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ENG-112

Formal Assignment # 1

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**A good man is hard to find**

A good man is hard to find is short fiction story written by Flannery O'Connor and was published in 1955. I use the genre of fan fiction narrative to illustrate this story.

“The Grandmother didn’t want to go to Florida” she said. She wanted to go East Tennessee to visit her old friends and relatives. But his son bailey didn’t want to go there. His eight years old son John Wesley and daughter June Star were busy reading funny papers that was lying on the floor. His wife, a mother of three kids was feeding apricots out of jar to the youngest one. It seems like, she was not showing any interest in the family decisions. Grandmother made every possible effort to distract his interest from Florida’s trip. She showed the picture of Misfit on the newspaper article to bailey, who was sitting on the sofa with his head in the sports section of the journal. Bailey, bailey!! look look, read this, here’s misfit. “I wouldn’t take my children in any direction with a criminal like that a loose in it”, grandmother said. He didn’t respond and kept reading the journal. After seeing her grandmother, June Star said, “She wouldn’t stay at home even for a million bucks.”  Grandmother said, so remember for next time, I’m not going to curl your hair.

Next morning, she sits in car first, where she hides her cat Betty from who didn’t like taking cat to a motel. But it's difficult to leave her alone at home for three days. She dressed up in navy blue dress with small white print of dots and had navy blue hat with a bunch of violets on the edge. At 8:45am bailey, his wife and three kids along with grandmother left their city Atlanta, heading towards their journey to Florida. They picked up the even minute details of mountains, various nature scenes, and road side views. Grandmother start sharing her stories from past with everything she saw on her this journey. She correlates things from her past with present. Kids at that time were respectful to their parents and dwelling place, when I was young kid, grandmother said.

They went to tower for Red Sammy’s barbecue and kids played “The Tennessee Waltz” and had some good food over there.

Enjoying the nature and roads scenes, John Wesley and June Star start fighting at sudden. Stop! Stop! Grandmother said, I would tell story, if you kids stop slapping each other. She starts telling about a white house with six columns and have secret panel with hidden silver. After gaining keen interest, she starts molding the story into mystery. Kids start screaming to their pop, to get a dirt towards that house. They seem like fully determined to reveal that hidden silver secret panel. As time passes by, grandmother fell into sleep and woke up after every few minutes due to her loud snoring. At sudden she remembers that house was not in Georgia but in the Tennessee. She pulled her feet and frighten the Betty, who jumped into bailey’s shoulder. He lost his control on car and car fell into ditch. Dirt road was so quiet and surrounds with woods. It seems like nobody been there since months. Silence of road was horrifying, bailey’ wife broke her shoulder, kids thrown into front seat and they were screaming and said, “We’ve had an accident!” After few minutes, car passes by the road. They saw a car fell into ditch and grandmother waved her hands to seek their help. Three men from car arrived for their help, one of them is shirtless man with blue jeans on and have a gun in his hand. One of them was Hiram, a fat boy in black pant with red sweat shirt. Other, guy named Bobby Lee with khaki pant, blue coat and grey hat and they head towards ditch. At sudden, grandmother recognized the shirtless man and screamed, “Misfit”!!! He gave a signal to Hiram and Bobby lee, they Bailey and his son to woods. “You wouldn’t shoot a lady, would you?” grandmother said. She was in intense fear of losing her life. “I know you’re a good man. I know you come from nice people!”, grandmother said. “Yes ma'am,” he said, finest people in the world”.

Sound of gunfire came from woods. Then they took June star and her mother, to woods and shot them. They brought bailey’s shirt for misfit. After wearing a yellow shirt, Misfit looks alike her son to grandmother. Three bullets from his gun came and hit her. She became unconscious and fell into ditch with her legs crossed. Blood was flowing profusely. Sky seems like cloudy and dark. A surrounding was filled with silence, like a whole nature was grieving for this misshapen. Light raining was started, it was like, mother nature was sobbing for some huge loss. “It’s no real pleasure in life”, the misfit said. Then they left that place, was progressing towards Florida. The thoughts and conversation of grandmother, disturbed me. It was like, she was begging for her life, but lord became deaf at time and her prayer was declined, Misfit said. As we were driving over the speed limit, in deep dark woods crowded with long trees and some sounds of wildlife was hitting our ears in high frequency. That was bad day in my life, I ever realized. Even though those days were not even bad enough, when I was imprisoned due to false charges of my dad’s murder.

The way I was feeling today, was something not good. I took several lives before, but never felt of being regretted like today. I tried to take little nap, but it disappeared from my eyes. I did make a u- turn and reached at same place, where I shoot her. But nobody was there anymore, police blocked the road. I didn’t care anymore of being get caught. Bobby Lee and Hiram, didn’t want me to go and look at them. But today I feel like I met with my own blood, but I lose them once again. I never pray to Jesus for anything but today my heart was piercing with pain. Bad drinking habits of my dad took my childhood, and I was charged with his murder. I didn’t say anything and never tried to prove my innocence. Police had papers against me. I didn’t remember the face of my mother. Only thing, my dad told me about her, that “She was a nice lady”. But she left us and separate me from my other sibling.

Siren of ambulance was ringing and had very high pitch. Grandmother along, with whole family were admitted to city hospital. One of my other friend, who used to work for me, gave me each minute detail of grandmother and her family’s condition. Grandmother bleed heavily and doctors were in search for her blood group match. She and bailey had blood group O negative. Their condition was critical, to perform their surgery, blood match must be available. I hide my identity, applied some artificial beard, moustache, and makeup, and went to donate my blood at City hospital. While I was, lying down on a bed, ceiling and walls made fun at me. The small rooms of hospital were suffocating to me. That was a first time, I came to hospital after I was mindful. A nurse came and put needle on left arm, which was attached to an empty bag. After they done testing on my sample blood. Then they moved me another room and I was lying down on a bed. Grandmother’s bed was on my right side and bailey’s bed on my left side. My both arms were pierced with needles, attached to two blood bags. One of them were further transfused to bailey and other was to grandmother. After five minutes, nurse came and remove all the blood bags.

On same evening, near around six pm both them moved to surgical center. After 2 hours of surgery, grandmother was moved to regular room but her left leg was amputated below the knee. Bailey condition was improving but he lose his third child. His wife, John Wesley and June Star were out of danger now. Physician Smith. said, they will be discharged in next week. But grandmother will have to move to Rehabilitation center. The days were not same, as it was before accident. They all were in deep grief of third child. John star and John Wesley were so quiet ever. Their eyes were so shiny, and tears were rolling out. Might be there are in unbearable pain to due injuries.

Next day, early morning around 6:00 am. “The Misfit was caught from the exit door of city hospital” was the headline. As bailey, wife and his two kids were shifted to regular ward. As they were watching news, June star pointed out to TV, said in a low voice “Here, Misfit was caught!!! Misfit was caught!!!” Police did the whole investigation

and check the CCTV cameras of the hospital. They found out, how a most wanted, an evil man saves someone’s life by donating his blood. Except grandmother, whole family was watching, that the recording of yesterday, when he gave his blood to Bailey and grandmother. When he was lying on a bed in between bailey and grandmother’s bed. They watched the whole scene and police arrived soon within half an hour for their statements. Bailey did remember from his childhood, when his mother told him about his dad, his drinking habits, and his older brother, who got separated from them after their divorce. She was pregnant with bailey at their time of divorce. Now everything seems clear to belly, why misfit save their life at end. But the matter gets complicated day by day. Misfit was in jail again and police was in search of his other partners. A week later, they get discharged from hospital. As soon as bailey reached home, he was planning to approach Misfit. Then other day he just calls a cab, went to jail, in order to meet him. When he saw him, they just embraced each other into their arms and start sobbing. Grandmother was now moved to Rehabilitation. “Life was not same anymore”, Misfit said.