

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

England's Perfect Hero is a novel written by American author Suzanne Enoch, it is a historical romance. The book was first published by Avon Books, on February 2004. This novel has twenty five chapters and 386 pages. It takes setting in London at 19th century with the outbreak of Napoleon wars. The background of each character is a military family.

Suzanne Enoch was born in Southern California. She is an American author best-selling contemporary and historical regency romance novels. Suzanne Enoch has been writing her own stories since she learned to read. She graduated from the University of California with a degree in English.

She has written several novels that get some awards. They are: *London's Perfect Scoundrel* (Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award Nominee for Best First Historical, 2003), *Flirting with Danger* (Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award Winner for Best Romantic Intrigue Novel, 2005), *Sin and Sensibility* (RITA Award Finalist for Best Long Historical Romance, 2006), *Billionaires Prefer Blondes* (Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award Nominee for Best Contemporary, 2006), *Something Sinful* (Romantic Times Reviewers' Choice Award Nominee for Historical Romance of the Year, 2006), *Twice the Temptation* (Five Best Romances of the Year, 2007). (http://www.suzanneenoch.com/books_england.html)

England's Perfect Hero is a novel about a woman namely Lucinda Barrett. She and her two best friends write several etiquettes that men rarely do. They want a husband who has a good etiquette, they called it 'lessons in love'. Lucinda's lessons are: when speaking a man should be attentive and not gaze about the room; at a dance, a man should dance and interact; a man should be intelligent; a man should be respectful to her family. No need a long time, her best friends married to the men to whom they delivered their etiquette 'lessons in love'. So Lucinda decides to choose someone who definitely needs lessons, but someone who will not complicate her life. And that person is Lord Geoffrey Newcombe. Geoffrey is a soldier, as far as everyone knows he is a war hero. Lucinda thinks his father will agree to her choice.

Robert Carroway hears everything what are they talking about. Then, he meets Lucinda, offering help to gain Geoffrey. The first and second lessons have succeeded, on the other side, they both are falling in love. Lucinda knows that Robert is not a good choice, because her father doesn't like him and Robert is a former prisoner of war. But, Geoffrey marry Lucinda just because he wants a promotion, Lucinda's father is an army general it will make Geoffrey easier to promoted. Geoffrey proposed Lucinda but she doesn't answer it, because Robert got problems. He is suspected steal important documents in Horse Guards, a military office. The documents are list of the names of English traitors and map. There is must be someone abuse

Robert's past. Whoever did this is trying to begin a war or sold it to the England's rival to get huge profits.

Robert has an idea before he gets punishment. He asking a help to his brothers and Lucinda. He asking Lucinda to invited Geoffrey to accompany her to the horse auction at Tattersall's. When they arrive, Robert and his brothers go to Geoffrey's house. They looking for the document, because Robert sure that Geoffrey is the thief. Finally, Robert finds the document in Geoffrey's uniform trunk. Then, Robert goes to Barrett House and tells General Barrett that he was found these documents. After he tells everything to General Barrett, they decide to find Geoffrey and locate him.

The ending of the story is Lucinda tells Robert all rules. The third rule is a man should have intelligent, the fourth is a man should be respectful to her family. Robert did all rules that Lucinda wants. Robert is the man that all this time her looking for. They had done it. They had delivered their lessons, and found their loves. Their idea had turned out exceedingly well, if she said so herself.

England's Perfect Hero has many public responses after this novel published. There are some responses from readers, the positive response is T. Dorris on February, 25th 2004, said that, "I have eagerly awaited this last installment in the "Lessons in Love" series and was not disappointed in the least. Suzanne Enoch has given us a tale both endearing and sentimental. I found myself immersed in the character's lives and their emotions. I would

highly recommend this book and this author to anyone who wishes to start reading this genre.”

Another response from the reader is negative response, according to Mademoiselle Osa, on January, 12th 2013, “I don't think the author had a handle on this story - it was not developed well. The story ended abruptly.” Osa thought that the end of the novel is not finish. When the case done, Enoch did not explain Lucinda and Robert ended with marriage or not. There must be explanation about the continuance of their relationship, Geoffrey's carrier, or General blessed them or not.

Although this novel is not a best seller, but get a positive review from Publishers Weekly in February, 09th 2004, said that, “This charming tale [has] depth, and Enoch balances it well with a hearty dose of screwball fun.” Enoch creates the unpredictable character. The hero is a former prisoner that being trauma because of war and rarely talk to other people even with his family. However, he is the man who Lucinda looking for.

England's Perfect Hero has several awards. The first is from the top book seller website Amazon.com, this novel get award the Top 10 Romances in 2004. From the University of Southeast of Louisiana gave two award, there are Romantic Times Career Achievement Award Nominee and Romantic Times Book Reviews Magazine based on E-Library Co-Op of Southeast Louisiana.

According to the researcher there are five interesting points of the novel to be researched. First, the characters in this novel has strong

characteristic. Robert Carroway, he was optimist to heal his trauma because of war tragedy and struggle to get his love. He does not give up to prove to Lucinda that he is the right man become her husband. Lucinda Barrett is a General's child, but she is not rigid like her father, calm and bland.

Second, the setting of the novel. The setting is take place in London at nineteenth century. The interesting of the setting is in the house of each characters. Enoch describes the characteristics house of a wealthy family who lives in England at nineteenth century the house is big, besides having the core room, also has a morning room, library, hall, servants' room, and stable.

Third, the novel has interesting plot. Enoch use traditional plot but interesting conflict. The conflict is complication that moves to climax. However, Lucinda Barrett and Robert Carroway are the most active characters, so it makes sense that the climax takes place between them.

Fourth, the language of the novel can be understood easily. Enoch uses modern English in delivering her story even though the setting of the story at nineteenth century.

Fifth, the novel has interesting theme to be discussed. The theme of the novel is etiquette of man should do to woman. Enoch thinks that man, nowadays, rare doing good behavior and she describes several etiquette that man rarely do. Etiquette is a code of conduct, for basic behavior that is socially expected from individuals in a society based on cultural norms. These behaviors include the proper way of socially interacting with others,

guidelines for handling yourself in public, to the manner of dress that is considered acceptable for various occasions.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher is encouraged to entitle the research as follows, **THE NEED FOR ETIQUETTE REFLECTED IN SUZANNE ENOCH'S *ENGLAND'S PERFECT HERO* NOVEL (2004): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

B. Literature Review

The study on *England's Perfect Hero* novel (2004) is first being conducted in the research paper due its latest publication that is in 2004. The researcher has researched through local and digital libraries and did not find it. Library of UMS, UNS, UGM, UNNES, until international libraries have reported no one research on *England's Perfect Hero*. So that the researcher cannot compare this research with other research because there is no study about *England's Perfect Hero*. The researcher analyzes **THE NEED FOR ETIQUETTE REFLECTED IN SUZANNE ENOCH'S *ENGLAND'S PERFECT HERO* NOVEL (2004): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH**

C. Problem Statement

Based on the research background, the researcher purpose the problem of the study “How is the need for etiquette reflected in *England's Perfect Hero* by Suzanne Enoch?”

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the researcher focused on the etiquette in London society reflected in Suzanne Enoch's *England's Perfect Hero* novel by using sociological approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze Suzanne Enoch in *England's Perfect Hero* novel based on its structural elements.
2. To find out the relationship between the novel and the social background of English society in the beginning of the twenty first century.

F. Benefit of the Study

By presenting this research, the writer hopes that there will be some benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is hoped to give a new information and contribution to the larger body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on *England's Perfect Hero* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and another students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another Universities who have interest with literary study on the novel from sociological approach.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

This type of research is qualitative in which the research does not need statistic to collect, to analysis, and to interpret. It is library research while the data sources are using literary data. It purposes to analyze the novel using sociological approach.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *England's Perfect Hero* novel written by Suzanne Enoch and publishing by HarperCollins Publisher in 2004. It is analyzed by using sociological approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

There are two data source that are needed to do this research.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of this research is the texts and paragraphs in *England's Perfect Hero* novel written by Suzanne Enoch.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data sources are books and other sources that support the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The technique of data collection is library research, the steps are:

- a. Reading repeatedly the story book.
- b. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
- c. Underlying of important parts in both primary and secondary data.

- d. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- e. Taking notes from the material and some other resources related to the novel.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

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

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper organization of *The Need for Etiquette Reflected in Suzanne Enoch's England's Perfect Hero Novel (2004): A Sociological Approach* is as follows: Chapter I is introduction which explains the background of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, research method and research paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory that consists of notion sociology of literature, the principles of sociology of literature, structural elements of the novel and theoretical application. Chapter III presents the social historical background of England society in the beginning of the twenty first century. Chapter IV is structural analysis of *England's Perfect Hero* novel. Chapter V is sociological analysis of *England's Perfect Hero* novel. Chapter VI contains conclusions and suggestions.