

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

God creates human with many differences. Differences of opinion, behavior, choice, trait, feeling, and the differences of determining in life stance. It takes attitude to face and solve the problems in life, one of which is the attitude of big heart. Big heart is the attitude of self-sacrifice that is based on a sense of sincerity that one aims to make other people happy. Big heart can erase disappointment, foster a sense of humility, making keep smiling although being hurt, forgiving and not holding grudge, make the problems faced not heavy, and with a big heart can always to give without expecting to receive. A person with a big heart certainly is a nice behavior person, because not everyone can have a big heart.

Talk about a big heart, there is novel which taken by the writer to be analyzed as a phenomena of a big heart person. Dear John is a novel that tells about a man named John who got survival in his own life to be a big heart man. In his life, John faced many problems. He was confronted with some choices that made him must decide and if he get the wrong decision he could be in trouble. One of them is when he must compliance his fiancée to marry another man. And that man actually is his bestfriend. John was choose to assisted his country. According to John, other people's happiness is more important and he is happy to

see his lover happy though with others. Only the big-hearted people which able to act like that.

Dear John novel published in 2006 and the story of novel is about a romantic couple who strongly fall in love and then are separated during the man's military service. The main character is John Tyree, which grew up and was raised only by his father. His relationship with his father is not exactly harmonious. His father did not have social life which was only known that his father suffered from Asperger syndrome. All his life with his father, not much they can do or even talk with. He lives in all its limitations. Until one day, he realized that his life is so messy and do not want to be like that forever. He decided to go into the army. His life was totally dedicated to the army.

John had never thought about women. Until one day, he is furloughing, and Savannah Lynn Curtis met at the beach. They both fall in love. John promised to marry Savannah one day, when he officially resigned from the army. Their relationship continued even when John had to go back to where he had served as a soldier in Germany. They went through a long distance relationship with each other to send a letter, e-mail, and routine calls. They have a habit of remembering their stories at the first night of the full moon, wherever they are.

John should finish his working life in Germany and go home to be married to Savannah but he signed up again as a soldier because the events of 11 September in Washington and Savannah supports his decision. At the time John was assigned in Iraq, a letter arrived from Savannah. The letter is notification that Savannah was married. John also had to accept the fact that his father suffered a

heart attack and died a few months interval. After it his life just to be a soldier and did not know until when.

Nicholas Spark is a writer born on December 31, 1965 in Omaha, Nebraska and now lives in New Bern, North Carolina. He was the second child of three brothers. His father was Patrick Spark and his mother named Jill Spark. His family settled in Fair Oaks, California. He was married to Catherine Cote in July 1988 and He now has five children: Miles, Ryan, Landon, Lexie, and Savannah. He was awarded a scholarship after graduating high school to continue at the University of Notre Dame. Before becoming a writer, he was a member of the relay team. But in 1985 he suffered an injury. During his recovery, he wrote his first book that became the beginning of a successful career.

The works of Nicholas Spark mostly romance. In 1994, at the age of 28, he wrote *The Notebook* over a period of six months. In October, 1995, rights to *The Notebook* were sold to Warner Books. It was published in October, 1996, and he followed that with *Message in a Bottle* (1998), *A Walk to Remember* (1999), *The Rescue* (2000), *A Bend in the Road* (2001), and *Nights in Rodanthe* (2002), *The Guardian* (2003), *The Wedding* (2003), *Three Weeks with my Brother* (2004), *True Believer* (2005) and *At First Sight* (2005) all with Warner Books. The movie version of *Message in a Bottle* was released in 1999, *A Walk to Remember* was released in 2002, and *The Notebook* was released in 2004.

The research of *Dear John* is important due to the following four reasons. First, *Dear John* are that it is an inspiring book. Not only that true love exists, yet, can make long distance relationships work. This novel teaches the importance of

mission projects and donation. Savannah was away from home doing mission work for the Habitat for Humanity. John donates all his money from his father's coin collection to Savannah's husband, Tim, who had Melanoma.

Second, the simple plot of the story. Author pack a story of John's life in detail and simple, making it easier for readers to understand and follow the story. The novel's true art lies in its details and hidden patterns. Author succeed make the reader interested in the plot is simple and easy to understand.

The last, the main character is John. He resolute and sincere accept what is happening in his life. Disappointment and regret there are in John, but he does not make himself low because of love. He was able to accept the fact that love is not must have, the important thing is the happiness of her loved ones because it is true love.

Based on the reason the writer will observe *Dear John* novel by using psychoanalytic theory. So the writer constructs the title **JOHN'S BIG HEART IN NICHOLAS SPARK'S *DEAR JOHN* NOVEL (2006): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

The researcher attempt to provide some literature reviews that have been done on the novel *Dear John* by Nicholas Sparks. The author did not find the results of research on this novel Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta, so the authors sought to find in any other university by browsing the site internet. The

authors hope that this study will help the reader to learn more about the novel *Dear John*.

To prove the originality of the study, the writer presents the previous studies that have been conducted in the different studies.

The first research was conducted by Esa Yolanda Putri (UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, 2012) entitled “An analysis of stylistics in *Dear John* novel by Nicholas Sparks”. The result of her study was about figurative language and the meaning of each figurative language used by the author in the novel *Dear John*. She discovered that the author uses animals, other living things, inanimate objects, visible and invisible to express human feelings, attitudes and characteristics. It also found the meaning of each figurative language in the form of sadness, happiness, magic, beauty, etc. The method used in this study is a qualitative method of analysis.

The second research was conducted by Rohana (University of Sumatra Utara, 2011) entitled “Major Character Conflicts In *Dear John*’s Novel”. The discussion in this thesis focused on the analysis of the kinds of conflicts that are in both figures, the novel written by Nicholas Sparks. Researchers collected and selected excerpts from the novel which correspond to the types of conflict based on the theory of Kurt Lewin, namely: Approach-Approach Conflict, Conflict Avoidance-Avoidance, and Approach-Avoidance Conflict. Issue to be raised in this paper is an analysis of the conflicts that occurred in the main character in the novel *Dear John*, written by Nicholas Sparks. With this analysis it will be seen

what kind of conflicts are experienced by the main character in this novel is based on the theory of Kurt Lewin conflict.

The difference between the writer with the previous study is in aspects contained in the novel, and the similarities are all researching novel *Dear John*. The present researcher assumes that there is no researcher which has analyzed novel John's Big Heart in *Dear John* using Psychoanalytic Approach.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the research background above, the researcher proposes the problem of the study as "How is John's Big Heart reflected in Nicholas Spark's *Dear John* Novel (2006)?".

D. Objective

The objectives of the study are the following:

1. To analyze John's Big Heart in Nicholas Spark's *Dear John* Novel (2006) based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze John's Big Heart in Nicholas Spark's *Dear John* Novel (2006) based on Psychoanalytic Approach.

E. Benefit of the Study

The benefit expected from this study are the following:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is projected to give more contribution and information to the larger body of knowledge, particularly in the literary studies.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other universities interested in literary studies.

F. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this study, the writer applies qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using psychoanalysis approach. The steps to conduct the research are as follows: 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.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Dear John* Novel written by Nicholas Sparks and published by Warner Books (2006). It is analyzed by using psychoanalytic approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

There are two types of data, namely primary and secondary data, as follows:

a. Primary Data

The primary data sources of this study are *Dear John* (2006) novel written by Nicholas Spark's. The data involves dialogues, characters, action and the whole narration, which are relevant to the subject matter of this research.

b. Secondary Data

Secondary data is the supporting data taken from other sources such as essay, articles, biography of Nicholas Spark's, internet and other relevant information.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collection are as follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly.
- b. Taking notes of important parts both primary and secondary data.
- c. Arranging the data into several groups based on its theoretical category.
- d. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis.
- e. Drawing conclusion and formulate its pedagogical suggestion.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used in analyzing data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with the structural element of the novel and Psychoanalytic approach.

G. Research Paper Organization

In order to make the research easier to follow, this research paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction which explains the Background of the Study, Literature Review, Problem Statement, Objective of the Study, Limitation of the Study, Benefit of the Study, Research Method and Research Paper Organization. Chapter II is Underlying Theory, it consists of Psychoanalytic Approach, Big Heart, and Structural Elements of the novel. Chapter III will cover the structural analysis of the novel. Chapter IV presents psychological approach. Chapter V is contains Conclusion and Suggestion.