

PROBLEM SHARING REFLECTED IN ELIZABETH NOBLE'S *THE READING GROUP* (2005): A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



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APPROVAL

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I am the researcher, signed the statement below:

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Surakarta, 27th of July 2016

The researcher



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**PROBLEM SHARING REFLECTED IN ELIZABETH NOBLE'S
THE READING GROUP (2005)
A SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE**

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Abstract

This study is about Problem Sharing in Elizabeth Noble's novel The Reading Group (2005) analyzed using Social Psychological Perspective. The objectives of this study are to find what the problems are shared in the reading group, to describe the process of discussing the problem, and to analyze the reason of the author writing The Reading Group. This research is a qualitative research. The source of primary data in this research is Elizabeth Noble's The Reading Group novel (2005) published by New York: HarperCollins Publishers Inc. The sources of secondary data are from other sources related the study, such as website, dictionary, and some books that support the research. The researcher draws three conclusions in this research. Firstly, there are two types of problem shared in The Reading Group, namely: personal problem and group problem. Secondly, there are five ways to discuss the problem, such as direct, indirect, and pre-sharing while sharing, and post-sharing. Thirdly, Elizabeth Noble's reasons of writing The Reading Group, including sharing her own reading club experience, describing how women share experience one another, and the last is giving alternative to merely gossiping.

Keywords: Problem Sharing, Reading Group, Women, Social Psychological.

Abstrak

Studi ini adalah tentang Problem Sharing di dalam novel Elizabeth Noble berjudul The Reading Group (2005) yang dianalisis menggunakan pendekatan Sosial Psikologi. Tujuan dari studi ini adalah untuk mengetahui masalah-masalah apa saja yang dibagi di dalam reading group, untuk mengetahui proses dalam mendiskusikan masalah, dan untuk menganalisa alasan penulis menulis The Reading Group. Penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif. Data primer dalam penelitian ini adalah novel dari Elizabeth Noble yang berjudul The Reading Group (2005) yang dipublikasikan oleh HarperCollins Publishers Inc, New York. Data sekunder dalam penelitian ini adalah sumber-sumber lain yang berkaitan dengan studi, seperti website, kamus, dan buku-buku yang membantu penelitian. Peneliti menarik tiga kesimpulan dalam penelitian ini. Pertama, ada dua jenis masalah yang dibagi dalam reading group, yaitu masalah pribadi dan masalah kelompok. Kedua, ada lima cara dalam mendiskusikan masalah,

seperti secara langsung, secara tidak langsung, pre-sharing, ketika sharing, dan post-sharing. Ketiga, alas an Elizabeth Noble menulis *The Reading group*, antara lain membagi pengalaman tentang reading groupnya, menjelaskan bagaimana para wanita berbagi pengalaman satu sama lain, dan yang terakhir memberikan alternatif daripada menggosip.

Kata Kunci: Berbagi Masalah, Kelompok Membaca, Wanita, Sosial Psikologi.

1. Introduction

Reading group is an informal meeting group participated by anyone who likes to read books, share thought through the books, or for anyone who likes to read books but unsure to choose which books worth to read. The group would recommend such a book and share thought about the book. As an informal group, it usually does not have a structure organization, it only has founder. The founder in this reading group is Harriet. Harriet with her best friend, Nicole, to join, and then the three other members followed. They mainly scheduled to meet in the first week of the month. They discussed the book they had read the whole month there. One of them chose the book they had to have for the next meeting.

The Reading Group novel itself tells about a reading group that arranged by the main role, Harriet. This reading group had some members, Nicole –Harriet’s bestfriend-, Susan, Polly, and Clare. They had meeting every month to mostly talk about the book they had chosen before, and they became very intense as they included into each other’s life, also they became very close to each other. Each of them had one complicated life. For Harriet who always complaining of her ‘so-not-supposed-to-be’ husband she ever wanted, while Tim –her husband- was always trying to be perfect husband for her, and only looking at her, even though Harriet never tried to understand him and saw his effort. There was Nicole, who never got tired of her Don Juan cheating husband, Gavin. He kept repeating his fault and apologizing as she would never cut him off. Also Susan to deal with her old and senile mother who kept waiting for her husband as he had not died. Then Polly, a single parent who dealt with her pregnant teenager daughter. The last was Clare, a midwife who did not had a single child for years of wedding. Not just that, she found her husband cheating to her friend’s daughter until she pregnant, it was Cressida, Polly’s daughter. Things were very complicated and exhausting, but it went easier as they had their bestfriends around them, it meant so much for their each other’s life.

I think that *The Reading Group* is an interesting novel, but I couldn’t find any research using it as the object. Instead, I found there were so many reviews regarding the novel. The first review came from Megan Johnson presented on February 19, 2009 on her site: <http://writemeg.com>. She said she really liked the book. She loved Elizabeth Noble’s writing style, and thought that Noble certainly had a flair with words, but Megan did have

a problem with it too. There were just too many characters. She thought it just too distracting, too disorganized. She loved the interplay of the friends as they discussed all twelve of their monthly book club selections. Readers got several pages of talk on themes, morals, plot points and a touch of feminism, too. Things were certainly happening in the book at every turn, but Megan did not find it predictable, and the book was very well resolved in the end. Each of the women wound up with very different lives than when the readers were dropped into their stories twelve months earlier, and the sense of change and growth was palpable. Each of them was stronger, wiser and better ready to tackle the very next challenges coming their way. Noble didn't leave many loose ends by the last page, but Megan liked that, too. A satisfying, if somewhat emotionally overwhelming, she stated. In the end of her writing Megan gives 3.5 out of 5 stars.

The second review came from booksnyc.blogspot.com posted on February 13, 2010. It said at first, it was difficult to follow each story but quickly became familiar with the characters. There was no real literary criticism going on at these meetings but they like how the books were always a backdrop to scenes in the novel and to each of their lives. It said that addition content at the back of the book made it more interested.

There were also many reviews in book sites like Goodreads and Barnes&Noble, by the readers. The accumulative of the numbers of reviews showed as stars. Goodreads gave 3.3 out of 5 stars, and Barnes&Noble gave 3.6 out of 5 stars for *The Reading Group*.

a. Object of Study

The material object of the study is a novel by Elizabeth Noble's *The Reading Group*, first U.S. edition published 2005 by HarperCollins Publishers Inc. Originally published in Great Britain in 2003 by Coronet, an imprint of Hodder & Stoughton. The formal object of the study is problem sharing.

b. Underlying Theory

Social Psychology is a theory that firstly influenced by Aristotle, who believed that human is naturally sociable. Then the first text about social psychology was published in English by McDougall in 1908 (*An Introduction to Social Psychology*). Social psychology brings contributions and assumptions of *individual, cognitive, behaviorist and evolutionary psychology*, and on *sociology*, but it is unique in its context comparable with these disciplines when looking at behavior in a social context. Brown (2006: 7) assumed that social psychology is about consideration individual behavior in asocial perspective. It is social psychology because it looks at the interaction between people.

Social psychologists deal with the matters that influence people to behave in other person existence, and look at the situations which certain behavior and feelings appear.

Social psychology is to do with the way these feelings, thoughts, beliefs, intentions and purposes are constructed and how such psychological factors, in turn, influence human interactions with others. Topics examined in social psychology include: the self, social cognition, attribution theory, social influence, group processes, prejudice and discrimination, interpersonal processes, aggression and pro social behavior.

- **Group Processes**

Cognitions were often seen as individual. In the other hand, recent researches find human cognitions are social according to Hogg & Tindale (2001: x). The social nature of our thoughts, beliefs, even memories, has had important implications for what we mean by the notion of cognition, and the reasons why so many of them are shared among people in common social environments. Cognitions have taken on a more social definition, groups have become a more reasonable place to study them.

2. FINDINGS

a. Types problem shared in *The Reading Group*

1.1 Personal Problem

There are several members in this reading group. They are Harriet, Nicole, Polly, Susan, and Clare. Each of them has their own life and their own problem.

1.1.1 Losing the feeling of love

The first problem that shared in the group is losing the feeling of love that experienced by one of the members, Harriet.

Harriet was a wife and a mother of a boy and a girl. Her husband named Tim, who loved her so much. Unfortunately, Harriet did not love Tim as much as he loved her. She had been always ignoring him those last years. Harriet always thought that she deserved better, Charles for example, her ex.

But just imagine the feeling if they'd been Charles's babies, not Tim's. (TRG: 61)

At the end Harriet realized that Tim was the perfect husband and the perfect father for their children.

She had never wanted someone so much as she did him, now. (TRG: 370)

1.1.2 Husband having love affair

The second problem that shared in the group is husband having love affair that experienced by one of the members, Nicole.

Nicole was Harriet's best friend. She had twin sons and a daughter. Nicole has been being such a loyal wife to a serial cheating husband, Gavin. She had always hoping her marriage to work.

Then she decided to get pregnant once again to lock Gavin up, so that he could stop cheating. All Nicole's effort was wasted, she caught Gavin with other woman, again. She get enough of it, she was furious. Then she gave the baby up. She abort it, the biggest regret in her entire life.

She felt bad for the baby, she even got frustrated. At the end, Nicole divorced to Gavin. She had enough of him, she never wanted him in her life anymore.

1.1.3 Extra marital pregnancy

The third problem that shared in the group is child extra marital pregnancy that experienced by one of the members, Polly.

Polly was a single parent, a strong independent one. She had two children, Cressida and Daniel whom she raised on her own. Polly had a boyfriend named Jack, he had proposed to her and they would get married around December that year.

Things never easy for Polly, she found her daughter, Cressida, got pregnant in her twenty. It hit her nerve, she was furious, she wanted to Cressida to give up the baby. (TRG: 109-110)

Cressida totally did not want to, she wanted to keep it.

(TRG: 110)

Polly finally agreed, Cressida wanted Polly to promise her that she would support her decision.

Polly couldn't any angrier when she found out the father of the baby ended up being Elliot, Clare husband, her friend husband. She against the idea of Cressida and Elliot ended up being together. (TRG: 208)

Right after knowing Elliot better, she just gave the decision up to them.

She wasn't as afraid as she had been of them ending up together.

(TRG: 296)

After Cressida giving birth to her son, Polly wanted to take care the baby as Cressida continue her life, her school, but Jack, her fiancée, disagreed with Polly's decision because he never wanted to be a father, so they broke up.

"No, I wouldn't. I'm selfish man, deep down." (TRG: 238)

At the end Jack came back to Polly after realizing that he couldn't continue his life without Polly.

“I miss you too much. I’ve been an idiot. I was given a second chance when I found you, and I’ve nearly blown it by being selfish and inflexible. And I’m sorry.” (TRG: 383)

1.1.4 Identity revelation

The next problem that shared in the group is identity revelation that experienced by one of the members, Susan.

Susan was an upholder business woman. She was a mother of two sons, a wife, and a daughter. Susan was a great daughter to her mother, Alice. She still loved her mother even she got lost because of aging, still feeling relief and glad that she still had her mother in such age.

“I’ve always loved having Mum around, and that stuff wasn’t a big deal.” (TRG: 131)

Susan barely could took care of Alice 24/7 because she had her own life. So she asked Margaret, her older sister who lived in Australia to come back and take care of their mother together. Instead of staying, Margaret did not grant what Susan wanted and went back to Sydney, they never had a good relationship as sibling, because Margaret had been jealous of Susan and Alice’s closeness. (TRG: 381)

Not long time after that, Alice passed away, Margaret came back for second time. She and Susan had a talk and they made up. As they made up, they found a letter from Alice said that Susan was not their daughter. That was shocking, Margaret finally understand the reason Alice was closer to Susan, because she had been trying to, and did not worry about Margaret because she was their daughter after all.

1.1.5 Longing for baby

The last problem that shared in the group is longing for baby that experienced by one of the members, Clare.

Clare was a midwife. She was married, but she was not happy with her marriage. She married to Elliot, they were loved each other back then, but after numbers of miscarriages, Clare became all cold to Elliot. Clare was abandoned Elliot most of the time. She often overworked herself because of that.

Ninety-forty-five. She would have finished at eight—stayed on to finish a labor where she thought it would help the woman. That was typical of Clare. (TRG: 263)

One day she could not stand the loneliness and the emptiness around her, not then, then she had a sleep over her parents' house without Elliot.

"I'm just fed up with being so bloody sad all the time, and everything about home . . . and you, makes it worse. I can't do it anymore, not right now." (TRG: 103)

At the time Elliot cheated behind her. He got together with Cressida then she got pregnant. Elliot then confessed to Clare that he cheating, Clare getting mad and wanted divorce. They broke up after that.

"Thank you, Elliot. Thank you very much. Not just for fucking someone else for months under my nose. Or for telling me about it in a sodding car. Or for getting her pregnant by accident, for Christ's sake. But for sharing with me the fact that you love each other. Thanks for that. You're a real star." (TRG: 204)

At the end Clare giving up her life in London, she starting her new life, she moved to Romania to be a volunteer helping children there. She also had forgiven them all, Cressida and Elliot.

b. Group Problem

1.1.6 Conflict of individual

The group consisted of all grown up women, they barely got fight with their team members, but there were things up with some of them. Conflict of individual that happen is between Clare and Polly, they were had a difficult relationship.

They were good friends, until Elliot and Cressida's case happened. Polly felt bad to Clare since she was a good girl, and nice friend of her. After Elliot's confession, Clare did not attend the reading group. Clare actually did not mad at Polly, but she just need time for herself, she mad at Elliot.

"She's not coming because she's found out something that makes her want to stay. She found out that the father of Cressida's baby is . . . her husband. Elliot." (TRG: 227)

That was affected the group so much, they had five members, and then something up with Polly and Clare, they both did not attend the group on August, the other members felt their absent. (TRG: 276)

The other month, they found Clare left the group. She needed to start her new life, she told them that she was going to Romania. They glad Clare did that.

"She's jacked in her job at the hospital. She's going to Romania with one of those aid agencies—Save the Children, I think Mary said—to work in one of those orphanages. She trained as a nurse

before she went into midwifery, of course, and they're still crying out for medical staff over there. Mary says just because it's dropped out of the world's consciousness it doesn't mean the problem's gone away. She'll be there for at least a couple of years, Mary thinks." (TRG: 353-354)

At the end, they continue their club with four members. Nicole suggested new members, but the others disagreed, they love their members already.

"What about new members? Without Clare we're a bit on the minimal side.

"Nah."

"I'm happy." (TRG: 429)

1.1.7 Gender sentiment

Reading group is a group that has organized meeting within the members of the group to discuss books they had chosen. In this reading group, the members are all women, mostly in their thirties. They discuss many and varieties of book. Then, in the discussion, the group somehow split into two sides. The sides are related with gender matter. One side, mostly Harriet's side, is the side that against book written by men. Harriet thought that men writers are emotionally retarded.

Talk about how Harriet disliked men writers, here also Noble brings *The Memory Box* by Margaret Forster (1999) that far from Harriet's expectation of women writers, that they are the most fantastic at building emotion, but this time it just flat. It proves that Harriet's concept about gender is absolutely not true.

"I kept waiting for the real emotion. It never came."

"I kept waiting for the big mystery. That never came either.

It all fell a bit flat at the end, I thought." (TRG: 229)

3. Reason of the author writing *The Reading Group*

3.1 Sharing author's own reading club experience

"Neither, cheeky! (TRG: 19)"

The second book is *I Capture the Castle* by Dodie Smith (1948), Noble seems love the book for she did not wrote the members arguing about the book. Everyone had loved this month's book, and there had been no awkward pauses. Spines were well-broken, yellow Post-it notes and folded down corners had marked favorite passages and the characters had come alive in their discussion. (TRG: 69)

“When I was fifteen I thought this was the best book ever written. It was romantic, so intimate, literally like reading someone’s diary.” (TRG: 72)

In the third book, *Atonement* by Ian McEwan (2001), Noble tries to provide her opinion that usually literature written by men with woman as the main role is not great or just not her style.

“Men are emotionally retarded writers. Not all of them, but a lot. They’ve got the imagination and creativity to come out with plots and stuff, but the feeling is all missing. Like *Atonement*. Cold, just cold.” (TRG: 86)

It would be different with classic, like D.H Lawrence, or Thomas Hardy–Shakespeare. (TRG: 85)

In conclusion, Noble recommend *Atonement* to discuss. Based on the passionate discussing on the book, it would make the readers want to read this *Atonement* and provide their own opinions about the book.

The fourth book is *The Woman Who Walked into Doors* by Roddy Doyle (1996). In this time, Noble had broken her own opinion about all men writers are cold. She wants to show that her opinion about men writers is not completely true. Or she wanted to show to whoever thinks that way if the opinion is not completely true. She brings *The Woman Who Walked into Doors* to prove that not all literatures by men are cold.

“I can’t. I kept thinking that all the way through. How could a man know those things, understand those feelings?” (TRG: 121)

The fifth book is *Guppies for Tea* by Marika Cobbold (1993). In this time, there were no something special Noble wants to share. She just wants to share about how deeply the book and the members talked about mother. This fifth novel talked about a girl who takes care to her grandmother and all.

The sixth novel is *My Antonia* by Willa Cather (1918). In this time, Noble tries to say that every time we read a book, and read again when we aged, it would be so much different. It appeals different feeling and perspective.

“So I read it again for this meeting. Slowly and everything. In case I had changed, and it wasn’t that good anymore. But it was (TRG: 197)”

She also wanted to say that recommend books we loved to people is little bit risky. (TRG: 197)

The seventh book is *The Memory Box* by Margaret Forster (1999). This section, Noble obviously pointed out that actually woman writer could be cold too sometimes. She told like she was waiting the complicated or something, but she didn’t get it at the end. It would rather be man as the writer for her to believe. (TRG: 229)

In this occasion, Noble tried to show to whoever that thought that women literature writers are always great, here in her opinion it does not relevant nor make sense. She tried to draw the reality that we cannot just judge anything in common.

The eighth book is *Eden Close* by Anita Shreve (1989). Based on the discussion she wrote, it is a great book, it would make a good film. She also realized that films that made of books are often disappointing.

“I mostly hate films made of books I love. They’re always disappointing, don’t you think?” (TRG: 276)

3.2 Describing how women share experience one another

In this reading group consisted of women in their thirties and forties. It was basically women reading group. In the group they discussing about the books. There, Noble wanted to show how the way women discussing, arguing, or agreeing, or how delivering opinions of them.

Noble herself had one reading club, women reading club, so it easier to her to explain the way women discuss than the other.

In giving opinion, sure everyone had their own way. Here I will analyze the way women discussed based on the character in the novel.

The first character is Harriet, Harriet is the member who always leading the discussion. She is funny sometimes yet rude when discussing. She would be very obvious when she disliking something.

“What are you making that face for?”

“What face?”

“That ‘I hated it’ face.”

“Oh, God, I’m not, am I?” (TRG: 83)

The next is Nicole, Harriet closest friend. The two had different preference about male authors’ literature which Nicole loved but not for Harriet. So Nicole always trying to beat Harriet to open her mind about them.

“I think she is definitely most vivid, most extraordinary woman character I can ever remember reading.”

“Now, here’s a question for you, Harry . . . How do you explain a man writing that?”

“I can’t. I kept thinking that all the way through. How could a man know those things, understand those feelings?” (TRG: 121)

The other member is Polly who enjoying all of Harriet and Nicole debate, yet sometimes taking side too.

“I don’t think I like books written by men.”

“Well, that’s most of the literature of the last two thousand years wiped out, then. Let’s piss off home.” (TRG: 84)

There is Susan who following the direction wherever debate is going. Sometimes she is quite sensitive about the topic, she could not take angsts for consecutive months. She also did not like force her opinion type.

“I think you have something there. But I have to tell you that I think you’re quite wrong about the male-female divide. Look . . . at D.H Lawrence, Thomas Hardy—Shakespeare, dare I say it? Dripping with emotion. Total wets, the lot of them.” (TRG: 85)

The last member is Clare. She is pretty passive and quiet, but she likes that reading group because it makes her braver. She wanted to deliver her opinions too, into the debate, and all. She is holding it up sometimes because she is the type of better listening one, yet still afraid to do so.

She didn’t like talking about this bit or that bit of a book—she was still afraid she might say something stupid or just wrong, or have missed something through reading too quickly. (TRG: 83)

From the characters above, we can see at least five types of how women discussing. There is someone who likes to lead the discussion, the one who likes to debate the other, or the other who likes to listen.

3.3 Giving alternative to merely gossiping.

Gossip according to Holmes (2001: 298) is the kind of relaxed in-group talk that goes on between people in informal contexts. In Western society, gossip is defined as ‘idle talk’ and considered particularly characteristic of women’s interaction. That in general, it describes that women’s group usually connected with gossip, it is why Noble wants to show other side of women’s group interaction besides gossiping.

The side of women’s group interaction that Noble wants to show is the discussing side. In *The Reading Group*, so obvious that the group is basically a group for discussion. Every month the group set a meeting to discuss the book, to share their opinion, and to receive others’ opinion. They talk, they listen to each other, not for gossiping, more than that, and they talk about the books and society. They took some benefits from the discussion. Like in the first chapter, that said the book has a film version, and one the member did not know, and she knew it that day.

“It’s a film?”

“Yes, a gorgeous film. Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep. Really sad.” (TRG: 19)

Or in the fourth chapter, they got the book written by man that make them wonder how man could did that.

“I think she is definitely most vivid, most extraordinary woman character I can ever remember reading.”

“Now, here’s a question for you, Harry . . . How do you explain a man writing that?”

“I can’t. I kept thinking that all the way through. How could a man know those things, understand those feelings?” (TRG: 121)

It is obvious that it is the first time to Harriet read a great book written by man, without the group she might never do pick the book, because she believed that men are emotionally retarded writers.

4. DISCUSSION

According on social psychology perspective that deals with the matters that influence people to behave in other person existence, and look at the situations which certain behavior and feelings appear, *The Reading Group* novel support the phenomenon. As the members of the group feel to the group, the feeling appears between them, and behave in other member existence. They listen to Harriet’s opinion that literature by men is usually cold, then the other members knowing where the side they standing onto and starting to know how to react to Harriet’s thought, and then the feeling appear, the feeling that define Harriet as that kind of person. Each of them has different feeling to each other, for Nicole who knowing Harriet for years, she knows Harriet better than others, same with Susan and Polly who are old friends, they know each other better. It is little bit different with Clare who is totally a stranger, she adapted well, and grew feeling for the others, and she likes Harriet the best even she is mean sometimes, and chaotic. For she choosing who she likes the best, it is a result of the process of behave in other person existence, look at the situations which certain behavior, and then grow a feeling, or feeling appear.

Social psychology is to do with the way these feelings, thoughts, beliefs, intentions and purposes are constructed and how such psychological factors, in turn, influence human interactions with others. Through the discussion section the members start to build and construct their feelings, thoughts, beliefs, and all. They share their thoughts, opinion, and even feeling every time they read the books and set a meeting. Then all the thoughts, feelings, and beliefs influence their interactions. Whenever they set a discussion meeting, and loved the book, they share what they think about the book, it influence so many ways to their interactions. Everyone would feeling good to share the same feeling to the others, to have same opinion and have the same interest. Even they did not have the same opinion, it still influencing their interactions, try to make other to believe in their opinion, or try to understand each other opinion, belief, and thought.

Topics examined in social psychology include: the self, social cognition, attribution theory, social influence, group processes, prejudice and discrimination,

interpersonal processes, aggression and pro social behavior. In this case, it is included into group processes, because in the reading group they interact to each other within the group, they build the relationship as a group not as an individual, so it included into group processes.

Based on the psychological perspective of literary studies (Wellek and Warren, 1949: 75) it is evident that in this novel, the author, Elizabeth Noble, illustrate a psychological phenomenon in which people share problems with other through a reading group. This suggests that this study gives the focus on the psychological study of the character.

5. CONCLUSION

After analyzing the novel of Elizabeth Noble's *The Reading Group*, the researcher draws some conclusions.

Firstly, it is about the type of problems that shared in *The Reading Group*. The types of problem consists of two problems, they are personal problem and group problem. Personal problem divided into some parts, such as losing the feeling of love that experienced by Harriet to her husband, Tim. The second is husband having love affair that experienced by Nicole. The third is extra marital pregnancy that Polly experienced as she knew her daughter was getting pregnant in her twenty. There is Susan who experienced identity revelation after knowing she was not her parents' real daughter, and she found out after they had died. And the last is longing for baby that experienced by Clare, she had been several miscarriages but still had to be midwife. The second type of problem is group problem that divided into two parts. The first part is conflict of individual, that actually included Polly and Clare into a difficult and awkward situation until Clare had to out from the group. The other part is gender sentiment that in several times divided the group into the side who like men's literature and the one against it.

Second is the way discussing problem. The ways of discussing the problem are by direct that the speaker and the listener meet directly, and indirect that usually using phone or letter. The other ways are pre-sharing that they did discuss before sharing, while sharing, and post sharing that did right after they share.

The last is reason of the author writing the reading group that consists of sharing author's own reading club experience, describing how women share experience one another, and giving alternative to merely gossiping. The first reason Noble wanted to share her own reading experience, giving such a review, giving suggestion, and sharing her thought through the book. The second reason Noble trying to show how women discussing, arguing, agreeing, or delivering opinions in such reading club. The last reason, Noble trying to deliver that women doing fine discuss even without gossiping, that usually considered as women interaction.

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