

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Isabel Conklin or Belly, the female main character in the novel *The Summer I Turned Pretty* is experiencing her first love exploration as a teenager. Her love exploration involves three male characters in the novel: Conrad Fisher, Jeremiah Fisher, and Cameron. They have a different personality that can approach Belly and build a romantic relationship with her. The analysis uses the theory of character, setting, and conflict to study the intrinsic elements. Meanwhile, Robert J. Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love supports to identification of Belly's love exploration between three boys. The three boys show the different components of love: intimacy, passion, and decision/commitment in their experience of loving. The difference results in various types of love which can affect Belly's life.

Conrad's intimacy can be found in his deep emotional connection with Belly rooted in their childhood friendship. Their relationship is complex, with moments of intense intimacy and deep understanding of each other's feelings. Conrad's passion for Belly is evident, but it often manifests in a more intense and consuming manner. Besides his flaws, Conrad is deeply committed to Belly. He confesses his feelings and acknowledges his mistakes, showing a willingness to work through their issues. Likewise, Belly is forever obsessed with Conrad. She experiences intimacy, passion, and decision/commitment even though her emotional state is complex and evolving, reflecting the challenges of maintaining a deep emotional connection while protecting herself from heartache. Therefore, their type of love is

ended up in consummate love because they are experiencing all of the three components of love. Belly's relationship with Conrad is deeply intertwined with her character development and emotional growth.

Jeremiah's strong intimacy with Belly is built on a deep emotional connection for many years. They share a sense of comfort rooted in their shared experiences and the safety they find in each other. Therefore, their passion is more subdued and based on the familiarity and comfort they share. Their relationship also lacks commitment because when Jeremiah reveals his romantic feelings to Belly, she is taken aback and realizes that she has not fully gotten for Conrad. Their commitment turns only to being a good friend to each other which leads to the type of love liking or friendship relationship. Belly's relationship with Jeremiah offers her emotional stability, intimacy, trust, and personal growth in her life.

Cam and Belly lack intimacy because they have not known each other for a long time not like with Conrad and Jeremiah. However, they share a deep understanding and often spend time together because Belly finds Cam is the first boy who appreciates and respects her as a real girl, not like a child. Cam is steadier and his presence is reliable, therefore his passion with Belly is not intense but there. Cam's commitment to Belly only lasts for a short time since he is not as deeply emotionally invested as Conrad or Jeremiah. Therefore, their type of love is called fatuous love because their relationship lacks intimacy, while passion and commitment are more dominant. Belly's relationship with Cam affects her life by providing a sense of self-realization.