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The Symbol of Illuminati in Murder Case as Seen in Dan Brown Angels and Demons

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Abstract

This research discusses a literary work by Dan Brown, namely a novel entitled Angels and Demons which was first published in 2000. Dan Brown is an American writer who was popular in the 2000s. Angels and Demons is a novel that tells readers about the struggle of a professor in solving an Illuminati symbol puzzle in a murder case that occurred at the Conseil European pour la Recherche Nucleaire and the Vatican. This novel tells the story of a symbology professor, Robert Langdon, who tries to solve the mystery of the Illuminati symbol in a murder case committed by the Illuminati (an ancient underground fraternity group) who tried to destroy the Vatican. Where he got help from Vettra (adopted son of the murdered professor at CERN, Conseil European pour la Recherche Nucleaire) who is also a researcher from the Conseil European pour la Recherche Nucleaire. In analyzing the problems found, the author uses objective theory as a tool to solve problems. Through the use of this theory, the novel Angels and Demons becomes an object for analysis. To support objective theory, structural theory is used in this research. This theory is used to analyze the structures contained in the novel. This research will focus on analyzing the story in the novel. The approach used is a semiotic approach as a way to analyze the signs or symbols in the novel, and to connect the story and symbols in the novel with existing science and reality. After analyzing the novel, three main factors were found in the mystery of the Illuminati symbol. The first factor is the mystery of the emergence of the Illuminati in the case of the murder of a scientist with an Illuminati symbol stamped on his body. The second factor is the mystery of the Illuminati symbols that appeared in the murder case, and the last is about the motive for the theft and murder case that occurred among the Pope candidates who will take part in the Pope's selection at the Vatican.

Keywords: Illuminati, Vatican, Dan Brown Angels and Demons

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I INTRODUCTION

literature is a work that is presented in words reflecting daily life. It comes from someone's experiences and sometimes from someone's thought. It can reflect history, culture, society, etc. According to Guerin (1992:8):

...literature is primarily art... It is a creation by someone at some time in history, and it is intended to speak to other human beings about some idea or issue that has human relevance. Any work of art for that matter will always be more meaningful to acknowledge people than to uninformed ones.

The quotation means that human creates art to tell mostly about human life. It gives knowledge to readers and encourages someone's life. By seeing, reading, or listening its, one can be both acknowledged and informed. Literary works may have different types such as narrative (a prose works, such as novels or short stories), poetry (composition in verse that expresses the feelings of the author), drama, epic (the verses that tell the action hero or god) or teaching (which seeks to direct the reader or listener).

As a great overview of the analysis, particularly about the reasons for choosing the analysis itself, in this case the analysis is a novel of Dan Brown Angels and Demons. Therefore, the authors began this paper with the understanding of literature, facts, issues, and solutions:

1. The "fact" in this research refers to the function of literary work as the entertainment and teacher. As the entertainment, the readers are entertained by the interesting story. And as the teacher, the readers can take the lesson from the story.
2. The "Issues" or problems related to the difficulty the reader to predict the storyline and also because of the limited perspective

of human struggle to dismantle a murder case, which is the cardinal substitute Pope.

3. The "solution" to this problem, Robert Langdon, Another solution is to look at the ancient texts performance stored in the Vatican's library.

Then, in order to give a systematic explanation about the reasons to choose this analysis, the writer divides the reasons from the most general to the most one specific, they are reason for choosing the literature, novel Dan Brown about Robert Langdon, and the title of Angels and Demons. In this thesis the writer would like to analyze symbols in Angels and Demons Novel by Dan Brown. There are many symbols found in the novel that makes them being mysterious, interesting and unique to be analyzed about symbolism.

Symbol is one of ways in understanding of a literature because symbol is an object which stands for something else, the way to communicate with others and explain more about something.

The novel introduces the character Robert Langdon as Symbologist, who is also the protagonist of Brown's subsequent 2003 novel, The Da Vinci Code, and 2009 novel, The Lost Symbol.

He tries to stop the Illuminati, a legendary secret society, from destroying Vatican City with his partner, a scientist Vittoria Vetra. It also shares many stylistic literary elements with its sequel, such as conspiracies of secret societies, a single-day time frame, and the Catholic Church. Ancient history, architecture, and symbolism are also heavily referenced throughout the book. Angels and Demons is basically a story about the historical.

II RESEARCH METHODS

In analyzing Angels and Demons, writer needs a systematic way in writing this thesis, which initially began with data collection procedures and then proceed with the data analysis procedure.

A. Method and Technique Collecting the Data

In collecting the data, the writer uses library research. This research is oriented in the library in order to find the related data, however

it is not restricted in finding other written material from internet or even from the motion picture. According to Pradopo (2001:23), library research refers to the observation that is executed in the library, which the writer gains the data and information about his object through the books and other audiovisual equipment that related and relevant to the topic such as the movie The Angels and Demons.

B. Method of Analyzing the Data

In analyzing this novel, the writer used qualitative method to analyze the data in the forms of phrases, sentences, and paragraphs. Bogdan and Biklen (1982:28) say: Qualitative research is descriptive. The data collected is in the forms of words or picture rather than numbers. The written results of the research contain quotations from the data to illustrate and substantiate the presentation. In others word, the writer focused on the collecting the data which forms in the words or pictures. The data could not be in form of numbers. In reporting the data, the writer used descriptive method. Leedy (1974:79), explains the descriptive method as

follow: descriptive method is the method that simply looks with the intensive accurately at the phenomena at the moment and then describes precisely what researcher sees.

In short, the data was presented based on the accurate information that could be found in the novel He also applies library research by collecting and reading the books that are related to the topic, symbol of illuminati in murder case from the novel itself as the main source.

The writer analyzes the symbol of illuminati in murder case by using that descriptive method. He starts from collecting all information about the symbol and murder case itself and attitude Robert Langdon.

III RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The main analysis to the research questions that have been formulated into three questions. These questions closely related to the Mystery Symbol of Illuminati in Murder Case. The analysis is divided into three sub- chapters, the first sub-chapter is Langdon' effort to collect the evidence.

The second sub-chapter is about Hipogram (an expert in the History of the symbols) an expert who tries to solve clues the case in the form of symbols left by criminals, as well as secret codes related criminals and involvement of underground groups "Illuminati" in the case of the destruction of Vatican.

To find the Motive and Perpetrators murder cases, that occurred when the election the new Pope in Vatican.

A. To solve the mystery illuminati symbols to collect evidences and reveal of the murder case.

This sub-chapter discusses about the evidences the symbol of illuminati found by Langdon, when he saw faxes with pictures of victims who were brutally murdered by a Ambigram attached to his body.

The following excerpt is about Robert Langdon who received an offer from a man who asked for help in a call to investigate the mystery of a murder case involving the illuminati based image he saw in the faxes it receives. It can be seen from the sentences:

"His heart pounded as he circled the body, reading the word upside down, reaffirming

the genius of the symmetry. The symbol seemed even less conceivable now that he was staring at."...(17)

Robert Langdon has arrived at the destination where the mysterious murder case and he tried to look more carefully symbols previously only he can see from the pictures it receives. The following quote is about how they can find out the location of the killer and antimatter is based on instructions left by the offender. Langdon and Vittoria were surprised, to hear Kohler say Rome. It can be seen from the sentences:

"The killer left somewhat of a calling card.(54) Kohler took two long pulls, pushed the mask aside, and still gasping for air, looked up at Vittoria Langdon. "Rome." "Rome" Vittoria demanded." The antimatter is in Rome?(57)

Maximilian Kohler tells about the clues left actors, form a kind of paper cards, which when he got a call from a mysterious person who tells where the antimatter is, and where they have to go looking for it. The following quote is about Langdon who have arrived at the destination location, where the antimatter following the quote is about Langdon who wish to request permission to enter the room directly Vatican archives, to look for clues about the Illuminati of data.

Langdon asked permission to get access to the Vatican Archives. It can be seen from the sentences:

"I need access immediately. The four missing cardinals. I may be able to figure out where they're going to be killed."...(91) "You going to tell me what we are looking for?. "A little book written by a guy named Galileo."...(93)

Langdon would help the church in finding the missing four kidnapped cardinals and find a clue from a small book written by Galileo. The following excerpt is about Vittoria who discovered a major clue who continues their search, to solve the puzzles illuminati symbols and to find evidence and express it.

Vittoria find a clue. It can be seen from the existing word in the sentence:

"It was Vittoria who finally struck gold near the back of the Vault. Her throaty voice called out," Diagramma della Verita!"Langdon dashed through the crimson haze to join her. DIAGRAMMA DELLA VERITA Galileo Galilei, 1639"...(107)

Vittoria who first discovered the manuscript and tells Langdon, where it is the first clues to solve the mystery of the Illuminati symbol in the killing and abduction of the cardinals in the church, which will participate to follow the election of the new Pope.

B. To identify symbols of illuminati to find Abduction this murder case.

This sub-section discusses how Robert Langdon identify the user of the Illuminati symbols and relics to find the abducted. The first excerpt of the script that they found in the archives vatican, this excerpt describes the instructions that will be the location of the first victim killed.

By observing the folio, Vittoria trying to identify by reading the instructions contained in the folio, and he also tried to resuscitate Langdon would hint that she get to read that sentence twice. it can be seen from the identification Vittoria in this sentence:

Squinting at the folio, Vittoria read the line, The path of light is laid, the sacred test." Vittoria repeated the line."The path of light is laid, the sacred test"."Path of light?" Langdon felt his posture straightening."That;s what it says. Path of Light."...(111)

Vittoria ignored him. Folio in hand, she floated beside him, holding the document up to the evening light, examining the margins. From Santi's earhly tomb with demon's hole, Cross

rome the mystic elements unfold. The path of light is laid, the sacred test, Let angels guide you on your lofty quest. Vittoria read it twice and then fell silent, as if letting the ancient words resonate on their own."...(114)

These verses make them realize that path of Illumination begins at Santi's earthly tomb. It also made the 4 elements (earth, air, water, fire) of Science clear. Langdon and Vittoria concludes Raphael's tomb in Pantheon as Santi's earthly tomb and give Olivetti a caution to be there, in order to have a chance to get the assassin or to save the cardinals. The second quotation about describes Robert Langdon and Vittoria who has managed to break the prompts and they have arrived at the location which meant it. With careful they watched the place it can be seen from their identification in this sentence:

"demon's hole," Langdon gasped. He had been so taken with the ceiling he had not even seen it. Tentatively he moved toward the pit. The stench coming up was overwhelming. Vittoria put a hand over her mouth. "Che puzzo." "Effluvium," Langdon said. "Vapors from decaying bone."...(138)

Robert Langdon find the exact location where the murder was going to happen even though when they reach there, they find Cardinal Ebner assassinated, branded on chest with the ambigram "Earth" and died due to his throat and mouth stuffed with soil. The third quotation about Langdon focuses on the chapel to sort out a clue that lead to the next altar of Science, related to air.

Langdon identification can be seen in this sentence

"Langdon followed the line of her hand to the far wall. At first he saw nothing. Then someone moved and he caught a glimpse. White marble. An rm. a torso. And then a sculpted face. Two life-size human figures intertwined. Langdon recognized the work was pure Bernini-the intensity of the artistic composition, the intricate faces and flowing clothing, all from the purest white marble Vatican money could buy"...(147)

Robert Langdon found the next clue to find the location of the next murder andwhen Langdon finds a sculpture of an angel pointing to a particular direction. He della Vittoria church, that has arrived breifly to fight the fire and to find the corpse of branded Cardinal, eventually

rescues Langdon and give him some medical treatment. The sixth quotation about Langdon found the answer had been already in front of his eyes with a different understanding.

The identification can be seen from the sentence

"Connecting opposite vertices with his pen, Langdon's fingers were trembling. There before him on the wall was a giant cruciform. It's a cross! The four elements of science unfolded before his eyes...sprawled across Rome in an enormous, city-wide cross. As he started in wonder, a line of poetry rang in his mind... Like an old friend with new face. 'Cross Rome the mystic elements unfold... 'Cross Rome" Dead center of Piazza Navona, outside the church of St. Agnes in Agony, Bernini had forged one of his most celebrated sculptures. Everyone who came to Rome went to see it. The Fountain of the Four Rivers! Water, Langdon thought. The final marker...(206)

Langdon getting the fact that all the four altars are spread over the Rome in form of a cross; and according to this Piazza Navona is the fourth altar of Science. Langdon reaches Piazza Navona before its 11 p.m. At 10:46 p.m., he sees a black van emerging from the dark ally besides. The van stops in the compound of Bernini's fountain (fourth marker is shown by the Fountain of the four rivers) and assassin drags out Cardinal Baggia branded with the ambigram "water" and loaded with heavy chains.

The assassin pushes the Cardinal into the foggy fountain pond. At the same instant, Langdon and the assassin come across. Afterwards they fight underwater for life. Though Langdon is a very good swimmer and one of the best water-polo player at Harvard, at moments he seems to be over-powered by expertise of the professional killer. Assassin plays the final trick and Langdon deceits him by acting as if he's dead and his body in the condition of "rigor mortis". Assassin considering him dead flees away. Langdon, after the killer has gone, tries to save the brutally wounded, completely- drowned, half-dead Cardinal, but he does not succeed in his attempt.

C. To reveal the meaning of the illuminati symbols to find the motive and perpetrators of this murder case.

This sub-chapter discusses about how Robert Langdon interpret all the symbols that he

had discovered to find a murder case motive and the perpetrators in Vatican Church, and resolve cases of murder and mystery puzzles illuminati symbol. The first quotation about how Robert Langdon concluded that all the clues and symbols that he found earlier is the key to indicate where the headquarters was located illuminati. It can be seen from the sentence:

"He knew somewhere on this gnarled mass of figures was a clue that pointed to the lair. As Langdon scanned the fountain, though, his hope withered quickly. The words of the segno seemed to gurgle mockingly all around him. Let angels guide you on your lofty quest..."(216)

Langdon looks for any clue in Bernini's fountain that may guide him to the Illuminati liar, where he thinks Vittoria is kept in hostage. Finding a dove on the top of the fountain, he recalls a quote of St. Gregory of Nyssa "as the soul becomes enlightened, it takes the beautiful shape of the dove". Dove's direction points to Castel St. Angelo, that certainly is the Church of Illuminaion; where all the Scientists used to conference, centuries ago, right under the nose of the Vatican. The second quotation about when Langdon getting an important piece of evidence that he did not expect. It can be seen from the sentence:

"The director, with tremulous effort, lifted his arm and pulled a small device off the arm of his wheelchair. It was the size of a matchbox. Shocked, Langdon stared at the device, it was electronic. The words SONY RUVI were printed across the front."...(238)

Robert getting a small tape cassette received from Kohler before he died. The third quotation about describes the moment in which Langdon showed evidence of record that he got from Kohler to Vittoria and the Cardinals who are participating in the election of the Pope. To attribute actual events and motives of all the events they want to know.

Langdon play video evidence that he got from Kohler. It can be seen from the sentence:

"Now it was only Langdon, Vittoria, and the Cardinals. Langdon plugged the Sony RUVI's output into the television. Then he pressed PLAY'... (264). Robert Langdon was on the altar beside a television that was on endless loop, playing scene the camerlegno recognized but could not imagine how it had come to be."...(270)

From the above quotation, Langdon play video footage in the presence of the cardinals who participated in the conclave in a special room, to show that the mastermind behind the kidnapping and murder mystery in Vatican is Carmelegno Carlo Vetrensa.

Carmelegno Carlo Vetrensa is the mastermind behind all the events in the Vatican and also the mastermind behind the murder cases which occurred at CERN (a nuclear research laboratory in Switzerland) which makes a best Scientist there killed.

IV CONCLUSION

After analyzing the Mystery Symbol of Illuminati from Angels and Demon, the writer concludes the analysis into three findings:

a. First to describe the way Robert Langdon solving the mystery illuminati symbol to collect evidences and reveal of the murder case. About the evidences found by Robert Langdon, there are three evidences, which are, (ambigram), illuminati symbol imprint on the victim's body, a calling card, a book Diagramma Della Verita, written by Galileo Galilei, 1639.

b. Second to describe the way Robert Langdon identifying symbols of illuminati to finding abduction this murder case. The first identification can be seen when vittoria find clues first, second identification can be seen as Langdon and Vittoria realized that the answer to the first clue is the answer from clues later.

b. Third to describe the way Robert Langdon revealing meaning of the illuminati

symbol to finding the motive and perpetrators of this murder case. Langdon and Vittoria struggle in expressing a puzzle, when Langdon recalled a quote that he believed to be a major clue, to find the main actors. When Langdon play video tapes he received from Kohler and show to the cardinal.

Suggestions

After analyzing the mystery of the Illuminati symbol from angels and demons, the writer suggests that the other student analyze this novel from other approach, such as the point of formalism (language investigation and strategy), moral (crime and punishment), psychology (evil character and his relationship murder), sociology (village communities), feminist (tough woman), and the basic pattern (Dan Brown comparison between the novel and the movie).

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