

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The novel is a kind of literary work which provides a model of ideal and imaginative life. The novel is developed in many aspects, such as theme, events, characters and characterizations, plot, point of view, language style, and setting. All the aspect is created an interesting story. An interesting story comes from experience, feeling, and emotion which provide real story. One novel that gives an interesting story is *Gone Girl* novel. *Gone Girl* is a novel from Gillian Flynn. She was born in Kansas City on February 24, 1971. Both of her parents are professors, so she is smart as her parents. She spent her childhood with reading and writing. She attended school at the University of Kansas and majored in English and Journalism. After that, she continued his study of master degree at Northwestern University. After graduation, she worked as a police reporting and freelance journalism. In 1998 she was recruited by Entertainment Weekly and then work as a writer of film and television critic.

Her first novel, *Sharp Object*, was released in 2006 when she was still working in Entertainment Weekly. And her second novel, *Dark Places*, was released in 2009. Both of the novels won several awards. Flynn left Entertainment Weekly to focus on writing novels, and she wrote the third novel, *Gone Girl*. *Gone Girl* novel tells about thriller and mystery. The story begins with the loss of Amy (the wife) at the time of their fifth wedding ceremony. Nick (the husband) became the main suspect in Amy's disappearance. She develops this story with the real condition in the society. The first thing will be suspected when someone's loss is the closest person, like in this novel. Nick has been accused of eliminating his wife with various evidence, including; blood spots in the kitchen, the living room scattered, use his wife's money to buy a bar, buy luxury items stored in the warehouse, and

make affair with Andie. The various evidence made Nick as a prime suspect and also his marriage problems exposed to newspapers, television, or the internet.

On the other hand, Amy feels happy. All of the evidence is only to trap her husband for having an affair. Money, luxury goods, and blood on the kitchen floor were way to trap her husband. She actually hiding in a suburban motel and enjoyed her new life while continuing to monitor her husband's activities on television. Amy is famous; she doesn't take long to get friends at the motel. But she didn't realize that the new friend just wanted her money. Until one day the money was robbed by a new friend. Amy felt confused and did not know what else to do, because the money had run out.

Everything changed when she met Desi. He is the former idol that was rejected by Amy. Desi offers help to Amy. Amy is allowed to live in his house. Finally, Amy agrees to stay in Desi's house. But, Amy still loves Nick. She confuses how the way to go back with Nick. With his intelligence, beauty, and shrewdness, she succeeded in making Desi deceived and he was killed. She uses the alibi to get out of Desi's house. Many people believe that Desi raped him. Amy reflects a psychopath; she is smart, beautiful, and manipulative.

With an interesting story, it makes many people gave reviews about this novel. The first came from Noah. He is from New York. Based on his opinion film adapted from the novel is most incredibly unnerving, frightening short stories ever written. And second is Peter. He is also from New York. He thinks that adaptation from the novel to the movie is good. His reason is this novel about the couple which destroying each other. That is very interesting because when divorce cannot be done, the other way is lethal revenge and aggravated assault.

With some of the reviews above, the writer has an idea to analyze their opinions about this novel. In the *Gone Girl* novel, the reader response is new. Previous research only focused on researching the contents or stories and characters in the novel. This novel not only provides an interesting story but also has an unpredictable plot; so many people have different opinions about this novel.

B. Problem Statement

The writer formulates research questions as follows:

1. How is the readers' profile in *Gone Girl* novel?
2. What are the aspects of the reader's disappointment?
3. Why do the readers' express disappointment in their response?

C. Objectives of the Study

In carrying in the research, the writer formulates the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To identify the readers' profile in *Gone Girl* novel.
2. To describe the aspect that related to the reader's disappointment.
3. To explain why the readers' express disappointment in their response.

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses on public disappointment by the reader in *Gone Girl* novel and will be analyzed using reader response theory.

E. Benefit of the Study

The result of this research is expected to give some benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This research will be beneficial for a new information and contribution of knowledge to the academic references. It can be also as a reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies on *Gone Girl* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

a) To the reader

This study gives a deeper understanding of reader response theory and analysis in *Gone Girl* novel.

b) To the future research

This study gives a source of information or a reference for future research. They can take some different objects such as in the movie, press media, political speech, advertisement, and television programs.

F. Paper Organization

The organization of the paper consists of five chapters is as follows:

Chapter I is consisting of background of the study, limitation of the study, the problem of the study, the objective of the study, benefit of the study, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory that contains the notion of reader response, the theoretical perspectives on the reader response, and the previous study. Chapter III deals research method that contains the type of the study, object of the study, data and the data source, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. Chapter IV represented the analyzing of data. It present about reader response theory. Chapter V is the last chapter of this research paper is conclusion, pedagogical implication, and suggestion.