

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the explanation of some parts of introduction. They are background of the study, statement of research problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of The Study

Among the human, there is an interaction that is built by them to have some relationships. It aims to fulfill their necessary each other. It is because human cannot stand by themselves, and they automatically need other human. The form of their relationship can be as a family, friends, partner working, business and others. Therefore, from all of these forms of relationship can be raised up many kinds of feeling like love, hate, like, or dislike.

Love is one of the elements that are consisted in the relationship among the human. Love can link any kind of race and ethnic. Love is also used as a media to linking one family to another, like the family of the husband and the wife, or the family of a friend. Hence, love is the important thing in builds relationship. However, love cannot be explained in a detail definition even though by the psychologist about what love is and how it is built.

Harlow (1958) states that “so far as love or affection is concerned, psychologists have failed in their mission. The little we known about love do not transcend simple observation and the little we write about it have been written better by poets and novelists.” (p. 13). This quotation means that the definition of love itself is something difficult to be explained. Even psychologist that has doing

any observation in love and tries to cover it, but it is not as well as poets and novelist in describing about love. Therefore, poets and novelist have the important role to explain about it to the society.

One of American authors, Sidney Sheldon, is one of famous author that his works have spread out around the world. Sheldon was born in February, 11th, 1917, in Chicago. Sheldon is one of writers that his works tell about love and the cause and effect of it. The interesting thing of Sidney Sheldon is he is not only a writer, but he is also as a screenwriter in his beginning career and then eventually moved into television. In 1947, he won Academy Award for his first film, entitled *The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer* (FamousAuthors.org, 2015). Further, Sidney Sheldon wrote 18 novels which is his first novel entitled *The Naked Face* that was published in 1969, earning him a nomination for The Best First Writer category in Edgar Allan Poe Award.

Furthermore, *The Other Side of Midnight* is the second novel of Sidney Sheldon that was published in 1973 which has won The New York Times Best Seller list (Biography.com Editors, 2015). This novel consists of many kinds of relationship through the characters that exist in this novel. The relationship among the characters can be because of love, family, friend, and even partner in sexual necessary and job. Besides that, this novel is also consisted with many kinds of betrayal and vengeance. Further, there are two main women characters in this novel, Noelle Page and Catherine Alexander who come from different places and life background. Yet, the two of them are met because of their love relation with the same man. This is the interesting thing of this novel to be discussed that the

main characters are connected because of their feelings. Therefore, this study uses *The Other Side of Midnight* to be analyzed in this study.

This novel is written in interesting style that Sheldon builds the curiosity of the readers through every part in the chapters of the novel. The first chapter of the novel tells about Noelle Page. After that, in the second chapter, the story moved into different story that tells about Catherine Alexander which has different life background with Noelle. Yet, the next chapter, the story jumps to Noelle Page again, and keeps turning that makes the reader curious to the continuance of the previous chapter. This turning finally ends until the two of them are met because of their life are connected together.

As it is mentioned in the previous paragraph, there are two main woman characters in this novel. First is Noelle Page and second is Catherine Alexander. Noelle Page comes from Marseille, France, while Catherine comes from Chicago. Noelle Page is a beautiful girl, and her beautiful physic makes many people adore her. When she escapes to Paris, then she met Larry Douglas who is betraying her. Meanwhile, Catherine who is also smart and beautiful girl is bullied by her friends because of her virginity. She then decided to end her virginity to Bill Fraser, while she becomes his assistant. Yet, when she meets Larry Douglas, they fall in love and get marriage. This condition, makes Catherine and Noelle's life are connected together.

The Other Side of Midnight is different from other Sheldon's works like *The Naked Face* or *Rage of Angels*. It is because this novel has women as its main characters that both of them have the same wishes, to be 'somebody', but they

have different aims. The aim of one girl is to be known and recognizable as important person by any one, while the other's aim is to use her power to control men for her vengeance. Besides that, the power of their love are also pushed them away to something that cannot be imagine by any man. Therefore, this novel has different gap among other Sheldon's work and becomes more interesting to be analyzed.

Furthermore, there has been valuable study on *The Other Side of Midnight* as the source of data. It is Lumban P. Batu (2007) entitled *Eksistensi Perempuan Dalam The Other Side of Midnight Karya Sidney Sheldon*. In his study, he focuses only on women characters rather than men characters. Hence, Lumban Batu uses the intrinsic element theory and theory of existentialism from Sartre and Beauvoir in analyzing *The Other Side of Midnight*. Considering to the previous study, there is no study that is using theory of love in analyzing this novel.

Robert J. Stenberg is one psychologist that has classified love into three basic components. Stenberg (1986) has conceptualized love in terms of three basic components that form the vertices of a triangle, they are; intimacy, passion, and decision or commitment (Regan, 2002, p. 3). These three components are called as Stenberg's triangular model of love. Further, the combination of these three basic components of love will produce eight different types of love. They are *Nonlove*, *Liking*, *Infatuation*, *Empty Love*, *Romantic Love*, *Companionate Love*, *Fatuous Love*, and *Consummate Love*. These three basic components of love from Stenberg's theory and its type of love are appropriate to analyze Sheldon's *The*

Other Side of Midnight, since there are many kinds of love that are appeared in this novel.

1.2 Statements of Research Problem

Related to the background of the study, this study discusses Sternberg's theory of love in the novel of Sidney Sheldon, entitled *The Other Side of Midnight*. The research problems are:

1. What are the kinds of love that presents in the love relation of the main characters in *The Other side of Midnight*?
2. What are the effects of their love to their relationship?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

In line with the statements of the research problem, this study is attended to explain:

1. The kinds of love that presents in the love relation of the main characters in *The Other side of Midnight*.
2. The effects of their love to their relationship.

1.4 Significances of The Study

Hopefully, this study is expected to give contributions both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this study is expected to enrich reader's knowledge about Sternberg's theory of love especially in the novel of Sidney Sheldon. Meanwhile, practically this study is expected to be useful references for the society about what love is and its type. Besides that, this study can give inspiration for the next writers who are taking the same field as in this study.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study discusses the love relation of the two main women characters in the novel of Sidney Sheldon's *The Other Side of Midnight* by using theory of love of Stenberg's triangular model of love. This study focuses on the eight types of love from Stenberg's theory and its effect for the scope of this study. Further, this study also limits the analysis by being focuses on the love relation of Catherine Alexander and Noelle Page with their couple. They are; the love relationship between Catherine Alexander and Larry Douglas, and Noelle Page and Constantin Demiris. This study is also considering the narrator's narration and the utterances of the characters to give evidences to the reader and to strengthen the writer's statement.