

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Choosing the Subject

Based on Maslow (in Goble, 1987), one of the primary human wants is love; without love, people's capacities will be impeded in their growth and development. Love is characterized by a healthy and caring relationship between two individuals, as well as mutual trust. Love, according to Shaver, Morgan, and Wu (in Baron & Byrne, 2005), is an emotional reaction as well-known and essential as anger, sorrow, joy, and fear. Love is a particular mindset directed at one person toward another, impacting the way one thinks, feels, and behaves (Zick Rubin, 1970). Love is therefore an inner calling that brings happiness, joy, and connection into partnerships. When individuals adore someone or something, they are usually willing to go to any length. Because many individuals believe that if they can sacrifice for an individual they love, it implies they truly love that individual. A lot of authors include the topic of love in their works, such as the love narrative in Shakespeare's masterpiece *Romeo and Juliet*, which is about pure love that ends tragically, demonstrating how love is so prevalent in literature. One of the pioneers of the theory of love was Sternberg. Sternberg (1988) created the triangular theories of love, which say that love has three key elements such as intimacy, passion, and commitment.

The researcher employed Josie Silver's novel *One Day In December*, which is a love-themed fiction novel. The novel *One Day in December* published in 2018 and was successful topped the New York Times bestseller list. As of

2020, Reese Witherspoon, an actress and producer, was considering optioning the film rights to the novel, which was one of her selections for her Reese's Book Club. *One Day In December* is a debut novel by Josie Silver that has been translated into 25 languages. Silver is also the author of *The Two Loves of Lydia Bird*, which has been released in 2020. From the description of the achievements of this novel, that's why the researcher decided to use this novel as study material.

The novel *One Day In December* tells the story of Laurie, a lady who falls in love at a first sight with a man she meets at a bus stop on her way home. Laurie told her best friend Sarah about the incident and then decided to find the guy together. After almost a year of searching, Laurie finally met the guy she called the 'bus boy' when Sarah introduced her boyfriend, Jack. Knowing the fact that Jack is the man she's been looking for all this time turns out to be her best friend's lover leads Laurie to hide the fact she has found the 'bus boy' from Sarah, but Jack has already known the fact but also kept it from Laurie and Sarah. Because of her feelings of dilemma about choosing friendship or love, Laurie decides to go on a holiday to Thailand and meet a boy named Oscar and they finally become closer and decide to get married. Laurie's feelings for Jack don't disappear as easily as Jack's silent still missing Laurie. Eventually, Laurie divorced Oscar because of their selfishness toward each other and nine years later reunited with Jack's her past love and then resumed their love.

The theory of love provided by Robert Stenberg (1985), known as the triangular love theory, will be used by the researcher in this study. The triangular theory of love is not the same as a love triangle. Three persons may be

involved in a polyamorous relationship or two people may fight for the affection of a third person in a love triangle but in triangular love Sternberg (1997) states that there are three components of love: intimacy, passion, and commitment. From the interpretation of these three components, a concept called a type of love will be produced. As defined by Sternberg (1997), intimacy in loving relationships refers to feelings of closeness, connectedness, and bondedness, passion in loving relationships refers to the drives that lead to romance, physical attraction, sexual consummation, and related phenomena, and decision/commitment in loving relationships means multiple things in the short and long term. In the short term, it refers to making a choice to love someone, and in the long term, it relates to the commitment to keep that love. According to research conducted by Sternberg and Grajek (2009:8) shows that intimacy includes at least ten elements, that is, (a) Desiring to promote the welfare of the loved one, (b) Experiencing happiness with the loved one, (c) Having high regard for the loved one, (d) Being able to count on the loved one in times of need, (e) Mutual understanding with the loved one, (f) Sharing one's self and one's possessions with the loved one, (g) Receiving emotional support from the loved one, (h) Giving emotional support to the loved one, (i) Having intimate communication with the loved one, and (j) Valuing the loved one in one's life. Sternberg stated that a person can have intimacy when they feel a number of these feelings, whatever the exact number (2009:11). This statement explains that if these ten elements are not fulfilled then they are still considered components of love intimacy even though the components of love intimacy are not perfect. The second element in this theory is passion, passion is a

person's overwhelming wanting to be together with the person they love. Sternberg (1986) later explained that emotional desire or arousal can provide energy and enthusiasm in a relationship and strengthen feelings of intimacy between partners and each other. The third element is commitment, Sternberg (2009) defines a commitment as having two parts: long term and short term. (teori Passion) The commitment to sustain a love connection with a loved one is the long-term element, whereas the decision to love another person is the short-term aspect. From the explanation of this theory, researchers are interested in using the Triangular Love theory as a research theory because every human being has a feeling of love for a partner, friend, family or others so that humans are inseparable from this feeling of love and researchers are interested in this theory because in loving someone it turns out that we have The elements of love are interrelated (Intimacy, Passion, Commitment) so that we can distinguish what type of love we and our partner actually have.

The reason why researcher chose *One Day in December* to be analyzed is because this novel very popular debut novel who can achieve top 1 New York Times Bestseller and also will be debut as a film by producer Reese Witherspoon.

B. Problem Formulation

Based on the explanation on the background above, the problem that the researcher address in this study is, what is the component of love according to Sternberg in the novel *One Day in December* by Josie Silver.

C. Objective of the Study

The objective of this research is to describe the types of love in the novel *One Day In December* using Sternberg's triangular love theory.

D. Scope of the Study

Based on the background of the research, the scope of this research focuses on the character in the novel *One Day In December* as the object and how the component of love in the characters in this novel based on the theory of Triangular Love by Sternberg.

E. Review of the Related Studies

After reading and reviewing several reviews and related research, the researcher found reviews and previous research that were relevant to this research. Researchers use reviews and research related to this research as racing or related studies.

The first is a journal entitled *Caring for the Self. A Case-Study on Sociocultural Aspects of Reading Chick Lit (2022)* by Madeleine Span. This journal uses the novel *One Day in December* by Josie Silver and the novel *The Flatshare* by Beth O'Leary to analyze the experience of the genre's proclaimed target audience. The conclusion of this journal is that the novels *One Day in December* and *The Flatshare* qualify as chick lit because the female characters in both novels are not only seeking romantic relationships but are concerned with establishing themselves socially and professionally as adults by starting professional careers and making decisions about personal attitudes and thought patterns. The results confirm that chick lit is not simply read for the entertaining

effect often explicitly attributed to its title. On the contrary, readers also find close similarities between their life circumstances, the storylines depicted, and each of the heroines.

The second is thesis entitled *Analysis of Love by Using Triangular Theory of Love by Sternberg in Breaking Dawn Novel by Stephenie Meyer (A Psychological Study) (2018)* by Fazriyani S Mahmud. This research used Sternberg's theory to analyze the experience of love in the *Breaking Dawn* novel. The result of this research the characters Bella and Edward have three components in love including intimacy, passion, and commitment.

The third thesis is entitled *Robert Sternberg's theory of triangular love in Colleen Hoover's All Your Perfects (2023)* by Jovita Anugrah Santoso & Pramesti. analyze the consummate love issues depicted in the novel "*All Your Perfects*" including intimacy, passion, and commitment, and second, to analyze the effects of consummate love experienced by the main characters of "*All Your Perfects*", Graham and Quinn. According to Robert Sternberg's Theory Triangular of Love, the result of this thesis is that both characters in the novel, Quinn and Graham, have experienced true love type with three components of a relationship namely, intimacy, passion, and commitment.

The fourth is the thesis entitled *The Triangular Love of Main Character in E. L. James Fifty Shades Darker (2011)* by Karina Rahma Hadianti. The goal of producing this screenplay is to demonstrate the presence of the novel's love components by studying the intrinsic and extrinsic parts. According to the

findings of the analysis, both protagonists in the novel, Christian Grey and Anastasia Steele, have experienced three components of intimacy, passion, and commitment in their love tales, according to Robert Sternberg's love triangle theory.

This review and thesis are related to the issue of this study, which explains what this novel is about and aims to determine how the components of love and love concept in the novel *One Day In December* apply Robert J. Sternberg's triangle love theory. There are similarities in the use of theory and analysis methods in this investigation and prior studies. Previous study examines the love component and the notion of love in a novel.

F. Research Methodology

The researcher employed a library research approach to collect data for this study, and all research and understanding depended on the methodology used to analyze the notion of component love in the novel *One Day In December*. The study employed Robert J. Sternberg's theory of Triangular Love to examine the components of love and on *One Day In December*.

1. Data and Source of Data

- a. The primary data of this research uses dialogue, words, phrases, etc. From the novel *One Day In December* by Josie Silver published by Crown Publishing Group with 378 pages.
- b. Secondary data, the researcher uses library books, journals, thesis, and any online sources related to research problems.

2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data

In collecting data, the researcher took data from the novel *One Day In December* by Josie Silver. The researcher first read the novel and collected data relevant to the research issue. Then, to support collecting data, researcher use library books, journals, theses and any online sources related to the problems in this research. This method help researcher in the process of collecting data so that it is easier to analyze.

3. Method and Technique of Analysis Data

Researcher in this study used qualitative descriptive analysis methods to analyze the data. The first thing to do is the researcher analyzed the data found using the love triangular theory by Robert J. Sternberg starting by analyzing the love components of the characters in the novel *One Day in December*, then analyzing what type of love the characters in the novel *One Day in December* had based on this theory. Then the researcher explained the findings of the data into sentences using the descriptive method.

G. Presentation

This paper is divided into four sections. The first chapter serves as an introduction. It provides the background of why searchers chose the study as a major reason for doing this study. It also includes problem formulation, the object of the study, the scope of the study, the review of related studies, the research method, and the theoretical approach. The second chapter is the theoretical

method and framework that discusses the strategy and theories that can support the validity of this research. The third chapter is about analysis, and the last chapter is about the conclusion.

