

## CONFLICT OF CHARACTERS IN *THE SUN IS ALSO A STAR* NOVEL

Ni Desak Made Sukma Dewi<sup>1</sup>, I GUSTIAGUNGISTRI ARYANI<sup>2</sup>,  
I KOMANGSUMARYANA PUTRA<sup>3</sup>

*English Department Faculty of Humanities Udayana University Denpasar*

**ABSTRACT:** Through the conflict, the storyline would be comes alive and made the readers understand the value of the story. This research study also related to the conflict which entitled Conflict of Characters in The Sun is Also A Star Novel. The analysis of this research focused on the conflict faced by the characters and applied the theory from William Kenney (1966). The data were taken from a novel entitled The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon that produced in 2016. It was collected through qualitative method through documentation and note taking process. The analysis was done by classifying utterance expression, selecting the data, reducing the data, analyzing, and concluding the data. The characters in the story faced two kinds of conflict. The internal conflict found in the problem that arises from within the characters itself. However, the external conflict happened because of the influence of incompatible goals and the different opinion. These conflicts using management conflict to solve the problems consists of: conflict denial, conflict avoidance, capitulation, domination, distributive bargaining and compromise.

**Keywords:** *Internal and External Conflict, Factor Influence the Conflict, Conflict Management Strategy*

### I. INTRODUCTION

The interesting points in the story in order to get attention of the audience obtained in the plot, and in a plot there are exposition or introduction, rising action, climax, falling action and denouement based on theory from (Freytag 1895:115). Climax is the most important part in the story, this is the highest point of tension in the art work especially in the plot. Climax will present the culmination of the conflict that has been created in the rising action part.

Referring to the statement regarding the conflict that occurs in the climax section, conflict is the fuel for a story, as well as an attempt to describe the character of the characters in it. No story is created without a conflict, and a story cannot run smoothly without a character playing a role in it. Therefore, these two things are very important because they have a strong synergy in the formation of a good storyline. There are various types of conflicts that a character often experiences in a story. According to (Kenney 1966: 5) stated that there are two types of conflict which are internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict is a problem that occurs in the mind of the character itself, usually known as inner conflict, and external conflict is a problem between the character and another power outside himself.

There are 2 kinds of external conflict which are physical conflict and social conflict. According to Margiraharjoet al. (2016) in this national journal entitled Conflict Analysis Of Main Character In The Novel "The Fault In Our Stars" By John Green stated that there are internal conflict faced by the main character is caused by incompatible goals and the external conflict. of the main character between the supporting character was triggered by different opinion and in that research study also explained an analysis of the psychological aspect which fosters the conflict of the main character which are want, an emotion, and also feeling.

The analysis which conducted in the national journal of Margiraharjo et al. (2016) in line with this research study which analyzed the conflicts that occur to the characters in the novel of Nicola Yoon in 2016. This novel entitled The Sun is Also a Star with the main character named Natasha Kingsley. This data was chosen because it provides sufficient information and data variation to analyze. The focus of this research study to the conflicts faced by each characters. One of the example situation that occurs in the novel namely the situation of Natasha internal conflict and her psychological problem aspect which raises an anxious and emotional feelings because of the decision of the New York immigration which required her family to be deported as consideration to be an undocumented citizen. The deportation decision was not accepted by Natasha's character, which made this character insist to stop this deportation, even though her parents forbade

her to do any effort, because every kind of step would be in vain and deportation is the final decision from the government.

## II. METHODS

### *Data Source*

The data take from an English novel entitled *The Sun is Also a Star* (2016) created by Nicola Yoon. The unit of the data extracted was the conflict of characters in utterances and expression words or phrases of that character. This novel tells about love story of Natasha Kingsley and Daniel Bae amidst problems that occur in their family, and due to there are a lot of variation data which support to complete the phenomenon of conflict as the title of this research and worth to research.

### *Method and Techniques of Collecting Data*

The data source of this study collect through documentations method in order to observing the conflict of main character in *The Sun is Also a Star* novel. These were the steps to collect the data:

- 1) Reading the source text of *The Sun is Also a Star* novel thoroughly in order to find out utterance and behaviour of the main character which looks strange and causes problems in the story.
- 2) Marking the expression the source text that were considered as controversial word.
- 3) Notetaking technique was used to gather the controversial utterance as the data. Those methods and techniques are suitable to collect the data of this research in order to reach the purpose of this study.

### *Method and Techniques of Analyzing Data*

These are the steps to analyze the data as below details:

- 1) Classifying utterance expression of characters that could be trigger as a conflicts.
- 2) Selecting the data into several types of conflict.
- 3) Reducing the data in order to get best data to discuss in the next chapter.
- 4) Analyzing what is the internal and external factor that influences the conflict of characters.
- 5) Concluding the data and drawing the result conclusion based on the analysis of research study

### *Method and Techniques of Presenting Data*

The first problem is about types of conflict which were the internal and external conflict and it shown through theory of (Kenney, 1966:5), the second problem is the factors influence conflict of characters presented descriptively through theory from (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986: 207) which are difference of opinion, incompatible roles, incompatible goals and limited resources.

In order to deepen the analysis of the factor influence of conflict it also uses three dimension of characters this theory from Egri (1972:34) which describe the physiological dimensions, sociological dimensions and psychological dimensions which have a close relationship with the basis of a problem that occurs in a characters such as the mindset, or the visuals displayed or the social environment. The third problem is about the strategy of managing conflict of the character, it presented through the theory from (Fenn 2003:53) there are types of responses to a conflict that occurs and what is used in this research. As for the type of response, namely in passive response there is conflict denial, conflict avoidance and capitulation. There is also an active response which is divided into two, namely aggressive and creative responses. In aggressive responses there is a domination response. In creative responses, there are distributive bargaining, compromise, and integrative bargaining.

## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### *Analysis of Conflict*

Internal and external conflict are two types of conflicts that are often experienced by a character in a novel, this is referred to as a statement stated by (Kenney 1966:5). In this part there are also an explanation of the factor influence characters conflicts which are difference of opinion, inappropriate roles, incompatible roles, and limited resources and those are supported by theory of (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986:207) . In order to do in-depth research on other factors that support the occurrence of a conflict experienced by a character is supported by theory of (Egri 1972:34) which discusses three dimensional of characters the dimensions of physiological, sociological and psychological. There are also analysis using the theory of (Fenn 2003:53) which discusses ways of success in order to management of the conflict which is translated into three steps, namely: understanding the conflict, responses to the conflict, and analysis regarding adopting an appropriate response of the characters conflict or often referred to as a resolution.

### *Internal Conflict*

According to Kenney (1966: 5), Internal conflict is kind of a problem that arises within a person, which is triggered by a tendency to feel a desire in order to achieve a variety of different choices. The person feels difficult to make a decision. The problem is often referred as psychological conflicts because it is related to the mental, thoughts and the feelings of that personal. In this novel, some of the characters faced the internal

conflict. There are Daniel Jae Won Bae, Natasha Kingsley and Samuel Kingsley which are the characters who faced the internal conflict in this novel.

The first is internal conflict of Daniel, it came from the high expectation of his parents. They want him to become a doctor. However, his passion actually related the art and become a poet. The second one is the internal conflict of Natasha. This conflict as a form of misalignment between her mind and heart about her feelings to character Daniel. She didn't want to think about romance anymore because she didn't want to feel disappointed as she felt with her ex-boyfriend who was cheated on her. Actually, Natasha wants to tell her feelings but she realized she might never see again him because she will be deported. Therefore, she should bury her feelings. Furthermore, the internal conflict of Samuel Kingsley occurs as the form of his depressed and anger with himself because he had failed to realize his dream to be a successful actor in America. The explanation of the conflict that faced by these characters shown in following snippets.

#### **External Conflict**

External conflict is a problem faced by a character where the cause factor comes from outside himself, for example from the surrounding environment. External conflict can be expressed in verbal form in the form of arguments and non-verbal in the form of physical fights, which is referred to in the statement Kenney (1966: 5). Efforts are made to prove the occurrence of external conflicts in the novels used in this research study, namely through the example of quotations from dialogue between two or more characters which indicate a debate, namely in the form of a sentence which indicates that there is an argument or in the form of a sentence. which expresses physical fights. In this research study, the analysis of external conflict faced by the characters in the novel is shown by the form of the problem between individuals, which are the main and supporting characters.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION**

Based on the discussion that has been described above, it can be concluded that Daniel and Natasha are the main characters in this novel. They are figures who have an important role in every storyline in this novel, they are involved in the majority of problems experienced by other characters in the novel. There are several conclusions that can be conveyed regarding this research study. First, the characters in the novel *The Sun is Also a Star* face two types of conflict, namely internal conflict and external conflict. The characters facing internal conflicts are, Daniel Jae Ho Bae, Natasha Kingsley and Samuel Kingsley. Their conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension.

First, the internal conflict of Daniel Jae Ho Bae. His conflict is an incompatible goals and he does an active response by compromise to himself by carrying out the desires in his heart while trying to realize the wishes of his parents. The second one is the internal conflict of Natasha Kingsley is an incompatible goals and she does an aggressive response by domination her mind on the issue of deportation, putting aside the love issue of her relationship with Daniel and leave him immediately. The third one is the internal conflict of Samuel Kingsley, his conflict is an incompatible goals. He was deported before he could achieve his dream to be Broadway actor. He does an active responses by doing compromise with himself in order to accept the current situation because there was nothing he could do anymore. He began to think about his responsibilities in Jamaica for more structured life with his family in Jamaica.

In the external conflict, Samuel experienced two times of external conflict with Patricia as the opponent. Then Natasha faced six external conflicts, namely the external conflict with her family, the conflict with Mary the receptionist of USCIS, the conflict with Mr. Barners, the conflict with Charlie which involved Daniel inside it, the conflict with Mr. Dae which involved Charlie and Daniel inside it. There are also the external conflict of Daniel with Natasha as the opponent, the external conflict of Daniel with Charlie as the opponent, and the last is the conflict between Daniel and Mr. Fitzgerald.

The source and resolution of the first Samuel's conflict against Patricia were caused by and incompatible goals. The conflict stems from the influence of the sociological dimension because their problem came from the tendency of Patricia in order to have the high social status and better economic status which not in the line of Samuel goal. They are using conflict avoidance to solved their conflict.

The second conflict of Samuel and Patricia happened because of the same case of their first conflict which is incompatible goals. The conflict stems from the influence of sociological and psychological dimension. Patricia's expectations about better life in America were too high. Therefore, when it didn't reached she become disappointment and blamed the whole problem to Samuel. In order to solved the problem they use an active response namely the compromise.

The conflict between Natasha, Peter and Patricia happened because of different opinions and Natasha. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension. She does passive response namely conflict denial in order to solved their problem. The conflict between Natasha and Mary (receptionist of USCIS) happened because of different opinions. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension. It was resolved using creative response namely integrative bargaining attempt.

The conflict between Natasha and Lester Barnes caused by different opinions. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension. It resolved using creative response namely distributive bargaining attempt. The conflict between Natasha and Charlie caused by incompatible goals. The conflict stems from the influence of the physiological and psychological dimension. It resolved using passive response namely conflict avoidance attempt.

The external conflict of Natasha and Mr. Dae Hyun caused by different opinions. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological and physiological dimension. It resolved using passive response namely a capitulation attempt. The conflict between Natasha and Daniel is caused by incompatible goals. The conflict stems from the influence of psychological dimension. It resolved using domination attempt. The conflict between Daniel and Charlie caused by different opinion. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension. It resolved using domination attempt. The last is the external conflict between Daniel and Jeremy Fitzgerald caused by different opinion. The conflict stems from the influence of the psychological dimension and it resolved using a conflict avoidance attempt.

### ***Suggestion***

Suggestions for future researchers are to be creative and innovative researchers. In order to continue the research studies on this topic, should do creative development and create innovative thoughts that have never been thought of by other researcher from all sides. Therefore, the further research occurs in the same topic of this research study could be written in detail and completely. It can be the comparisons with the previous research and also brings its own color, and makes further research more interesting. Through further research on this topic, it can unravel all the conclusions made in previous research so that it can be discussed further so that it can further validate these results.

### ***Limitation of the Research***

This investigation is limited by time, so this research needs additional constructive suggestions to improve the quality of the results of this research study. As for the suggestions given regarding the limitation of the study so that further researchers make the best use of the time possible so that they do not experience time constraints. So that the discussion of further research can be done in full, in detail, more interesting and innovative.

## **REFERENCES**

- [1] Deetz, S., Stevenson, S.L., 1986. Managing Interpersonal Communication. Harper & Row.
- [2] Egri, L., 1972. The Art of Dramatic Writing: Its Basis in the Creative Interpretation of Human Motives. Simon and Schuster.
- [3] Fenn, P., Gameson, R., 2003. Construction Conflict Management and Resolution. Taylor and Francis, Hoboken.
- [4] Freytag, G., MacEwan, E.J., 1895. Freytag's Technique of the drama, an exposition of dramatic composition and art. Chicago : S.C. Griggs & Company.
- [5] Hanna, I.D., 2016. an Analysis of The Main Characters' Conflicts in Jane Austen Novel Entitled "SENSE AND SENSIBILITY."
- [6] Kenney, W., 1966. How to analyze fiction: a critical guide to appreciation of short stories, novellas, and novels. Monarch Press, New York.
- [7] Yoon, N., 2016. The sun is also a star, First edition. ed. Delacorte Press, New York.