CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Love is a gift from God to our life. According to McGrath (2002) in The Power of Love, "Love is the best antidepressant". It means that love is very important in human life, because love always gives peacefulness and pleasure to other. In the relationship, love is carrying the disparity of two persons into one. According to Michael R. Liebowitz in Human Development, he defines that love has unique chemical basis, perhaps associated with phenylthyamine (a compound related to the amphetamines) (Zanden, 1985: 388). The most powerful activators of the brain's pleasure centers are the combinations of love and romance. Sometime, the love can carry person behavior become different.

A behavior can be made by a conditioning. Behavior and environment are related thus if we make a condition to treat person behavior, the person behavior is called behavior form. According to Pervin (1984: 331) there are three broad assumptions about the nature of the person that tend to run throughout learning theory and the behavioral point of view, those are; (1) behavior is learned by the building up of associations. It means that complex behavior can be understood in terms of the building up and joining together of simple associative bonds between something that occurs in the environment and the organism's response to it. In a friendship,

they will influence another. For example; we have a group in the school and if most of members of the group like hang out or shopping, the other member will follow them. (2) People basically seek to obtain pleasure and avoid pain. A pleasure is a people need in the world. Pleasure will give them satisfaction in doing something. (3) Behavior is basically environmentally determined. Thus behavior is a function of stimulus-response connections developed mainly as a result of rewards and punishments in the environment, there is considerable room for optimism concerning the ability to shape human behavior. However the environment, the organism will follow or reflect the environment.

The relationship between love and behavior is near. Baron and Branscombe (2012: 241) in Social Psychology concluded that love is combination of emotions, cognitions, and behaviors that can be involved in intimate relationships. Love leads people to become different. Skinner assumed that all behavior is lawfully determined, predictable, and able to be brought under environmental control (Ziegler and Hjelle, 1992: 299). To understand behavior is to control it, and vice versa. It means that an environment influences on human behavior. If people live in good environment they will to be good also, and vice versa.

The phenomenon of love changes person's behavior happening in social life often inspires authors in making their literary works. The love that is usually figured out in a literary work is love for parents, children, friends, boyfriend or girlfriend and other people in the world. Sometime,

when people are falling in love, they will change their behavior unconsciously. One of the examples of literary work that figures the influence of love on person's behavior phenomenon is *A Walk to Remember* written by Nicholas Sparks.

A Walk to Remember is 1999 book that tells about the influence of love on person's behavior. The story of *A Walk to Remember* starts with a prologue from Landon Carter at age fifty seven years old that reminder of the story takes place when Landon is a seventeen year old senior high school and ends when he was around fifty seven years old. He tells about Landon Carter's experiences of life that was meeting him with a girl, namely Jamie Sullivan. His works narrative and contains any conflicts that are described within the context of the story. In particular the conflicts in the story are connected with friends, family, and romance relationship. It is a memoir that has 150 pages.

A Walk to Remember novel was written by Nicholas Sparks. He was born in 1965 in Omaha, Nebraska. He lived a number of college towns before settling in Fair Oaks, California because of his father; Patrick Michael (Mike) was a graduate student for much. Meanwhile his mother, Jill Emma Marie (Jill), worked as both a homemaker and optometrist's assistant.

Nicholas excelled in high school, graduating valedictorian of his class and earning notice as a middle-distance runner. He accepted a full athletic scholarship to Notre Dame and set a school record as part of a relay

team. Suddenly he got an Achilles tendon injury at the summer after his freshman year. He tries to recover then he wrote his first novel, *The Passing,* which was never published. It is the first novel that hones him in writing skills.

Nicholas graduated from Notre Dame in 1988 with a degree in finance and married his wife, Cathy, in 1989, a year that would also bring a deep sadness to Nicholas' life. His mother passed away at the age of 47 from a horseback riding accident. That year was also when Nicholas wrote his second novel, *The Royal Murders,* which also remains unpublished.

Over the next three years, Nicholas experimented with jobs in a number of industries, including real estate appraisal, home restoration, food service, and dental supply sales. Although Nicholas has little training in medical sales, Nicholas then started an orthopedic products manufacturing company that brought in little income.

Nicholas decided to even more serious in writing at the age of 28. Then, he spent the second half of 1994 writing a novel entitle *The Notebook,* his first publication novel. A year later, while living in Greenville, South Carolina, he was offered a contract by a young, new agent with no published novels to her credit.

The next year also brought a mix of success and tragedy, his father died in an automobile accident at the age of 54, just a month before he tours in forty five cities to promote *The Notebook.* Another book, *Message in a Bottle,* published in 1998, and *A Walk to Remember,* published in 1999.

After that came *The Rescue* in 2000, *A Bend in the Road* in 2001, *Nights in Rodanthe* in 2002, and *The Guardian* and *The Wedding* in 2003. Sparks co-authored *Three Weeks with My Brother* with his brother, Micah, in 2004, and then returned to solo works with *True Believer* and *At First Sight* in 2005, *Dear John* in 2006, *The Choice* in 2007, and *The Lucky One* in 2008. Each of Nicholas's novels has ranked as an international bestseller. (*www.bookbrowse.com/.../index.../nicholas-sparks*)

The novel was published in October 1999, set in Beaufort, North Carolina in the 1958-59. Here Sparks tells of two teenagers who fall in love with each other despite the disparity of their personalities. Those two teenagers are Landon Carter and Jamie Sullivan. Landon lives in the small, religious town of Beaufort, North Carolina. His father, Worth Carter is a genial, charismatic congressman in Washington, D.C., while his mother, Cynthia Carter lived apart from his father. Landon and his mother lived in Beaufort, North Carolina, while his father stayed in Washington D. C. Because of this condition, Landon grew become a reclusive and naughty boy. He got less of love of his father. Jamie Sullivan is the daughter of Hegbert Sullivan, the Beaufort church minister. Her mother passed in childbirth. Although, she grew without a mother, but she got full of love of her father that made her become a good girl.

There are four reasons, why the researcher is interested to analyze this novel. Firstly, the characters and characterization of *A Walk to Remember* novel*,* especially the character of Landon Carter. Landon is the

son of a genial, charismatic congressman, Worth Carter in Washington, D.C. and his mother, Cynthia Carter lived apart from his father. He grow become reclusive boy, because of less of love.

Secondly, the students can understand the meaning of love in this novel that can add knowledge to the students at an educational institution. Not only for two people between man and women in a relationship but for all human in the world. Love is animportant thing for their lives.

The third reason is this study can be beneficial for students with moral values contained in this research that love has influence on person behavior showed by the experiences life of Landon Carter. Landon Carter used to be a naughty boy and he never cares about her school. After he met Jamie Sullivan, his behavior becomes different.

Then, the fourth *A walk to Remember* is a popular novel written by Nicholas Sparks in 1999. It can be seen from the fact in which the novel has been adapted into movie. The novel was adapted into movie at 2002.

The researcher decides to use a behaviorist perspective proposed by B. F. Skinner to analyze the novel because the theory is more appropriate with the theme of novel. The novel shows how the influence of love on Landon Carter's behavior as the main character. For that reason, the researcher conducts this research paper entitled **THE INFLUENCE OF LOVE ON LANDON CARTER'S BEHAVIOR IN NICHOLAS SPARKS'** *A WALK TO REMEMBER* **(1999): A BEHAVIORIST PERSPECTIVE**

B.   Literature Review

A Walk to Remember is one of Nicholas Sparks' best novels. There are some literature reviews that analyzed the novel; the first literature review is from Merry Christina of Sanata Dharma University studied the novel with research entitled *A the Values of Love as Reflected in Nicholas Sparks' A Walk to Remember.* In her review, she focused on Nicholas Sparks' *A Walk to Remember* present love through the character and conflict and the values oflove seen the novel. She concludes that the values of love may cover lots of element in life. There are about honesty, forgiveness, truth, to give with all the heart, to share, and most of all, an everlasting love will never die. Those elements can be seen from the major character named Jamie Sullivan. With the power of love, we believe that we are able to do everything (Christina, 2007: viii).

Yulia Frida Puspitasari of Sanata Dharma University studied the novel with thesis entitled *The Influence of Jamie Sullivan's Emotion towards her Motivation to struggle for Life As Seen In Nicholas Spark'sA Walk to Remember*. In her review, she focused on Jamie Sullivan's character portrayed in *A Walk to Remember*, the influence of leukemia toward Jamie Sullivan's emotion and Jamie Sullivan's emotion influence her motivation to struggle for life. She concludes that Jamie Sullivan's suffering from leukemia, makes she feels afraid of death, but she does not show her fear explicitly. Jamie Sullivan's emotion becomes the conviction of Jamie Sullivan to struggle for life. There are some reasons which motivate her to

struggle of life. One of them is her strong faith and her love toward Landon Carter (Puspitasari, 2006: viii).

Bernard Setiaji Fergantoro Widodo of Sanata Dharma University studied the novel with research entitled *Factors Influencing the Recovery Process of Jamie in A Walk to Remember.* In his research, he focused on Jamie's characterization as the main character, the factors that influence Jamie's recovery process and the effects of the factors toward Jamie's recovery process. He concludes that the result of his research is not as the same as she wants, with all factors that influence her recovery process, jamie Sullivan has more power in accepting the reality that she suffers cancer and has more respect to her life.

Rahajeng Sariningdyas Auroria of UMS studied the novel for her research entitled *Landon Carter's Personalities Development in Adam Shankman's A Walk To Remember Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach. It focused on the main character of the novel through a movie version.* She concludes thatthe personalities development of Landon Carter are shown by the structural elements which build the film such as characters, setting, plot, theme, and mise-en-scene and from psychoanalysis perspective through the system personality of Landon Carter.

In this study the researcher will analyze the novel with different title and approach. The researcher uses a behaviorist approach with the research entitled *The Influence Of Love On Landon Carter's Behavior In Nicholas Sparks' A Walk To Remember (1999): A Behaviorist Perspective.*

C.   **Problem Statement**

Based on the research background above, the major problem of this study is "How is the influence of love on Landon Carter's behavior in Nicholas Sparks' *A Walk to Remember* novel?"

D.   **Limitation of the Study**

In this research, the researcher focuses this research on the analysis of the influence of love on Landon Carter as personality, his effort to face a problem and influence of his problem to his personality. The researcher uses a behaviorist perspective to analyze the novel.

E.   **Objective the Study**

Based on the problem that has been stated above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel in order to identify the unity of the novel.

2. To describe the influence of love on Landon Carter's behavior in Nicholas Sparks 'A *Walk to Remember* novel based on the behaviorist perspective.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from this research are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher hopes that she can give contribution in criticizing a literary work and producing criticism as objective as possible.

2. Practical Benefit

a. The result can be used to know how the influence of love on human's behavior.

b. The researcher hopes that the result of this research can be used to do research by next researcher related to behaviorist perspective, especially on Nicholas Sparks' *A Walk to Remember* novel.

G. Research Method

There are five elements that support in research method, there are:

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the researcher applies qualitative research because there is no need statistic data. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using behaviorist 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.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *A Walk to Remember* novel by Nicholas Sparks that was published in 1999.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

There are two types of data, namely primary and secondary data.

a. Primary Data

The primary data source is the novel itself, *A Walk to Remember* novel by Nicholas Sparks.

b. Secondary Data

The secondary data source includes references and data or materials related to the research, it is from the books and internet.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The techniques of data collection are as follows:

a. Reading the novel.

b. Identifying and marking the point of the novel.

c. Determining the major character that will be analyzed.

d. Taking notes of information in both primary data and secondary data source.

e. Arranging the data into several parts based on classification.

f. Analyzing the data of research on B. F. Skinner theory of behaviorist perspective.

g. Drawing conclusion based on the analysis data.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The researcher uses Behaviorist Perspective and applies a descriptive analysis. The steps taken by the researcher 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 a behaviorist perspective. Focus will be paid on the influence of love to behavior.

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which consists of the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, research method, and paper organization. The second chapter includes review of underlying theory involving the theory of behaviorism that will be used to analyze the data. Third chapter is a structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer explains the structural elements of the novel and discussion. Fourth chapter is a behaviorist analysis. And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.