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Hunters in the snow

Student's Name

University

Course

Professor

Date

Question 1

Hunters in the snow is a short story describing the journey of three friends going to hunt in the wood. Kenny, Frank, and Tub face substantial challenges in the woods, including a severe and brutal atmosphere that forms their story's basics. The atmosphere is significant to the characters, conflict, and plot. The setting is essential because the snow covers objects and pathways. Therefore, the majority of the markers and boundaries are hidden. The harsh atmosphere makes the characters suffer because of the cold on their way to the woods. Wolff (1980) stated that they took three stops to take coffee because of the cold. Moreover, the Tub faces substantial challenges in coping with their friends because of the snow and passing through the fences, making him struggle to start puffing before hunting. Moreover, with the increase in snow, Tub is left when they decide to ask for permission to enter the private land property to hunt, and he is forced to run before he goes.

The severe atmosphere is also significant to the conflict in the story. The conflict exists among the three friends because they are all essentially disconnected from each other. They are all hiding the truth from each other; for instance, Kenny has secrets of Frank babysitting, and they decide to keep it by themselves. Similarly, Tub thinks that Frank is his friend because he has always been there for him but realizes Frank does not care when Tub is left in the woods. The Tub is suffering from overweight and is on a diet, but hides the sandwiches and cookies. Similarly, the atmosphere is vital for the plot because the snow indicates the difference between man and nature. The characters are aggressive to nature, as portrayed by Kenny's behavior. However, the story emphasizes that nature is more powerful than humans, and Frank states that they cannot compete with nature (Wolff, 1980).

Question 2

Tobias Wolff has used foreshadowing in the story on different occasions. The purpose of foreshadowing is to add dramatic tension to the plot by expecting what will occur. For instance, Wolff used foreshadowing to create suspense at the beginning of the story to show how the three friends humiliated Tub because of his body weight. The friends are full of cruelty because they are one hour late, and when they arrive, Kenny is almost killed Tub at the start of the story. Wolff (1980) claimed that the truck came sliding on the corner and blaring the horns; although Tub waved it down, it came towards him without slowing, forcing him to jump back. Therefore, Kenny appeared as an antagonist since the story's start based on his actions and talking about. For instance, Kenny mocks both Frank and Tub.

Another foreshadow used in the story is when Kenny states that he will not repeat a particular babysitter to Frank. Frank gets annoyed after the story of his mistress is stated and claims that Kenny is crossing the lines. Frank asked Kenny if he was asking for it, indicating that the Frank and Tub lies can significantly impact their lives. This happens later when Kenny is shot, and upon Frank's realization that he was joking, the reaction was predictable and uncaring, as if he knew an act like that would occur. Kenny crossed the line and was informed by Frank that he talks too much; this indicates how neglect is portrayed. People are friends but neglect and deceive each other; for instance, after Kenny shooting the dog, we realize that the owner has permitted him to kill it. This foreshadows how friendship revolves around secrets, deception, and cruelty, and Kenny does not realize how his lies will affect his life because both Frank and Tub do not know their way to the hospital.

References

Wolff, T. (1980). Hunters in the Snow. *TriQuarterly*, 48, 225.

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