



**SEVERUS SNAPE'S LOVE TOWARDS LILY EVANS AS  
REFLECTED IN *HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY  
HALLOWS* BY J. K. ROWLING**

**A THESIS**

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
For S-1 Degree Majoring Literature in English Department,  
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## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer of this study validates that the writing of this thesis entitled “Severus Snape’s Love Towards Lily Evans as Reflected in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* by J. K. Rowling” is done by her own research and not deducting any data or work from other scholars in S-1, S-2, S-3 and in diploma degree. In addition, the writer confirms that she does not take any material from other studies besides references mentioned.

Semarang, 25 April 2021

Arini Kurniati

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“But you know, happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light”

– **Albus Dumbledore** in *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*

“There is a crack in everything. That’s how the light gets in.”

– **Leonard Cohen**

“Time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time.”

– **Marthe Troly-Curtin**

*This thesis is dedicated to  
my dearest parents and  
those who have always believed in me.  
Thank you.*

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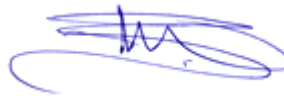
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Semarang, 25 April 2021

Arini Kurniati

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TITLE .....</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>PRONOUNCEMENT .....</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>MOTTO AND DEDICATION.....</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>APPROVAL .....</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>VALIDATION.....</b>	<b>v</b>
<b>ACKNOWLEDGMENT .....</b>	<b>vi</b>
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	<b>viii</b>
<b>ABSTRACT.....</b>	<b>xi</b>
<b>CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Research Problems .....	3
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	4
1.4 Previous Studies .....	4
1.5 Scope of the Study .....	5
1.6 Writing Organization .....	5
<b>CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHODS .....</b>	<b>7</b>
2.1 Theoretical Frameworks .....	7
2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements of Literary Works.....	7
2.1.1.1 Character and Characterization .....	7



2.1.1.2 Conflict.....	8
2.1.2 Extrinsic Elements of Literary Works.....	8
2.1.2.1 Triangular Theory of Love.....	9
2.1.2.1.1 Intimacy .....	9
2.1.2.1.2 Passion .....	10
2.1.2.1.3 Commitment or Decision .....	10
2.1.2.2 Kinds of Love.....	11
2.2 Research Method.....	11
2.2.1 Data and Data Source.....	11
2.2.2 Method of Collecting Data.....	12
2.2.3 Method of Analysing Data.....	12
<b>CHAPTER III: RESULT AND DISCUSSION .....</b>	<b>14</b>
3.1 Intrinsic Analysis .....	14
3.1.1 Analysis of Characters .....	14
3.1.1.1 Severus Snape .....	14
3.1.1.2 Lily Evans .....	18
3.1.2 Analysis of Conflicts.....	20
3.1.2.1 Internal Conflict .....	20
3.1.2.2 External Conflicts .....	22
3.1.2.2.1 Snape and Lily .....	22
3.1.2.2.1.1 Different Morals.....	22
3.1.2.2.1.2 Parting Ways .....	23

3.2 Extrinsic Analysis .....	24
3.2.1 Severus Snape’s Love .....	24
3.2.1.1 Intimacy .....	24
3.2.1.1.1 Having High Respect for the Loved One .....	24
3.2.1.1.2 Receiving Emotional Support from the Loved One.....	25
3.2.1.1.3 Being Happy Near the Loved One .....	25
3.2.1.1.4 Holding Close Conversation with the Loved One .....	26
3.2.1.2 Passion .....	26
3.2.1.2.1 Physical Attraction.....	26
3.2.1.2.2 Sexual Drives .....	27
3.2.1.3 Commitment or Decision .....	27
3.2.1.3.1 Commitment to the Loved One for Long-Term.....	28
3.2.1.3.2 Decision to Love the Loved One .....	29
3.2.1.4 Kinds of Love.....	29
3.2.2 The Effects of Severus Snape’s Love .....	29
<b>CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION .....</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>xii</b>

## ABSTRACT

Love is a universal feeling that is often categorized with warmth, affection, and consideration. It is still a question to some philosophers and poets about the real meaning of love and how someone's love differs from others. Severus Snape is one of the Harry Potter series characters who is famous for his love for Lily Evans. While he shows loyalty towards Lily, many still question his love. This study aims to understand Severus Snape's love towards Lily Evans, what kind of love he has, and its effects on his life as it is seen in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* by applying Robert J. Steinberg's triangular theory of love. The methods used in this study are the library and close-reading, as well as the qualitative analysis method. Contextual analysis method is also utilized to help analyze the novel, which means that this study focuses on the relationship between intrinsic elements, such as Severus Snape's and Lily Evans' character and conflict, and the extrinsic element, Steinberg's triangular theory of love. From analyzing it, the writer finds that Snape's love for Lily is a consummate love, which is the fullest kind of love and it brings him many emotions and feelings that change his life.

**Keywords:** Contextual Analysis Method; Triangular Theory of Love; Robert Sternberg; Severus Snape; Lily Evans; Consummate Love

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Literature has always been a part of human life. The word 'literature' itself is taken from the word 'littera' which has a meaning of letter in Latin that suggests that literature is a written form of art. Barnet, Burto and Cain (2004: 3) describes literature as a written work that people read to find joy and excitement. It incites a pleasant feeling to the reader, even though it is not very beneficial for them. The main purpose of literature is to entertain people and let people escape from reality by getting immersed in it, while it is not uncommon to find a literary work that is used as a platform to execute the writer's intention, such as criticizing the government.

There are three genres of literature; poetry, drama, and prose. All of them have distinctive characteristics that differentiate them. In this study, the object of the analysis is a novel, which is J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, thus the writer focuses solely on prose, precisely novel.

Prose is the most typical form of literary works that use daily language for people to understand and enjoy (Ribó, 2019: 6). Prose is easier to comprehend due to the use of daily language. It is divided into two groups, which are fiction prose and non-fiction prose. Fiction prose consists of novels, short stories, and

any works indulging fictional events that reflect on reality, while non-fiction prose is based on facts, such as biography and autobiography.

There are many popular fiction novels, and one of them is *Harry Potter* series. It consists of seven fantasy-themed books, written by Joanne Kathleen Rowling and published continuously for ten years, from 1997 to 2007. *Harry Potter* series narrates the adventure of Harry Potter, the main character, of fighting the antagonist named Lord Voldemort in the magic world. The seven books serve a long and complex plot that show many characters, from the main to extra characters. Besides Harry Potter and Voldemort, there are some famous characters, for example Harry's best friends Ronald Weasley and Hermione Granger, Hogwarts' headmaster Professor Albus Dumbledore, the annoying professor Dolores Umbridge, and Harry's least favorite teacher, Severus Snape.

Severus Snape is seen as a bad guy in the early books of series. In the first book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, Harry suspects him of being the one who plans to steal the philosopher's stone. In *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* which is the sixth book, Snape kills Dumbledore which leaves Harry Potter to judge him as a betrayer. However, in the last book, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, is it revealed that Snape is a nice guy who attempts to protect Harry Potter while hiding his affection for Harry's deceased mother, Lily Evans.

Snape's love for Lily Evans can be considered the plot twist of the story. It is astounding because Snape has been described as the mean character throughout the series. As Snape's mysterious background story reveals, it explains his suspicious

action. He secretly protects Harry in order to convey his tragic love and grief towards Lily. However, it is not clear what kind of love Snape has towards her.

Analyzing Snape's love for Lily is the main focus of this study. Love is a study under psycho-analytic which reveals this universal feeling that people may have or seek. According to Erich Fromm (1956: 5), love is an art; it is a feeling of pleasure that if one wants to understand, one has to experience. It is an act of promise one makes in order to commit deeply to the feeling of love for the loved one. Sternberg (1986: 120) argues that love is a complex object that is often organized to instincts and drives with the characteristics as to how it is socially built. Like the other branches of psycho-analytic study, love can be analyzed by applying a related theory. In this case, Sternberg's triangular theory of love is used as the main theory.

Further, this study explains more about Snape's love towards Lily Evans as well as how it affects his life.

## **1.2 Research Problems**

From the background of the study that has been stated above, the writer maps the research problems into four questions as follows:

1. How are the characters of Severus Snape and Lily Evans?
2. What are the conflicts between Severus Snape and Lily Evans?
3. What kind of love does Severus Snape have for Lily Evans?
4. How does Severus Snape's love affect his life?

### 1.3 Objective of the Study

To solve the questions stated in the research questions above, the writer makes four objectives include:

1. To reveal the characters of Severus Snape and Lily Evans
2. To comprehend the conflicts between Severus Snape and Lily Evans
3. To analyze the kind of love that Severus Snape has for Lily Evans
4. To discuss the effects of love on Severus Snape's life

### 1.4 Previous Studies

There are ten related studies that have been conducted. The first one is Emma Gustafsson's *The Complexity and Unconventional Heroism of Severus Snape in the Harry Potter Books* (2016). The second one is *Severus Snape as the Tragic Hero in Harry Potter Series by J. K Rowling*, an undergraduate thesis of Rosa Virginia Putri (2019). The next ones are *Severus Snape and the Concept of the Outsider Aspects of Good and Evil in the Harry Potter Series* by Nova Dahlén (2009), 'Severus Snape's Character as in the Novel of "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows"' by Farras Ramadhnoor (n.d), *Inside the Dark Cape: The Changing Characterization of Snape As Seen in Harry Potter Movies* by Novika Sari (2015), *The Meaning of Love Reflected in Nicholas Sparks's Dear John Novel (2006): A Psychoanalytic Analysis* by Hj. Fadhilah Harahab Putri (2017), *Love in Ilana Tan's Novel Autumn in Paris* by Rizki Nurhidayah Sitompul, M. Manugeran, Purwarno Purwarno (2019), *The Reflection of Robert J. Stenberg the Triangular Theory of Love on Justin's Character Daniel Steel's Novel Against All Odds* by Herlina Eva, Siagian (2018), *The Triangular Love Representation of Edward Cullen Character in Breaking Dawn Part I Movie* by Rini (2017), and the last one is *The Triangular Love of Main Characters in E. L. James' Fifty Shades Darker (2011)* by Karina Rahma Hadiani (2016)

This study is different from the research above because even though the subject of the study is the same (Severus Snape), the topic is different. There has not been a study that investigates Snape's love for Lily yet, especially with the application of Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love.

### **1.5 Scope of the Study**

The writer of this study focuses on examining two of *Harry Potter* series' characters, Severus Snape and Lily Evans, and their conflicts regarding Snape's love using the concept of the theory of love proposed by Robert Sternberg. Out of 7 books of J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter the Series*, the writer mainly focuses on the latest work of Rowling which is *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, while the other works are used as additional supports for the analysis.

### **1.6 Writing Organization**

This study is divided into four chapters as follows:

#### **CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION**

The first chapter is an introduction of the study that contains the background of the study, research problems, objective of the study, the scope of the study, previous studies, and organization of the writing.

#### **CHAPTER II: THEORY AND METHODS**

The second chapter consists of the theories and research methods that are used by the writer as the guide of the analysis process. This chapter consists of intrinsic and extrinsic theories, and research methods.

#### **CHAPTER III. : RESULT AND DISCUSSION**



Chapter three is the discussion of the study which is divided into four points: how Snape and Lily are described in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, the conflicts that Snape faces in the series, and the components of Snape's love to conclude the type of his love and its effects on his life.

#### **CHAPTER IV: CONCLUSION**

The last chapter shows the conclusion of the study that has been conducted.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **THEORY AND METHOD**

#### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

##### **2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements of Literary Works**

Intrinsic elements are significant matters in a literary work. Fiction requires intrinsic elements as they construct and activate the story. Intrinsic elements include character, plot, conflict, theme, and others that can be analyzed by reading the work. This study focuses only on character and conflict as the intrinsic elements.

##### **2.1.1.1 Character and Characterization**

One of the basic elements in literary work is a character, which builds the plot of a story. Abrams and Harpham (2012: 32-33) describes characters as figures in a literary work that are able to talk and feel as they have emotions, intellect, and morals given by the author of the work. Koesnosoebroto (1988:23) states that characters are divided into two groups, which are major and minor characters. Major characters are the core of a literary work, in which the plot revolves around them. They are the important characters whose lives are highlighted in the story and they help determine the outcome of the plot. Meanwhile minor characters are side characters that help build and develop the major's personality with less exposure as the author gives limited background knowledge or none at all about these characters. They are less important compared to the major ones, yet necessary to complement the major characters and move the plot forward.

While the methods used by authors of literary works to serve and unveil the characters is called characterization. Based on Arp and Johnson's theory (2005: 104), there are 2 kinds of characterization; direct and indirect presentations. Direct presentation is a way of an author to present the characters by directly exposing or describing them. Meanwhile, the indirect presentation is done by the author by showing the action of the characters so that the readers can comprehend and analyze what kind of the characters are like based on their action and utterance.

#### **2.1.1.2 Conflict**

Conflict is one of the most important aspects of fiction as it carries the plot of a story. Arp and Johnson (2005: 60) describe conflict as "a clash of action, desire, ideas, or goods in the plot of a story or drama". They group them into two types of conflicts; internal and external conflicts (2005: 108). Internal conflict may happen in a character if the character is set to oppose his or her internal will or thought, mostly categorized as emotional conflict since it includes a clash between the heart and the mind of the characters. Meanwhile, external conflict is an issue that rises between characters, a character against the world or nature, or a character and fate.

#### **2.1.2 Extrinsic Elements of Literary Works**

Extrinsic elements are a part of literary works that can be connected with an actual theory that exists in the real world. In this study, the extrinsic element that will be discussed is love with Robert Sternberg's triangular theory of love as the basic theory.

Robert Sternberg (1986: 119) states that love is a complex matter that is often attributed to human fundamental drives and instincts, accompanied by some values that can be learned from observing other people's experience of loving. It is a feeling

that is constructed by three components that are connected to each other and form a triangular.

### **2.1.2.1 Components of Love**

The three components are intimacy, passion, and decision. Those components are all significant for sustaining love. The quality of those components not only may change as the relationship ages but also may differ between couples at a given time (Sternberg, 1986: 119-122).

#### **2.1.2.1.1 Intimacy**

The first component of love is intimacy. It is a feeling of connectedness and closeness in feeling the love. It is an experience of having pleasant feelings that surge through oneself as they are around one's loved one.

There are ten qualifications that can be found in intimacy (Sternberg & Grajek, 1984, as cited in Sternberg 1986);

- (i) having the same values with the loved one,
- (ii) wanting to support the loved one's welfare,
- (iii) having high respect for the loved one,
- (iv) receiving emotional support from the loved one,
- (v) being emotional support of the loved one,
- (vi) sharing thing one owns with the loved one,
- (vii) depending on the loved one at certain times,
- (viii) being happy near the loved one,
- (ix) close conversation with the loved one, and
- (x) knowing and understanding the worth of the loved one in one's life.

Intimacy is the core component of love which is not restricted in a romantic love only, as it can also be found in friendship, brotherhood, and parenthood (Sternberg, 1986: 122). However, the amount of intimacy may vary in different relationships. For example, someone may feel closer to his mother than his friend, although he experiences intimacy with both of them.

#### **2.1.2.1.2 Passion**

Passion is an attraction to physical or appearance, and sexual drives and often leads to what is called romance. It is said that passion is the ‘hot’ aspect of love, and often called ‘the flame of love’ that preponderates a love relationship. Unlike intimacy, passion may not be found in filial relationships. In some relationships, passion develops from intimacy, and some arise before it. For example, love at the first sight indicates that one gets aroused by the other’s physical appearance, which indicates passion comes before intimacy. On the contrary, two friends may achieve some level of intimacy with each other and later the relationship advances into the next level that requires passion (Sternberg, 1986: 122).

#### **2.1.2.1.3 Commitment or Decision**

The promise to commit and be loyal to someone is called commitment or decision. Commitment is often associated with long-term relationships, while the decision is a choice to love or stay with someone. Sternberg (1986: 123) notes that it is necessary to recognize that commitment and decision are two different aspects, although they are quite similar. Commitment and decision do not necessarily come together as one may only decide to love someone without committing themselves and vice versa.

Nonetheless, both of them are the ‘cold’ aspect of love that handles the sustainability of a relationship that can also be found in friendship, brotherhood, or parenthood.

### **2.1.2.2 Kinds of Love**

The three components of love play each part while interacting with the other components. The interaction forms various types of love that can be found in relationships, be it a romantic one, or a filial one. These three components decide which type of love one has for someone. Thus, the types of love people have may be different from one to another. Sternberg (1986: 123) mentions eight possible types of love that are grouped by the existence of the components of love, which are Liking (consists of intimacy only), Romantic Love (Intimacy and Passion), Infatuation Love (Passion only), Fatuous Love (Passion and Commitment), Empty Love (Commitment only), Companionate Love (Intimacy and Commitment), and Consummate Love. Consummate Love that is in the center of the triangular means that for Sternberg, this is the complete of ideal kind of love. It is a love that results from the existences and combination of the three components. In experiencing love, especially the romantic one, most people aim for this type of love (Sternberg, 1986: 123).

## **2.2 Research Method**

### **2.2.1 Data and Data Source**

Every study needs data as it is the material to conduct an analysis. The data required for the study is collected from various sources and then processed by applying a related theory. There are two sources of data, which are primary and secondary data. Primary data is raw materials containing information that require further investigation, such as artworks, transcripts of interviews, etc. While secondary data is

second-hand information that has been conducted by other researchers or institutes like books or articles (Kumar, 2011: 111). In this study, the primary data used is J. K. Rowling's novel Harry Potter series especially *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, while the secondary data are taken from books, articles, and journals that are related to the research questions.

### **2.2.2 Method of Collecting Data**

In this study, the library research method is used as the method of collecting data. The application of library research means that data is collected by reading and understanding some books that are related to the topic. As George (2008: 06) implies in her book *The Elements of Library Research*, library research method is a method that is done by examining existing sources that contain information, facts, or personal/experts' opinions that can answer the research problem.

### **2.2.3 Method of Analysing Data**

In this study, the writer applies contextual method of literary analysis to help analyze the work. Contextual analysis method, according to Behrendt (2008), is an analysis that focuses on not only the context of a written work's backgrounds, but also its textual qualities that make the text 'a text', such as settings, characters, theme, and so on. In this study, psychological approach is applied. Rohrberger and Woods (1971: 13) explain psychological approach as theories that can become a tool to discuss characters in a literary work by looking at their psychological state and background. This approach is relevant to this analysis, as the focus is the psychological aspects of Severus Snape and Lily Evans as characters of *Harry Potter series*, which are supported by Stenberg's Triangular Theory of Love.

Qualitative analysis method is also used in this study. George (2008: 7) mentions that qualitative method is used to analyze studies whose results are taken from non-numeric data, such as words, images, or symbols. In this case, this analysis is done by investigating a literary work, which is J. K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*.



## CHAPTER III

### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Intrinsic Analysis

In this study, the intrinsic elements that will be discussed are divided into two points, which are characters and conflicts.

##### 3.1.1 Analysis of Characters

This study focuses on analyzing two characters of Rowling's *Harry Potter series*. These characters are Severus Snape and Lily Evans, two famous characters that have significant roles in the story.

###### 3.1.1.1. Severus Snape

Severus Snape is one of the well-known characters of *Harry Potter series*. He is a professor at Hogwarts that teaches potion in Harry's early school years, and later becomes a defense against the dark art teacher. He is described to have 'shoulder-length, greasy black hair which frames his face, and cold, black eyes' (Rowling, 1998: 100). The author implicitly emphasizes the color black by mentioning it twice because the color black is often associated with mystery, evil, death, and scary things that comply with Snape's scary and mysterious appearance, which often frightens the other characters.

From the first book, Snape is seen as a mysterious and suspicious character that becomes Harry's most disliked professor. The other characters have similar opinions about Snape, that he is a cruel and bad man, as it shows in Ron's dialogue "Extra lessons with Snape?" said Ron, sounding aghast. 'I'd rather have the

nightmares!" (Rowling, 2003: 246). It explains that his students are afraid of him, even imagining spending extra time with him sounds tremendous. The majority of the characters in *Harry Potter series* understand that Snape is not a good guy, therefore, they do not want to get affiliated with him. To add to this matter, in the third year of Harry's school year, it is revealed that Snape is the 'boggart' of Neville Longbottom, one of his students (Rowling, 1999: 99). A boggart is said to be the mirror of one's inner fear, as it will change into what whoever is standing in front of it dreads the most. To have Snape as his boggart means that Neville is extremely terrified of his teacher.

Although people know him as a mean teacher, it is revealed that he has a terrible past. He is a half-blood wizard, which means that he is born from one wizard and one muggle or non-wizard parents and lives in a poor and toxic environment. '....and a skinny boy was watching them from behind a clump of bushes. His black hair was overlong and his clothes were so mismatched....' (Rowling, 2007: 532). This quotation shows that young Snape does not receive his parents' affection and attention, as the way his demeanor appears. He often talks to Lily Potter, his childhood friend, regarding the situation in his household, in which his parents constantly argue with each other. It shows that he does not have a warm house to return to and parents to give him love. This kind of family makes him unable to sort bad things from the good ones as no one teaches him that. However, the presence of Lily Evans provides him warmth, although their morals are different.

Snape is always interested in dark magic. At eleven years old, he goes to Hogwarts to learn more about magic and enlarge his knowledge, mostly the subject of brewing potions, because he is brilliant at it. Nevertheless, he also deepens the practice of dark magic with the help of his other Slytherin housemates that are dominated by pure-blood supremacy (a belief in the superiority of pure-blood family). This results in James Potter and his friends bullying and mocking him for using forbidden magic by calling him 'Snivellus', also doing mischievous acts towards him. However, this bullying takes a turn on his friendship with Lily, who gets blamed for trying to help him.

Losing Lily from his life worsens his life; he indulges deeper in dark arts that can be seen from how he joins Lord Voldemort, the villain of the story soon after he graduates from Hogwarts. It shows that although he is friends with Lily who motivates him to be a better person, he cannot be a good guy instantly as he grows up in a terrible environment and is surrounded by bad people. After Lily decides to break their friendship, he has no reason to change for the better. However, a few years later, when Voldemort kills Lily, he decides to change to bury his guilt of not being able to save her. The remorse Snape has for his love's death becomes his reason motivation for being a better person by deceiving Voldemort, which can be seen from how he is willing to work for Dumbledore and give Voldemort fake information.

Although he is seen as an evil character for six novels, the last novel unravels his secret that he keeps throughout his life by showing his memories that include his and Lily's friendship. Due to this circumstance, Harry, the protagonist of the story,

understands and acknowledges him as the bravest person he ever knows, that is shown from his utterance;

‘Albus Severus,’ Harry said quietly, so that nobody but Ginny could hear, and she was tactful enough to pretend to be waving to Rose, who was now on the train, ‘you were named for two headmasters of Hogwarts. One of them was a Slytherin and he was probably the bravest man I ever knew.’ (Rowling, 2007: 607)

It can be taken from the passage that Harry names one of his sons ‘Albus Severus Potter’ that proves his high respect for both Albus Dumbledore and Severus Snape, whose names are taken from. He acknowledges Snape as the bravest man he ever knows because Snape is willing to take a risk to betray Voldemort, although he knows Voldemort will not hesitate to kill him if he understands his scheme as this antagonist of the story is known for his cold and heartless monster who will murder everyone who comes to his way.

Snape is one of the minor characters of the story. This is due to the fact that compared to the major characters, he appears in the story, though the author gives sub-chapter in the story that shows his limited background life. Although Snape does not appear much, he gives a great influence to the story that can be seen from the way he serves the plot twist to the story and his help of building Harry’s character as the protagonist of the story.

Snape is characterized by the author mostly through indirect presentations. The indirect presentation can be seen from other characters’ conversation that reveals Snape’s personality, for example this quotation: ‘Lucky for them,’ said Ted. ‘With Snape’s track record, I suppose we should just be glad they’re still alive. (Rowling, 2007: 246). Even though the author does not directly disclose Snape as a cold-hearted and scary person, this trait of him can be concluded after analyzing the

quotation. By telling that they should be grateful that they survive from a night with Snape, it gives us an image that Snape is someone that is feared by the others, according to these characters. Thus, this type of characterization is an indirect presentation.

### **3.1.1.2 Lily Evans**

Lily Potter (n.e Evans) is one of the characters in *Harry Potter series*. She is described to be Harry Potter's mom who has red hair and green eyes that Harry inherits. The color red and green shows that she is a cheerful yet peaceful girl who is adored by everyone. She gets the last name, Potter, after she marries James Potter. She is born in a muggle family, which in the wizarding world is considered the lowest-class. However, she proves that she can be a great and respectable witch which can be seen from how people acknowledge her as one of the best witches of her generation.

Lily Evans lives in Cokeworth, England, with her parents and an older sister, Petunia Evans. She grows up in a loving family that knows nothing of the magic world until Lily shows a peculiar behavior of a witch and an acceptance letter from Hogwarts arrives at their house. Lily spends her days playing and talking with Snape, a neighbor of hers that happens to be a wizard. However, this friendship tears Lily and Petunia apart as Petunia grows jealous of Lily's ability and despises Snape. It can be seen from how Petunia calls her younger sister a freak for showing her magic skill, yet sends a letter to Dumbledore to let her take education at Hogwarts (Rowling, 2007: 537).

During her school years, Lily exhibits extracurricular talents and is famous for her astuteness. While she grows up in the muggle world, which means she can only learn magic once she attends Hogwarts, that does not limit her natural ability. In Harry's sixth year, professor Slughorn, who happens to teach young Lily in her school days, mentions that Harry's mom is one of his 'diamonds', students who he collects due to their outstanding skills or backgrounds. Professor Slughorn is described to be a proud Slytherin who loves to collect brilliant students, especially Slytherin and pure-blood ones, yet he acknowledges Lily's ability, who is a Gryffindor and a muggle-born, as this quotation indicates:

“Lily Evans. One of the brightest I ever taught. Vivacious, you know. Charming girl. I used to tell her she ought to have been in my House. Very cheeky answers I used to get back too.”; “Your mother was Muggle-born, of course. Couldn't believe it when I found out. Thought she must have been pure-blood, she was so good.” (Rowling, 2005: 58-59).

From Professor Slughorn's dialogue, it can be seen how pure-blood wizards, especially Slytherins, see muggle-born. He is shocked to find that Lily is a muggle-born because she exceeds his prejudice of a muggle-born.

Lily is also well-known for her motherly love for Harry Potter. In the night where Voldemort tries to kill baby Harry, Lily does not hesitate to jump in front of him to protect her only son, although Voldemort has offered her to live due to the request of Snape. She sacrifices her life, showing a brave and loving mother figure. ““Not Harry, please no, take me, kill me instead –”” (Rowling, 2007: 281). From this passage, it can be taken that she tries to bargain with Voldemort to take her life instead of her son. She still tries to shield Harry even after knowing that Voldemort is a cold-blooded villain who will not dither to kill anyone who goes against him,

which proves that she has a great motherly love for Harry that guides her to be brave even in a terrifying circumstance.

Lily shows a static and unchanging character, which proves that her character is a minor character. The author does not disclose Lily's life much, but throughout the series, she is described as a clever, kind, and brave girl that becomes everyone's sweetheart and Harry's dead mother.

Lily's background life and personality is limited because she is a dead person in the story that most of it comes from the explanation of the other characters' dialogues or memories. She is both characterized through direct and indirect presentations. One of the examples of the direct characterization is in the following passage: 'She was a very pretty woman. She had dark red hair and her eyes-' (Rowling, 1998:226). The author explicitly describes her as a pretty woman. While she is indirectly characterized as a loving and brave mother who sacrifices his life for her son from her own action and words (Rowling, 2007: 281).

### **3.1.2 Analysis of Conflicts**

There are two types of conflicts that will be discussed in this study, which are internal and external conflicts. Both of these are the conflicts that Severus Snape faces throughout the story that affect or correlate with his relationship with Lily Evans.

#### **3.1.2.1 Internal Conflicts**

Behind his expressionless appearance, Snape has been conflicted with himself several times in the story. The first conflict is related to his friendship with Lily. Growing up in a messy household with no one caring for him, Snape is unable to

understand what is right and wrong. He cannot think clearly before taking an action that can be shown by how he appears in front of Lily for the first time and scares her sister (Rowling, 2007: 535). Though it is not a serious problem for Snape's liking, as he makes friends with Lily who is more reasonable, he cannot help but to question his action as the quotation here suggests: "Did you make that happen?" "No." He looked both defiant and scared." (Rowling, 2007: 536). Based on this quotation, Snape hurts Petunia who is spying on him and Lily by breaking a twig. However, his doing is against Lily's moral values as she will never do anything that may hurt her sister, no matter what she does. Snape, who thinks that he does the right thing, starts wondering why Lily is upset with him that can be seen from the way he acts defiant, yet at the same time gets scared thinking that Lily may leave him for that. This conflict happens a few times, especially when Petunia is involved.

Another conflict that Snape has encountered is the feeling of being inferior and trying to hide it. While he is not really aware of it, it shows in various scenes in the story. When Lily tells him that she dislikes seeing him befriend bad students, Snape backfires while bringing James Potter into the topic (Rowling, 2007: 541). It is possible that he wants to be seen as someone who is better than James who likes to bully people, including himself. It is due to the fact that James and his fellows are richer and more famous than him. They get the spotlight, and this repugns Snape, as the person who is bullied by them. Thus, he seeks support from Lily, who is the only true friend he has. After obtaining an acknowledgment from her, it soothes his



inferiority and becomes significance to his well-being. By saying that, he wants Lily to see James as someone who is worse than him to feel superior.

### **3.1.2.2 External Conflicts**

#### **3.1.2.2.1 Snape and Lily**

Lily and Snape spend their childhood jointly. However, they face some conflicts that affect their friendship. The conflicts are divided into two parts, different morals and parting ways.

##### **3.1.2.2.1.1 Different Morals**

Lily has always been the white in Snape's dark life. Although her first impression of Snape is bad because he scares her sister, she becomes his best ally and stays with him amidst the different morals that they have. However, more problems arise when they start their education at Hogwarts. Snape, who is admitted to Slytherin, befriends students that according to Lily are bad. This causes a heated conversation between them, even though in the end they reconcile.

When Snape gets bullied by James, Sirius, Remus, and Peter who are known as 'the Marauders', Lily is always ready to help and defend him. It causes the Marauders to mock Snape for being a weak guy who hides behind a girl's back, and angers Snape that he calls Lily a Mudblood, as it shows in this quotation: "I don't need help from filthy little Mudbloods like her!" (Rowling, 2011: 550). From that passage, it is clear that he does it out of rage since he is seen as someone who cannot defend himself. He is upset and attacks Lily because he knows that he cannot defeat the Marauders due to the number of people. Lily, who has always

suppressed her anger towards Snape that does not seem to mature as he gets old, becomes enraged.

Snape, who is aware that he causes Lily to be angry, attempts to seek for her forgiveness by explaining that he does not mean his word. However, Lily denies his apology because she knows that Snape calls every muggle-born students Mud-Bloods and wonders why she is an exception, as it shows in this passage; ‘No – listen, I didn’t mean –’ ‘– to call me Mudblood? But you call everyone of my birth Mudblood, Severus. Why should I be any different?’ (Rowling, 2007: 542).

#### **3.1.2.2.1.2 Parting Ways**

The problems that rise due to their different ways of thinking end Snape’s and Lily’s precious friendship. Lily says “I can’t pretend any more. You’ve chosen your way, I’ve chosen mine.” (Rowling, 2007: 542) to Snape, which shows Lily’s confession regarding how she cannot ignore her disappointment toward Snape any longer. She has tried to stay loyal to Snape despite all of the differences they have, but in the end, Snape hurts her feelings and overlooks her effort. Full of rage, Lily believes that it is better for them to separate and continue their lives without each other.

Parting ways with Lily worsens Snape’s life; he indulges deeper in dark arts that can be seen from how he joins Lord Voldemort, the villain of the story soon after he graduates from Hogwarts. Lily, on the other hand, joins Dumbledore Army who fight Voldemort and his followers, the Death-Eaters. Lily and Snape are in the opposite polar and they have not communicated with each other since that day where Lily decides to end their friendship.

## **3.2 Extrinsic Analysis**

The extrinsic elements that will be discussed in this study are Snape's love towards Lily Evans and its influences on his life.

### **3.2.1 Severus Snape's Love**

The focus of this study is to discuss the kind of love that Snape has for Lily based on the three elements of love, which are intimacy, passion, and commitment.

#### **3.2.1.1 Intimacy**

Four qualifications of intimacy can be found in Snape's love, which are having high respect for the loved one, receiving emotional support from the loved one, being happy near the loved one, and holding close conversation with the loved one.

##### **3.2.1.1.1 Having High Respect for the Loved One**

He also recognizes Lily's eminence, which is one of the qualities of feeling intimate to someone. From the moment Snape sees Lily and after watching her from afar, he finds that she is an outstanding witch, although she grows in a muggle family. Whilst he only watches her in secret, he learns how significant she is. This makes Snape show a distinct dislike towards Petunia, a muggle sister of Lily when she tells her not to use her magic ability that she considers weird. He tries to convince Lily that she is a witch who has great magic skills: "You've got loads of magic," said Snape. "I saw that. All the time I was watching you ..." (Rowling, 2007: 535). From this passage, it is obvious that Snape understands Lily's worth as a witch. He acknowledges her power and supports her. He wants to induce her not to be worried about using her magic because being a witch is not weird, unlike what Petunia

states. He wants to let her know that she is a great and valuable witch because her family has never told her due to their limited knowledge of magic.

He is also unable to call Lily Mud-Blood (before the bullying event happens) although he calls every other muggle-born it (Rowling, 2007: 542). This is due to his perspective of seeing Lily highly, ignoring the fact that she is a muggle-born herself. He respects and acknowledges Lily's worth, that is why he never calls her a Mud-Blood, because according to him, she deserves more than just a mock name. This is strengthened by their previous conversation, where Lily asks him if a muggle-born will make a difference in the wizarding world. Snape, although looking a bit unsure, answers that she will not make any difference because he knows the ability of Lily Evans, and that will make her equal, or even higher than anyone.

#### **3.2.1.1.2 Receiving Emotional Support from the Loved One**

'The moment she had insulted James Potter, his whole body had relaxed, and as they walked away there was a new spring in Snape's step' (Rowling, 2007: 541). According to this quotation, Snape receives emotional support from Lily, by hearing her insulting James. Although the other students praise James for being a brilliant wizard, Snape only cares about how Lily perceives him. This proves that the love that he has allows him to care about Lily; insofar as she favors him, he does not consider what other people think important.

#### **3.2.1.1.3 Being Happy Near the Loved One**

This feeling of closeness is the reason for Snape's happiness. It shows from Snape's reaction even when Lily does something trivial. For example, when he hears Lily's voice calling his name, he immediately smiles. 'A little smile twisted Snape's

mouth when she said his name' (Rowling, 2007: 486). Snape is known for his expressionless and sour face, even in his childhood days. However, a smile appears on his face just from hearing her calling his name, which is not something that is considered special to do to someone. This proves that the feeling of closeness brings him happiness even from receiving the trifles of Lily's actions.

#### **3.2.1.1.4 Holding Close Conversation with the Loved One**

The other evidence that Snape experiences an intimacy towards Lily is that he feels safe and comfortable around her as if there is a connection between them. It is clear that Snape is able to hold a close conversation with Lily, which is related to the bad circumstance that occurs in his family. Although there is no scene where Snape tells Lily of what happens in his household directly, it can be seen from how she is able to ask whether his parents are arguing anymore or not (Rowling, 2007: 535). Lily's question indicates that she and Snape often talk about his family. It is evidence that Snape trusts Lily as he is comfortable talking about his personal matters to her without fearing being judged.

#### **3.2.1.2 Passion**

Two aspects that can be the parameters of a passion are physical attraction and sexual drive. The following analysis will uncover the result of the two aspects in Severus Snape's love.

##### **3.2.1.2.1 Physical Attraction**

It is clear that he is attracted to Lily. The first evidence of the physical attraction that Snape experiences is how he gazes at Lily's appearance. In his memory, it is visible that Snape has always adored Lily from the first time he sees her. This is

proof that he experiences love at the first sight. It can be seen from this line: ‘There was undisguised greed in his thin face as he watched the younger of the two girls....’ (Rowling, 2007: 532). The word ‘greed’ that is used to describe Snape’s stare emphasizes his hidden desire for her. It also indicates that he is captivated by Lily’s demeanor, thus he wants to look at her as much as he can. It is no doubt that he is attracted to her physical appearance.

Another evidence of passion drives that Snape experiences is that he faces a remarkable physical sensation, such as blushing when he stares at Lily. It can be seen from this quotation: ‘A dull flush of colour mounted the sallow cheeks as he looked at Lily’ (Rowling, 2007: 533). People often blush when they are attracted to someone. In this case, Snape is clearly attracted to Lily’s look since he blushes just by gazing at her. Lily’s appearance charms Snape even though he does not notice, thus his body reacts naturally by being flushed.

#### **3.2.1.2.2 Sexual Drives**

In Snape’s case, it is not stated whether he has any sexual drive towards Lily. It is due to the minimal information regarding Snape’s thoughts and background story. Nevertheless, although no sexual drive is found in Snape’s love towards Lily, it can be concluded that he experiences passion aspects of love through his attraction of Lily’s appearance.

#### **3.2.2.3 Commitment or Decision**

Snape’s commitment and decision is not verbally conveyed. He shows commitment through his actions that unveil his lasting love for Lily even for years after she dies

that can be seen from the two aspects of commitment or decision; commitment to the loved one for long-term and decision to love the loved one.

### **3.2.1.3.1 Commitment to the Loved One for Long-Term**

The first action that proves his commitment is his attempt to save Lily and her family from Voldemort. Although Lily has ended the friendship she has with Snape and married James happily, Snape is still fond of her. When he notices Voldemort's plan of assassinating the one-year-old Harry Potter, he reaches Dumbledore to ask for help to protect the Potter family. "Keep her – them – safe. Please." (Rowling, 2007: 544) It is clear that he is afraid of losing Lily from the way he begs Dumbledore to hide her and his family. It proves that he still has the commitment to protect her, despite the fact that they have stopped communicating to each other for years and she is married to someone else.

It is continued by the fact that he is willing to do anything in return for Lily's life when Dumbledore asks him (Rowling, 2009: 544). It sends a clear message that he is ready to devote his life to whatever Dumbledore requests in exchange for saving Lily from death, though it may be dangerous for him. This highlights his commitment of loving Lily.

"Expecto patronum!" From the tip of his wand burst the silver doe....' (Rowling, 2007: 551). This quotation implies that the form of Snape's patronus is a doe. Patronus is a difficult charm that is mostly affiliated with love and strong memories, in which it is produced by the strongest memory a wizard has, no matter whether it is a terrible or a happy memory. It is interesting that Lily's patronus is also a doe, thus indicating that Lily is the strongest memory that Snape has. His

memory of Lily allows him to produce patronus, that some wizards, especially those who enjoy dark arts or followers of Voldemort (the Death Eaters), cannot produce. The fact that Snape has and is still able to produce the same patronus charm, even long after Lily's death, shows that he is still greatly affected by the memories of her.

#### **3.2.1.3.2 Decision to Love the Loved One**

Although Snape never admits his love explicitly, he conveys it through his action. This is proven by his utterance: “‘After all this time?’ ‘Always,’ said Snape” (Rowling, 2007: 552). Dumbledore, who watches Snape produce a patronus charm, realizes that it is not Harry that Snape cares about, but Lily. Therefore, he asks him regarding his feelings that still remain years after her death. Snape gives a clear answer. Although only through the simple word ‘always’, it uncovers his decision to love Lily forever. He decides to love her perpetually, despite the possibility that he can seek someone new to love. Through that word, he relays his promise to stay loyal to Lily beyond time and obstacles that may arise.

#### **3.2.1.4 Kinds of Love**

After discussing the three components of love, it can be seen that Snape experiences all three elements of love which are Intimacy, Passion, and Commitment. It means that Snape's love for Lily is a Consummate Love, which is the complete love according to the Triangular Theory of Love (Sternberg, 1986: 123).

#### **3.2.2 The Effects of Severus Snape's Love**

The consummate love plays a big role in Snape's life. It incites and affects him, from the feelings he experiences to the life choices that he chooses. The intimacy



brings him warmth and happiness, a feeling that he cannot experience as the result of the toxic environment and family. He finds someone that can be his mental support and understand him. ‘The moment she had insulted James Potter, his whole body had relaxed, and as they walked away there was a new spring in Snape’s step’ (Rowling, 2007: 541). According to this quotation, Snape receives emotional support from Lily, by hearing her insulting James. Although the other students praise James for being a brilliant wizard, Snape only cares about how Lily perceives him. This proves that the love that he has allows him to care about Lily; insofar as she favors him, he does not consider what other people think important.

The passion that still remains in him, even after Lily’s death, makes him decide to risk his life to secure Harry Potter. Dumbledore has tried to persuade Snape to help him and Harry by spying on Voldemort, which he always refuses until Dumbledore mentions that Harry has Lily’s eyes. This only feature of Harry that resembles his mother makes Snape reconsider his answer then choose to protect Harry. It clearly shows that he is still affected by what reminisces him of Lily: ‘‘Her son lives. He has her eyes, precisely her eyes....’’ (Rowling, 2007: 544).

The last one, commitment gives Snape a grim and regretful feeling of unable to save someone that he cherishes. This causes him to become more pathetic and lose his motivation to live, as stated in this quotation: ‘‘I wish ... I wish I were dead ...’’ (Rowling, 2007: 544). It shows his guilt that results from the failure of protecting Lily, even though he has attempted to ask for both Voldemort and Dumbledore’s help. He continues his life with great remorse that he hides behind his terrifying demeanor. Nonetheless, he cannot cover his sadness when he is alone.

'Tears were dripping from the end of his hooked nose as he read the old letter from Lily.' (2007: 553). This quotation shows that he cannot bear his sadness when he finds and reads Lily's old letter. It is obvious that his guilt towards her will remain unchanging, even years after her death. The only way to vindicate this is by improving his life by protecting Lily's son, although no one knows about his tragic hidden love, except him and Dumbledore.

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

*Harry Potter* series consists of 7 continuous novels that mainly focus on Harry Potter's struggle to fulfill his fate as 'the chosen one'. Although the story is centered on Harry as the main character, there are a lot of characters who are significant to be analyzed, such as Severus Snape who is famous for his secret love for Lily Evans.

This thesis is conducted to analysis Snape's love towards Lily Evans by focusing on Snape's and Lily's characters and conflicts. The writer uses the theory of character and conflict to study the intrinsic aspects, while Sternberg's concept of love helps investigate Snape's love for Lily. The study is done by applying contextual method of literary analysis, qualitative analysis method, and library research method.

After conducting the study, it reveals that first, Snape and Lily are both the minor characters of the story, although they execute a large contribution to the story. The second one, Snape experiences both internal and external conflicts that are related to his friendship with Lily. Then, Snape shows all the aspects of love, which are intimacy, passion, and commitment in his experience of loving.

First, the intimacy can be found from the connection that Lily and Snape have with each other that allows Snape to feel comfortable around her. Second, the passion is implicitly shown from Snape's reddening cheeks which is proof of a natural reaction driven by attraction. Lastly, the commitment can be seen from his

decision to always love Lily although she is dead. From these findings, it can be concluded that his love for Lily Evans is a Consummate Love.

This study also unveils the effects of Snape's love on his life. Snape's love for Lily stays and affects his life until he dies. Through loving her, he is able to experience both happiness and guilt. He is also willing to make a decision full of risks just to protect her son, Harry Potter.

Lastly, the writer suggests further research related to the type of love of Severus Snape using different love theories to better understand and compare the implications of these results with this paper as a comparative study.

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