

Chapter 5: Conclusion and Suggestion

This chapter presents the conclusions and suggestions for this research. The conclusion provides the results of the study, followed by a suggestion for further researchers who are interested to analyze the similar topic.

Conclusion

The Longest Ride novel analyzed in this study shows that the main characters implement their love based on three components of love; passion, intimacy, and commitment. Despite being in a different era, Ira-Ruth and Luke-Sophia showed the same pattern to build love in their relationship. Ira and Luke both fell in love with their partners because of their beauty. This physical attraction makes them want to know more about their partners. As a result, point intimacy becomes the main component that carries a big role in changing the relationship between the two partners. Honesty, trustworthiness, openness, understanding, and self-disclosure are the most implemented intimacy element in constructing relationships between the two partners. In a love relationship, the differences between these three components of love tend to change from time to time. Therefore, the relationship between the partner is also changed.

First, it shows through the passion element which is a substantial role at the beginning of a love relationship. The individual will experience it by physical attraction or other things after encountering someone they like. However, to represent passion, the couple must consider manners and culture. Specifically, in the 1940s, showing affection in public was not a common thing to do. It is

portrayed by Ira and Ruth; they do not show their passion in front of their parents. Conversely, in the modern era, the couple considers the intimacy element because it can damage the relationship. It is described by Sophia's action towards Luke, where she thinks of closeness between them before deciding to give herself completely. Moreover, in showing passion, married and dating couples tend to do physical touch, such as holding hands, hugging, or kissing.

Intimacy is the vital foundation of a loving relationship, and it begins with self-disclosure. At the start of a relationship, each individual is uncertain about the behavior, thought, or action since it is unpredictable. Subsequently, there will be distractions and obstacles when the two people try to know each other. Over time, the frequency of interruptions begins to decrease as partners begin to understand each other, partner behavior becomes more predictable, and becomes dependent on each other. It is illustrated in Ira-Ruth and Sophia-Luke's relationship. The element of intimacy helps both partners build a bond and become close to each other. Intimacy starts to get into trouble when one partner became dishonest, unopened, and hides secrets from their partner. As showed by Ira and Luke, the secret that they hide led them to separation. Afterward, the two partners get back together and re-establish the intimacy element in their relationship.

Third, the commitment component mostly depends on the success of the relationship. Generally, the level of commitment starts from zero when individuals do not know each other. And if the relationship has a long-term goal, the development of commitment will slowly increase in the early stages of the relationship. It will grow even faster if passion and intimacy are abreast. However,

if intimacy in the relationship decreases, it will have an impact on the commitment component. It happens to Ira-Ruth and Luke-Sophia's relationship. Dishonesty, distrust, and doubt made the commitments between them shattered. Commitment will be able to be rebuilt in the relationship if the problem resolves successfully. Primarily, commitment is a decision to always be together, mutually, for better or worse till the end of time.

Ira-Ruth and Sophia-Luke show that these three elements change over time. In the passion element, Ira and Ruth show that it is unusual to display their passion in front of other people in ancient times. In addition, intimacy is more dominant than passion at the beginning of the relationship. Meanwhile, for Sophia and Luke, doing physical touches in public has become an ordinary thing and the components of intimacy and passion are lateral. For the intimacy, Ira and Ruth faced the problem that came from their environment, which at that time, the situation was not conducive and was surrounded by the war. Meanwhile, Luke and Sophia have to deal with their different principles and points of view. Furthermore, the commitment element for Ira-Ruth was influenced by circumstances, duties, and responsibilities while Luke and Sophia's commitment was affected by different dreams and an uncertain future.

Suggestion

People who fall in love often use metaphors to describe their relationship and love may be described as an entirely incomprehensible mystery. However, love can be conceptualized based on stories experienced by each person or partner. So the story has a central role in the way we conceptualize love. As a

result, different stories will represent different love. This research only focuses on the concept of the love triangle; passion, intimacy, and commitment. Furthermore, the researcher suggests for those who want to conduct research on the same ground, it will be better to use another theory of love that has not been used so that people increasingly know that the type of love is diverse. Besides, the researcher also recommends using other romantic novels or other literary works such as short stories. However, this research is not perfect yet because it still requires many aspects that need to be developed. But hopefully, this research can be useful as a reference for future researchers to analyze a similar study.

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