

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

According to Wellek and Warren (1977: 94), literature reserve about life and life, in most part, is part of the real society. Therefore, literary work is the reflection of the real life. It can describe the events in our life, and also contains the stratification which indicates that literature and society is closely related because literature expresses the situations and problems existing in society.

Novel itself, as stated by Taormina (2005: 76) is one of literature forms. It is a fictional piece of prose usually written in a narrative style. Novels tell stories, which are typically defined as a series of events described in a sequence. It has plot, character, point of view, theme and setting. Plot is something that happens in the story. Character is the man who involved in the story. The way the writer told the story called point of view. Theme is the main point of the story and setting is when or where the story takes place. These elements must be completed to make a good novel work. The novel, however, arises from the desire to depict and interpret human character. The reader of a novel is both entertained and aided in a deeper perception of life's problems.

The *Magna Carta* for Christian feminists is Gal. 3:28: "In Christ there is no male or female." Therefore, if women are created in God's image just as men are, then they are equal to men and just as capable to exercise authority. However, the context of this verse is not equal rights, but that all believers have the same position of humility at the foot of the Cross.

Feminist Theory is an outgrowth of the general movement to empower women worldwide. Feminism can be defined as a recognition and critique of male supremacy combined with efforts to change it. Feminists fight for the

equality of women and argue that women should share equally in society's opportunities and scarce resources.

Courage is something we all admire. When asked to describe bravery, most people conjure up the image of an individual running into a burning building or maybe a fictional hero saying the day. Images of courage are prevalent in our society; from the image for our soldiers overseas to the local hero who saved her neighbour from imminent danger.

In the social life, women also should have a position and participation equal as the man, women living sometimes underestimated, many people who hate and want destroy her life. Many of women courage who want to protect her life and her family. They need to courage to get a better life, so they can get their position, and can be protected her family and her career from a people who want to destroy her.

The Tides of Memory is the real example of women's courage to protect her life, family and her career from people who want to destroy her. The novel was released in 2013. The story begins with British society, especially among politicians were surprised by the decision of the English prime minister Henry Whittman when lifting Alexia new interior minister. Controversial news career paths become a source of breaking news, especially because the figure of Alexia renowned as a highly unpopular in the world of politics.

Background as a wife of a Teddy De Vere, an English aristocrat figure of 'pure' most revered among differences, unfortunately Alexia not able to grab Teddy that was easy to get along and love the popularity. Alexia is called being cold and never showed the slightest mistake especially regarding emotional problems. Even when her daughter Roxie, doing attempted suicide which ended in paralysis for the rest of her life. At the still young age, the public never witnessed Alexia's fate mourn her daughters.

In spite of massive speculation, Alexia which is resilient and strong figure or a cold blooded woman who never cared about anyone, only De Vere family member who knows the hassle that goes in the family. Alexia marriage with teddy to a doubling of himself and not for love, but over time, the increasingly close relationship between the two including friendship. When Roxie turned into a figure a bitter, harsh criticism has a habit of asking or trying hard to harm her mother, the situation is getting worse because Alexia respond with a cold and indifferent. Alexia's dashing son, Michael, is risking the family's good name to jump-start his entrepreneurial dreams. Thankfully Alexia has Teddy, her devoted husband who will stop at nothing to protect her.

The story rolling fast enough, revealing the drama of life behind the scenes of a perfect view of De Vere family lives, followed by the emergence of various new problems of the new status Alexia, starting with threats against his wisdom, when the threats turns into terror and murder that nearly claimed the Alexia lives, countermeasures immediately- At least it should be done. Alexia instead looked addly reluctant to take the fight to operate openly. No one understands or knows the reason behind the reluctance of Alexia. But beneath Alexia De Vere's gilded life and formidable facade lie secrets that are ugly, dirty, and deadly. When long-buried mistakes of her youth begin to resurface, old hatreds are rekindled and Alexia finds herself on the brink of losing everything—her power, her family, and even her own life. Now the woman who rose so high is on the brink of a perilous fall. For when the tides of memory rise, the only thing that might save her is the truth. Finally, scandal that has long kept shut and removed eventually come to the surface, dragging the chain and the events which have claimed several lives.

Sidney Sheldon(1917-2007) was an American writer who won awards in three careers (an Oscar, a Tony, and an Edgar) - a Broadway playwright, a

hollywood TV and movie screenwriter remains one of the world's top bestselling authors, having sold more than 300 millions copies of his books.

The writer is interested in analyzing *The Tides of Memory* because of the reason. The reason is the novel is interesting to be read and the story reflects the woman to manage her life from a waves of memories that continues to haunt her. The story tells about how is courage of Alexia in the face of a wave of memories.

Based on the previous reasons, the writer will observe *The Tides of Memory* by using feminist approach. Therefore, the writer constructs the title **“Courage of Alexia De Vere Reflected in *The Tides of Memory* (2013): A Feminist Approach”**.

B. Previous Study

The writer personally thinks that *The Tides of Memory* have moral message to analyze in research object. There are researcher before this research and that have same issue as follows:

The first research is written by Lilis Prastiwi on 2016 with title “A Courage, Victory, and Triumph reflected in Danielle Steel’s *Winners* novel (2013): A Humanistic Approach. This study is proposed to reveal how courage, victory, and triumph reflected in *Winners* (2013) novel by Danielle Steel. The object of this study are to analyze courage, victory, and triumph according to the *Winners*(2013) novel by Danielle Steel’s.

The second research is written by Heni Purnaningsih on 2013 Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with title “Courage and Loss Reflected in Paulo Coelho *The Zahir*: A Psychoanalytic Approach. The object of the study is *The Zahir* novel is directed by Paulo Coelho. This study is how the courage and loss reflected in *The Zahir* using Psychoanalytic Approach. The researcher proposes to analyze id, ego and supersego in the novel with title *The Zahir* using Psychoanalytic Approach.

The third research is written by Yunita Fitriawati on 2013 from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with title “Bravery and Resilience in Pittacus Lore’s *I Am Number Four Novel* (2010): Individual Psychological approach. The major problem of this study is how bravery and resilience reflected in Pittacus Lore *I Am Number Four* novel. The objective of this research is to analyze the novel based on individual psychological approach as major theory and bravery and resilience as issue.

Based on the review above, the previous studies are different with the research created by the writer. This research focuses on courage of Alexia’s reflected in *The Tides of Memory* novel by Sidney Sheldon’s (2013). The novel is also different with some research above. The similarity of the research above have the same issue.

The researcher uses a femininity approach to analyze the data and uses courage in life as an object. The writer data analyzes “Courage of Alexia De Vere Reflected in Sidney Sheldon’s *The Tides of Memory* (2013) Novel: A Feminist Approach.

C. Problem Statement

The main problem of this study is “How does Alexia courage herself against someone who wants to break her down?”

D. Limitation of the Study

To focus on the study, the researcher needs to limit the study. The researcher is going to describe courage of Alexia reflected in *The Tides of Memory* novel using feminist approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study as follows :

1. To analyze *The Tides of Memory* based on structural element of the novel.
2. To describe Alexia's courage to manage her self from a waves of memories based on feminist approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes this study will provide benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To give some contributions to the development larger body of knowledge, particularly, the literary study of Sidney Sheldon's *The Tides of Memory*

2. Practical Benefit

It gives deeper understanding and enrich knowledge and experience especially for the writer, generally for other student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and also can be used as reference by other university student who are interested in literary study on *The Tides of Memory*(2013) based on feminist approach.

G. Research Paper Organization

This paper consist of many chapters. Chapter 1 is the introduction that consist of background of the study, problem statement, literature review, objectives of the study, research method and research paper organization. Chapter II is Literarture Review that consist of Underlying Theory and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is Research method that consist of Type of the Study, Object of the Study, Type of the Data and the Data Source, Technique of the Data Collection, Technique of the Data Analysis.