

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

B. Background of the Study

Interpersonal attraction is a result of human's evaluation about others. It is a psychological phenomenon which deals with evaluation and attitude. The evaluation will determine the human whether they like or dislike the others whom they meet. If they like the others, they will have good attitude for them, but if they dislike the others, bad attitude will appear.

People use most their time to interact with others, such as in home, school, workplace, etc. Whenever and wherever people live, they will meet the others and interact with them. They interact not only with people whom they have known, but also with strangers. For example, if they come in a new place, they will not wait people whom they know in getting a direction or information, but they will ask and speak to strangers in their surroundings. They will have interaction and communication with the strangers.

Before and after interacting, people will have evaluation about the strangers. In this discussion, evaluation and attitude dealt with interpersonal attraction. The evaluation causes an interpersonal attraction which will influence the attitude for the strangers. If they give good evaluation, they will have good attitude for the strangers. If people give bad evaluation, they will have bad attitude for them.

There are many factors which make people have attraction for the others, such as physical attractiveness, proximity, similarity, love, etc. Interpersonal attraction depends on the evaluation of the factors. The evaluation can change from negative evaluation into positive conversely. This case often occurs on person who meets with a stranger. At the first sight, he may have negative evaluation for the stranger because he may dislike the stranger's appearance. After picking acquaintance with the stranger, his negative evaluation may change to be positive evaluation.

There are five factors in interpersonal attraction which consist of four factors in determining like or dislike and, after liking, people tend to have the fifth factor that is love. The four factors are personal characteristics, similarity, proximity and familiarity. The factors of interpersonal attraction occur between Willy and Guy in *Never Say Die*.

Never Say Die was written by Tess Gerritsen and published in 1992. On June 1, 2003, Harlequin Books S.A. published the novel that consists of 269 pages with a prologue and fifteen chapters. In 2008, PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama published the novel in Indonesian with 352 pages. This edition was published by arrangement with Harlequin Enterprises.

Tess Gerritsen was born on June 12, 1953. She was a child of a Chinese immigrant and a Chinese American seafood chef in San Diego, California. She was a Chinese-American novelist and retired physician. Although she wanted to be a writer, her family prompted her to take a career in medicine. In 1975, she

graduated from Stanford University in Anthropology study and in 1979 she started work as a physician in Honolulu, Hawaii after she had studied in Universities of California, Standard (<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Never-Say-MIRA-Tess-Gerritsen/>).

There are many responses for *Never Say Die* from the readers. There are readers who like and enjoy it, such as La Grange who says that it is not only so believable to read, but also Gerritsen can make the story as if a real story. Besides, there are also readers who dislike and disappointed with the novel. They, such as Margaret and Peter Smith, hope that her novel can be better than it (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tess_Gerritsen).

Never Say Die told about a journey of a daughter who traveled to Saigon to uncover what had happened to her father who lost in his flying twenty years ago. Willy, the major character, was accompanied by Guy Barnard in her journey. Guy not only wanted to accompany her, but also he had a mission. He had a job to search out America's soldiers who were still alive or had been dead in war with Vietnam.

Willy who was about 32 years old had bad love experience before. It started by her love for her father, when she was a child. Her love was broken because she felt that her father, Wild Bill Maitland, rather loved his job than her. She also ever loved her friend when she was a student, but her love was broken too. Her bad experience about love and men made her to have underestimation for all men and leaded her to be a traumatic woman.

Willy's underestimation about men led her to have negative evaluation for Guy, her partner who accompanied her in the journey. At the first sight, she had had negative evaluation about him. She didn't like his outward appearance which was very messy. Guy's attitude to her also made Willy more and more underestimate him. She thought that he had certain purpose of his warmth.

Willy had negative evaluation for Guy; on the other side, Guy who was interested in Willy in the first sight had positive evaluation about her. It was because he thought that Willy was a perfect woman whom he wanted. Thus, there was a desire in Guy's heart to have special relation with her. Guy's evaluation for Willy influenced Guy's attitude. He paid attention to her. He also tried to accompany, help and protect her because he knew that the journey was very dangerous.

Willy always refused Guy's attendance but finally her stockade fell out when she realized that she had to affiliate with him. They had same mission in which they wanted to look for Willy's father. The mission led them to have proximity. The proximity led them to have familiarity. Her recognition about Guy made her have positive evaluation little by little about him. Her positive evaluation made her change her negative attitudes to be positive.

Psychological phenomenon between Willy and Guy is interesting to be studied and analyzed because it tells about two people who fall in love because of familiarity. It is usual phenomenon but the psychological phenomenon between

Willy and Guy is unique. Their familiarity can be a factor to make Willy, who is a traumatic woman about love and men, open her heart to love a man, Guy.

There are three reasons why the writer chooses this novel with the major issue. First, the story of the novel feels a real story. By taking a setting in war between America and Vietnam, Gerritsen is successful in making the writer think that the story is real. The writer likes the struggle of the major character, Willy, to look for her father who still alive or dead although she knows that it is dangerous for her. The writer gives appreciation for Willy because she takes the journey because of her mother's request.

Second, the writer likes the characterization of Willy and Guy. Although she is a traumatic woman about love and men, she is a strong and optimist woman. Actually, she has a deep desire to give and receive love but she ignores her desire because of her underestimation about man. Although Guy is a professional worker, he is not an egoist man. He accompanies Willy not only he wants to get easy in looking for Maitland, but also to safe and protect her. He is a nice man.

The third, the writer likes the major issue of the novel. The novel illustrates a psychological phenomenon in which individual can fall in love because of familiarity. Before falling in love, the individuals have interpersonal attraction to the other. Romance between Willy and Guy started with their evaluation of each others. Willy who is a traumatic woman tends to underestimate all men, including Guy. Because of having high interaction and communication,

both Willy and Guy know about each others. As the result, they have evaluation which influences whether they like or dislike each other. After liking, it is possible for them to fall in love.

Based on the reasons above, the writer is interested in analyzing the major issue of the novel by using Social Psychological Perspective, especially in interpersonal attraction study. This research is to identify the factors which influence people whether they will have interpersonal attraction to the other or not. Thus, the writer formulates a research proposal which is entitled: *Interpersonal Attraction in Tess Gerritsen's Never Say Die (1992): A Social Psychological Perspective*.

C. Previous Study

There are some students of English Department who have ever studied the social psychology perspective for their research, but there is not student who focuses on interpersonal attraction study. Besides, there is neither student, especially in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, who analyzes Tess Gerritsen's *Never Say Die*. Thus, the writer doesn't have previous study as comparison research because this research is the first research which concerns with interpersonal attraction study of social psychology perspective and for *Never Say Die*.

D. Problem Statement

Based on the title and background of the study, the writer formulates a problem statement, "How is interpersonal attraction between Willy and Guy reflected in *Never Say Die* (Social Psychological Perspective)?"

E. Limitation of the Study

The writer only focuses on analyzing the interpersonal attraction between Willy and Guy as the major character in *Never Say Die*.

F. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are to analyze:

1. The structural element of *Never Say Die*
2. The interpersonal attraction between Willy and Guy in *Never Say Die* based on social psychological perspective.

G. Benefit of the Study

The study is expected to give benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

Theoretical benefit of this research is to give information and develop knowledge for the writer, readers and the other analyzers in the future about application of social psychological perspective.

2. Practical Benefit

Practical benefit of this research is to answer the researcher's curiosity about interpersonal attraction between Willy and Guy in *Never Say Die* by Tess Gerritsen by using Social Psychological Perspective which is proposed by Shelley E. Taylor, Letitra Anne Replau and David O. Sears.

H. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

The research about this novel belongs to qualitative method. Strauss and Corbin in Ritchie and Lewis (2003: 3) said that, "by the term 'qualitative

research' we mean any type of research that produces findings not arrived at by statistical procedures or other means of quantification." It does not need statistic analyzing. The purpose of qualitative research is to find answers of the questions by applying systemic procedures.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Never Say Die* by Tess Gerritsen. The novel is written by Gerritsen and published in 1992. In this research, the writer uses a novel which is published by Harlequin on June 1, 2003. In analyzing the novel, the writer uses social psychological perspective which is proposed by Taylor, Peplau and Sears.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The writer divides the data source into two categories:

- a. A primary data source of the study is *Never Say Die*.
- b. The secondary data source consists of material about Social Psychology perspective. In here, the writer uses and focuses on theory which is proposed by Taylor, Peplau and Sears. Besides, the writer also uses theory from the other theorists, such as Carol Brown, Baron and Byrne as adding and supporting data.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

There are some steps in note taking technique of collecting data in this research.

- a. Reading *Never Say Die*
- b. Observing and determining the major issue of the novel

- c. Determining the major characters who are analyzed
- d. Marking the point in the novel to make essay in analyzing
- e. Taking notes of important in both primary and secondary data
- f. Classifying the data into groups according categories element of literary study
- g. Selecting them by rejecting their irrelevant sources and developing the provided data

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data description in this study started from the structural element of the novel. Finally, the writer uses social psychology approach to analyze the novel.

I. Research Organization

This research paper uses social psychological perspective to analyze interpersonal attraction of major characters in *Never Say Die*. The writer uses interpersonal attraction by Shelley E. Taylor, Letitia Anne Peplau and David O. Sears in their book *Social Psychology* in ninth edition to study and analyze the problem.

Research organization is divided into two chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research organization. The second chapter is underlying theory which consists of the notion of social psychology, notion of interpersonal

attraction, basic principle of attraction, factors of interpersonal attraction, structural elements of novel and theoretical application.