

**SINCERITY AND LOVE IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS JR'S  
*THE LADY OF THE CAMELLIAS* (1902) NOVEL:  
A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH**

**PUBLICATION ARTICLE**



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**APPROVAL**

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**SINCERITY AND LOVE IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS JR'S  
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**ABSTRACT**

**TAMI NUR CAHYANI. A 320 090 112. SINCERITY AND LOVE IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS JR'S *THE LADY OF THE CAMELLIAS* (1902): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH. RESEARCH PAPER. SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION. MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA. 2013.**

*The major problem in this study is how the major character proves her sincerity and love in *The Lady of the Camellias* (1902) novel by Alexandre Dumas Jr. This study focused on the one of the major characters namely Marguerite Gautier, using the mean of structural element and psychoanalytic analysis. The object of this study is Alexandre Dumas Jr's *The Lady of the Camellias* novel published in 1902 by Werner. There are two objectives of the study. First is to analyze the novel based on the structural elements by finding characters and characterizations, setting, point of view, plot, and theme. Second is to analyze Marguerite's sincerity and love in the novel based on Freud's principles of psychoanalytic, such as the id, ego and superego. The type of this study is descriptive qualitative. The data source in this research is divided into two types that are primary data and secondary data. Primary data source is the novel *The Lady of the Camellias* itself and the secondary data source is books or any information related to the practice of sincerity and love that support the psychoanalytic approach by Sigmund Freud. The technique of analyzing data in this research paper is descriptive. The outcome of the study shows that the problem faced by the major character Marguerite Gautier causes the conflict of her mental condition. It comes because her struggle to prove her sincerity and love for her true love. Finally, her effort makes her suffer until the end.*

***Keywords: Sincerity and Love, The Lady of the Camellias, Psychoanalytic Approach.***

## I. Introduction

**Background of the study:** Love is a feeling of affection for someone, giving rise to a sense of belonging and protect. Sincerity in love is a concept which has to do with the mindset of people in love. This is more like an evaluation of the heart at which people embrace their loved ones. Love is one word that has similar meaning to every body no matter where somebody comes from. This is because love is more than a word. It has been observed that most people practice love with their words more than they do with their actions.

*The Lady of the Camellias* is the story about love between Marguerite Gautier and Armand Duval. Marguerite Gautier is a young beautiful courtesan who has many lover and spend her time with riotous because she knows that her life will not be long because she has tuberculosis. She meets a young honorable man Armand Duval and she proves her love to Armand until the end.

*The Lady of The Camellias* is a novel by Alexandre Dumas Jr that was published in 1848 with the name *La Dame aux camélias*. This novel is a French novel, and the English version novel published by Werner in 1902 in 337 pages. The other Alexandre Dumas Jr's works are *L'affaire Clemenceau*, *Diane Delys*, *A Prodigal Father*, and some of drama manuscript.

There are four reasons of the writer taking this novel to be analyzed, those are: First, this study can be beneficial for students with moral values contained in this research are the sincerity and the struggle of love of Marguerite Gautier, the main character in *The Lady of the Camellias* novel. Second, the students can understand the meaning of sincerity of love in this novel that can add knowledge to the students at an educational institution. Third, this research can be used as a reference or a previous study for another researcher as the next referent for further research, especially in sincerity and love in *The Lady of The Camellias* novel. Finally, the last reason is the writer takes this research due to supply theoretical framework in the research of

literature in the English Department, it can be useful for other students, particularly students of English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (UMS).

**Problem Statement** “How is Marguerite’s sincerity and love in *The Lady of The Camellias* Novel (1902) by Alexandre Dumas Jr by using psychoanalytic approach?”

**Limitation of the Study** is the researcher focuses to analyze Marguerite Gautier’s character in *The Lady of the Camellias* novel (1902) by Alexandre Dumas Jr by using psychoanalytic approach.

**Objectives of the Study** is to analyze Marguerite’s sincerity and love in *The Lady of The Camellias* novel (1902) based on its structural elements and based on Freud’s principles of psychoanalytic approach.

**Literature Review**, *The Lady of The Camellias* is one of the greatest literary work from Alexandre Dumas Jr. To prove the originality of this research, the writer elaborates previous studies done by Tan Fang Li (*Yangzhou University*, 2009) entitled *On the Narrative Art of The Lady of the Camellias*. The objective of his journal research is to identify structural layout and narrative form in *The Lady of the Camellias*. The result of this journal is the use of diversified narrative techniques is conducive to a profound criticism of its ironic tone of writing, it plays an important role in shaping the character's image.

The second researches was conducted by Wang Cheng Xia (*Yangzhou University*, 2010) entitled *A Comparative Study of Sunrise and The Lady of the Camellias*. The objective of her journal to analyze the comparative between *Sunrise* by Cao Yu and *The Lady of the Camellias* by Alexandre Dumas Jr. The result of her journal is shows that *Sunrise* by Cao Yu was greatly influenced by *The Lady of the Camellias* by Alexandre Dumas Jr. The parallelism can be found in the characters, the inter character relationships and even the main plots.

The researcher uses Psychoanalytic Approach to analyze the data and using of *The Lady of the Camellias* novel as an object. The researcher analyzes SINCERITY

## AND LOVE IN ALEXANDRE DUMAS JR'S *THE LADY OF THE CAMELLIAS* NOVEL (1902): PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.

### **II. Research Method**

The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using psychoanalytic approach. The steps to conduct the research are as follow: (1) determining the type of the study, (2) determining the object of the study, (3) determining data and data source, (4) determining technique of data collection, and finally, (5) determining technique of data analysis.

The object of the study is *The Lady of the Camellias* Novel by Alexandre Dumas Jr that was produced in 1902 by Werner.

There are two types of data, namely primary and secondary data, as follows: Primary data, the primary data source is *The Lady of The Camellias* novel by Alexandre Dumas Jr. Secondary data, the secondary data source are books or any information related to the practice of sincerity and love that support the psychoanalytic approach.

The technique of data collecting are as follows: the researcher reading the novel comprehensively. The researcher identifying the topic of the novel. Determining the major character that will be analyzed. Reading some related books to find out theory, data, and information required. Taking notes of information in both primary data and secondary data source. Arranging the data into several parts based on classification. Analyzing the data of research on Sigmund Freud theory of Psychoanalytic. And the last is the researcher draw conclusion based on the analyzed data.

In analyzing the data, the writer uses a psychoanalytic approach and applies it by using the descriptive approach. The steps taken by the writer in analyzing the data are as follows: the first is analyzing the data based on its structural elements. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the novel. The second step is analyzing the data based on psychoanalytic approach. Focus will be paid on the meaning of sincerity and love.



### III. Research Finding

In this research finding, the writers takes some points to analyze *The Lady of the Camellias* (1902) novel.

#### A. Structural Analysis of *The Lady of the Camellias* Novel (1902).

##### 1. Character and Characterization

Characters are the participants of the story created by an author to be agents of action (Barnet, 1963: 13). In *The Lady of the Camellias*, there are major characters and minor characters. The major characters are Marguerite Gautier, Armand Duval, Prudence Duvernoy, and Father. While the minor characters are Gaston R, Ernest, The duke, Comte de N, Comte de G, Vicomte de L, Madam Arnold, Blance, Olympe, and the last is Julie Duprat.

##### a. Major Characters

###### 1. Marguerite Gautier

Physically, she is a beautiful young woman. Mentally, she has sweetness, charm, and spontaneity. Morally, she is a straightforward woman who wants to prove her love. Since she meets Armand Duval, she falls deeply in love with him and she leaves all of her luxury and her other lovers for Armand. She wants to leave her past life as a famous courtesan.

"I love you as I never thought I should ever love. We will be happy; we will live quietly, and I will say good-bye forever to the life for which I now blush". (TLOTTC: 134).

###### 2. Armand Duval

He is Marguerite's beloved. Physically, he is a handsome young man. Socially, he is a young honourable man. Morally, he is a sincere man who wants to do anything for his love. He loves Marguerite very much in the first time, and he falls in love with her.

"It is this, that ever since I have seen you, I know not why, you have taken a place in my life; that, if I drive the thought of you out of my mind, it always comes back; that when I met you to-day, after not having seen you for two years, you made a deeper impression on my heart and mind than ever; that, now that you have let me come to see you, now that I know you, now that I know all that is strange in you, you have become a necessity of my life, and you will drive me mad, not only if you will not love me, but if you will not let me love you." (TLOTTC: 73).

### 3. Prudence Duvernoy

Physically, she is a fatty woman and 40 years old. Morally, she is a greedy woman. She becomes Marguerite's friend with hope the reward to fulfill her luxury needs. Socially, she is a hat maker and she is a courtesan like Marguerite. She gets the profit from Marguerite. But, after Marguerite died, Prudence has become bankrupt. She tells fable story that Marguerite is the cause of it.

Prudence had become bankrupt. She told us that Marguerite was the cause of it; that during her illness she had lent her a lot of money in the form of promissory notes, which she could not pay, Marguerite having died without having returned her the money, and without having given her a receipt with which she could present herself as a creditor (TLOTTC: 206).

### 4. Monsieur Duval or Armand's father

Physically, he is tall, dignified, and kind. Socially, he is receiver general at district C. He has a great reputation there for loyalty. He has forty thousand francs a year. Morally, he is a good father. He is very affectionate with his children. He does not agree with the relationship between his son and Marguerite, because he thinks this scandal could tarnish the honor of his family.

"I will explain it to you. Have a mistress if you will; pay her as a man of honour is bound to pay the woman whom he keeps, by all means; but that you should come to forget the most sacred things for her, that you should let the report of your scandalous life reach

my quiet countryside, and set a blot on the honourable name that I have given you, it can not, it shall not be." (TLOTTC: 151).

b. Minor Characters

1. Gaston R

He is Armand's friend. Morally, he loves Marguerite but she regards him as her friend, not more.

"Friends," and Marguerite lingered over the word, as if to intimate to those who were present that in spite of the familiar way in which she greeted him, Gaston was not and never had been anything more than a friend, friends are always welcome."(TLOTTC: 61).

2. The duke

He is an old duke and very rich. He often gives much money to Marguerite because he seems Marguerite like his daughter.

She was said to be living with an old duke, a foreigner, enormously rich, who had tried to remove her as far as possible from her former life (TLOTTC: 11).

3. Ernest

He is Armand's friend. He is a young man who first introduces Armand to Marguerite.

"Ah," he went on when we had left the shop, "do you know what kind of woman it is that I am going to introduce you to? Don't imagine it is a duchess. It is simply a kept woman, very much kept, my dear fellow; don't be shy, say anything that comes into your head." (TLOTTC: 49)

4. Comte de N

He is Marguerite's lover. Socially, he is a count and Marguerite does not like him.

5. Comte de G

He is an other Marguerite's lovers. He loves Marguerite very much.

"That is the Comte de G., who was very much in love with Marguerite; it was he who brought her out. Do you know him?" Prudence said (TLOTTC: 68).

#### 6. Vicomte de L

He is other Marguerite's lovers. He has been bankrupt because Marguerite. And Marguerite cries when he says good bye to her.

"That is the little Vicomte de L. He was obliged to disappear." Prudence said.

"Why?"

"Because he was all but ruined. That's one, if you like, who loved Marguerite" Prudence said.

"And she loved him, too, no doubt?"

"She is such a queer girl, one never knows. The night he went away she went to the theatre as usual, and yet she had cried when he said good-bye to her." (TLOTTC: 68)

#### 7. Madame Arnold

She is the owner of Point du Jour, Bougival, place where Marguerite and Armand spend of their time together in the countryside.

"Well, let us go to Bougival, at the Point du Jour, at Widow Arnould's. Armand, order an open carriage." (TLOTTC: 126)

#### 8. Blance

She is Armand's sister. Mentally, she is a plain and religious girl. She is a girl who has good manners.

His daughter, named Blanche, had that transparence of eyes, that serenity of the mouth, which indicates a soul that conceives only holy thoughts and lips that repeat only pious words. She welcomed her brother's return with smiles, not knowing, in the purity of her youth, that far away a courtesan had sacrificed her own happiness at the mere invocation of her name (TLOTTC: 207).

9. Olympe

She is Marguerite's friend. She is prettier than Marguerite, and Armand concludes that Olympe becomes his mistress and he revenges to Marguerite because she leaves him.

10. Julie Duprat

She is Marguerite's friend. She always accompanies Marguerite when she is sick.

2. Setting

The term of setting refers to the point in which the events of the plot occur consequently (Kenney, 1966: 38). There are two major categories of setting, those are: setting of time and setting of place.

a. Setting of Time

In *The Lady of the Camellias*, the beginning of the story takes setting of time in the year of 1847.

b. Setting of Place

Generally, setting of place takes only in France, such as in Champs-Elysees, Vaudeville, Bagneres, Montmartre Cemetery, Place de la Bourse, etc.

3. Plot

Plot is the artistic arrangement of the event (Kennedy, 1983:10).

a. Exposition

The story of *The Lady of the Camellias* begins when Alexandre Dumas Jr visits auction place in Rue d'Antin No.9, it is Marguerite's house.

b. Conflict

The conflict in this novel happens when Marguerite falls deeply in love with Armand because his sincerity to her. She wants to leave all of her luxury and her other lovers.

c. Climax

The climax goes through when Armand's father visits Marguerite in Bougival when Armand returns to Paris. He demands Marguerite to leave Armand, for Armand's sister, Blanche, her wedding is cancelled if Marguerite does not leave Armand.

d. Resolution

The resolution in this novel is when Armand revenges to Marguerite, it makes Marguerite feels broken heart and her condition more dangerous, she dies in loneliness and all of her wealth is confiscate.

e. Causality

Marguerite falls deeply in love with Armand because of his sincerity to her. She wants to leave all of her luxury and her other lovers.

f. Plausability

Plausibility is the change of the major character's attitude. It can be seen when Marguerite likes drunk and she does not care about her health. After she meets Armand Duval, she falls in love and changes her life to be more healthy and she never drunk again.

4. Point of view

In *The Lady of the Camellias*, Alexandre Dumas Jr uses multiple point of view because the author is categorized into both of them; participant point of view and non-participant point of view.

5. Style

Style refers to the way of the author's writing, which consists of grammatical structure, sentence construction, dictation, figurative language, imaginary, and symbol.

a. Grammatical structure

In *The Lady of the Camellias*, Dumas Jr uses both standard grammatical structure and non grammatical structure in the narration and dialogue of the novel.

b. Sentence construction

Dumas Jr tends to use long narration, a combination between long and short sentences.

c. Diction

Dumas Jr inserts borrowing from another language that is quite effective to support the setting of place in the story such as France. For example: Mademoiselle Marguerite Gautier, Manon Lescaut, Monsieur, The Dame aux Camellias.

d. Figurative language

In *The Lady of the Camellias*, Dumas Jr uses many kinds of figurative language, such as personification, metaphor, simile, apostrophe, hyperbole, imagery, and symbol.

6. Theme

The theme in *The Lady of the Camellias* novel is “Love is the right of all people regardless of caste and status”.

B. Psychoanalytic Analysis

1. Marguerite’s System of Personality

In this novel, Marguerite Gautier is a major character who faces inner conflict in her life. The conflict is caused by the contradiction of her id, ego, and superego.

a. The *id*

*Id* is the basic system of personality to satisfy the need, wished by human being. This tendency of the id to devote itself exclusively to immediate reduction or tension called the pleasure principle.

The *id* of Marguerite happens when Armand's father visits Marguerite in Bougival. Armand's father demands Marguerite to leave his son, but Marguerite wants to stay together with Armand.

"At that there was only one thing to do, to show him the proof that since I was your mistress I had spared no sacrifice to be faithful to you without asking for more money than you had to give me. I showed him the pawn tickets, the receipts of the people to whom I had sold what I could not pawn; I told him of my resolve to part with my furniture in order to pay my debts, and live with you without being a too heavy expense. I told him of our happiness, of how you had shown me the possibility of a quieter and happier life," (TLOTTC: 189)

b. The *superego*

The *superego* is moral principle. According to Freud "Superego represents the ideal word rather than pleasure or the real word it tries to reach perfection rather than pleasure" (Hall, 1998: 35).

The *superego* happens based on her *id*, Marguerite wants to stay together with Armand. The seventh *superego* says if she does not leave Armand, she makes Armand's future destroyed.

"Then the day of reproaches and regrets would arrive, be sure, for you or for others, and you would both bear a chain that you could not sever. What would you do then? Your youth would be lost, my son's future destroyed; and I, his father, should receive from only one of my children the recompense that I look for from both," Monsieur Duval said." (TLOTTC: 190)

c. The *ego*

*Ego* is based on the reality principle. The *ego* happens when Marguerite follows her *superego* to leave Armand, because Armand's future can be destroyed if she does not leave him. Whether her *id* wants to stay together with Armand. In this case, her *superego* dominates her *id*.

"Well, sir, embrace me once, as you would embrace your daughter, and I swear to you that that kiss, the only chaste kiss I have ever had, will make me strong against my love, and that within a week your son will be once more at your side, perhaps unhappy for a time, but cured forever." (TLOTTC: 192)



## 2. Sincerity of Marguerite

Wolfson (1983) makes three determinations by reference to certain established conventions, such as frequency, direction, and ideology.

### a. Frequency

In *The Lady of the Camellias*, the frequency happens when Marguerite forgives Armand in the three times, because Armand always does mistakes to her.

She kissed me on the forehead, and said, "This is the third time that I have forgiven you." (TLOTC: 115)

### b. Direction

The direction happens when Marguerite meets Armand. She wants to get a young lover like Armand and she has a plan to make a new life with Armand, because they are young and free.

"Then I met you, young, ardent, happy, and I tried to make you the man I had longed for in my noisy solitude. What I loved in you was not the man who was, but the man who was going to be." (TLOTC: 119)

### c. Ideology

The ideology happens when the Duke demands Marguerite to leave Armand. She thinks that she does not leave Armand, and actually she said that she does not leave Armand because she loves Armand very much.

Marguerite seemed to be thinking, for she answered nothing. My heart beat violently while I waited for her reply. "No," she answered, "I will not leave Armand, and I will not conceal the fact that I am living with him. It is folly no doubt, but I love him." (TLOTC: 133)

### 3. Love of Marguerite

#### a. Passionate Love

Passionate love is true love between a man and a woman in a relationship. In *The Lady of the Camellias*, the passionate love occurs when Marguerite is falling in love with Armand, and Armand also loves her. She never thought she should ever love. She thinks that she will be happy with Armand, and she will leave her past as a courtesan for Armand.

"Oh yes, I love you, my Armand," she murmured, putting her two arms around my neck. "I love you as I never thought I should ever love. We will be happy; we will live quietly, and I will say good-bye forever to the life for which I now blush. You won't ever reproach me for the past? Tell me!" (TLOTTC: 134)

#### b. Companionate Love

Companionate love happens between parents and children, brothers and sisters, and friends. In *The Lady of the Camellias*, the first companionate love occurs in the relationship between Marguerite and the Duke. Her relationship with the Duke is a relationship between parents and children. The duke regards Marguerite as his daughter.

In real truth, the feelings which the bereaved father entertained towards Marguerite had their origin in a sentiment so pure and holy, that any other intimacy with her than that of more affection, would have seemed to him unnatural and impious, and he had never addressed to her a single word which his own daughter might not have heard. (TLOTTC: 13)

## IV. Conclusion

From the explanation above, the researcher draws out the conclusion that *The Lady of the Camellias* novel is the romantic novel that has tragic ending love between Marguerite Gautier and Armand Duval. In this novel, Dumas Jr seems to give a description that the love can make you feel happiness or sadness, and also make you destroyed. The love is not knows caste and occupation because love is one word that has similar meaning to every body no

matter where somebody comes from, including the courtesan. Beside that, it has correlation between *The Lady of the Camellias* (1902) novel with the psychoanalytic theory. For other researcher can also use the other theory in analyzing this novel, such as the feminist approach or sociological approach in analyzing the character of Marguerite Gautier.

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