

**THE SUCCESSFUL OF WOMAN'S STRUGGLE IN SHELDON'S
*THE STARS SHINE DOWN***



THESIS

*Submitted to the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, Hasanuddin University
in Partial Fulfillment of Requirement to Thesis
in English*

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF CULTURAL SCIENCES
HASANUDDIN UNIVERSITY
MAKASSAR
2020**

THESIS

THE SUCCESSFUL OF WOMAN'S STRUGGLE IN SHELDON'S *THE STARS SHINE DOWN*

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It has been examined before the Board of the Thesis Examination on Monday, 21
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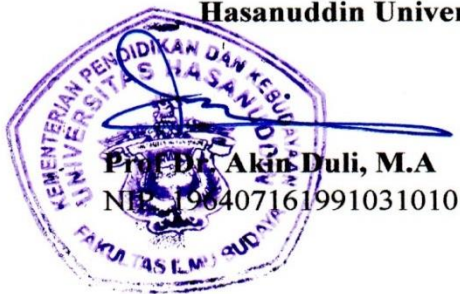
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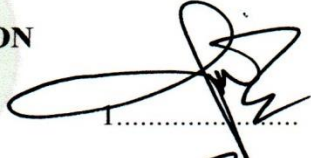


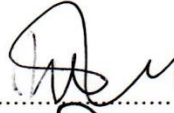


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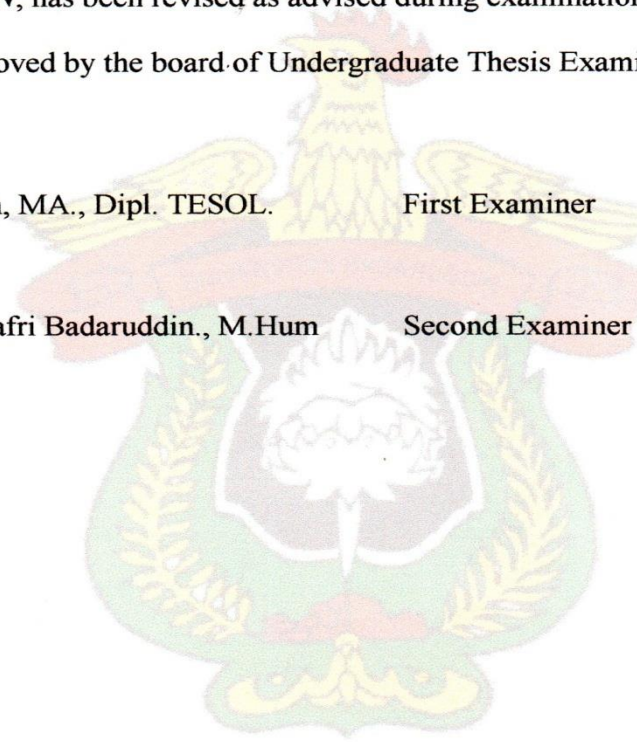
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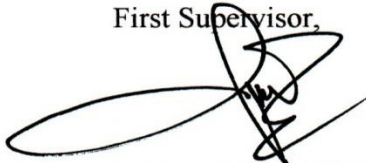
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Makassar, 1st September 2020
The writer,

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ABSTRAK

Rismawati Abubakar. 2020. *The Successful of Woman Struggle in Sheldon's The Stars Shine Down.* (Dibimbing oleh **Abbas** dan **M. Amir P.**)

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan perspektif pria terhadap karakter utama wanita dalam novel *The Stars Shine Down* karya Sidney Sheldon. Penelitian ini juga menganalisis perjuangan tokoh utama untuk mendapatkan kesuksesannya dalam cerita.

Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode deskriptif kualitatif, sumber data dalam penelitian ini adalah novel *The Stars Shine Down* karya Sidney Sheldon. Untuk mendukung data dalam analisis, penulis menggunakan pendekatan strukturalisme untuk menganalisa struktur intrinsik novel, meliputi karakter, alur, latar, dan tema dalam cerita. Penulis juga menggunakan teori feminisme untuk menganalisa perjuangan wanita dalam cerita.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa perspektif pria terhadap karakter utama Lara Cameron dalam novel. Beberapa karakter pria dalam novel selalu merendahkan derajat Lara sebagai wanita karena dalam pikiran mereka tentang wanita itu lemah, bodoh, tidak bisa kaya bahkan sukses. Penulis juga menemukan bahwa ada banyak hal perjuangan tokoh utama untuk mendapatkan kesuksesannya. Lara mendapatkan kesuksesannya dengan caranya sendiri dalam bisnis Real Estate yang di dominasi oleh pria. Dia dapat menunjukkan bahwa wanita juga dapat melakukan pekerjaan yang sama dengan pria.

Kata Kunci: *Perjuangan Wanita, Pendekatan Strukturalisme, Novel The Stars Shine Down*

ABSTRACT

Rismawati Abubakar. 2020. *The Successful of Woman Struggle in Sheldon's The Stars Shine Down.* (Supervised by **Abbas** and **M. Amir P.**)

This thesis aims to explain the perspectives of male toward the main character of female in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. This thesis also analyzes the main character's struggle to get her success in the story.

The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. The data source in this study is the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. To support the data in the analysis, the writer used a structuralism approach to analyze the intrinsic structures of the novel included character, plot, setting, and theme of the story. The writer also uses the theory of feminism to analyze the struggle of the woman in the story.

The result of this research shows that the perspective of males toward the main character Lara Cameron in the novel. Some characters of males always degraded Lara's status as a woman that in their minds about women are weak, stupid, cannot be rich even success. The writer also finds that there are many things the main character's struggle to get her success. Lara got her success by her own way in Real Estate business that male dominance. She can prove to the world that woman also can work as men do.

Keywords: *Woman' Struggle, Structuralism Approach, Novel The Stars Shine Down*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Humans in the life are filled with various hopes in the form of ideals that become motivators of doing various businesses. Human ideals are determined by the various professional backgrounds they work with as well as the social conditions they experience. A student hopes to complete his studies in order to achieve his dream of becoming a graduate. A poor person aspires to be rich so that he will work hard to realize this goal. Likewise, sick people have aspirations for health. Wise people once said that humans without ideals are like corpses walking so humans are said to be alive if he still has ideals. It means that ideals indicate that someone still has life expectancy.

Humans need to carry out processes in order to realize their ideals through hard work as part of life's struggle. The success of realizing the ideals becomes everyone's dream because success and failure are measured by the process and achievement of expectations. Someone will work hard to achieve life expectancy as an implementation of the struggle. It is an effort to fulfill the rights of life and work hard to achieve a better condition than before. Humans in fighting for their life expectancy must be prepared to face obstacles and be able to overcome the problems that arise. The poor who while struggling to change their living conditions to become rich will make various efforts such as facing obstacles in accessing business capital and working hard to overcome the gap between spending and income. This struggle for life can also be found in certain social conditions with certain professions.

Literary works are imaginative works that document the social problems faced by humans in the form of poverty, misery, oppression, hunger, ignorance, injustice, and others. Literary works always encourage better social change for the characters as a reflection of human ideals. One of the social problems that writers often describe in literary works is the social injustice experienced by women. The fictional characters presented represent the social conditions of women in society. Women are described as getting unfair treatment and then they rise up to fight for their rights and finally succeed in fulfilling their ideals. One literary work that describes the struggle of women in society is the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon.

Biologically, women have reproductive organ like uterus. Therefore, Women can get pregnant, give birth and breastfeed. It means that reproductive organs are the provisions of God that cannot be exchanged. While, women in society are consider as placed as a second class, submissive, having no right to argue, play role in the domestic sector because women have natural characteristic such as passive, small, graceful, beautiful, soft, weak, emotional, and motherhood.

The novel *Stars Shine Down* describes the life of a fictional character named Lara Cameron. She was born by a mother in poor condition. She then grew up in a broken family with the misery of a life full of poverty. This condition built awareness of Lara to rise up fighting for her rights in the family also community and finally she was able to realize her dream of becoming a successful woman.

Lara's father was a drunker who supported his family from managing a rented house. The life challenges experienced by Lara in a poor social environment have aroused her heroic struggle. Lara's condition became worse because her father hated her so much that was thought to be the cause of her own mother's death. Her mother

died while giving birth to Lara and her father died while still expressing her hatred for Lara. She was always underestimated by her father because she was only a daughter. Lara promised herself that one day she would make her father proud of her. Since the death of her father, Lara was responsible for continuing to manage the rented house.

One day, Lara met an American businessman named Bill Rogers. He taught Lara many things about real estate. From this discussion, Lara then had a dream of managing a housing business. This dream came true, Lara managed to build a house in stages until it developed into a residential area. Because of the hard work, Lara only needed a year to build her business, she managed to realize her dream. Not only was she able to manage the housing business, but she is also successfully built office buildings. Eventually, Lara became a very famous woman real estate and property entrepreneur in Los Angeles, United States.

The social description and success of a fictional character named Lara Cameron in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sydney Sheldon, encourages writers to explore the background of the success of woman to realize her dreams in the midst of male dominance in social life. Based on the success of this woman, it became the main issue that was built by the writer in studying the main character of the novel *The Stars Shine Down* with the title *The Successful of Women's Struggle in Sheldon's The Stars Shine Down*.

1.2 Identification of Problem

The writer identifies a number of problems in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon related to the struggle of woman in realizing her dreams, as follows:

1. Lara Cameron who is the main character in the novel was born and lived in a poor family life.
2. Father always blamed Lara Cameron due to the death of her mother who she gave birth.
3. Lara Cameron wants to change the views of her father and society that women become a burden in her family.
4. Lara Cameron was successful her business as Real Estate in Los Angeles, United States.

1.3 The Question of Research

Based on the identification of problem, the writer formulates the questions of this study, as follows:

1. Why does male view the main character as inferior in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon?
2. How does the female character struggle to get her success in the story?

1.4 Objective of Problem

Based on the statements of the questions above, the writer determines the objective of the researches are:

1. To explain the perspectives of male toward the main character of female in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon.
2. To analyze the female effort to get her success in the story.

1.5 Sequence of Writing

This study consists of five chapters. Chapter one is an introduction, which consists of background of the study, identification of the problem, research

questions, objective of the study, and sequence of writing. Chapter two is literature review, which consists of previous studies that have been conducted on the some object and theories that will be used in this research. Chapter three is research methodology, it explains the method of research, method of collecting data, and data analysis.

Chapter four discusses the result of the analysis that has been done or is the answer the problem formulations are describes in the first chapter. Finally, chapter five contains conclusion and suggestion. It is concluding the whole analysis and recommends some suggestion for future analysts.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the writer discusses literature review, which consists of previous study, structural approach, concept of woman struggle and theory of feminism.

2.1 Previous Study

Previous study is used to know the other researches related to this thesis. Some data can be obtained from the relevant or nearing with the research conducted previously. Based on observations made by the writer in various sources, there are several other writers who have discussed the issue and the same approach from what the writer analyzes. The writer finds some theses related with this thesis. They are Nurwahyudianti (1996), Ragilsagitta Dipoputringtyas (2014), and Delviani Sattu (2016). Those theses are having similarity and differently to this study.

The first study is Nurwahyudianti (1996) student of English Department Faculty of Cultural Sciences Hasanuddin University. Her research entitled *Wanita Dalam "The Stars Shine Down" and "If Tomorrow Comes" Karya Sidney Sheldon (Sebuah Analisis Gender)*. She used comparative study to compare between two novels of Sidney Sheldon, *The Stars Shine Down* and *If Tomorrow Comes*. The analysis shows the gender aspect in the novel. In her researches, she uses the genetic structuralism approach by Lucien Goldman and using gender analysis to analyze the novel. The similarity of this study is the object, also used novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. However, these studies are differing in issue and the approach. Nurwahyudianti explored the issue of gender aspects in the literary works by using

the genetic structuralism approach but the writer analyzes the specific issue of successful women by using the structuralism approach.

The second research is Ragilsagitta Dipoputriningtyas (2014), a student of the English Department of Humanities Faculty, Diponegoro University. Her research entitled *The Will to Meaning of The Main Character in the Stars Shine Down by Sidney Sheldon*. The writer analyzed the life meaning for Lara Cameron in the novel. The writer used intrinsic elements and existential psychology method to analyze the main character. Basic concepts of Logotherapy that are used in this analysis, it found the meaning of freedom, responsibility, spirituality in the life. In Logotherapy by Victor Frankl, there are three sources of meaning of life. In intrinsic method, she analyzes theme, plot, character, and setting to find the life meaning of life of Lara Cameron. The result of this study is that Lara's life show that every moment in life has a meaning of life, and showing how human finds the meaning of life. The similarities of this study are using the same object, novel *the Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. On the other hand, the differences of these two studies are the issue and the approach. She analyzed the issue of the life meaning of main character by using the genetic structuralism approach but the writer studies issue of successful women by using the structuralism approach.

The last previous study is Delviani Sattu (2016), a student of the English Department of Cultural Sciences, Samratulangi University. Her research entitled *Obsesi Lara Cameron dalam novel The Stars Shine Down karya Sidney Sheldon*. The study aims at determining about the main character, Lara Cameron's obsessions to reach whatsoever she wants through unusual ways which has caused her to have obsessive compulsive disorder. Her research used theory of Wellek and Werren

about extrinsic approach and supported by psychology theory of obsessive. The result shows that the main character Lara Cameron has the obsession compulsive personality compulsive. Lara Cameron has two obsessions are in work and man. The similarity of this research with the writer's study is using the same object, novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. On the other hand, the differences of this research with the writer's study are the issue of research and the approach. She analyzed the issue of the obsession of main character by using the extrinsic study but the writer explores the issue of successful women by using the structuralism approach.

2.2 Structural Approach

Structural approach is introduced by Aristotle and it was used firstly by Ferdinand De Saussure. It is one of literary theories that start from assumption that the literary work is composed of several elements which are bound up as unity, influence each other and finally work as an autonomous structure. Therefore, it is important to take first step based on the structure itself. In this case, close reading is the most important process. Therefore, in understanding the meaning, the literary work should be analyzed based on its structure apart from historical background and his attention also from social background and its effects to the reader (Ibrahim, 2003: 54).

Structuralism approach is also called as the objective approach, the approach in literature research which focuses on the autonomy of literature as a work of fiction. It relates to Abrams idea (1979: 3-29) that model of the studies which gives full attention on literary works as an autonomous structure with the intrinsic coherence is called objective approach. It means giving the meaning of literary work

is the existence of literature itself without relating the elements that exist outside the structure of its significance.

Structural approach is one of the approaches that are used in literary works. This approach gives a lot of attention is only focusing the intrinsic aspects that build literary work from within like character, setting and theme. Semi states the structures components of literary works, “This approach views and study literature from intrinsic aspect that builds a literary work, these are theme, plot, setting, character, and style of writing that has a harmonic form and contents to make a strong possibility to produces good literary work” (1985: 44-45). It is also supported by Guerin in reading a novel as:

A novel, that is, an extended prose narrative dealing with characters within the frame work of plot...but both character and situations or events may be drawn from real life. It may emphasize action or adventure or it may concrete on character delineation (that is, the way people grow or deteriorate or remain static in the happenings of life); or it may illustrate a theme either aesthetically or propagandistically (1979: 49).

In the autonomy structuralism, Jean Piaget (1970: 72) explains that structure word in the literary works’ analysis has three main ideas, namely:

1. Wholeness means that the parts of structure itself adjust to the concept of intrinsic, which determined the overall of structure and also its parts.
2. Transformation means that structure conducts continuously transformation procedure to product some new ideas.
3. Self-regulation means that structure does not need other elements outside of itself to keep the transformation procedure

Nurgiyantoro (2005: 20) states that there are four steps in applying the theory of structuralism, as follows:

1. Identify the intrinsic elements which conveys the literary work completely and clearly including theme, character, setting, and plot.
2. Analyze the elements which have been identified do it is understood the theme, character, setting, and plot of the literary work.
3. Describe the function of each element so it is understood the theme, character, setting, and plot of the literary work.
4. Connect each elements so it is understood the theme, character, setting, and plot of the literary work.

Based on the whole explanation above, the writer can conclude that the structural approach is an approach that build literary works from within are character, plot, setting and theme that mostly reflect in the real life. The structural approach considered the text of literary work as a unity and wholeness, which refuse the involving of extrinsic aspects, such as psychology, biography, history, social politic, culture, economy, and others. It is followed by the writer in analyzing novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. It is a long fictional prose narrative that builds a certain story by combining characters, plot, setting, and theme.

2.2.1 Character

Character is one of the important elements that consist in literary work. If the works have no character, it will have no meaning and there is nothing to explain in that works. The character is someone in literary works who has some sort of identity and identity which is made up by appearance conversation action, name and a possibly thoughts going on the need. Wellek and Waren stated, "Character is the nature of an individual. It concludes all the personality traits which make the person

unique. The term is also used refer to fictional creation. The characters are the actors in the fictional work” (1984: 29).

Michael G Rothenbery in *The Encyclopedia of Americana* (1829: 290) states that character also denote essential qualities and personality traits of fictional or real individual. The ability to create compelling and believable characters is one of the hall marks of the literary artists. It means that the character in literary work have a moral qualities and personal nature based on the expression of a story. Besides that, character that believable in a story only can create by the literary artists because it is one of the characteristics from the literary artists. It means that character consists of imitation role which adopted from reality in the social interaction.

The function of characters in the literary works is the characters’ position in the story which they can be divided into two types, the main character and the minor character. Perrine stated, “Each of the character has his or her different role. The character who has significant role in a story called main character or major character. Whereas characters that have less to support main character are called minor characters” (1983: 67). It means that the main character is the person who has big contributions in the story, the main character’s appearance is continuously during the story begins till it is end. Besides that, the minor character is the person who has small contributions and they only appear when the story is related to the main character appearance.

Related to the characters’ position in the story, Forster (2002: 49-50) divides the character in story into two types, namely flat character and round character. Flat character is a minor character in literary work, which does not undergo substantial change or alter his or her personality over the course of a narrative. Furthermore, the

round character is a major character in a literary work that has a complex personality with fully developed and dynamic traits. Forster (2002: 49-50) explains flat character and round character in the following as:

Flat characters were called “humours” in the seventeenth century, and are sometimes called types, and sometimes caricatures. In their purest form, they are constructed round a single idea or quality: when there is more than one factor in them, we get the beginning of the curve towards the round...

One great advantage of flat characters is that they are easily recognized whenever they come in recognized by the reader’s emotional eye, not by the visual eye, which merely notes the recurrence of a proper name.

The role of characters at least can be divided into two types, according to Altenberd & Lewis in Nurgiyantoro (2007: 178), namely protagonist and antagonist.

1. Protagonist

Protagonist is the character which the reader admires to sometimes is called the hero of the story. This character is the personification of norms and values which one ideal for the reader. Protagonist shows something which agrees with the reader’s view and hope.

2. Antagonist

Antagonist is the character which causes the conflict in the story. Sometimes the antagonist called the enemy of the protagonist because it is believed as the opposition of the protagonist, directly or indirectly physical or spiritually.

In analyzing the characters, there are three aspects that become the central attention. The first is psychological aspects, it is the observed through sex, age, or physical appearance of the characters in a story. It is included the body shape, whether, or the color of skin and hair. The second is the sociological aspect can be effectively analyzed through the social life of the character. It relates to the house,

job, education, and the social status. And the last is psychological dimensions, it deals with the characteristics of the character. It is included behavior, emotion, and thought. characterization, moral standard and ambition. (Roucek and Warren, 1963: 23).

From the whole explanation above, the writer concluded that character is the most important for the development of the story because through character the story can be written or constructed. In addition, it can make the story keep moving, without the characters, the story cannot be formed as a literary work and the reader is not easy to understand the story. The writer understands that protagonist is the characters that have a good action and norms values in society. In the contrary, antagonist is the character that causes the conflicts in the story.

2.2.2 Plot

Plot is anything that happens in a story which reveals the cause effects. The explanation of plot guides the readers to understand occurrence orders in the novel. It helps the readers to see the cause effect connection between events to another which influence the characterization. Perrine (1970: 42) says that plot is the sequence of incidents or events of which a story is composed. It refers to what happens in story it is a matter of fact. A plot is an ordered, organized sequence of events and action.

Furthermore, Perrine (1970:50) explains that the various approaches to plot are tracing the development of rising action and falling action. It means that rising action and falling action are parts of the plot that used to determines anything that happened in a story to see the connection between events to another which influence

the characterization. It means that characters in the playing their roles have to follow the events.

Plot is one of intrinsic elements which is developed the story from inside based on analyze prose class. It means that plot in a literary work becomes the main line for the reader or observer to understand a story because plot is sequence of events that make up a story from inside. Therefore, Charter (1987: 1366) divides plot into five parts, namely the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

1. Exposition

Exposition is beginning act in the story which the author introduce all characters and story itself.

2. Rising action

In this part, there are conflicts that become serious problems. Sometimes it breaks the exiting equilibrium and introduces the character underlying or inciting conflict.

3. Climax

Climax is the most strain thing that happens in a story. Usually it shows the moments at which the plot reaches its point of greatest emotional intensity. It is the turn point of the plot directly precipitating its resolution.

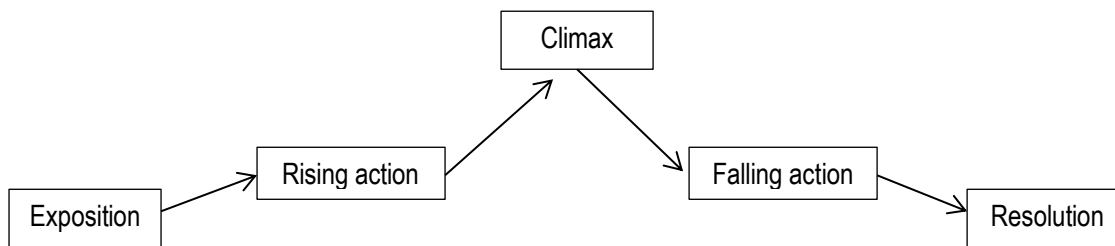
4. Falling action

Falling action is a condition when the crucial thing in a story has been reached. The tension subsides and the plot moves toward it appointed condition.

5. Resolution

Resolution is the last part in plot the readers get description how story ends. It refers as the costume of the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium.

Charter's idea can be drawn as follows:



From the explanation above, the writer understands that plot helps the reader to know the story particularly as they relate to one and another in patterns and sequence, and connection between one even to another characterization. Plot also has a relation with characters because they create fictional story from one event to another events . It was implemented by attitude or action of characters that are reflected by their attitude.

2.2.3 Setting

Setting is an element in a literary work that shows the location and time of an event took place that refers to the plot. The setting has an important role to build up the story in a literary work according to Abrams' explanation in the following as:

The overall setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs; the setting of a single episode or scene within such a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place (1990:284).

Every story has a setting which includes the elements of place and time.

Setting consists or two parts; that are physical and social context. Physical shown

the image of nature and all the living things and social context includes the image of society condition, their attitudes, rules of behavior and beliefs according to the statement of Timmer and Jenning as follows:

Setting are the time, place on social reality within which a story takes place. Setting seems to be insignificant elements in some stories; they could take place just as well in any time or place in other stories. Most in fact, setting is more important. We have to understand where the characters are, in which level in that society if we are to interpret correctly the other elements in the story (1985:4).

From the statements above, the writer thinks that setting is the most important in all of aspects of the background story from the beginning to end, such as time, place and society of the story. Setting reveals to where the characters are, when the events happen in the society, how the situation of place. Setting also can bring the atmosphere of the literary work to the reader in the created theme. So, the readers feel easier to create their imagination and participation to criticize the story.

2.2.4 Theme

The theme is one of the most important parts of a story as it becomes the basic ideas that expressed by the author through a literary work. The term theme refers to the main idea of the author. It is the central idea of the story which it can be found after reading the whole story by paying attention on the dialogues or story description among the characters, plot and setting. Gill mentions, "A theme emerges in and through the development of characters, dialogue setting and the movement of plot" (1995: 189).

The theme represents everything that is to be conveyed by the author about the life aspects in their works. A theme is also known as a motive that conveys in a literary work. It is meant that the motive can be a concept of doctrine to convince

the reader of what is the message of a literary work. It is line with Abrams states, “Theme is sometimes used interchangeably with “motif,” but the term is more usefully applied to a general concept or doctrine, whether implicit or asserted, which an imaginative work is designed to incorporate and make persuasive to the reader” (1990:170).

Based on the quotation above, the writer concludes that theme is the meaning or main idea of the story and author’s messages that it is aim to readers. In addition, theme is the main idea that builds a literary work. The idea can be understood after reading the content of the story with paying attention the other elements of the story such as characterization, setting and plot. Without a theme in a story, it will be difficult for the author to develop the plot, setting and other elements in the story.

2.3 Concept of Woman Struggle

Biological sex difference is a natural fact that does not need to be debated because it is God's nature. Humans do not need to question God's nature, but human authority is to reconstruct human creations such as cultural and stereotypes. It is line with Oakley in Rohman & Emsir (2014: 141) states as:

Perbedaan antara laki-laki dan perempuan yang bukan biologis dan bukan kodrat Tuhan. Perbedaan biologis, yakni perbedaan jenis kelamin, adalah kodrat Tuhan dan oleh karenanya secara permanen berbeda. Adapun gender adalah perbedaan perilaku (behavioral differences) antara laki-laki dan perempuan yang dikonstruksi secara sosial, yakni perbedaan yang diciptakan oleh manusia melalui proses social dan kultural yang panjang.

Sometimes in patriarchal system, women usually defined negatively. They are considered weak and passive, while men strong and active. But, women do not want to be considered like that. Therefore, women do the struggle to get equal rights with men. In addition women and men are not equal position. In the division system of

work, women only work at home, such as educating children and taking care of their family, while the men work outside.

Then, the struggle comes from the word that means struggle a fight for survival or independence of the State according to Marsam (2000: 181). It means that the struggle is a fight to get justice in a country so that someone can survival their lives wherever they are. It is related to the story that if the characters in a story get injustice in their country so, they will fight for their lives. The struggle such as fight (compete for something) efforts full of hardships and dangers, and one form of social interaction, including war, competition, violation and conflict.

Struggle is not only interpreted as a war or resistance against the enemy but it is the effort and hard work to achieve good things as the key to success and how humans face something that is shackling. In this research, struggle is one of the efforts of woman as the main character to get her success. It means that the struggle is an effort, to get ahead, and hard work to achieve the key of success.

Based on the whole explanations, the writer concludes that the role of women and men are not determined by biological aspects, but by the social, political, and economic. In addition, women in society have different positions with men such as, women always consider as weak, passive, emotional, and etc. Therefore, the injustice received by women ultimately led to they do the struggle to gain equal rights with men in education, economics, social and politic.

2.4 Theory of Feminism

The history of women's movement in America began in the mid-19th century which is called feminism. Various forms of discrimination and unfair treatment are accepted by women. Therefore, the aim of the movement is the emancipation of

equal rights and the elimination of discrimination against women. American feminists form an organization that aims to fight for women's suffrage. The organization was called National American Women Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Through NAWSA, American feminists have succeeded in realizing their ambition to fulfill the suffrage of American women that regulated in the 19th amendment in 1920. Then, NAWSA organization was broken up after the ambition of American feminists was fulfilled. The amendment is an amendment to the law which guarantees voting rights for all adults regardless of sex. It is in line with Abbas states, "... kaum perempuan sebagaimana kaum laki-laki yang menjadi warga negara Amerika, memiliki peluang yang sama dalam menggunakan hak pilihnya" (2006: 163).

In early 20th century American feminists made changes in various aspects of social life, so that women get equal rights with men in education, economics, politics and organization. Abbas (2006: 163) describes that women's movement in America have two big goals such as women liberation and women equal rights. Through feminism, American women had shown some progresses. They had proved that in reality women get equal rights with men in education, economics, politics and organization. They had made a big influence to their existence in most of life aspects through movements in their idealism according to Abbas' statement in the following as:

Berdasarkan paparan mengenai perempuan Amerika dalam kurun waktu 1920-1940, maka dapat disimak bahwa sedikitnya ada 4 gerakan idealism mereka, yakni Pencapaian Pendidikan Nasional, Kembali Membina Kehidupan Rumah Tangga, Pembatasan Kelahiran, dan kembali Memasuki Lapangan Kerja (2006: 206).

The term of feminism was developed in early 20th century by Virginia Woolf in her book *A Room of One's Own* (1929). Feminism is defined as an ideology that educates the economic, politic and social empowerment of women. Feminism fights for better treatment over women to be equal as men got. When we talk about feminism actually we talk about the relationship between men and women as well. According to feminist, the relationship between men and women has almost always been unequal and oppressive. Therefore, the fundamental goal of feminism movement is to uplift the life of women.

Feminism was born because women experienced subordination, oppression and marginalization in society. According to Ratna in Sujarwa (2018: 188), feminism is a women's movement to reject everything that is marginalized, subordinated, and denigrated by the dominant culture, both in the political, economic, and social. Social systems known have been patriarchal. Patriarchy refers to the male domination both in public and private spheres. Feminists mainly use the term 'patriarchy' to describe the power relationship between men and women. Thus, patriarchy is more than just a term; feminists use it like a concept, and like all other concepts it is a tool to help us understand women's realities (Sultana, 2011: 2). It means that, feminist use the concept of patriarchy in which men dominates to explain the oppression and exploitation women.

In the patriarchal society exist gender; it is a social's belief that both sexes are different. Gender invokes binary of women and men in numerous ways such as image, positions and role, which all put women in the bad meand. It is following to Tong says, "patriarchal society uses rigid gender role to ensure that women are passive (affectionate, obedient, responsive, and sympathetic, cheerful, kind,

friendly) and men are active (strong, aggressive, curious, ambitious, full of plans, responsible, competitive)” (1998: 72-73).

Thus, gender concepts become the crucial critics of feminist for questioning women’s oppression. Ritzer (1991: 248) summoned three divisions gender concepts that feminist used as gender difference, gender inequality, and gender oppression.

1. The central theme in gender-difference theories is that women’s inner physic life is different from men. For example, the examine the values of womanhood and femininity as the reason why men and women experience the social world differently and they focus on the marginalization of women and why it is that women are being defines as the other in patriarchal societies.
2. Gender inequality theories identify that, not only ore women’s location and experience of social structures different from those of men, but they are also unequal to men.
3. Gender oppression theories argue that women are not equal to men and that women are actively oppressed, subordinated, and abused by men;

In a general sense, feminism is an ideology that drives women to reject patriarchal culture that have marginalized, subordinated, and degraded the position of women in the political, economic, and social life. Feminism grew as a movement and an approach that tries to change the existing structure because it has been regarded to cause inequality towards the female gender (Nugroho, 2008: 62).

Through its emergence feminism develop into various theories. Each theory sees the root of women’s oppression in patriarchal and gender from different view. For example, liberal feminist believe that system social is the foundation of

women's oppression, while radical feminist see that it is sexuality. It have the same goals is the liberation of all women from oppression.

The theory of feminism is used as a theoretical basis for the analysis "*The Successful of Woman's Struggle in Sheldon's The Stars Shine Down*" because feminism is a women's movement to get equal rights with men in all of aspects. Then, through theory of feminism, this analysis can be show the success of woman to realize her dreams in the midst of male dominance in social life, in which Lara Cameron is the main character who experiences injustice in the novel *The Stars Shine Down* by Sidney Sheldon. Therefore, she rises up to fight hard to achieve success in the midst of male dominance in social life and show that men and women have the same rights in education, economics, social and politics.

From the whole explanation above, the writer concluded that women do the struggle because they do not get equal rights with men in social life such as education, economics, social and politic. It is related to the theory of feminism because feminism is a women's movement that fights for women from injustice and exploitation to get equal rights with men in education, economics, social and politic.