

IDEAS OF HAPPINESS AND THREE WOMEN IN NANCY THAYER'S *THREE WOMEN AT THE WATERS' EDGE*

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Abstrak. Artikel ini membahas hasil penelitian tentang arti kebahagiaan bagi tiga karakter, Margaret Wallace, Daisy Wallace, dan Dale Wallace dalam novel Nancy Thayer yang berjudul *Three Women at the Waters' Edge*. Kerangka teoretis tentang konsep kebahagiaan diambil dari pandangan Platonik tentang arti kebahagiaan yang dikembangkan oleh Barrow (1975), Eysenck (1994) dan Seligman. Arti kebahagiaan ini berkaitan dengan apa yang membuat setiap karakter di atas bahagia dalam hidup mereka dan alasan mereka menjadi bahagia dalam situasi tertentu. Fokus penelitian ini adalah ide-ide kebahagiaan yang berbeda di antara tiga karakter tersebut. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan perbedaan arti kebahagiaan dari ketiga tokoh dalam novel. Yang pertama adalah Margaret Wallace yang merasa bahagia setelah dia bercerai dengan suaminya, Harry Wallace. Setelah lepas dari suaminya, ia merasa bebas dan senang dalam menjalani hidupnya dengan prinsip-prinsip hidupnya sendiri. Yang kedua adalah Daisy Wallace yang begitu bahagia ketika ia bisa berkumpul dengan anak-anaknya di rumah yang besar dan indah dan bisa bercanda dan berbincang-bincang dengan teman-temannya. Dia juga merasa hidupnya berarti dan mudah setelah ia bercerai dengan suaminya. Sebaliknya Dale Wallace mendapatkan kebahagiaan setelah ia jatuh cinta dengan Hank Kennedy dan bekerja sebagai guru. Dia lebih bahagia lagi dan puas dan lega ketika ia bisa mengatasi dilema yang ia hadapi dengan cara menikah dengan Hank.

Kata kunci: happiness, emotional state

INTRODUCTION

Generally, everyone has a right to determine a choice for his or her life, especially everything which can make him or her happy. This is because happiness is a last result which is really hoped by him or her when he or she has struggled to choose or do something. Moreover, it cannot be changed with anything. However, there is a circumstance when happiness naturally comes in someone's heart and mind, without any planning. Although happiness can come naturally, it is also someone's effort to create it. Therefore, it is true that everyone in this world really has to struggle in order to create his or her happiness.

According to Hornby (1984), happiness is feeling or expression of pleasure, contentment, satisfaction, and well-suited to the situation. Happiness is an emotional state of being happy (Oxford Students' Dictionary of American English). In other words, it is a condition when someone feels his or her heart and mind are free from sadness, anger, stress, depression, or other feelings that can disturb his or her mind or heart like there is something hard and strong which ties his or her lung, and he or she cannot breathe freely. It can also happen when someone feels comfortable and joyful even though he or she is getting sad, stressed, depressed or confused because he or she is able to create good conditions and situations. Everyone can get his or her happiness if he or she tries to struggle to get it. However, there is also a condition when someone is not either sad, depressed, or stressed, but he or she cannot feel happy and have

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happiness. This is because he or she cannot create his happiness and enjoy every moment which happens in his life.

Happiness can be different for each person in this world. It depends on what kind of circumstances he or she has and what kind of person he or she is. When someone feels happy with his complicated situation because he or she can enjoy it, it cannot be a guaranty for other people that he or she can also be happy with the same situation. In this case, every person has a right to create happiness for his or her life and of course, it is different from other people. The above situation can create many kinds of ideas about the human beings' feelings, especially happiness.

This study focuses on analyzing the meanings of happiness in three female characters. The subjects are three women in the novel *Three Women at the Waters' Edge*. The theoretical framework for the study is the concept of happiness as proposed by Eysenck, (1994), Seligman and Barrow (1975). The questions of the study are: (1) what are the ideas of happiness of Margaret, Daisy, and Dale Wallace in the novel *Three Women at the Waters' Edge*) and (2) what are their reasons for creating and finding their own happiness? The study is expected to give more insights on different concepts of happiness in people and different reasons for one's pursuits of happiness.

THEORETICAL REVIEW: CONCEPT OF HAPPINESS

Everyone in this world always wishes that he or she will get happiness in his or her life. Nobody can reject happiness like he or she rejects sadness, stress, or depression, because with happiness which is created from inside of his or her heart, he or she can feel so comfortable and this means that he or she does not feel sad. By being happy, he or she can feel that he is in a good condition. Moreover, sometimes he or she sees and thinks that his or her surroundings are beautiful, good, and nice, because he or she has happiness in his or her heart. In addition, happiness can make someone think and do everything positively, well, and sincerely, without any burden.

In *Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary*, happiness is a state of well-being and contentment and a pleasurable or satisfying experience. It can be reflected by freedom, loss of conflict, and many more. Based on that definition, happiness can mean a condition where someone has freedom, is not tied to conflicts or problem, and also feels content, pleased, and satisfied. Happiness is, of course, only one out of a great variety of emotional states, ranging from grief and despair to euphoria and ecstasy. Happiness appears to be the central pleasant emotion. Happiness is similar in meaning to a whole string of positive terms, including exhilaration, contentment, bliss, joyfulness, ecstasy, euphoria, pleasure, elation, and satisfaction (Eysenck, 1994: 2). Here, happiness is called as an expression and result when someone can get or reach what he or she wants. In this case, he or she will feel joy, pleasure, and satisfaction as the symbols of happiness which he or she has. Therefore, happiness is an emotional state that everyone in this world wants to be created and have as the last result of his or her efforts.

According to Dr. Martin Seligman, one of the founders of psychology, happiness is a state of mind or feeling characterized by contentment, love, satisfaction, pleasure, or joy. Searching the happiness is a part of human's instinct. It is one of the all encompassing motivations that people have once they meet their survival needs.

Everybody in this world searches for happiness in his or her life. He also says that happiness is both positive feeling (such as ecstasy and comfort) and positive activities that have no feeling component at all (such as absorption and engagement). He defines happy life as a life filled with positive feelings and activities. He says the degree to which you experience these feelings most of the time is your level of enduring happiness (<http://www.Happylifeu.com/definition-of-happiness.html>). In other words, happiness is a positive thing that can make someone feel peaceful, content, joyful, and satisfied. It is like someone's internal expression that comes out from his or her heart or mind which gives good effects for him or her, such as positive feelings and activities. When someone feels his or her happiness, he or she thinks that he or she can do anything even though it seems so difficult to do. In this life, happiness can be owned and created by everyone who is still able to feel it. However, it can be different for every person because actually God creates human beings with different thoughts, ideas, behaviors, and attitudes, based on their characteristics. Everyone has different ideas about the concept of happiness. The difference exists because there are different circumstances and characters in one's life. Therefore, someone cannot blame someone's ideas of happiness because it is his or her right to create what kind of happiness that he or she wants to have.

Robin Barrow in his book entitled *Plato, Utilitarianism, and Education*, says that X may be happy in any circumstances; or that anyone may be happy in circumstance A; that Y is nonetheless not happy in circumstances A; that Z may be happy where X is not, and so on. It becomes apparent that concentrating on either the circumstances or the character of the individual to the exclusion of the other is a mistaken approach (1975: 52). That example is the description of his theory which states that happiness involves a relation between two variables, the person and his circumstances. The person in here includes his character traits. The circumstances necessary for happiness cannot be pinned down in the form of a specific list, because what is intolerable to the character that is X, is not necessarily intolerable to the character that is Y. But nor can a specific type of character be delineated as a necessary condition of happiness, since circumstances are not static (1975: 53).

Here, it can be said that everyone in this world has a right to find his or her happiness for his life. Through the happiness, he or she can feel an emotional state of being happy or good which has some symbols, such as pleasure, joy, peace, freedom, contentment, satisfaction, and many more. However, his or her happiness can be different from other people. It depends on his or her characters and circumstances which influence what kind of happiness he or she wants to have. Someone's ideas of happiness cannot be forced as the other people's ideas. When someone says that "it is my happiness", may be other person thinks that "that is not my happiness".

RESEARCH METHOD

The present study adopts a descriptive qualitative design in describing and finding explanation of the problems to be answered. The subject of the study is Nancy Thayer's *Three Woman at the Water's Edge*, especially the three characters of the novel, namely Margaret, Daisy, and Dale Wallace. As a qualitative study, it aims to

analyze the subjects in depth in order to investigate the subjects' concepts of happiness and their individual reasons for pursuits of happiness.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The result of the analysis shows that the three subjects have their individual concepts of happiness and reasons for pursuits of happiness. The results of the analysis of each subject are presented in the following subsections respectively.

1. Margaret Wallace's Happiness

Margaret's happiness is shown through her letter for her first daughter, Daisy Wallace. In her letter, she writes how happy she feels now after getting a divorce from her father, Harry Wallace. She feels reborn as a new person in this world who is also free because she is not tied with anyone again. What she feels now is like falling in love. She is so happy, glad, and satisfied. For Margaret, what she gets now is because her past life which is bitter has led her to find pure happiness. Bitterness has gone away from her and it is started with her changes which makes her confused and surprised for the first time because she cannot believe that she can change her physical appearance, leave Harry Wallace and her good position in a social community in Iowa to move in Vancouver, then the last is living alone and free. However, she really appreciates both her past life and her changes because they bring her into a happy new life. She finally finds what actually she wants in her life. It can be seen from this quotation:

I am happier than I have ever been in my life. This happiness is an energetic sort, completely selfish, clear, and pure. ...

There is nothing like it in the world. I feel reborn. I wish I could tell you, show you, how happy I am. I am so glad to be divorced and free; and I am so much in love with my new life in Vancouver. ...

Yes, like falling in love, those first dazed and grateful days (Thayer, 1981: 1-2).

Margaret's changes bring her in a new life that makes her really feel happy. One of them is her freedom after getting a divorce from her husband. She becomes a new person who is independent, free, and happy. She is not tied again with someone. Moreover, she can enjoy her life alone, only with herself.

I am here, an independent woman, a free woman, a woman who owes nothing to anyone, I am here in Vancouver, the most beautiful city in the world, in a small pure house that is mine and only mine. I have no plans (Thayer, 1981: 27).

... and I am, as I said before, happier than I have ever been in my life. I am happy, and I am free, and I am new (Thayer, 1981: 28).

Actually, Margaret loves Anthony. She is happy to have a relationship with him. However, as she states before, she wants only herself who owns her, not other persons. She really wants to have a relationship which is not ended with a marriage because it will tie her like in her past life. Margaret thinks that it is time to concentrate

for herself without having responsibility to take care of the others. She wants to set herself free from Anthony and other men. Therefore, she chooses to reject Anthony's proposal in order to support her ways in being a free person.

Being free for Margaret makes her so satisfied with her new life. It is not only done by keeping herself free from any relationship, especially marriage, with a man. It also means that she can do anything she wants freely. She can decide when she has to do something and when she does not have to do it. If she has to do something for her outside world or people surrounding her, she just wants to do it when she is asked, without responsibility and consequences. It is because she does not want to make herself have a duty to take care of someone or something.

Margaret had stood at her light switch, flicking it up and down, feeling quite satisfied with her life, thinking that this was just exactly the right amount of contact she wanted with the outside world. Just this: to respond when asked, but at a distance, and without consequences, without responsibility (Thayer, 1981: 197).

Besides Margaret can do anything without responsibilities and consequences that can make her happy, being alone only with herself is also something that she really wants to be. It can be seen from an activity that she has never done in her past life because she has to do everything as Mrs. Harry Wallace G. P. It is painting her nails. For her, painting nails is something which can satisfy herself, especially when she has to wait for her nails dry. At that time, she does not have to do anything and she only feels how happy and calm her life is. Painting nails is a way for her to enjoy her life.

Yes, it was a pleasure to be able to indulge oneself in something as frivolous and time-consuming as painting one's nails, it was a pleasure to go about with painted nails. ...just so she painted her fingernails, to say to herself: it's okay now, it's yourself you have to please, you can indulge yourself. It was a trivial, frivolous indulgence, yet crucial all the same (Thayer, 1981: 198-199).

Being free, independent, new, and feeling reborn are Margaret's happiness which she always wants to exist in her life. However, as a human being, she also thinks about her future that undoubtedly needs money to support the life. Therefore, she looks for a job that is appropriate with her principle and can make her happy. A position as an assistant in a bookstore in Vancouver is a job which she really wants for years. For her, books are luxurious because from books she can know anything about people's lives. Moreover, she can learn the people's ways in getting through their lives when they are in troubles and joys. She really likes her job and also happy with it. Finally, she finds what makes her life is living well and it is stated in the quotation below:

The job she took seemed so perfect that at first she could not believe her luck: it was a position as an assistant in a bookstore in West Vancouver. ... After only a few days there, Margaret knew that this was a job she would want to do for years and years. ... Books nourished the mind and soul, but in the sense of

absolute survival those were luxuries; Margaret felt that her job was luxurious (Thayer, 1981, 261-262).

Actually, Margaret is happy when she becomes Harry's wife, a mother for her daughters, and a part of her community. However, after thirty years, she realizes that she can do nothing more. Since she has done everything she can for them. She needs a change, something new in her life, but Harry has usually lived with Mrs. Harry Wallace, not a new Margaret. Harry cannot accept her change. On that situation, Margaret keeps changing because she knows that everything she has done is for herself, for her happiness. Moreover, her change is affected with feminist and psychology books which she has read. From those books, she is like being given a support to change herself because she has right for her life. She has responsibility for her own life, especially for a choice to get happiness.

Now, years later, after reading feminist books and psychology books, she saw what she had done it to herself, it was her own fault. And for a while she had been happy doing it: happy taking care of the girls, and decorating their new home, and taking care of Harry, and becoming a pillar of the community. But after thirty years of it, when she had wanted a change, only a slight change, Harry had not been able to accept it. He wanted Margaret as she had always been: subservient and worshipful (Thayer, 1981: 109).

Harry's attitude toward Margaret is also one of her reasons to leave Harry and Liberty. He becomes a strict person in his private life because his role in their community is so important too. Everything he wants has to be done, especially by Margaret, his wife. One of them is about sex. Doing sexual intercourse for Margaret is like a duty that has to be done. It is not done sincerely and she cannot enjoy doing it because everything is based on Harry's wants. Here, she has to satisfy and please him, but he himself cannot do what makes Margaret satisfied and pleased in their private life.

Harry became more rigid and demanding in their private life as he became more important in his public life. Sex became a duty for Margaret: she serviced him, the great god of goodness. Sex became routinized, almost mechanical: there were certain things he liked in certain definite orders, and that was all he wanted, and he never wanted anything different, anything else (Thayer, 1981: 114).

Being someone who has to take the responsibility for her daughters' lives, the community, and the happiness of her husband makes Margaret unable to do anything for herself and her own happiness. In the other words, she has sacrificed herself for them, especially her own life. Moreover, she feels so bored and tired of her life when she has to do the same things. She wants to have much time for herself, for creating her own happiness. Although she has to take care of her family and the community, she also needs something that can make her happy.

Becoming as an assistant in a bookstore in West Vancouver is Margaret's choice as a way to continue her life. She thinks that the job is appropriate with her

principle which does not want to take the responsibility for others' lives. In other words, she can know how people get through their lives without handling it directly like in her past life. Although she has responsibility in her job, it will not take the responsibility for herself fully. She will not lose her life again.

For she knew that she would always like people, she would always be interested in them, she would always want to know how they worked through their joys and troubles, how they went through their lives. ... she could be part of the world, and yet have no responsibility for it. ... when she closed the door of the shop at the end of the day, she carried no one's problems home with her. ... Yet nothing really horrible would happen even if she failed at her responsibility; only books or money could be lost, not lives (Thayer, 1981: 261-262).

From the quotation above, it can be known that Margaret has finally found what she actually likes and makes her happy because her past life leads her to get it. She is really happy and satisfied with her present life in which she is free and independent. In that condition, she is like a mermaid who finally finds the sea. Here, the sea represents Margaret's happiness and new life in Vancouver. Whereas, the land is like her past life which hurts her but it gives the true happiness for her. It can be known from her statement, "I feel more like a mermaid who finally found the sea, that is, I feel I have found my real element, found my home. I belong here" (Thayer, 1981: 26). In that statement, Margaret feels that she finally finds a new place, Vancouver, to get through her new life. It fits her as a place which can support her to live freely without taking responsibility for the others.

2. Daisy Wallace's Happiness

As a mother, having a child is true happiness for Daisy Wallace. It is like a special gift from God which can make a woman feel that she is a real woman if she can be a mother for her children and it happens with Daisy Wallace. She is a twenty-nine years old mother who has two little children and getting pregnant for the third child. She is so happy and pleased because of it. For her, living with her children is a true pleasure although it makes her so tired and fat. Every day, she has to take care of them, such as cooking their food, playing with them, changing her daughter's diapers, et cetera. However, she really likes and enjoys the time when she can be with her children. It can be seen from her statement:

She is not only tired, she is also fat, and she is absorbed by her children, and she is happy. She likes living the life her children demand, center around the bedroom and kitchen and playroom where the TV is (Thayer, 1981: 3).

After getting a divorce from her husband, Paul, Daisy has to give birth for her third child alone without him. In this situation, she does not only feel painful because of the contraction of giving birth, but she also feels eager to do it. Although she has to struggle alone, she does not give up and she keeps going through as an evidence of her love for her children. Here, she is not afraid of giving birth again because she gets many supports from herself, family, and friends. However, her own self's support is the most important thing of all. She remembers the pain of the divorce, the pain of the

loss of Paul and her marriage in her past life. All of those pains actually hurt her, but she can get through well. So, she thinks if she can go through them well, then she can certainly do the same. She is so glad with the birth of her third child. All the pains which she feels in the process of giving birth have lost and they are changed with happiness and satisfaction as a mother. Her new child is like a beautiful consequence for her after the sorrow.

The baby was finally coming. ... She was ready for it, she was more than ready, she was eager. She welcomed, the entire wracking process of giving birth: giving birth, giving life to a new person through her own efforts. This time she knew she would not be afraid of the pain, for she had been through it all before (Thayer, 1981: 241).

Her children give Daisy not only happiness but also an idea that her life is so meaningful because of their presence. To be responsible with her children's happiness, health, and safety is a valuable thing for her. Moreover, she feels that they are everything in her life. They are her life. Here, she really enjoys when she can take care her children like cooking their food, playing with them, watching TV together, changing Jenny's diapers, and et cetera. She is so glad and happy with her activities, especially which are related to her children. Those explanations of Daisy's reasons can be known from this quotation below.

"You know, one really can't go on being pregnant forever. You've got to have the baby, and there it is, and you love it with all your life, and that is what life is then-those children, their health and safety and happiness. The joy of holding them" (Thayer, 1981: 131-132).

Daisy's happiness for her house cannot only be felt by herself, but it can also be felt by her sister, Dale. In the house she can feel how beautiful and warm it is as Daisy has made some years ago. Moreover, she can feel that her sister repairs and decorates it with full of love, so she feels so comfortable inside the house. She feels that the house is a picture of Daisy and her children. It draws how cheerful, warm, and happy they are as a mother and children. Through the walls of it, Dale can see that her sister wants the house to be a safe place for her children. It is not only for herself, but it is also for her children's happiness. So, there is no reason to make Daisy and her children leave the house. Here, it can be known from Dale's statement below.

The house was a cheerful house, Dale thought, Daisy had been happy when she had worked on it, and this happiness showed in every door frame and windowsill, in every curtain and rug (Thayer, 1981: 149).

Another Daisy's happiness is about her ways in cooking food for her little family. Here, she can be free in deciding what food she wants to cook for her and her children. She does not have to worry again about food for her little family because it depends on her now. Moreover, she also thinks that her life can be so easy and it makes her happy. She is not burdened again with all of Paul's wants which do not make her comfortable in doing it, especially about cooking food. She is so satisfied

with her life after Paul's leaving. From that condition, Daisy can feel what her mother feels that she is free in deciding and doing anything in her life. Daisy's freedom in cooking can be known from this quotation below:

And she found that she quite enjoyed the limitations this set on her cooking. She didn't have to worry about making cakes or bread or elaborate dishes. ... It was amazing how easy life had become. It was amazing how happy she was (Thayer, 1981: 161).

It has a reason why she more likes the way she cooks at the present time than at her past time. When, she still becomes Paul's wife, every day she has to serve special food which always takes a long time to cook. Moreover, every Saturday night, she has to cook for parties which are held in their house and it makes she worry if her food is not delicious. However, after Paul has gone, she can decide freely what food she will cook for her children. She thinks that her life is so easy and happy without Paul beside her. She can follow her own self to do everything she wants to do, such as cooking food. It can be known from the quotation which states that "it was amazing how easy the cooking had become with Paul gone" (Thayer, 1981: 161). And that statement can also support another reasons' of Daisy's happiness. After Paul has gone, Daisy's life can be so easier than before.

Her happiness with her friends which she can feel at the present time makes her very satisfied. She cannot imagine how happy and nice life she has after going through the difficult periods in her past life. It is not only because of her own strength, but it is also because of her friends who always support her. Moreover, her divorce from Paul makes her find another life which is so beautiful and she appreciates it as a way to her true happiness, especially finding and having her woman friends.

Another reason which supports her happiness when she is with her friends is because her social network with them has saved her from despair and loneliness after Paul gone. Through the friendship among them, Daisy feels strong again. Sharing the same problems, supporting her in any condition she needs them, and entertaining her with some jokes are some ways to sustain her and make her realize that she is not alone. From this situation, Daisy finally finds that friends' support is a beautiful thing which she has ever had in her life.

What was also saving Daisy's life was that she had built up a network of women friends who had many of the same problems and who supported her through telephone calls and inexpensive humorous gifts and through get-togetherness such as the one in Daisy's home this evening (Thayer, 1981: 165).

Daisy's happiness is not only because of her children, house, freedom, and friends. It is also the happiness after sorrow and despair of getting a divorce which she thinks that it is her new life. It means that Daisy's past life brings her in the true happiness. Her courage to decide some choices is also a factor which gives her the other side of life. Moreover, Daisy's struggle in going through her life can be seen from how strong she faces many difficult problems because she is sure that she can do, especially with the support from her family, friends, and her children. As a result of this, she and her children are ready to accept and do some new things which can bring happiness for them.

For she knew that in spite of the difficulties of the isolated world she had shared with her three little children over the past two months she had still felt safe and comfortable, secure. Now she was ready, perhaps, to feel something else, something a bit more challenging (Thayer, 1981: 290).

For Daisy, accepting the new things in her new life is also supported by accepting all difficult and complicated events in her past life because this leads her to the other side of life. It means that she does not regret her past life, her marriage with Paul, and her divorce. Everything which happens in the past brings her to create and find her own happiness by choosing the best thing based on her heart. Moreover, her happiness is also shown by allowing herself to love another man because she has a right to fall in love again and she is quite sure that there will be a man who can love her sincerely, as shown in the following quotation.

Surely she would find men who would want to touch her and love her and someday even share her life. What was not possible? Everything was possible. Daisy felt strong and immensely vital. She felt happy (Thayer, 1981: 293).

Here, Daisy's new life after difficult periods in her past life can be known as Daisy's happiness. There are some reasons why she does not regret her past life and feels happy after that. Getting a divorce from Paul and living alone are the main reason of it. At that time, she feels alone and she is also afraid of her and her children's future. She cannot imagine how she can raise Danny without a man around, if her children will be psychologically damaged forever without a father in the house, and how she can plan her life. Those questions always shadow her every time she moves and "she felt as an astronaut might if his lifeline to the space capsule were suddenly severed and he were falling helplessly through a void" (Thayer, 1981: 64).

3. Dale Wallace's Happiness

As a human being, Dale Wallace also can feel happy, like her mother and sister, but her happiness is different with them. Dale is a teacher who teaches Biology and French in the Rocheport High School. For Dale, Rocheport is a city which has a beautiful beach that she likes it so much. It also brings her to the happiness of falling in love with Hank Kenned, as she states that "she was in love" (Thayer, 1981: 31). Here, falling in love is great feeling that can make her so glad and happy. She is like fire that is burning and giving bright light for her surroundings. Falling in love really gives her full of spirit and happiness.

Dale ran and ran. The sun was low and the water was silver, the sand was silver, the sky was silver: the world was silver. It was a fluid of jewel. And she was the fire at its heart (Thayer, 1981: 30).

The joy and happiness of falling in love is really felt by Dale. It happens when she finally can spend her time together with Hank. She feels that her happiness is perfect and complete because of Hank's love. His love can bring her into a situation which warms herself and it also can make her feel the delight of love. Love really pleases her body and heart. It is like the ocean flames. When its water touches

someone's skin, it gives sensations of surprised and happiness. Surprised is because it suddenly comes and touches his or skin without any plan before. Besides happiness is because it gives his or her joy and pleasure. And those two sensations happen to Dale. The explanation above can be seen in this quotation below.

They walked through the woods, holding hands, or stood against a tree, embracing each other, wondering over and over again at what they felt: a total, complete, completing joy, as enormous and consuming and splendid as an ocean full of flames (Thayer, 1981: 58).

Dale's happiness is not only about her feeling to Hank Kennedy, but it is also about her job as a French and Biology's teacher. Here, she feels that what she has done as a teacher makes her life become worth. She is so good, important, and satisfied as a human being. Moreover, she is also proud of herself. She can give what she has for her students as something useful which can be used by them in their life. It is like giving the world for the young persons. Through the classroom where she usually teaches her students, it has an important role to support her happiness because it is like giving great energy to her, especially in her teaching times.

There are not only some reasons about her love for Hank, but there are also some reasons for Daisy's other and new happiness which is becoming a teacher. Sometimes, someone does not know why he or she is so happy with an activity which he or she does every day. And it is what Dale feels at the first time before finally she knows that being a teacher is a nice and good job for her. It happens when all her students get good score for French which she teaches for them. Here, she thinks that she is an important person who can give knowledge or a useful thing for young people, so they have skill to be performed to other people in this world and to look for a good job.

She was suddenly struck with what seemed to be an almost overwhelming observation. Most of the students had done well on the tests: she had taught them some of the basic rudiments of the French language. They would be able to use the language when they traveled; they would be able to perform well in college. She was teaching young people French. She was a teacher (Thayer, 1981: 193).

From the above quotation, it can be seen that she is so happy and satisfied being a teacher, especially for young people. Moreover, she also thinks that she has opened her students' eyes about this world with teaching them knowledge because French and biology are parts of it.

In addition, Dale's happiness of being a teacher is it can sustain her when she gets sick and faces a dilemma of love. It means that being a good teacher for her students is an important thing which always supports her and makes her strong in any condition, especially when she is in difficult and complicated situations. Moreover, her job as a teacher is happiness which she does not ever feel before in her life.

In this case, her marriage with Hank is a result from her efforts in facing dilemma which is caused by what her mother and her sister have experienced in their lives. She is so satisfied with her decision. Her happiness is like going from her head to

toe and it is so glad and warm for her. When her body is close to Hank's body, it is the happiest thing which she feels after the complicated situation she has experienced. It is right for her and she is so happy with it. Here, she is quiet sure with her decision and it is showed with her agreement of Hank's proposal. She cannot wait for their marriage. The explanation above can be seen from the quotation below:

“Well,” she said, and her voice held solid through her body trembled, “well, then, let's do get married. Let's do get married, at least for a while.” And she crossed the room, and went to his arms, and they embraced. And as they stood together she felt good from head to toe, she felt glad and glad, at peace, and right (Thayer, 1981: 274).

Getting tired with her dilemma of love makes Dale finally choose the best thing for her life when Hank proposes her to marry with him. The dilemma has led her to decide a choice. Her choice is to accept his proposal or refuse it. But she chooses to accept his proposal because she wants to please her body. And her body just wants with Hank Kennedy. Moreover, her mother's and sister's optimism and spirit also become good supporters for her in making a choice for her life. Everything is possible in this world.

How they pleased her, her mother and her sister, how their optimism and the simple continuation of their lives pleased her; it made the whole world and all the actions in it seem possible. So one could go into good times and then into bad; but then one could go into bad times and out again into good. It was all possible, if one was brave (Thayer, 1981: 275).

Here, she thinks that in someone's life there are two consequences of his or her decision which are good and bad. It means that he or she has to be brave in making a choice that he or she thinks is the best in his or her life because the result will only be good or bad. And Dale Wallace thinks that getting married with Hank Kennedy is the best choice for her life.

CONCLUSION

From this study, it can be concluded that there are three different ideas of happiness of Margaret, Daisy, and Dale Wallace. Moreover, in creating and finding their own happiness, the three Wallace women also have some different reasons.

For Margaret Wallace who is a doctor's wife in her past life, getting divorce from her husband, Harry Wallace, G. P, being free which means that she is not tied again with a man, and living by using her own principles are her true happiness. She thinks that this is her time to enjoy energy which exists in herself. She wants to more concentrate on herself, not on her family, her husband, and the community in Iowa like what she does in her past life. She is so tired with that condition. Therefore, she decides to leave her husband and live alone in a beautiful Vancouver. Here, she also represents herself as a mermaid who has finally found the sea and the land as her past life which she has left. The sea is her happiness and new life.

Daisy Wallace, Margaret's first daughter, also has different happiness from her mother. Here, she is so happy when she can be together with her children in her large

and beautiful house. She feels so comfortable, warm, and safe inside it. Her house is like heaven for her children. Moreover, she is really satisfied when she can take care of them, play with them, and cook for them. However, she has to sacrifice the marriage with Paul in order to survive with her children. Being free in cooking and getting together with her friends are Daisy's another happiness which she gets and feels after getting divorce from her husband because finally her life becomes so easy and meaningful. She thinks that her past life has led her into this eternal happiness.

Then for Dale Wallace, Margaret's second daughter, her happiness is different from her mother and her sister. Falling in love with Hank Kennedy is one of her happiness which also causes dilemma about love for herself. On one side, she loves Hank very much and cannot live without him. She really needs him in her life and wants to get married with him. On the other side, her parents and her sister's problems always make her confused and think why love gives pain not happiness. In that situation, she really faces the difficulty of choosing the best thing for her. However, when she gets the dilemma because of it, she finds her new happiness by becoming a teacher who teaches young people French and Biology. Here, she feels that she is an important, good, and competent person because she can give knowledge for young generation. There is self-satisfaction when she can be a teacher. Another Dale's happiness is when she finally can lose her dilemma and she chooses to get married with Hank because that is what she wants to. Moreover, she is also really ready if she has to face consequences and risks because of her decision although it is bad for her. circle for its surroundings. And in that condition, she gets the effect from her parents' and her sister's problems which causes her dilemma about love.

As a conclusion for the analysis, happiness for everyone is different with the others because he or she also has different characteristics and what kind of circumstances he or she has. When someone feels happy with a situation, it cannot be said that the others will feel the same as him or her. Moreover, happiness which someone feels depends on his or her choices which are appropriate and good for him or her because happiness is so private and it cannot be the same as the others' happiness.

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