing for him, and he will not go further, he is ready to embrace death.

Similarly, Santiago in *The Old Man and the Sea* still has a lot of tragedies in his life. First, he does not catch any fish after eighty-four days of floating on the ocean's surface, and which becomes the reason he receives insults from other fishermen. Furthermore, Santiago is the pride of other senior fishermen compared to the younger ones. Perhaps, other old fishermen no longer stay with this job, and Santiago's grit in his fishing career makes him a role model to admire. However, his failure seems to have taken them into despair, maybe these wasting days will end his fishing time and bring him retirement. As a result, his loyal buddy, Manolin, is forced to leave him for another lucky boat because of his poor fortune. Manolin's parents stated that the old man was in the worst of his misfortune. The second tragedy of Santiago is his couple of days of struggling with the giant marlin. At the first moment when the marlin takes the bait, he feels powerful and excited about it. However, the giant marlin also demonstrates that he is not a normal fish to be conquered, the marlin continuously displays his enormous physical power as a challenge for the old fisherman. It is clear to see that the battle between Santiago and the giant marlin is an imbalanced battle. The fish is surrounded by the endless ocean where he belongs, he can swim, can lurch, can dive, and even can escape from the control of humans. On the other hand, Santiago only has himself to fight with the underwater monster in extreme conditions: lack of food, lack of water, cramp, and too much pain, but he can conquer the marlin. However, after defeating the marlin, which is his great expectation in his life, Santiago once again falls into another potential risk. The marlin's blood spread out in the ocean stream that attracts deadly oceanic predators, sharks. The fierce attack of numerous predators aims at the little boat and the catch of Santiago. The brutal and cruel rows of teeth repeatedly crunch the marlin's body and surround the small skiff. If Santiago had made a mistake in defending this deadly situation, he could have become prey for the predators. Therefore, it brings Santiago to his last tragedy in the story, where he loses everything. He has to witness his marvelous fish, which he had worked persistently over three days to catch, being robbed.

Throughout life's tragedies, Hemingway demonstrated to readers that his heroes have to suffer much more misery than normal people. Life tries to confine people in the

corner of fate, and they only had to choose: either surrender now or fight to escape. These rough moments in the three short stories above show that life is not fair, the narrator in *In Another Country* has a bright future ahead, he can marry and live happily ever after while the Major has to suffer much loss and misery; other people in *Old Man at the Bridge* are willing to move while the old man hesitates and stays till at the bridge; and the aging fisherman, Santiago, does not have any catch while the ocean is immense. Apparently, this is the purpose of the author, he challenges and places his character under pressure, and pressure will make perfect like brilliant diamonds. Perhaps, there are a few people who, when placed in the same situation as the three characters, can suffer, overcome, and defeat their fate. May a person be strong enough to overcome such a great loss as the Major? May a person be courageous enough to stay in the place where war will come? May a person be willing to sacrifice for a mere fish? However, the three persons are invincible, no matter how hard life strikes them down, they still stand up and prove their meta-mental, powerful will, and persistent heart. Even if they fail, they still stand proudly in the light, and prove that "I can be totally destroyed but not defeated so easily." Thus, if a person is in a condition no one can bear, they deserve to have what no one can get, so the three characters are deserving of the title "hero."

3.1.3 Isolation

In all three stories, although each character has at least one person to talk to, they are still lonely individuals in the crowd. They are isolated from society when they are victims of tragedies, have no help, no shares, and no support, and still spin around and around in their own misery. In the storyline, it is easy to recognize that in the storyline there were two distinct groups of people with whom the narrator interacted, a group of young soldiers, and the Major. The Major in *In Another Country* has to witness his wife's death and suffer through this mournful moment of death alone. In the story, the Major did not share his misery with anyone, and the death of his wife was only revealed by the doctor. Similarly, In *Old Man at the Bridge*, the old man has no children, no family, and no acquaintances, he only lives alone with his animals and is still alone to leave San Carlos.

Santiago, who is lonely, fights with the giant marlin in the surrounding of the endless ocean and extreme conditions. Absolutely, even when these persons fall down, they are still strangers to others around them, they may embrace death secretly and silently; whether or not anyone would find Santiago if he unluckily failed in his battle on the limitless sea? Whether or not the narrator would come back and find the old man after the Fascist attack? Whether or not Nick would keep in touch with the Major when he returned to the United States? The answer is absolute "no", nobody will care about their lives; they and others are just not close enough to share their personal stories. Everyone needs at least a shoulder to lean on, a friend to share, complain to, and listen to their joys, and troubles. Humans cannot fear anything in the world, but the strings of the last days of life are terrible for everyone, especially lonely people. Perhaps, Hemingway is a remarkable example for those who are afraid of loneliness. Right from his life, he committed suicide nineteen days before his sixty-second birthday, whether he is obsessed with his own characters. The old man, Santiago, may have realized the horrible truth of

loneliness in the winter of life. However, despite being alone, they never give up, nor surrender. They still struggle for survival, clearly, the Major continues to visit the hospital to heal his hand, the old man still stays at the bridge to protect his animal, and Santiago patiently pursues the marlin and bravely battles against the fatal sharks.

3.1.4 Persistence

Persistence is the most important quality of the three heroes, with this characteristic, Hemingway's heroes can overcome adversities and pursue their purposes. In *In Another Country*, persistence existed in the Major's mind, he tried to persuade the narrator not to get married because the consequence of marriage is visible loss. In *Old Man at the Bridge*, persistence is reflected when the old man wants to stay there, at the bridge, he refuses to move anymore to stay there and shelter for his cherishing value no matter how much the narrator warns. In *The Old Man and the Sea*, the first image reflects persistence when a person continues to follow his work after eighty-four days of empty gain. He believes that the best results of his luck are yet to come. Additionally, Santiago proved his persistence when he endeavored to conquer the giant marlin and bravely fought against the predator, which is eager to take away his prideful achievement. The shark attack can be predicted that Santiago's failure is unavoidable, because sharks are one of the most powerful animals that control the food chains under the ocean with little pieces that has enough power to battle against it. Also, the number of sharks is not a countable number, especially when the marlin's bleeding body stimulates all the sharks' senses. However, Santiago still courageously resisted protecting his catch even when he lost his weapon.

All in all, these old men are naughty and alienated; they behave differently from others around them. However, with the conception "we were made to survive," these heroes always struggle and never give up. They keep persistence as a valuable trait of a human, they prove to the world that their aim is ahead and it must be conquered irrespectively, no one and nothing can make him withstand any obstacle, no matter how hard, how dangerous, and even how deadly the situation calls. Only by himself, he can create a wonder for which everyone must admire him.

3.1.5 Stoicism

Irvine (2009) stated that the Stoics understood that a life dominated by unfavorable emotions, such as rage, worry, fear, grief, and envy, will not be a pleasant existence. As a result, they developed into keen observers of the way the human mind functions and evolved into some of the most perceptive psychologists of the ancient world. They went on to create methods for avoiding the emergence of negative feelings as well as for putting them out when preventative efforts failed. Additionally, Sharpe (2013) supposed that stoicism adapts to the complexity and unpredictability of real-world events quite well. According to Stoicism, the entire foundation of a virtue-based attitude toward the outside world is the degree to which practical outcomes are beyond our presumptive control. It is clear to recognize that each hero of Hemingway conceals a characteristic of a stoic. Thus, from this factor, Hemingway makes his characters attract more extensive attention, and readers attain memorable emotions and impressions as well as the value

which Hemingway wants to transfer. In *In Another Country*, stoicism was depicted at the moment when the Major was crying. He cried, but his face expressed the cherishing value and dignity of a soldier. In *Old Man at the Bridge*, stoicism is reflected when after many times the narrator warning the old man how dangerous that place would be, and tells him to move. However, he stays there with his responsibility to assure of the safety of his animals and expresses no signal of fearing death ahead, it is only his worry about his animal. He seems to be ready to embrace death. In *The Old Man and the Sea*, Santiago shows his stoical characteristics in the moment when he ends his three days of struggling with the marlin, he overcomes all pain and wounds to stab and defeat the giant fish with one hit.

It is obvious that the presence of stoicism in Hemingway's stories profoundly strengthens the heroes. The heroes are not and will never be confused with any other authors. Moreover, Stoicism plays a central role in reflecting Heroism, it supports Hemingway's Heroism by partly keeping traditional features and partly developing them in a creative, and distinguished way. Despite receiving nothing, stoicism reflect that the heroes are content with reality; despite facing hardship, stoicism makes the heroes always optimistic and graceful. Due to their self-control and dignity, stoic heroes are admired and respected by other people, and they become role models to follow. And finally, stoicism is the tool of the heroes to achieve perfect happiness.

3.2 Comparison of the Heroes

A splendid look at the descriptions of the three heroes in the three stories in Hemingway's literary works significantly brings us the general message of "Grace Under Pressure", which is the central theme surrounding Hemingway's stories. Still there, an old man struggles fiercely with his adverse life, but he cannot fall, he resists his plights spiritually, physically, and psychologically. However, the images of the heroes evolve more and more positively day by day. It can be recognized through the three old men in *In Another Country*, *Old Man at the Bridge*, and *The Old Man and the Sea*.

For the Major, his life is filled with sorrowful and pitiful moments, but he does not try to escape reality. He chooses to face it gracefully with the dignity of a candid soldier; yet, he always sticks to his discipline, values, and dignity as a soldier with no complaint, nor blame. However, when adversity reaches the peak of endurance of a person, the momentary weaknesses, and loss of control cannot be avoided, even for the hero, but it is acceptable and sympathized with because the Major is also a person with diverse emotions and feelings, he has the right to express. Noticeably, the Major quickly regains his value and dignity of a respectable soldier, this is an everlasting detail that Hemingway seeks and interprets to readers: endure and set a core for himself. Perhaps, the Major is a hero with endurance and dignity, but somewhere in him, he is under the control of natural emotions and feelings and reveals weaknesses, when the tragedies cross over his limit. The Major has his own means to overcome despair, which are to endure in pain to struggle hopelessly. He looks at the void outside the window no matter how tiny the glimmer of hope was, it was worth battling courageously and fiercely since hope and

despair would always coexist. So the Major chooses to renew one's spiritual commitment and make a continual effort. (Yu & Xiao-yun, 2018).

Differently, the old man in *Old Man at the Bridge* is calmer than the Major in controlling his feelings and actions, his inner struggle is firmly shown in his conversation with the narrator, and finally, he chooses to stay and receive whatever will be. However, the old man in *Old Man at the Bridge* still has a pessimistic attitude toward life. Perhaps, he can leave with the crowd, move to Barcelona to continue the rest of his life, and start over again with a new animals but he does not choose this way. In fact, the old man is a responsible person, he cherishes his animals more seriously than his own life. Perhaps, if left them, his life would be meaningless. However, the brutal artillery of the Fascist Force brought into the land of San Carlos, cannot threaten him. He proves to the world that death is nothing to be afraid of, but losing everything that he loves is much more awful than death. In the study on the symbol of bridges in literature, Ibrashy (2016) said that because of his inability to envision what will happen to them when the Fascists arrive and war breaks out, the old man's animals withhold themselves from him. He is stuck in a typical limbo situation, unable to move either forward or backwards. Future goals and successes are constrained by the memories of the past. This could be the reason why Hemingway's elderly character is chained to the past with his pets. Hemingway's old man stays at the base of the bridge and is encouraged to join the crowd in boarding the bus that crosses the bridge to safety. However, his animals behind are the crowd to which he apparently belongs. Because he is responsible for taking care of his eight pigeons, the goats, and the cat, he does not want to leave them. He understands, consciously or not, how crucial their safety is to his mental and physical wellness at this moment. Staying with them or staying away from them symbolizes the classic city paradoxical contradiction that the city is the place of unpleasant frustrations and disappointed aspirations

More transcendently, Santiago shows that he never adapts to what life gives him; he never adapts to the string of eighty-four days of failure; he never adapts to allowing the giant marlin to defeat him; and he never adapts to letting his achievement be taken away. He forces himself against all opponents no matter how certain he holds failure. Santiago is a person with endurance and perseverance. On the path to conquering his yearning, there are a lot of obstacles that deter him, and even when he reaches the goals, the oceanic predators continue to rob his achievement. However, he also proves his dignity, persistence, competence, and desire physically and mentally. He fights patiently and skillfully with the marlin, and drastically with the sharks. He continuously motivates himself with his religion and the image of his baseball idol. It seems to be that his innate ability is to stand and fight resiliently under plights. Zheng (2019) found that Santiago in *The Old Man and the Sea*, Hemingway's personal viewpoint on life is vividly reflected in Santiago, who plays the role of a hero. In other words, a person should experience the failure that comes with daily life and still maintain dignity and grace. Santiago has the perseverance, self-assurance, and will to conquer challenges in his life. Even though he is aware that he will not succeed in the battles, he still endeavors to fight them alone to uphold his honor and prove his courage, bravery, and ability.

4. Discussion

For the first question, "How is Heroism reflected in Ernest Hemingway's short stories?" It is undeniable that Hemingway's Heroism has some traditional features, but also some new ones. There are five aspects that Hemingway applied to reflect Heroism including age, life tragedies, isolation, persistence, and stoicism. First, the three heroic characters are old men, so their age was used to break the traditional stereotype about heroes of youth. Second, life tragedies are considered challenges that test the capability and endurance of the hero to determine whether he can overcome them or not. Third, isolation showed that the heroes either had to win their fate and gain the admiration of people around them or fail and lie down in the dark corner of life without anyone aside. Fourth, persistence demonstrates the ability to suffer and struggle, whatever life does to them; they do not surrender, and they will fight until they are totally destroyed. Finally, stoicism exhibits the way they manifest dignity and grace in their faces; they keep their beauty and optimism even though the future ahead is covered in darkness, and prove that they can master the art of happiness.

For the second research question, "How did heroic characteristics change over time?" It can be seen that the theme of "Grace Under Pressure" still plays a significant role in depicting a hero. However, when readers look directly at the core hero character, it is no challenge to recognize that in the later years of Hemingway's writing career, the hero character evolved completely. The factors of pessimism and weakness vanished little by little. Tear and anger, symbols of weakness and out of self-control performed in the Major in *In Another Country*, no longer exists in *Old Man at the Bridge*. The image of an old man pessimistically adapting his fate in *Old Man at the Bridge* has become much stronger in *The Old Man and the Sea*. The character Santiago is spiritually, physically, and mentally evolved compared to the others through Hemingway's depiction of two harsh battles with the giant marlin and the sharks.

5. Conclusion

In conclusion, as a well-known American writer over times, Ernest Hemingway, portrayed in his stories unique images of invincible heroes. Notably, Hemingway's heroes are neither about physical health, appearance, nor fame; instead, they are honest men in their life full of adversities. However, inside each character is an unconquerable soul, they always stand over again after any plights and remain the respectful personalities of a human. Above all, they were characterized as stoics-heroes with courage and endurance who could keep "grace under pressure." Through the three stories, which were written at three significant milestones in the author's career, the reader can recognize that Hemingway's heroes are still there with their old age, loneliness, and misery, but they are persistent and stoic. Besides, the changes in the author's viewpoint toward life also promote the value and inner power of the heroes, and the honest men who can manifest dignity in the face of certain defeat can set up a code for themselves.

Conflict of Interest Statement

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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