

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Woman and Love are two different things in this universe that cannot be separated. Each woman must have her own love story, whether it is exiting or even painful. Generally, women are one of the God creatures that have many sense of love, wish to be loved, and their lives have a very close relation with way of love. According to Manser (1983), love is feeling of deep affection and sexual attraction.

People convey their feelings, emotions, passions, and ideas in various ways. For those who can express them, it can be relieving. On the contrary for those who cannot, it can cause conflicts, whether internal or external. In internal conflicts, people struggle with their own feelings or emotions, which later on directly or not, give impacts on the people and the environment around them.

According to definition given by Barnet et al. (1998: 775) as cited in Walker (2005) "conflict is a struggle between a character and some obstacles, for example, another character, fate or between internal forces such as divided loyalties." Conflict is the primary problem or a dilemma that rises in a story. The definition of conflict according to Manser (1983) is struggle, fight, or serious disagreement.

Literature is writing valued as works of art, especially novel, plays and poems. As explained by Ratna (2005:15), literary work can construct the world

throughout words for the reason that words have energy. Along with the statement, represent that through that energy can be form an image of a particular world, as a new world. Those words have documentary aspects that can break through space and times, illustrate past as well as future.

According to Klarer (1998), "Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word". The definitions, therefore, usually include additional adjectives such as "aesthetic" or "artistic" to distinguish literary works from texts of everyday use such as telephone books, newspapers, legal documents and scholarly writings. Novel is part of literature that also can be classified into fiction. Although novel emerged as the most important form of the prose fiction in the eighteenth century; its precursors go back to the oldest texts of literary history. Novel can be described as a story long enough to fill a complete book, in which the characters and events are usually imaginary (Manser, 1983).

Social theme in literatures related to real life phenomena has become popular. In some cases, there are misunderstanding about gender in terms of men's and woman's position in every aspect of social life. It is a common belief for many Indonesians that men are superior to women especially in jobs and social positions. Furthermore, society often positions women as weak, emotional and passive creature; meanwhile, men are strong, active and emotionally controlled.

With those beliefs abovementioned, consequently, women are conditioned under rules dominated by men (patriarchy system). It is believed that the

patriarchy system is a form of repression to women. The system also creates inequity to women in which they lose their rights. This theme has created women to be left behind in many aspects of life. At this level, the knowledge of gender issues should be positioned in such a way that people will appreciate men and women to support each other in a proportional way in their life.

This research states the feminist literary criticism and the writer analyzes a novel by one of the feminist literary criticism, *gynocriticism* which means the study of women as writers (Showalter, 1980 as cited in Bressler, 1994).

This novel contrasts two sisters: Marianne, who with her doctrines of love at first sight, fervent emotions overtly expressed and admiration of the fantastic "charming", represents the cult of "sensibility" and Elinor, who has much more "sense", but is still not immune from disappointment. Despite some amusing characters and true Jane Austen touches, it is not generally considered to be her best novel.

Not the first novel she wrote, *Sense and Sensibility* was the first Jane Austen published. Though she initially called it *Elinor and Marianne*, Austen abandons both the title and the epistolary mode in which it was originally written, but kept the essential theme: the necessity of finding a workable middle ground between passion and reason. The story revolves around the Dashwood sisters, Elinor and Marianne. Whereas the former is a sensible, rational creature, her younger sister is wildly romantic--a characteristic that offers Austen plenty of scope for both satire and compassion. Commenting on Edward Ferrars, a potential suitor for Elinor's hand, Marianne admits that while she "loves him tenderly," she

finds him disappointing as a possible lover for her sister. In short, Austen seems to accept and shows us that a truly happy marriage exists only where sense and sensibility meet and mix in proper measure.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

In order to reach the purposes of the research, it is necessary for the writer to determine the problem to investigate. This study reveals the actual phenomenon by answering the questions below:

1. What love conflicts are faced by the two main characters in the novel?
2. How are the love conflict viewed from feminism perspectives?

1.3 Objectives of the Research

There are two major purposes by which the writer expects to find out as the answer for the problems mentioned earlier.

1. To reveal the love conflicts faced by the two main characters.
2. To discover the love conflict from the feminism perspectives.

1.4 Significance of the Research

The result of the research can be a source of information about the love conflicts relating to the feminism issues. In addition, this research may be used as a case study for criticism literary works class.

1.5 Method and Technique

In conducting this research, the writer employs qualitative approach and descriptive method to achieve her purposes. By using this method, the writer attempts to identify and describe the data collected. This method is very appropriate to this research because the writer is able to find out, identify, and explain issues in the novel rather than testing a theory.

1.6 Clarification of Key Terms

Some keywords in this paper are as follows:

- **Love:** a deep, tender, ineffable feeling of affection and solicitude toward a person, such as that arising from kinship, recognition of attractive qualities, or a sense of underlying oneness. (Harper ,2001)
- **Conflict:** is a process in which two or more parties attempt to frustrate the other's goal attainment, the factors underlying conflict are threefold: interdependence, differences in goals, and differences in perceptions. (Wall, 1985 as cited in Walker, 2005)
- **Main Character:** a main player in the story. It is an actor in the play. (Anonymous #1,2006)
- **Feminism:** Social movement that seeks equal rights for women. (Wollstonecraft, 1792 as cited in Moi, 1985). Full legal equality with men, including full educational opportunity and equal compensation. (Stanton and Mott, 1848 as cited in Foltz, 2000).

- **Perspective:** a view or vista or a mental view or outlook. Particular evaluation of something: a particular evaluation of a situation or facts, especially from one person's point of view (Anonymous #4,2006)
- **Jane Austen:** a female writer from England, who was born in December of 1775 in the town of Steventon in Hampshire.
- **Novel :** long written story. (Manser, 1983). A fictitious prose narrative of considerable length and complexity, portraying characters and usually presenting a sequential organization of action and scenes. (Anonymous #2, 2006).

1.7 Organization of the Paper

The paper of the research is organized as follows:

CHAPTER I

This chapter contains background, statements of the problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, method and technique, clarification of key terms, and organization of the paper.

CHAPTER II

It consists of theoretical foundations that provide a basis for conducting the research.

CHAPTER III

This section contains the methodology of the research discussing the steps and the procedures of the research, the data resources, and the reason of choosing the procedures.

CHAPTER IV

This part reports the result of the research, which contains the research findings and discussion.

CHAPTER V

This last chapter contains the interpretation toward the result of the research in a form of conclusions and suggestions in accordance with this research.

