

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Love, a fundamental human emotion, resists simple definition. Many, including Rubin (1970:495), have attempted to unravel its complexities. Rubin emphasizes the crucial distinction between liking and loving. Liking involves admiration, enjoying someone's company, and desiring their presence, but it lacks the depth of love. Love, in contrast, burns with a passion for intimacy and connection. According to Goode (1959:41), love is a strong emotional attachment between adolescents or adults of different sexes. Love does not emerge randomly and casually it involves social and cultural factors. Therefore, it needs to be fundamental and profound in building a relationship. Intimacy, passion, and commitment are the main things that need to be considered when building a relationship. Intimacy is the core of a relationship, such as relationships with parents, siblings, lovers, and close friends. Passion is a tendency only in romantic relationships because it involves deeper feelings, and commitment has the highest level of building a relationship. *Five Feet Apart* is a romantic novel that will be discussed in this research thesis by analyzing intimacy, passion, and commitment.

Intimacy, passion and commitment are also reflected in literary works. One of the literary works that describe intimacy, passion, and commitment is a novel entitled *Five Feet Apart*, written by Rachael Lippincott, Mikki Daughtry, and Tobias Lacoins, which carries a genre romantic drama in 2018 and got #1 New York Times best-selling

novel. *Five Feet Apart* follows the story of Stella Grant and Will Newman, two teenagers with cystic fibrosis. Despite being physically separated by five feet apart due to strict hospital regulations against cross-infection, they grow close to one another. Will is more disobedient since he is sick of the hospital routine, but Stella is orderly and adheres to her treatment plan strictly. Their developing relationship presents a challenge as they attempt to strike a balance between their need to stay healthy and their desire to be together. In the face of a fatal illness, the novel deftly examines themes of love and the need for human connection. The twists and turns of the love story are unusual because people mainly want to have physical contact when they love each other. This makes the research interesting, how two people who fall in love but have limitations in physical interaction. Hence, this research will discuss the fundamentals of love, namely intimacy, passion, commitment, and kind of love. In this research, there will be a depiction of the growth of Will and Stella's love and their struggle to maintain their love.

This research thesis focuses on analyzing this novel as it is different from the usual romantic stories. This research of the novel is more likely to introduce disease by slipping a romantic story into it. This research will focus on analyzing the elements of love, namely intimacy, passion and commitment that exist in the main characters, Stella Grant and Will Newman, who both have a deadly lung disease. Stella's disciplined, optimistic, and cheerful character is very different from Will who is pessimistic about

his life. In this research thesis focuses on analyzing how intimacy, passion, and commitment are depicted in the novel *Five Feet Apart*.

1.2. Research Question

1. What is the intimacy depicted in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'?
2. What is the passion depicted in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'?
3. What is the commitment depicted in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'?
4. What is kind of love depicted in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'?

1.3. Purpose of Study

1. To analyze intimacy as portrayed in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'
2. To analyze passion as portrayed in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'
3. To analyze commitment as portrayed in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'
4. To analyze the kind of love as portrayed in Rachel Lippincott and Friends 'Five Feet Apart'

1.4. Scope of Study

The scope of the research thesis focuses on intimacy, passion, and commitment reflected in the main characters, Stella Grant and Will Newman. This research discusses intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. In the intrinsic aspect, this research analyzes

the character, characterization, conflict, and setting of the novel. In the extrinsic aspect, this research analyzes a psychological aspect of the novel, i.e., intimacy, passion, commitment, and the kind of love depicted in *Five Feet Apart*, written by Rachel Lippincott and Friends. In "Five Feet Apart," Stella and Will's relationship shows intimacy, passion, and commitment through their strong emotional bond, deep romantic desire despite their physical limitation, and dedication to keep their love for each other. This research portrays that even though someone has a physical limitation, they can still make the sparks of love grow.

1.5. Previous Study

The first previous undergraduate thesis entitled "Protagonist's Motivation In Rachel Lippincott et al.'s Novel *Five Feet Apart*" result by Anggi Angaraini and Sri Wulan from the Journal of Language at the University of Islam North Sumatra. This research thesis discusses the motivation of the main character in undergoing treatment. This research concludes that there are two forms of motivation: recovery and family happiness. This motivation can arise due to falling in love. The intense feelings between the two characters make them able to fight against their illness; with this motivation, the characters can successfully undergo treatment.

The second previous study find in a journal entitled "An Analysis of Woman's Struggle in "*Five Feet Apart*" Movie By Justin Baldoni" result by Mukhlasul Fasikh, Sumarwan, Abdul Muhid Murtadho from Journal of English Language and Literature STIBA IEC Jakarta. This journal discusses the kind of woman's struggle in "Five

Feet Apart” and how Stella’s Struggles to get in love in “Five Feet Apart” Movie. This research concludes that all of the main characters in the movie are struggling to be human beings with touch to connect sadness, happiness, pride and feeling.

The third previous study find in a journal entitled “The Analysis of Ambiguity in Rachel Lippincott’s Novel “Five Feet Apart” by Erlindawaty and Muhammad Kahfi from Indonesian Journal Education Universitas Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara. In this journal, this research focuses to find out the lexical and syntactical ambiguities in the novel *Five Feet Apart*. This journal summarises that this research of the novel repeated the words to insist to the readers that everything is the same. In syntactical ambiguity, this research found that *Five Feet Apart* often missed the subject pronoun in the novel.

The fourth previous study finds in a research article entitled “Analysis of Medical Term Translation Techniques in the *Five Feet Apart* Novel” by Valufi Enggin and Romel Noverino from the International Journal of Translation and Interpretation Studies Gunadarma University. This research discusses the types of medical terms finds and the translation techniques applied to translate them from English to Indonesian. This research concludes that the most dominant medical terms used in *Five Feet Apart* written by Rachel Lippincott and Friends are human body parts, medical abbreviation, medical tools, procedures, treatments, actions, disease, signs, symptoms, and injuries. Medication and healthcare occupation.

The fifth previous study finds in a journal entitled “Newmark’s Translation Techniques and Degree Semantic Equivalence of Figurative Language in *Five Feet*

Apart Novel” result by Chotimah Yatimul, Januarius Mujiyanto, and Rudi Hartono from English Education Journal Universitas Negeri Semarang. This journal focuses on analyzing Newmark’s translation technique and explains the achievement of full partial, and no equivalence. This researchs find 8 translation techniques used in 202 data and the dominant technique is couplet. The large number of full equivalence indicates that the translator keeps maintaining the meaning and minimizing non-equivalence.

The sixth previous study finds in a journal entitled “Flouting Maxims in “Five Feet Apart” Movie” result by Cut Nadira Dwiyaniti and Ambalegin from *Ide Bahasa Journal Universitas Putera Batam*. This journal discusses a pragmatic study to discover the flouting of maxims in the “Five Feet Apart” movie. This research concludes that the characters in *Five Feet Apart* movie flouted all the maxims because they want to change the topics, sarcasm, and cover up their feelings. Whereas with the flouting maxims, the plot of this movie becomes more interesting.

The seventh previous undergraduate thesis entitled “Stella Grant’s Defense Mechanism in Coping Anxiety Depicted in Rachel Lippincott's “Five Feet Apart” Novel (2018)” by Nabilla Titania Rubianto from Universitas Islam Sultan Agung. This research thesis discusses the types of anxiety and self-defense mechanisms Stella Grant is the main character using Sigmund Freud’s Psychoanalysis Theory. The results of the research thesis are Stella Grant experiences all types of anxiety; reality anxiety, neurotic anxiety, and moral anxiety. Stella Grant also performed five types

of defence mechanisms which are denial, reaction formation, rationalization, displacement, and substitution.

The eighth previous study find in a journal entitled “Love, Life and Death and Rebellion in Justin Louise Baldoni’s *Five Feet Apart* Move (Psychological Literature Approach)” result by Iis Aulia Khoirunnisa and Deswandito Dwi Saptanto from Universitas Ngudi Waluyo. This journal discusses love language, psychoanalysis, and anxiety in *Five Feet Apart* movie. This researchs discover that Stella Grant and Will Newman fulfill four love languages without physical touch because Stella and Will could not make it happen. The non-fulfilment of this desire creates anxiety. Finally, they experience three anxiety, which are reality anxiety, neurotic anxiety and moral anxiety.

The ninth previous undergraduate thesis entitled “The Analysis of Optimism Values Of Stella Grant in *Five Feet Apart* Novel by Rachel Lippincott and Friends” result by Renna Tamara from Buddhi Dharma University. This research discusses optimism values in Stella Grant when facing her condition and spreads optimism to Will Newman. This research thesis concludes that Stella has optimism. There are five values which are self-motivation, self-confidence, and easy-to-surrender behavior that Stella has. That optimism spread to Will to undergo the treatment.

The tenth previous study finds in a journal entitled “The Loneliness of A Female Character in Rachel Lippincott et al.’s Novel *Five Feet Apart*” by Della M.A, and Erika Citra S.H. This journal discusses the causes of Stella Grant’s loneliness and the copes of Stella Grant’s loneliness. The conclusion of this journal the biggest influence

that causes Stella to feel lonely is due to physical separation and the death of the closest person. The copes of loneliness are adaptation, task choice, and standards for evaluating social relationships, ways of using existing relationships more fully, ways of forming new relationships, and replacement relationships.

Overall, this research thesis has significant differences from previous studies in terms of focus studies. Firstly, this research thesis explores the theories of love, including intimacy, passion, commitment and kind of love depicted in the novel *Five Feet Apart* written by Rachel Lippincott and friends. Secondly, This research thesis uses novels while most of the previous studies used novels or movie scripts. Thirdly, the themes of this research thesis are intimacy, passion, commitment and kind of love which explain human psychological when falling in love by using the theory of love proposed by Robert J. Sternberg called Triangular of Love in the novel entitled *Five Feet Apart* written by Rachel Lippincott and Friends.