

CHAPTER VI

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

6.1 Conclusion

The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks is a novel that focuses on the love journey of the two main characters, Allie and Noah. The novel tells the story of the struggle for love between two people from different social classes. Allie comes from a high social class family, while Noah comes from a lower social class and works as a laborer in a lumber mill. They meet in New Bern, North Carolina, when Allie comes from South Carolina to spend her summer vacation and work for her father. The main theme in this novel is the social class gap between the two main characters, Allie and Noah, which causes their love story to be filled with drama, even though they are eventually reunited. This book can be analyzed using Marxist criticism, which specifically applies the ideas of Karl Marx in Marxism, feminist criticism, sociological criticism, and psychological criticism. However, in this work, the author uses Marxist criticism by Karl Marx and Frederic Jameson on social class inequality to analyze how social class influences relationships and the personal lives of individuals, which are romanticized by the main characters in this novel. After further analysis, it can be concluded that this book can be analyzed more dominantly using Marxist criticism.

Sparks repeatedly emphasizes that there is a relationship between the two main characters from different social class backgrounds. *The Notebook* also explores how social class affects their individual lives and relationships. Allie Hamilton, who is the only child of an upper-class family, must give up her love due to her family's opposition to her relationship with Noah Calhoun, a lumberjack she meets during the summer. On the other hand, Noah

Calhoun not only has to give up Allie to marry a man chosen by her parents who is more socially acceptable, but he also has to work hard to meet his daily needs.

6.2 Suggestion

According to the conclusion of this study, it is possible to provide some suggestions to present the future researchers, readers and educators:

1. To Prof Future Researchers:

This paper has dwelt on Marxism School of thought and specifically the aspect of social class disparity in *The Notebook*. Future scholars are welcomed to make use of critical angles, other than the ones used by the author, as additional perspectives through which to understand the role and the duty of the genders, or through the eye of psychological criticism, to help the reader understand the emotional and mental distress of the characters. Moreover, contrastive analysis of *The Notebook* and other novels with the same theme might help to get a larger scope of the issue of social class influence on romantic relationships in literature.

2. For Readers:

The readers are expected to relate to the theme of social class that can be seen in the novel and how it affects the modern society. The Allie and Noah love story can be utilised as the prism which can be used by the reader to comprehend larger issues of inequality of classes, not only in terms of romance but also in terms of opportunities, in the exercise of choices as well as in personal liberties.

3. To the Teachers and Literature Teachers:

The Notebook is a potentially good literature piece to make use of when teaching on social criticism, especially with a Marxism point of view. This novel can be used by educators in discussing in the classroom how socioeconomic status affects choices people make and their relationships. It can also be a part of the modules dealing with the relationship between literature and ideology, which will assist the students in learning to think critically and analyze the information.

4. Literary Critics:

It can be nice to dedicate further efforts toward understanding how Nicholas Sparks describes social standing throughout his remaining works. A smaller scope of literary analyses of his novels might bring to light repeated patterns of social movements, ideological statements or criticisms within his romantic works.

