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# THE ELEMENTS OF LOVE SHOWN BY THE MAIN CHARACTER IN AUSTEN'S NOVEL PRIDE AND PREJUDICE

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This study is about love analysis especially analyzing the elements of love and how love is portrayed in the main character, Darcy, in Jane Austen's novel Pride and Prejudice (2017). The study aims to identify the elements of love of the main character, Fitzwilliam Darcy, and how Darcy's love is portrayed. The data of this study was taken from a novel entitled Pride and Prejudice (2017). The character dialogues and actions were collected using the documentation method and note-taking technique. All collected data were analyzed using the descriptive qualitative method. This study applied two theories. The first theory is the Theory of Elements of Love proposed by Fromm (1956) and the second is the Theory of Literature about Characterization proposed by Kenney (1966). The result of the study there are four elements of love that is care, responsibility, respect, and knowledge. The author also found three of the five characterization methods used to portray Darcy's love such as discursive method, dramatic method, and character on other characters. Through the elements of love, as well as various methods of characterization, the novel depicts a changing and profound love story between the two main characters.

Key Words: Love, Elements Of Love, Main Character, Characterization

# **BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Wellek and Warren (1997:94) state that literature generally concerns the relationship between society and individuals, individuals, and events that take place within the individual circle. Love in literature also helps a reader become not only closer to the characters of a novel but also more involved and interested in the plot. So, the action and events of the novel usually relate to real life, character development in the novel usually describe the character of humans in real life, love, experience, ambition, sadness, and happiness, altogether shown in the novel.

Love is a very important part of the novel because love contributes factor that is interesting to read and is usually related with real life. According to Ajmal (2012), a person who is in love will express his love by giving active concern by constantly guarding and ensuring the welfare of his lover. express his love by giving active concern by constantly guarding and ensuring the welfare of his lover. The active character of love becomes evident in the fact that it always implies certain basic elements, common to all forms of love. By knowing it the readers would realize that love is very important in one's life, because every human need love in every relation with their couple and another person, it has helped human grow into something different and helped in shaping human personalities and bring human to the right paths of life.

The way of the character shows love is related to the character. Therefore, the characterization has an important role in analyzing the portrayal of the of love in the novel. In this study, the elements of love of the main character Darcy in a novel entitled "Pride and Prejudice" were analyzed deeply. The focus of this study is the main character, Darcy, because at the beginning of the story, Darcy is described as a haughty man but when he meets Elizabeth the feeling of love that grows in his heart changes his views and behavior. Darcy and Elizabeth began their relationship by judging one another harshly based on first impressions. The



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character's progress from hate to love is known as the "enemies to lovers trope" which makes this novel interested in analyzing the elements of love and how love is portrayed.

## RESEARCH METHOD

The research methods of this research were divided into four sections, consist of data source, method, and technique of collecting data, followed by method and technique of analyzing data and the last is method and technique of presenting data analysis. The data was taken from a novel entitled Pride and Prejudice (2017) by Jane Austen by using the documentation method and note-taking technique to support the data collection. All of the collected data was analyzed qualitative with descriptive technique. The elements of love of the main character were analyzed based on the Theory of Elements of Love proposed by Fromm (2013) and followed by analyzing how the love portrayal based on the Theory of Literature about Characterization proposed by Kenney (1966) that are used to support the analysis of the data.

This study used qualitative descriptive analysis and the results of the analysis were presented in the form of paragraphs or sentences. There are several steps in presenting the data: first, the data was presented, and then continued by the explanation of the data. The data consist of the actions, dialogues, or thoughts describing the elements of love and how the love portrayal of the main character in the novel Pride and Prejudice (2017). Then it was followed by its explanation regarding the detailed analysis of the data.

## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

In this part, the Theory of Elements of Love proposed by Fromm in his book entitled The Art of Loving (2013) is used to analyze the elements of love of Darcy to Elizabeth and the Theory of Literature About Characterization proposed by Kenney in his book entitled How To Analyze Fiction (1966) is used to analyze how Darcy's love is portrayed in the novel Pride and Prejudice (2017).

## Theory of Elements of Love

According to Fromm (2013:22-24) The active character of love becomes evident in the fact that it always implies certain basic elements, common to all forms of love, these are care, responsibility, respect and knowledge.

# 1. Care

Care in elements of love refers to the idea that love is not a passive feeling, but a concrete action that shows care and concern for the person. It involves self-sacrifice, empathy, and a willingness to invest time and effort in meeting the needs and well-being of someone loved.

# 2. Responsibility

The element of love responsibility is the voluntary desire to respond to the needs of one's partner. Responsibility in love is not about control or domination, but about caring for and nurturing the other person. It is about being there for them when they need us, and about helping them to grow and develop as individuals.

# 3. Respect



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The element of love respect is the ability to see the other person as they are, to be aware of their unique individuality. Respect means the concern that the other person should grow and unfold as they are.

## 4. Knowledge

The element of love knowledge is the ability to see the other person as they really are, to understand their needs, motivations, and desires. Knowledge means the awareness of the other person's reality.

## The Theory of Literature about Characterization

Kenney (1966:34-37) classify the methods of character portrayal into five methods such as discursive method, dramatic method, character on other character method, contextual method, and mixing method.

## 1. Discursive Method

In the discursive method, the author presents directly about the character through a narrative statement. The author enumerates their qualities and may even express approval or disapproval of them.

# 2. Dramatic Method

In the dramatic method, the author presents the characters to reveal themselves through the dialogues and actions

## 3. Character on Other Characters

Character on other character is a method of characterization in which a character in a story is described and explained by another character through their actions and words. Thus, the characterization of the character is revealed by the other characters through their thought.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

## The Elements of Love of Darcy's Love to Elisabeth

This part the analysis used the theory by Fromm (2013) who mentioned that there are four elements of love, namely care, responsible, respect, and knowledge.

## 1. Care in The Love of Darcy to Elisabeth

"If you will thank me," he replied, 'let it be for yourself alone. **That the wish of giving happiness to you might add force to the other inducements which led me on, I shall not attempt to deny**. But your family owe me nothing. Much as I respect them, I believe I thought only of you." (Austen, 2017:489-490)

The data above shows that care as the implication of love is clearly seen when Darcy helped Elisabeth's sister because it was for Elisabeth's happiness. Elisabeth was worried that this incident could destroy her sister's future. Lydia's actions could also give her family a bad reputation. This led Darcy to help solve this problem, hoping to protect Elisabeth and her family from the bad reputation that might destroy the future of the person he loved, Elisabeth.

The evidence of care is shown directly through the statement "...That the wish of giving happiness to you might add force to the other inducements which let me on, I shall not attempt to deny..." This sentence shows that Darcy's concern for Elizabeth is the factor that drives him to act. Darcy admits that everything he did was only to give Elizabeth happiness.



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This shows that Mr. Darcy is genuinely concerned about Elizabeth's happiness, and that he is willing to put her needs above his own. The element of love care has been beautifully described in the struggle to see the people he loves happy.

## 2. Responsible in The Love of Darcy to Elisabeth

"Though Darcy could never receive him at Pemberley, yet, for Elizabeth's sake, he assisted him further in his profession." (Austen, 2013:518)

As Elizabeth's husband, Darcy has a responsibility to Elisabeth. The element of love responsible is found in the statement "...for Elizabeth's sake, he assisted him further in his profession." Darcy's actions of helping Wickham in his profession were done for Elizabeth's sake. His love and sense of responsibility as a husband drove him to take action. He was also showing that he was willing to do anything for Elisabeth, even if it meant helping someone he didn't like. Darcy feels a duty to Elizabeth as her husband. He wants to make sure that she is happy and taken care of. He also feels a duty to her family. He not only sees his own self-interest but also pays attention to the happiness and reputation of the family he built with Elizabeth.

# 3. Respect in Darcy's Love to Elisabeth

Will you allow me, or do I ask too much, to introduce my sister to your acquaintance during your stay at Lambton?' (Austen, 2017:432)

The data above shows the form of respect. Darcy asked Elisabeth permission to introduce her to his sister, Georgiana since he was not sure if she would be willing to do that. The evidence of respect showed directly through the statement "Will you allow me, or do I ask too much..." The asking for permission shows that Darcy respects Elisabeth. In this situation, Darcy did not consider it a right or an obligation to introduce his sister to anyone. Instead, he chose to politely and respectfully ask Elizabeth for permission. This shows that Darcy does not want to impose his will on Elizabeth and respects her right to make her own decisions. In this data, the asking for permission represents Darcy's respect to Elisabeth.

# 4. Knowledge of Darcy to Elisabeth

'My beauty you had early withstood, and as for my manners my behaviour to you was at least always bordering on the uncivil, and I never spoke to you without rather wishing to give you pain than not. Now be sincere; did you admire me for my impertinence?'

'For the liveliness of your mind, I did.'

'You may as well call it impertinence at once. It was very little less. The fact is, that you were sick of civility, of deference, of officious attention. You were disgusted with the women who were always speaking, and looking, and thinking for your approbation alone. I roused, and interested you, because I was so unlike them. (Austen, 2017:508-509)

The data above can be classified as knowledge. Initially, when Darcy and Elizabeth first met, he was not immediately interested and even criticized her beauty. As time goes by, Darcy's knowledge about Elizabeth makes him feel that she has some striking differences compared to other women he knows or who are in his social circle. When Elisabeth asked if he fell in love with her because of her impertinence he replied 'For the liveliness of your mind,



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I did.' Mean that he fell in love with Elizabeth because of the liveliness or intelligence of her mind. In this context, Darcy acknowledged that Elizabeth has an attraction to cleverness and intelligence that makes her different from other women. This knowledge that Darcy had made him more interested in Elisabeth and eventually helped to create a deeper and more respectful relationship between them.

# The Portrayal of Darcy's Love to Elisabeth

In this part, there are three out of five methods of characterization found in the novel Pride and Prejudice (2017) such as the discursive method, dramatic method and, character on other characters.

#### 1. Discursive Method

"Such a change in a man of so much pride exciting not only astonishment but gratitude for to love, ardent love, it must be attributed;" (Austen, 2017:354)

The data above shows Darcy's love portrayed through the discursive method. Through this statement, the author describes Darcy's changes as a result of the love he feels for Elizabeth. The evidence of the discursive method is directly shown through the statement "...for to love, ardent love, it must be attributed." The author of the novel, Austen, emphasizes that true love brings changes in Darcy and encourages him to introspect and grow as a better individual. The statement is used by the author to describe the love experienced by Darcy in the novel.

## 2. Dramatic Method

"In vain I have struggled. It will not do. My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you." (Austen, 2017:255)

The data above shows Darcy's love portrayed using the dramatic method The author, Austen, describes Darcy's love through Darcy and Elisabeth's dialogue. The evidence of the dramatic method is directly shown through Darcy's dialogue "...My feelings will not be repressed. You must allow me to tell you how ardently I admire and love you." In this moment, Darcy feels uneasy and tense, as he knows how important this moment is for their relationship. However, when he looked at Elizabeth, he felt a surge of feelings that he could no longer contain. Through Darcy's dialogue, Austen effectively uses the dramatic method to allow the characters to reveal their emotions and decisions. Instead of the author of the novel directly explaining Darcy's internal struggle or emotions, Darcy's words and expressions convey this information directly. This dialog is used to describe how Darcy expresses his love to Elizabeth.

# 3. Character on Other Characters

"'What can be the meaning of this?' said Charlotte, as soon as he was gone. 'My dear, Eliza, he must be in love with you, or he would never have called us in this familiar way." (Austen, 2017:243)



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The data above shows Darcy's love portrayed using the character on other characters method through the statement of Charlotte's character Elisabeth best friends. The evidence showed directly through the statement "...My dear, Eliza, he must be in love with you, or he would never have called us in this familiar way." Charlotte implies her belief that Darcy has fallen in love with Elizabeth. She saw that Darcy acted in a special way and was very familiar with Elisabeth. The word "familiar way" in the dialogue means "in a way that is close and personal." It is in contrast to the way that Mr. Darcy usually behaves, which is formal and reserved. As a close friend of Elisabeth, Charlotte noticed the change in the relationship between them from the previous meeting Charlotte's opinion about Darcy's feelings was based on her own observation of the interaction between Elisabeth and Darcy and her personal judgment. It is clear that the author uses other characters to portray Darcy's feelings of love for Elisabeth through the opinions and statements expressed by Charlotte.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis previously presented, it can be concluded that in the Austen's novel Pride and Prejudice (2017), there are four elements of love found in the main character, Darcy. The first element is care that is about Darcy's caring to support Elizabeth in helping her sister, Lydia. The second element is responsible that is Darcy's responsibility as Elisabeth's husband to assist Wickham in finding a job. The third element is respect that is about Darcy's respect for Elizabeth through asking permission before he introduces Elisabeth to his sister. The fourth element is knowledge that is about Darcy's knowledge of Elizabeth's character and values makes him understand Elizabeth more deeply and make positive changes within himself.

In addition to the analysis of the elements of love, the method of characterization to analyze the portrayal of Darcy's love for Elizabeth in the novel was applied. The writer found three out of five methods of characterization. The first method is discursive that was found through narrative statements from the author of the novel explaining how his love for Elizabeth brings changes in his character. The second method is dramatic method that was found through the dialogues that express Darcy's feelings for Elizabeth. The third method is character on other characters that was found through the perception and observation of Elisabeth's best friend, Charlotte. The analysis highlights the depth and complexity of Darcy's love for Elizabeth in the novel. Through the elements of love of care, responsibility, respect, knowledge, as well as various methods of characterization, the novel depicts a changing and profound love story between the two main characters.

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