

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Social class is created because of differences between humans and other humans social class focusing on a model of social class in which people are group into several hierarchical social categories. social class is generally operationalized in terms of wealth and income, educational attainment, and occupation (manstead, 2018). Social class is a group of people based on economic criteria, social class divided into three namely upper class , middle class and lower class. social class significantly predicts all facets of Quality of Life : mental health, social relations, environment and physical health Moreover, power and status also correlated strongly with these different facets (Wingen,2020).social class is essential to understand and organize social change"(Ally & Kasih , 2021).

social class is an important predictor of Quality of life. several social classes: The first are upper class or commonly referred to as rich people, The upper class in modern societies is the social class composed of people who hold the highest social status they are richest member of society. being the upper class is everyone want because we can to meet the lifestyle according to Wingen (2020). Upper-class individuals tend to enjoy more status across various life domains and groups, and this, in turn, is associated with an increase in their quality of Life, Second is middle class , middle class tends to be stable and orderly they tend to have sufficient economi and third is lower class, lower class is someone who has below

average income. Social class also can be social issues in society because of social inequality in society. Essentially, social issues can be defined as issues or situations that give negative impacts to person, people, or group of society. Moreover, people tend to look at gender, appearances, and interests as an important predictor of their ability which also includes as other forms of social issue (Yunara and Kardiansyah, 2017).

We were liars is a novel written by E. Lockhart was published in 2014 this novel has won an award that is best young adult fiction, this book was wrote the first New York Times-bestselling novel *We Were Liars*, Novel is the modern or living form of narrative fiction. It shares the construction of feature, themes, subject matter of epic, romance, allegory and satire (Pardede 2016: 7). Novel have two type fiction and non fiction, The novel tells about someone's biography (nonfiction) or sometime writer's imagination (fiction). *We were liars* tell about In fact, the situation is ironic. The Sinclair family is so wealthy, yet so broken, Harris Sinclair succeeded in the role of a provider, as his wealth has kept their family together all these years but he ultimately fails to raise his daughters to take care of themselves.

The main characters is Cadence Sinclair Eastman or she is granddaughter of Harris Sinclair, at the beginning of story tell about that Cadence has happy family but suddenly her father leave her and her mom's for another's girl because Cadence's father don't want to pretend to be happy even though their life is full of luxury, after this incident they often to spent their time in beachwood island with her cousin, grandfather, aunt and god. her family is somewhat broken as her father left

her and her mother, her two aunt divorced and grandmother has since passed away Harris sinclair has three children,his children always fighting over each other's to seize the inheritance because they still depend on their parents .Being famous for the awesome of the Sinclair family, they are also known for their wealth,they belong to a prominent American family Everyone praises their family they live very well. several American values include individualism, freedom, competitiveness, and privacy, equality, informality, the future, change and progress, the goodness of humanity, time, achievement, action, work, and materialism and, the last is directness and assertiveness (Herawati & Fithratullah, 2022). According to Lina & Setiawan (2017), Values describe what is good or bad in a specific cultural environment for an individual or a community.

Harris Sinclair owns a private island, and he gives each of the island's children a luxurious home, Wealth is very powerful in every phase of life. Mostly the wealth of family will be given to their descent (heaverly& kasih,2020). Sinclair family in this novel already used to the luxurious life. Social class reflected in the *We Were Liars* reflects the state of social status in *We Were Liars* novel how the state of the upper, middle, and lower classes in society is reflected in this novel.

The story tell about social class demands,they are obsessed with their parents' property they fight over each other's inheritance,they took the biggest house in the island after her mother passed away or grandmother from cadance, so they use their children as a tool to seize the inheritance ,because of this conflict their children always saw their parents fighting each other for inheritance and they decide set fire to the house they took over and finally cadance burned a house and

she forget that the liars haven't left the house yet so they get burned, but after this incident suddenly cadance suffer migraine injury and she forget what happen at the time and she is not allowed to go to beachwood islands, she try to recover her memory during 2 years and finally she come back to beachwood islands and see many different in beachwood island especially her aunt and the liars , they don't tell what happen to cadance at summer fifteenth.

Furthermore in this novel some scenes that show social class when Carrie rejects Ed's proposal because her father doesn't like Ed, because he is a seller of art. because Harris think they from upper class meanwhile ed from lower class, even though They have lived together for nine years and already have two sons, Carrie can only obey orders from her father who does not allow her to marry Ed. She still depends on her father, so her father's wishes cannot be denied. The behavior shown by the Sinclair children shows that they are dependent on their parents because they fail to be independent children on the other side of their family as families with high social status, so they try to maintain their social status by expecting an inheritance from their father without thinking to try on her own.

Issue of social class very interesting to be discussed , nowadays around us social class still exist and also mostly reflected from real life. social issues can be defined as issues or situations that give negative impacts to person, people, or group of society (Nasoba&Samanik ,2022). This may seem as something, social class has relation with social inequality among upper ,middle and lower class, how they are maintained or changed over time, and the impact of social aspects in social life. In society social class determined by income, wealth, occupation, and

education. People who belong to the highest social status are very easy to meet primary and tertiary needs. In contrast to people who belong to the lowest social status, it is difficult to meet their primary needs. In this novel Sinclair family can be categorized as having high social class due to high social class so that they are obsessed with their parents' inheritance they fight over each other's inheritance because they are still dependent on their parent.

In this research the writer will use Social Class theory by Alex Thio, in Alex Thio book social class can be seen from things such as occupation, income or wealth. There are 3 different methods for identifying social class namely: The Reputational methods, The Subjective, The objective ask. And also according to Alex Thio social class affects their life affects life chances and life style (Thio.1992 : p.214). The social class does not only in real life but also in literary work the author wants to share the social phenomenon that happens like tradition, culture, psychological, even the sociological issue. And also This study uses a sociology of literature approach that focuses on the social dimension of social class in the literary work itself.

Based on the statements above the purpose of this study were to find the reflection of social classes toward Sinclair family and society around Sinclair family which the Sinclair family belong to a prominent American family the writer will looking for what happens to The Sinclair family who used to living in luxury and how society think about the Sinclair family which causes social inequality. The reason why writers choose this novel to be discussed because the writer interested to discuss about social class in The Sinclair family, The Sinclair family can be

categorized as having high social class, due to high social class so that they are obsessed with their parents' inheritance because they are still depends on their father. social class still exist around us so for the writers is very important to discuss this issues because the writer want to know social class causes that happen all around us, the writer using Alex Thio theory to support the discussion because social class according alex thio is related to this research .

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study which has been written by the writer above, the writer formulates the research question of the problem which are:

1. How is social class reflected in the sinclair family characters in the novel *we were liars* ?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based The Related to statement of the problem, the objectives of the study are formulated as follows:

1. To explain how social class reflected in the sinclair family characters

1.4 Use of Study

The use of this research will be useful for understanding social class in this novel where things like this often occur in society. Therefore, the usefulness of this research study is divided into two aspects, namely :

1.4.1 Practical Use

This research can increase public awareness about social class, how people respond to their high social status to maintain their situation, we must try and be

more independent, don't expect help from other people moreover this novel tells sinclair children fight each others because of their father's property and use their child to seize Haris' treasure. The information written in this study can be used by further writer to analyze novel with the same object/topic.

1.4.2 Theoretical Use

The theory used in this study can be used by other future writer to conduct a deeper analysis of Social Class. Social class are sometimes presented as a description of how members of the society have sorted themselves in varying position of wealth, power, and prestige. On the otherhand, social class is a group of people with different status, The theory can also be used for further writer to analyze social class in other literary works.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The scope of the study on this research is analyzing social class in sinclair family by applying theory proposed by alex thio There are many aspects which can be analyzed in this novel, but the writer deliberated discuss in more detail about social class. how the impact and the refeleced high social class in sinclair family, the sinclair family they have accustomed to a luxurious lifestyle but they only rely on the wealth of their parents. scope of study is necessary in order to make a research to be specific and well managed