

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the problems

According to (Stanton, *An Introduction to Fiction*, 1925, p. 12) the characters, the plot, and the setting, these elements are sometimes called “the factual structure” or “factual level” of the story. The factual structure is so conspicuous and fills a story so completely. The story’s factual structure is simply one way in which its details are organized; these same details are also organized so as to form patterns that convey the theme.

I am interested in this novel because this novel tells the struggle of two teenagers who are trying to recover from their illness and both fall in love with each other but they have to keep a distance of six feet due to their illness. The issue in the novel *Five Feet Apart* also related to the current issue that the world experiencing right now is to maintain distance between humans because of the pandemic corona virus or Covid 19. With this novel discussing maintaining distance it can also remind readers to keep a distance to prevent the spread of the corona virus or Covid 19 in the present world and to remind the future readers of the pandemic that occurred in 2020.

Novel *Five Feet Apart* tells the story of a girl named Stella Grant who suffers from Cystic Fibrosis who has to live her daily life in the hospital. Cystic Fibrosis is a hereditary disease that causes mucus in the body to become thick and sticky. People with Cystic Fibrosis are more susceptible to contracting the infection if they are near or in contact with someone who also has Cystic Fibrosis. Stella also has Obsessive Compulsive Disorder, which is a form of anxiety disorder characterized by an obsession that encourages a person to perform certain actions repeatedly. At the hospital, Stella met William Newman or Will, who is currently doing trial treatment, in an attempt to cure a bacterial infection *Burkholderia Cepacia*, which is a bacteria that infects people with Cystic Fibrosis. Stella offers Will to help with her daily treatment, and finally Will agrees. Then, they finally fell in love. On the first date, they were only five feet apart. Stella was sad because her best friend,

Poe, died, she decided to go out with Will. Then, Stella fell onto the surface of the cracked ice, then Will gave her mouth to mouth breath and saved her, but Stella wasn't infected. After that, Stella got new lungs. Then Will tells her that his drug trials were not successful. Then Will left her. Eight months later, Stella goes on vacation with her best friend to Rome, and she meets Will there.

According to the background of the problem above, this novel describes the teen's struggles who suffer with Cystic Fibrosis who are trying to recover from their illness. The term teen's refers to the character Stella and Will because the novel *Five Feet Apart* describes Stella and Will's struggles.

I will prove that the theme of this novel is teen's struggle, this theme can be proven through its intrinsic elements, such as: plot, characters, and settings in novel *Five Feet Apart*. Besides analyzing the theme, I will also present the symbols that support the title of the novel *Five Feet Apart*.

1.2 Identification of the Problems

Based on the background of the problems above, I identified the problem is: Stella felt depressed because she was afraid to die and would leave her parents, Stella felt her parents could not lose her, and Will felt depressed because he was pessimistic about his recovery, he thought that in the end he would die. Therefore, they struggle together to recover from their illness so that they could stay alive. In addition, there are also several symbols that support the title of this novel that can be analyzed. Therefore, I assume the theme of this novel is: Teen's Struggle to Recover from Their Illness in Novel *Five Feet Apart*.

1.3 Limitation of the Problems

Based on the identification of the problems above, the problem of this research is limited to the character of Stella and Will who have the desire to recover from illness and the sense of pressure.

The desires to recover and the sense of pressures from the illness suffered by Stella and Will, will be analyzed through an intrinsic approach. The concepts would be applied through intrinsic approaches such as

characterization, plot, and setting. Then, I will analyze the symbols that support the title of the novel *Five Feet Apart*.

1.4 Formulation of the Problems

Based on the limitation of the problems above, I formulate the problem: Is my assumption of this research that the two teenagers are struggling to recover from illness and sense of pressure in novel *Five Feet Apart*, and then this novel has a symbol that supports the title of this novel, correct? In order to answer this question, I formulate the problem as follows:

1. What is the characterization of the characters in novel *Five Feet Apart*?
2. What are the plot and setting in novel *Five Feet Apart*?
3. What kind of struggle describe through plot, character, and setting?
4. What are the symbols that support the novel's title?

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problems above, the objectives of this research is to prove the assumption: the two teenagers are struggling to recover from illness and sense of pressure in novel *Five Feet Apart* and this novel has a symbol that supports the title of this novel. In order to achieve that objective, the steps which are supposed to be done in this research are as follows:

1. To analyze the characterization in novel *Five Feet Apart*
2. To analyze the setting and plot in novel *Five Feet Apart*
3. To analyze the kind of struggle described through plot, character, and setting
4. To identify the symbols that support the title of this novel

1.6 Method of the Research

In this research, I will use qualitative research method. The type of this research is library research. The sample of this research is the novel *Five Feet Apart*. The nature of this research is descriptive, through this descriptive method, I will describe or explain the theme of teens struggle through plot, character, and setting, and also identifies the symbols in novel *Five Feet Apart* as a primary source. I will use an intrinsic approach. Then, I will use Robert Stanton's theory to analyze this research.

I will analyze themes through plot, character, and setting, then, identify symbols using Robert Stanton's theory. I also use several other books for references related to the theory and concept suitable as a second source.

1.7 Benefit of the Research

This research is expected will give contributions as in form of benefits, such as: (1) I can learn more about literary work, especially in novel. (2) This research is expected to help interested people to know more about the intrinsic elements in novel. (3) This research is also expected to be useful for the next literature researchers who want to analyze themes in novel.

1.8 Systematic Organization of the Research

Based on the research title above, the systematic organization of this research is as follows:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

It consist of: background of the problems, identification of the problems, limitation of the problems, formulation of the problems, objective of the problems, method of the research, benefit of the research, systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THEORIES

It is consist of: theoretical frameworks, intrinsic approach, such as: character, plot, setting, symbol and there is literature review.

CHAPTER 3 : ANALYSIS OF NOVEL *FIVE FEET APART* THROUGH INTRINSIC

It is consist of: analysis character, plot, setting, and symbols of the novel.

CHAPTER 4 : ANALYSIS OF THEME IN NOVEL *FIVE FEET APART*

It is consist of: analysis of the theme through character, plot, setting, and symbol of the novel.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

It is consist of: the evaluation of the previous chapters and the conclusions of the evaluation results.

ENCLOSURES : ATTACHMENTS

The chapters above are followed by references, scheme of the research, research poster, curriculum vitae, and other required attachments.

