

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

A novel is a long work which is typically published as a book of narrative fiction, normally in prose and it is continuously and comprehensively a work that have not been change since two thousand years ago (Doody, 1997). Novel continues its popularity these days. It has move from realistic focus and evolves as a wide type which combines all others fiction mode. For example, science fiction novel depends on scientific machine to create a future society that having the same level with our own society. Meanwhile, historical novel arranged by an old times history and takes the character and event from the history itself.

Science fiction novel and historical novel are not the only genres of novel. There are other genres such as, fantasy, horror, thriller, and one of the most favorite genres is romance. Radcliffe (2004), in her articles entitled *The Romance and the Novel* said that the word *romance* came to mean any work written in French. In Medieval French literature, the story consists of knight story and their exploitation. Therefore, the meaning of romance becomes a story written in prose or poetry about knight. Overtime, the words come for a novel and distinguished from the novel.

There is no general agreement about how a novel structured or characterized. Besides, a work can be called as a novel by one critic and romance by the other; it occurs especially from gothic fiction, which uses a magic, mystery, and horror.

Furthermore, a complicated debate between a novel versus a romance is a practically combining a romance and a novel into one work, so that the elements of both novel and romance can be taken. The definition of a romance novel is “A love story in which the central focus how the main characters love relationship are develop” (Ramsdell, 1987). There are four key characteristics that are common to all romance novels; a heroine, a hero, a conflict-ridden story, and a happily ever after ending (Barlow, 1992).

The love story described in romance novel makes some people think that romance novel will be always about the love relationship between the characters inside the novel. Thus, when people read a romance novel, they still cannot define how a novel can be called as a romance novel. So that, with the concept of romance novel from Regis the elements of romance story need to be analyzed in order to make people understand about how to define a novel as a romance novel through its elements. Therefore, in the future, the writer hopes that the analysis in this paper will be helpful for people to get the essence of romance novel.

Even though the concept of romance novel is still undefined, romance novels are still beloved by book club members who trade their favorite romances with each other, and the number of romance readers' conferences continues to increase every year. The popularity of this genre, which made \$1.368 billion in sales in 2012, is not lost on publishers (Hamilton, 2013). Recognition of its significance is marked not only by scholarly publications, but also by the number of universities

and colleges offering popular culture courses and comparative literature courses that include the romance genre as a topic of serious inquiry (Milton, 2008).

As one of the most favorable genres to be read, the story inside romance novel usually having many sequences of words, yet, it is easy to be understood compare to science or fantasy novel which is having harder level. According to *Business of Consumer Book Publishing*, romance fiction was the largest share of the consumer market in 2008 at 13.5 percent. Therefore, with the popularity of romance novel, romance writers also develop and Colleen Hoover is one of them. Hoover is the New York Times bestselling author of eleven novels and five novellas. Her book, *Hopeless* went on to become one of the top 20 bestselling ebooks of 2013. In 2015, Colleen's novel *Confess* won the Goodreads Choice Award for Best Romance. That was followed up in 2016 with her latest title, *It Ends With Us*, also winning the Choice Award for Best Romance. Her novel *Confess* has been filmed as a series by Awestruck and is due to release this spring on go90.

November 9 is yet another breathtaking novel by Colleen Hoover that is full of blushing, gushing, and heartache. It is a story of the main character; Fallon meets Ben, an aspiring novelist, the day of her scheduled cross-country move. Their untimely attraction leads them to spend Fallon's last day in LA together, and her eventful life becomes the creative inspiration Ben has always sought for his novel. Over time and amidst the various relationships and tribulations of their own separate lives, they continue to meet on the same date every year. Until one day Fallon becomes unsure if Ben has been telling her the truth or fabricating a perfect

reality for the sake of the ultimate plot twist. The characteristic of Hoover's work that become her excess is basically her plot twist.

In defining romance as a genre, people usually describe romance as a story between man and woman who are falling in love. However, there must be a reason why the story in romance novel related to the characters love story. In *November 9*, the love story between the main characters is very simple, yet, it is very interesting to be read since the novel becomes another successful works from Colleen Hoover after *Hopeless*. Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in analyzing romance genre elements. The word elements are directed to the characteristic of romance genre. Thus, this paper will analyze the romance genre of *November 9* and its element by Pamela Regis in her book entitled "*A Natural History of the Romance Novel*".

1.2 Research Question

According to the background of the study above, the writer concludes the problem as follow:

What are the elements of romance genre in *November 9* by Colleen Hoover novel?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the statement of the problem above, the objective of this study is to explain the elements of romance genre as seen in *November 9* by Colleen Hoover. The explanation of the elements of romance inside the story can be the guide to

reveal the characteristic of romance novel. Therefore, all the romance essences in a novel can be concluded.

1.4 Uses of the Study

1.4.1 Theoretical Uses

Theoretically, the writer purposes of this study is to show the readers about how to apply the romance genre elements into a romance novel. In this research, the writer takes and gives the example from *November 9* by Colleen Hoover. Moreover, the writer hopes that this research can be as the object for the next researchers who are interested in analyzing genre elements in a novel especially for romance novel.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

Practically, the purpose of this study, however, is to broaden the readers' knowledge related to romance, its genre, elements and novel.

1.5 Scope of the Research

The writer focuses on the analysis of romance elements in a novel entitled *November 9* by Colleen Hoover using the theory of romance from Regis (2003) to reveal the elements of novel and how to apply the theory into the data that have been taken.