

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the research**

Literature reflects different ideas and experiences of human beings in their everyday lives, that convey many types and styles of literary works. Since literature derives directly from human life, it can improve their or our understanding and knowledge of human issues, including beliefs, morals, cultures, and human interests. Nurgiyantoro (2009) stated in the relations with the world and with others, also with God, literature especially fiction addresses the different problems of human life. Novel is one of literary work, in general, novels are literary works in the form of prose and have both intrinsic and extrinsic elements. According to Nurgiyantoro (2009) the intrinsic elements is a world of imagination such as character, characterization, setting plots, point of view and imaginary or made according to the author's imagination. Whereas extrinsic elements according to Nurgiyantoro (2009) are elements that are outside the work of fiction which influence the birth of the work but do not become part of the work of fiction itself. It can be said that the biography of the writer determines the characteristics of the works created.

One of the cultures depicted in novel is a patriarchal culture where human life is pegged to the system that women are always second to men, in the sense of a culture

that implements men as the main power leadership in terms of social, such as in family life. Men has more power, authorize and can make rule to control their woman and children especially daughter. In patriarchal families, men act as the main authority figures. This cultural system is considered to be detrimental to women, women feel intimidated and discriminated against in terms of gender. There is no full voice in the patriarchal culture, all over the control of men. Women are considered weak and unable to be equal to men.

Nowadays patriarchy culture is still existing in the almost of country especially in the rural and remote areas, but not a few in big cities that still apply the patriarchy system, which is patriarchal culture for women, especially feminists, is a challenge for them to eradicate it because it has a negative impact on one side rather than a positive one. Therefore, with the development of the times feminism not only focuses on struggle to achieve equality of gender but also contradiction of patriarchy system. Feminism itself is a social, and ideological movement that aims to move women to achieve gender equality. In literature, feminism itself is related to the concept of feminist criticism, a literary study that focuses on the analysis of women. In this sense, literary criticism is one that views women as having a special awareness, namely being aware that women themselves are closely related to culture, literature and life. Reading as a woman means reading with the awareness of dismantling the presumptions and ideology of male power which is androcentric or patriarchal. Many feminist experts in the world as we know such Sylvia Walby and Simone De Beauvoir and etc.

Feminism in the view of feminist experts and activists has various meanings and point of views. Tong (2014) said patriarchal ideology is the culture assumes that man is the dominant, where a man in household and family is the superior figure that has more power. It means men as father or as husband can do anything without agreement of their part of family, even they can make role or prohibit their wife or children without reason exactly, whereas they don't like it. Men are always regarded as being capable and superior. While woman is associated with a weak figure cannot be without a man, it become woman inferior by man. Women must be under the control of men, a woman is described as a weak person in the kitchen, cooking, and taking care of homework. In the same field literature also contain of patriarchal system within, in the feminism or social novel such *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks.

The novel defines patriarchal culture in the plot of story, the story tells about Allie is the main character that love Noah the poor man. Their relation is not fluent, because of Allie's parents especially her father does not like Noah. However, they still have relation, until then her parents meet Noah and ask to him to go away from Allie without, she knows. As we know is a one part of patriarchal system, which is women in this case as daughter cannot do what she wants and does not have authority to choose her own especially about her love exactly. She separated with Noah about eleven years, then known Allie and Noah have life their own, once day reunited by post of Noah in newspaper that he has bought house. The house that Noah ever said he want to buy someday, when he with Allie at the time already realized. But their meet is not smoothly, because of Allie already has a relation with Lon the rich and respected man

that match by her father. Allie is confused by circumstances that force her to choose between the choice of her father who is the ideal person to be with her, and what must be ideal according to the views of her family and society, or she will choose someone she loves who makes her feel comfortable and feels like herself. Allie gets patriarchy by her condition and it makes Allie does not work and the end, Allie prefers what she wants, namely Noah, a man who has been her soulmate and her true love since she was a teenager, not what her parents or father always forced her to do with Lon, the perfect man according to her father.

The researcher found some of phenomena in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks, which analysis using feminist approach by Simone De Beauvoir and supported by Rose Merrie Tong theory. De Beauvoir (2014) stated women are not born as inferior beings; rather, they become inferior because the social structure in society is dominated by men. Everything in society, including women, is seen through the presence of a man. In their dominance, men create images for women. These images were created in response to their demands. De Beauvoir (2014) also stated Men use sexuality to justify women's inferior status. It means that women are treated as second-class of society in patriarchal societies. They usually do not serve an important in society and are marginalized. They believe that women are weak and that equality with men is inappropriate.

The researcher writes research on patriarchal culture in the novel *The Notebook* which refers to the main character of woman Allie Nelson. The author is interested in examining the patriarchal culture of how society is still indoctrinated with such a

patriarchy system. System that applies men as superior, men always have right in the all of field such as in the family where almost father has its own way to bring up his children mainly daughter, he has control more to his children than mother. The daughter in the family of patriarchy cannot choice the way she wants to be or with whom she wants married. Commonly daughter will matchmake by father, a father feel that he does the best for the daughter, if he looks for partner to his daughter. The situation means men exactly has more power in family, also it can call marginalize of women in the circle family. This research researcher analysis form of patriarchy in the novel, and how female leaders trying to oppose the family doctrine about women must be under the control of men. The researcher uses the theory of Simon De Beauvoir who explains about women as second sex and support by Rose Merrie Tong.

“By early September the tobacco had been harvested and **she had no choice but to return with her family** to Winston-Salem”(Sparks, p.14).

The quotation above shows that the main character has no authorized to choose, in the context is actually the main character in the story is holiday then she just felt comfy but she has to leave the city, even actually she really wants to stay there. This relates with the theory of De Beauvoir, when woman or daughter must follow father's role.

“**Though she had quietly rebelled against** this idea since child hood and had dated a few men best described as reckless, she found herself drawn to Lon's easy ways and had gradually come to love him” ”(Sparks, p.18).

The quotation above tells that south man is a perfect's figure being a partner, like Allie's father said Lon who from South is a handsome, intelligent and driven also successful man. Her father purpose to Allie to be her wife because of it is a culture

which rich people have to make relation with same caste. System and culture like that means that Allie as daughter matchmaker by father because of culture that make her must marry with the perfect person in the same caste, it is also form of patriarchy. Allie as the main character shows that she is actually against patriarchy, like how men must be a perfect figure to having woman that he wants, also how father hope her daughter will make relation and marry with figure man from the caste South system, even though Allie doesn't like figure of man like that exactly. Allie rebels that system since she was childhood, but not directly. this analysis relates with the theory of De Beauvoir, when woman against patriarchy even though not directly but quietly, she does rebel and date with another man who she likes it. So, in the context of patriarchy above Allie has to marry with man that rich and respected but there is resistance that her father doesn't know.

This novel also has been analyzed with the different studies, there are several researches use the novel as object. First article was written by Mandasari (2017) that entitled "The Struggle of Love as Reflected in Nicholas Spark's *The Notebook*". The research uses structural approach. The analysis focused on Noah Calhoun's narration, which uses theory extrinsic to analysis. The conceptual method was a research method in which all data was analyzed only in the elements of literary works themselves, such as plot and characterizations. The second article, titled "*The Notebook* Through Different Perspectives: An Ecranisation Study," was written by Andriana, Amanda, and Valentina (2017). This study discusses the differences of novel *The Notebook* and its film adaptations. This analysis used a qualitative descriptive method to determine

the process of object extrusion. To analysis description of the main character, plot, conflict, and setting. Ecranization theory is used to compare and contrast the novel and film *The Notebook*. In both the novel and the film, Noah Calhoun has been described as powerful, hard, honest, respectful, patient, persistent, faithful, and self - confident. Noah, on the other hand, is more religious in the novel. In the film, Noah, on the other hand, is more realistic, straightforward, and sarcastic. The researcher discovered the differences between this research and the previous research mentioned above. In the first article the researcher was analyzed about the character Noah Calhoun as main male character in the novel *The Notebook* novel, and then second article is the researcher is analysis about the Ecranisation process between the objects, the research examines the differences between *The Notebook* novel and its film adaptation.

The researcher interest to research differences study based on above explanation, researcher concern about feminism, because of the researcher found in the novel contains feminism phenomena that shows woman struggle in there. The researcher interested in examining the patriarchal culture of how society is still indoctrinated. Patriarchy which applies men as superior and women as inferior. Men dominate women and marginalize them, and how the researcher discusses the effects of opposition from patriarchal culture itself. Female leaders trying to oppose the family doctrine about women must be under the control of men. The author uses the theory of Simon De Beauvoir (2014) and Sylvia Walby (1991) who explains about women as second sex and patriarchy.

## 1.2 Identification of the problem

Based on the research background, researchers identified the following problem in the novel *The Notebook*, are.

1. The different social class between Allie and her love in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks
2. The patriarchy society practices towards woman in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks
3. Resistance of patriarchal culture in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks
4. Effects of woman resist patriarchy culture in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks

## 1.3 Limitation of the problem

Based on the identification above the limitation of the research are:

1. The patriarchy society practices towards woman in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks
2. Resistance of patriarchal culture in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks

## 1.4 Formulation of the problem

The formulations of the problems that researcher concerns are:



1. What are patriarchy society practices towards woman in the novel *The Notebook* Nicholas Sparks?
2. What actions taken by the main character to resist the patriarchal culture in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks?

### **1.5 Objective of the research**

1. To describe patriarchy society practices towards woman in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks.
2. To describe the actions of main character resist patriarchal culture in the novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Sparks.

### **1.6 Significance of the research**

This study aims to add benefits and knowledge of readers about patriarchal culture and form of resist patriarchy. The advantages will have practical and theoretical meaning.

#### **1. Theoretically**

This research aims to help reader to have more knowledge about patriarchal culture in the novel and also about form of resistance that did by Allie as the main character in the novel. This research is focus of how women struggle to resist the culture that depend on her is not having advantage to women. This research is using feminism approach that use Simone de Beauvoir theory and supported by Rose Merrie Tong.

#### **2. Practically**

This research aims reader to have more knowledge and add benefit from this research

about patriarchy and woman struggle. The reader can take the advantaged to raise the knowledge about culture especially about patriarchal culture and how woman struggle to against the patriarchy. The researcher hopes that this research useful to the reader, especially to the women that they can apply in the social life, in their family that they have known for.

### **1.7 Definition of key term**

#### **Feminism**

- A woman against all about of marginalization subordinated by dominant culture in the social, economic, educational field and culture (De Beauvoir, 2014).

#### **Patriarchy**

- A Belief in the society that men were those who have more power than women as men superior to women as inferior. (Walby, 1991)

#### **Woman Struggle**

- Beauvoir in feminism existentially invites women to can live freely determine the period front of him autonomously without any push or referrals from other people (De Beauvoir, 2014)