

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Basic Consideration

Literature is a part of arts that an author creates based on the author's imagination in a real world. According to Kelley (1989 : 35) “ a literature work creates an imaginary world and this world embodies a theory about how the real world works”. Literature has some important roles that influence the readers insight about their life. In this case, the readers or audiences can get some valuable things that can impulse and make them know more and to be wiser to solve their social problems which are found in their society. In the literature itself, there are some genres of literary work such as, poetry, drama, and prose. Prose are still limited into three, namely short story, novelette and novel. In this research, the writer chooses novel as the object of this research. The novel to be analyzed is *The Last Song*, a novel written by Nicholas Spark's.

Novel is one of fictitious works or authors imaginative that represents and illuminates picture of human life's, event, and phenomenon that we often see, hear, and even happen in our daily life. According to Clara (1785 : 282) novel is a picture of real life and manners, and of the time in which is written”. Based on the statement, the writer assumes that novel constitute one writing form, where an author is trying to reveals general truth of humanity problem based on the experience and authors observation about life and everything in the influence society.

Novel as one kind of literary work has intrinsic elements that make directly a literary work to be interested for the reader, these elements are character, characterization, theme, plot, setting, conflict and message. These elements never stand on its own, it has close relationship with each other to make a good story. One element that is considered important in a novel is conflict. Conflict constitutes an essential element that influences other elements especially to develop plot, because without conflict there is no good story. Conflict is a dramatic things, where it is a struggle between two similar forces and implies an action and reaction. In Pruitt and Kim (2004: 5) "The essential nature of a conflict situation is easily understood in terms of the difficulties involved in meeting everyone's aspirations simultaneously".

In real life, human always interacts with another human, and we often found contradiction between them which accumulate a continuous conflict such as differences in desires, the way of thinking, hopes, and difference in manners of life. Novel *The Last Song* which was written by an American novelist from the fifteenth published novel, Nicholas Sparks, as a novel that tells about many problems in the environment life's, is narrative about the family's problem. Ronnie, Steve, Will, and Marcus are the main characters of the novel and they are always in conflict to defend their desires. We can see in Ronnie. She always disagrees with her mother. She does want to do all about her mother talking because she is disappointed with the decision of her parents divorced. We can see in the following quotation below:

“Why’d you do that?” her mom said, frowning. “I like hearing you play.”

“I don’t.”

“How about if I turn the volume down?”

“Just stop, Mom. Okay? I’m not in the mood.”

Ronnie stared out the window, knowing full well that her mom’s lips had just formed a tightseam. Her mom did that a lot these days. It was as if her lips were magnetized.(Chapter 1. Ronnie, 8).

Based on the illustration above, the kinds of conflict is the external conflict because the main character have problem with the other character in the novel. From the quotation, the writer interesting a research in Nicholas Sparks *The Last Song* and formulate a tittle “Conflict Analysis of the Main Character In Nicholas Sparks’s Novel *The Last Song*”.

Problem Statement

Based on the consideration above, the writer have some problem which need to be analysis. The problem are as follow :

1. How is the conflict of main characters in *The Last Song* novel?
2. What are the value reflected through of the conflict that exist in *The Last Song* novel.

Objective Of Research

The objective of research is to find out kinds of conflict in *The Last Song* novel and to find out the values reflected through of conflict in *The Last Song* novel.

Scope and limitation of Research

This research is limited to find out the kinds and value of conflict in novel, that is internal conflict between character vs. Self and external conflict between character vs. Characters.

The Significant of research

1. This research can provide the information about conflict and kinds of conflict in *The Last Song* novel and the study of literature for the reader.
2. This research can make the readers interesting to read *The Last Song* novel because *The Last Song* novel is most popular in July 28, 2009 and reached around 13 cities. *The Last Song* debuted at number one on weekly bestseller charts and the relatively short tour.

The value that presented in this research after analyzing the conflict can be a good lesson for the reader in order to make a good relationship with family, society and the other people.