

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this chapter, the writer will explain the theories of novella, novel, and short story. Afterwards, it will be followed by theories of intrinsic elements of short story, theories of marriage and betrayal, and theories of romance. Finally, it will be followed by review of related literature, the writer chooses *Fifty Shades Freed* (2018) and *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn (2012) as the references for her short story project.

#### **2.1 Theoretical Framework**

##### **2.1.1 Theories on Literature**

In this section, the writer will explain regarding the theories: 1) novella, 2) novel, and 3) short story. Accordingly, it will be followed by definition and explanation of intrinsic elements in literary works which are: 1) theme, 2) plot, 3) setting, 4) characters, 5) POV (Point of View), and 6) symbolism. It is important in literary works to help the reader discover and differentiate between short story, novel, and novella.

##### **A. Novel, Novella, and Short Story**

Novel can be defined as a narrative work of prose fiction that tells a story about specific human experiences over a considerable length (Prahl, 2019). Most publishers prefer novels that are in the 80,000-to 120,000-word range, depending

on the genre (Writer's Digest Shop, 2021). Novella definition is a prose or fiction work that is shorter than a novel and longer than a short story (Baldwin, 2020). Novella is up to 60 to 120 pages, or 7,500 to 40,000 words. Novellas are not as well-known as novels because it is a tough advertisement for a releasing firm to charge the same price for a novella as they would for a full-length novel (Novella: Definition & Overview, 2016). In correlation to the writer's non-research project theories, a short story is a fictional work of prose that is shorter in length than a novel (Poe, 1986). A short story can range from 1,000 to 20,000 words in contemporary fiction (CliffsNotes, n.d.). Klarer (1998, p.14) explained that an important feature typically diagnosed with the short story is the impression of unity since it may be examined in comparison to the novel in one sitting without any interruption.

Furthermore, short stories are also categorized as a work of fiction, apart from the literary genres. The main difference between a short story and a novella can be seen in the length of the word count. A typical short story consists of 3,000 to 7,500 words. Besides that, the length of word count in novella consists of 10,000 to 40,000 words. According to CliffsNotes, n.d., short story ranges from 1,000 to 20,000 words in contemporary fiction. But according to Batool (2020), short stories consist of 3,000 to 7,500 words. The second difference between a short story and a novella can be seen in the writing style of the literary works. Mostly, in short stories, the writers use style to describe a single event or the tale of one single character. In a short story, the writer uses the first-person or third-person Point of View in the story. On the other hand, in novella the writer focused only on one single character

development, personally and emotionally (Batool, 2020). In comparison, novels are the longest literary works. Although they are both categorized as fictional writing, they both had differences. The first one is indicated by the measurement of the length. Short stories usually consist of 1,000 until 10,000 words. Meanwhile novels consist of 50,000 until 70,000 words. In addition, in novels, there are so many characters inside the story, but in short stories, the characters are less than in novels. In short stories the writer usually uses a limited first-person Point of View. But in novels the writer does not only use the first person Point of View, but they also use the third person Point of View (Smith, 2023). Regarding the intrinsic elements of the short story, the writer will explain below.

## **B. Intrinsic Elements**

Intrinsic elements can be defined as an internal component of a short story. They are divided into three groups which are: 1) elements that convey aspects of short story and administrative context (e.g., the name of the author, addressee, the date); 2) elements that communicate the action itself (e.g., the indication and description of the action or matter); and 3) elements that convey aspects of the short story and its means of validation (e.g., the name of the writer, the attestation, the corroboration) as stated by InterPARES, 2020b. In conclusion, intrinsic elements are defined as the work of an inner issue of a particular tales of texts within the short story.

The first element in a short story is the plot. According to the Teacher's Literature Companion (1994, p.11), plot is the sequence of incidents or actions in a

story. In other words, the plot is also defined as a series of causes and effects which affect the whole story (Glatch, 2022). According to Hood (2011), the types of the plot were divided into two. The first type is called unified plot. Unified plot means that the short story created was realistic, including central character and an action of the story. Usually, it takes place in a single place and in a short span of time (such as only in a single day). Another type of plot is called episodic plot. An episodic plot means that the short story itself has components such as: setting of central character, conflict, and it takes place much longer period time rather than unified plot. In addition, in episodic plot the writer usually uses flashback method to provide the details of background story. Hood (2011) also states that in short story, the plot structure begins with inciting incident, rising action or plot complication, climax or turning point, and it ends with the resolution. Furthermore, an inciting incident defined as events, action, decision that creates conflict does have parts to act to achieve some particular purpose. Rising action or plot complications defined as the main conflict itself within the short story (example: man against himself, man versus nature, protagonist character versus antagonist character, and so on). It interferes with the main character's ability to fulfill his or her purpose. The third one is climax or turning point. Climax or turning point defined as point of the story which has tension and has exciting event in the series of events that make up the story. The last one is the resolution of the story. Resolution of the story defined as the way used by the writer to deliver the ending of the story, either with the open or closed ending. If the story ended with a closed ending, the writer usually left the story answering unanswered questions explicitly stated or implied in the story. If

the story ends with an open ending, the reader left with wondering some questions unanswered or assumed what happens next by their own thoughts (Hood, 2011).

The second element of the short story is the setting. According to Birkerts (1993, pp. 53-54) setting refers both to the physical location of the events and to the time in which they happen. Setting is also known as the time and place of a narrative of the story. It does help the writer to create mood and atmosphere of a story, and to establish the tone of the narrative (Chase, 2023).

The third element of the short story are characters and characterization. Characters are portrayed as deliberately flat, and characters are customarily divide into several types, the first is rounded and second is dynamic characters that are more lifelike (Birkerts, 1993, pp. 22-23). Meanwhile characterization is defined as the way use by the writer on how to describe, mention, explain, or tell the certain physical traits (physical look from the character itself), point of view, personality, private thoughts, and so on. They are divided into two groups of characterization which are direct characterization and the other one is indirect characterization. Direct characterization can be indicated from their words, thoughts, actions, dialogue with other characters. Meanwhile indirect characterization can be inferred from their physical description, dialogue from among other characters, and a narrative story written by the writer itself (Masterclass, 2021). In addition, in novels, there are so many characters inside the story, but in short story the characters are less than in novels.

The fourth element of the short story is a theme. A theme is the dominant of ideas and what the work is about, and it is central to story (Birkerts, 1993, p. 67). Themes can be found from the dialogue between the characters, through the actions that take place in the story. Additionally, the theme is disclosed in how the storyline and setting of the narrative are designed and presented (Prudchenko, 2021).

The fifth element of the short story is POV (Point of View). Point of view is the perspective the story is being told from (Robinson, 2019). There are three types for point of view. The first type is first-person point of view, it means one of the characters is the one who told the story to the readers or audience. It can be revealed from the word “I” in the story because it uses the first-person pronouns. The second type is the second-person point of view, which can be determined from the pronoun “you”. And the last type is the third-person point of view, which the story narrated related to characters with using pronouns “he or she”. This type of point of view is still divided into third-person omniscient and third-person limited. The difference between them is that the omniscient narrator knows all of the story and the characters well (having a god’s eye view of characters). But in the third-person limited point of view (close third) the author focused only on one character but remains in third person. In this style, the readers can read inside the characters thoughts, feelings, and sensations which can deliver them a deeper impression of character and scene (Class, 2021).

The last element of the short story is symbolism or a symbol. A symbol is any object, action, person, place, or idea that carries additional and recognizable

meaning for one or more people and symbol carries powerful condensed meaning Birkerts (1993, p. 133). In addition to that, symbolism might be utilized to combine or portray meaning that goes above what is literally being said. The actions and events within the storyline could be looked at from one level, whereas literary symbols within the writing could be considered on any additional level.

### **2.1.2 Theories on Marriage and Betrayal**

Due to the story that the writer wants to create related with the topic of marriage and betrayal, in this part the writer will explain the theories on marriage and betrayal. In general, marriage can be defined as the legal or formal relationship between two people that are united into one family (as the husband and the wife). Based on the sociology aspect, marriage is defined as a socially supported union involving two individuals in what is regarded as a stable, enduring arrangement typically based on a sexual bond of some kind (Crossman, 2019). In addition to that, the social characteristic of a marriage is a permanent and legal relationship between two people based on mutual rights and obligations between the couple. It is also the fundamental to becoming a family. Based on psychological aspect, marriage can be defined as the social institution including two people to commit themselves as a husband and a wife to the long-lasting relationship, also having access to the sexual intercourse which is already being legally and already recognized from other people (APA Dictionary, 2023).

On the other hand, betrayal is the sense of being harmed by the intentional actions or omissions of a trusted person. The most common forms of betrayal are

harmful disclosures of confidential information, disloyalty, infidelity, and dishonesty. They can be traumatic and cause considerable distress (Rachman, 2009). What causes married people cheating or betray each other varies widely. The reasons why married people are betrayed such as:

1) **Unhappiness or dissatisfaction:** it means that their emotion or sexuality after the marriage goes wrong and thus, they felt unsatisfied with their marriage.

2) **Lack of appreciation:** a true couple after getting married usually gives appreciation to each other even the smallest things among them and their hard work. When one of the couples disrespects the hard work from either the husband or wife, it will lead to the feeling of neglected and dishonesty in marriage.

3) **Lack of commitment:** married couples are mostly created their own commitment to obey each other's rules of what they are allowed to do and what are not allowed to do. Couples who do not have commitments frequently began cheating with another person.

4) **The feeling of boredom:** usually the honest couple in marriage are attractive to each other and talk a lot related to their own emotions and feelings to help them reduce their anger and stress level. When it comes to boredom, one of the couples intended to find a new lover to satisfy their desire for cheating (Stritof, 2022).

Moreover, other factors why married people betrayed are:

1) **The usage of the internet:** nowadays, the usage of the internet has spread widely, even it leads to the negative effects. People in the modern era use the



internet to find their “secret lover”, or also known as online cheating because they never met before in reality (meeting face to face). The applications they used for online dating are such as: Bumble, Tinder, Tantan, Litmach, and so on. The reason why people use online app dating is because they never meet before in real life and to find similarity on their hobbies, interests, and so on.

2) **Poor boundaries among them:** a true married couple know their own boundaries in order to respect each other’s privacy. A couple with less boundaries will end with boredom and desire to do cheating with their lover (Stritof, 2022). According to Concise Oxford Dictionary of Sociology (1994), divorce is the formal legal dissolution of legally constituted marriage. What constitute marriage and divorce varies widely.

Gjelten (2022) states that the reasons why cause divorce in marriage are such as:

1) **Lack of commitment.** It might seem vague and to be proven (or disapprove), especially to the person who blamed due to the issue. The outward signs of divorce are frequently connected to other factors such as extramarital affairs, a refusal to discuss the union, and a failure to manage the financial management.

2) **Communication problems.** Divorce can happen due to poor communication (too much arguing and lack of ability to talk each other).

3) **Financial issues.** The third reason why divorce happens is due to financial problems, arguing about the money which refers to financial incompatibility

because of the arise from differences in priorities and values when making financial decisions.

### **2.1.3 Genre: Romance**

In correlation with the short story project, the writer will explain the definition and theories regarding the genre of romance. Genre can be defined as a category of literary composition which is characterized by a particular style, form, and content (Merriam Webster, 2023). Genre has a function, which is to help us organize writings based on style, content, and form. Genre additionally distinguishes the cause of the piece and the manner of the work to be delivered to the readers (Writing Explained, 2023). One of the categories of book genres that will be explained here is Romance. Romance is one of the types of literature which includes plots focused on love and adventure among couples. Romance has a function, which is to entertain the readers when the protagonist displays courage and chivalry beyond an adventure (Writing Explained, 2023). In addition, romance mostly has a happy ending, but not all romance story has that. A happy ending (or known as happily ever after) created by the writer to satisfy the wish or readers expectation.

According to Master Class (2021), there are six subgenres of romance, such as:

- 1) **Contemporary romance.** Contemporary romance or modern romance often set at the time when is being written, the time takes place after the World War II until the present time. In this subgenres of romance,

contemporary romance mediates the common conventions of a more current time period, charitable the genre a more contemporary advance. In addition, contemporary romance also reflects the current conventions in a recent period of time.

- 2) **Historical romance.** By reflecting historical romance before 1945 and depends on the precise portrayal of the period, everything that occurs or exist on that era affected by limitations of historical romance and paying attention to the details is also integral part for writing process. As for the example, if the story was taken during the Civil War era the characters would not use cellphones or drive a vehicle.
- 3) **Romantic suspense.** In romantic suspense novels which blended mystery and thriller elements with the essential relationship of the plot. Two affection interests need to solve a crime or expose a secret together with one character representing as the victim, and the other as the protector. In addition, the pacing of romantic stories repeatedly dovetails with the pacing of premise, including the satisfying combination of pain and romance.
- 4) **Inspirational romance.** In inspirational romance, it also featuring the religious themes or spiritual beliefs that play a central part in essential affection story. For instance, the passionate themes in a Christian romance chronicle are commonly purer, gearing towards moment like an explosive kiss instead of the intimate interactions ordinary of the other types of romance genres. The characters in inspirational romance are mostly guided

by their faith, in case the character is searching for their faith, or the writer is utilizing the faith or belief as plot device.

- 5) **Speculative romance.** In general, this subgenre includes subcategories like paranormal romance which can signify a variety of futuristic or fictional elements. Several common themes in this genre of the story include ghosts, vampires, even werewolves. These specific stories involve supernatural or magical occurrences that surpass the realm of scientific explanation.
- 6) **Young adult.** In this subgenre, the story shows us the lifestyle of young people and contains dramatic-romantic themes often. The characters should reflect on their age properly—because of someone is being “wise” above their years, it does not mean they do not have to deal with emotional obstacles of growing up—having an organic and believable attraction (not stuck together due to the common tropes). Along with that, new adult themes frequently deal with young adults being on their own for the first time, so that can make an entertaining path for discovery the protagonist character in the story.

However, in romance there are also mentioned some issues. In addition, a romance in a therapeutic group is a specific example of subgroups which is one of the issues and problems in advanced stages. It can be based on the common general behaviour: They agree with each other regardless of the subject, avoid confrontations between each other, exchange understanding glances when an ‘outside’ member is speaking, and most importantly, their desire for the relationship is stronger than their commitment to reflect on their behavior (Yalom, 2006). Freud

(2021) also argues that inhibited sexual instincts contribute to the group's cohesiveness through libidinal sublimation. But no group connection, according to Freud—racial, national or one that is based on social status or faith—is immune from the surplus importance two people in love give to their relationship. On the other hand, Bion (1961) interprets the formation of a couple in the group as actualization of the basic assumption of pairing which means conspiring in order to defend the group unconsciously against intense feelings such as implicit depression, counter-reaction to hatred, envy, or competition with other participants or the conductor, or even defense against annihilation anxiety and fears of becoming psychotic (Doron, 2018).

Another issue of romance being discussed is related to relation disorders. Relation disorders are multipersonal dysfunctional patterns, categories of reciprocal sentimental and behavior dysfunctional patterns which are co-created and are the outcome of a failure of all involved parties, for example, failure to contain strong emotions such as separation anxieties and stands for inclusion and aggression (Friedman, 2013, p. 166). These disorders are re-enacted in the group, in this place and now, numerous times via enactments (Grossmark, 2015). But with time they can be digested, contained, analyzed, and interpreted, and if they are worked over, they may advert betterment and growth of individuals and the group as a whole, comprising the conductor (Doron, 2018).

## **2.2 Studies on Earlier Works**

### **2.2.1 Fifty Shades Freed (2018)**

In relation to the writer's short story project, the writer will choose some studies on earlier works which have connection and similarity to her project. First, the writer choose film from Fifty Shades Freed (2018). The film mainly tells us about two main characters, Anastasia Steele and Christian Grey who are a newly married-couple and having a worse honeymoon journey due to personal problems at Grey's company. Ana's former boss which is Jack Hyde fires from the workplace because he does something bad to Ana, which is sexual assault. In the movie scene, it is shown to the audience that Ana gets pregnant "on purpose" and when Christian hears that, he is angry and confused because he is not ready yet to be the "father" of the baby. Ana is angrier when she knows Christian has been drunk outside the house and he secretly texted to his ex-lover, Elena Lincoln. Even she shouts to Christian that babies happened when they "have sex" a lot of times. Then she locks herself in the "playroom" for one night and left Christian sleeps alone in his bedroom. Then in the morning, they both keep arguing and Ana telling Christian that she wants to take care of her baby and the baby is important to her. Unfortunately, bad things happened. Jack Hyde takes his chance to do revenge by abducting Mia, Christian's sister and silently calling Ana and asking to bring the cash only in two hours and if she cannot do that, he will kill Christian's sister. He also warns that Ana must meet him silently, she must tell no one, and bring him the cash that he asks. After that, Ana brings the checkbook and a gun in case to protect herself from danger, decides to go the bank and ask the bank managers for money in the amount that she needs. Then she immediately goes away with a mysterious

car, and she already dropped off the phone outside the bank so that Christian cannot track her location. When Ana arrives on the location, she sees that Mia's is scared and Ana gives Jack the money that he asks. Unfortunately, Ana is treated badly by kicking her abdomen, which makes her fall down. Then she took out the gun and shot him. Not long after that, Christian and the police officer arrives at the location and releasing Mia. Then Jack and his subordinate are caught by the police. Christian sees Ana covered with bloods and decided to bring her to the hospital. The next three days Ana is conscious at the hospital and sees Christian next to him. After that Christian shows his regret to Ana and apologize to her what he has done earlier. From the movie, the writer learned the importance of marriage is honesty and communication with your couple when there is trouble. Besides that, this movie inspired the writer to make a short story that also has a relation with communication between husband and wife.

### **2.2.2 *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn (2012)**

*Gone Girl* is a romance and thriller novel created by American writer Gillian Flynn and it was published by Crown Publishing Group in June 2012. The story is centered between two characters, Nick, and Amy Dunne's strained marriage relationship. At the beginning, Nick used to get a job as a journalist. Unfortunately, he lost his job. Due to his broken financial status, Nick decides to move from New York City to North Carthage, which is Nick's smaller hometown. To manage his financial issue, he decides to build his own "The Bar" by borrowing money from his wife, Amy Dunne. Nick manages his bar with the help of his twin sister, Margo.

Days by days passed, their marriage is slowly falling apart. When Nick and Amy want to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary along with their relatives and others on a summer morning in Missouri, unfortunately Amy disappears by herself. The story shows us both on two sides, based on Nick and Amy's point of view. From the novel, the writer learned that cheating after marriage is unacceptable. Communication and commitment are the main key to maintain the relationship in marriage.