

AN ANALYSIS OF CONFLICT FOUND IN THE NOVEL ENTITLED “IT ENDS WITH US” BY COOLEN HOOVER

Ni Kadek Risa Puspita Padmi*, I Gusti Agung Sri Rwa Jayantini

English Study Program Faculty of Foreign Languages, Mahasaraswati Denpasar University,
Bali, Indonesia

risapuspitapadmi@gmail.com*

ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to find out the conflict faced by the main character. This study used a novel by Coolen Hoover entitled *It End With Us* as the data. The aim of this study was to define the types of conflict faced by the main character. The data were analyzed based on the theory proposed by William Kenney (1996). The data collection technique was observation method and note taking. The observation method was reading the novel intensively and note-taking for the marking the main point of the conflict. After analyzing the data, the researcher found that there are two types of conflict that appeared in Coolen Hoover's novel they are internal and external conflict. The dominant conflict was the internal conflict. The internal conflict happens between Lily, the main character with her feelings and mind, while the external conflict occurs between Lily and her parents.

Keywords: Conflict; Novel; Main character; It ends with us

I. Introduction

Literature may be defined according to individual preferences. Drama, short story, poetry, movie, and novel are a few examples of literary works (Pradnyaningsih et al., 2022). A novel was a literary work written to express the thoughts, feelings, and actions of the author. A novel is a result of an author's effort that can, either directly or indirectly, delivered messages through the story (Maulidiyah et.al., 2021). A novel was a narrative prose written in long form, with a plot that is revealed through the characters' dialogue, actions, and thoughts. The novel can be described as a long written of prose; it emphasizes each offender's personality and nature through a variety of life stories that happened around the main character (Siswanto, 2013). In general, a novel is a tale of the characters and how they behave in real-life situations, with an emphasis on the unique aspects of the story (Wijayanti, 2020). Furthermore, in a novel, there will be a conflict (Hanna, 2016).

A conflict will always exist in both real life and literary works. One of the literary works having a conflict is the novel. Because they have a relation to each other, conflict and novels can't be separated. Without conflict, a novel will not be interesting to read. Conflict is necessary for the novel because it presents the plot's major problem for the story's development (Lusiana, 2017). A conflict in a story usually involves the lead character (Artawan et al., 2020). Moreover, conflict could be simple or complicated it depends on the situation that the individual going through (Yesari et al., 2019).

The types of conflict adopted the theory from William Kenny, (1966) states that conflict is separated into two types, namely internal and external conflicts. Internal conflict happens within a character's mind, heart, and themselves, whereas external conflict occurs between a character and an outside factor. This topic was chosen because many people have issues dealing with conflict in their lives, which is usually caused by external factors; thereby, this research is being conducted to provide guidance in defining how to handle a conflict in real life. Furthermore, a conflict could happen anywhere and anytime. Conflict in literature provides an overall structure that describes the historical account of the attempts to the variety (Coombs & Avrunim, 2016).

There are many studies related to the conflict faced by the main character. First, was the thesis written by Firman (2013). The goals of his study are to find out the types of conflict of the main character in the novel "Divergent". This writer used the intrinsic approach and structuralism theory proposed by Robert Stanton (1965:16). The writer found two categories of conflict such as internal and external conflict. In internal: mental conflict & emotional and in external: emotional conflict & moral conflict. There are similarities between her study and the recent study are both of these studies used the same data source which is novel. The difference Firman used the theory of conflict of Robert Stanton (1965:16), otherwise, the recent study used the theory of William Kenney (1996) to analyze the internal and external conflict of the main character.

The second thesis was written by Simanjuntak (2021). The purpose of her study is to describe types of conflict and dominant type of conflict found in the main character of "Dolittle" movie. The method that the writer used for the data collection is documentation and recording of conflict that occurred throughout the film. In this research Technique of analyzing data is data reduction, data display, drawing, and verifying conclusions. The writer proposed a theory by (Robert Stanton, 2007) to analyze internal and external conflict. The writer found two causes of conflict by the main character the cause of an internal conflict is a struggle that takes place within the character's mind and the cause of an external conflict is a difference of interest. There are similarities are both of these studies analyze the conflict faced by the main character. The difference Simanjuntak used the theory conflict of Robert Stanton (2007) and a movie as the data

source, otherwise the recent study used theory from Kenney (1996) to analyze the internal and external conflict and novel as the data source.

The third was an article written by Lusiana (2017). The objective of her study was to identify the kind of conflict faced, the source of conflict and the conflict solved by the main character in the movie Lucy. The writer used movie written by Lucy Besson (2014) entitled Lucy as her data. The data collection used the documentation method and proposed theory from William Kenney (1966:5) to analyzed the types of conflict and the theory from Deetz & Stevenson (1986) to analyzed the conflict resolution. The writer found the conflict faced by the main character in two types of conflict; there are external and internal conflicts. In external conflict, the main character faced three external conflicts. This similarity in this study is used the same theory proposed by Kenney (1996) While the difference on the data source used in Lusiana article was a movie meanwhile the recent study analyzed the conflict faced by the main character in the novel it ends with us.

II. Methods

Data source

This study used It ends With Us novel as the main data. The novel script was taken from the hardcopy novel. The novel was written by Colleen Hoover, published by Atria Books on August 2, 2016 and has 376 pages. This novel 1st New York Times bestselling author. Moreover, this novel have many interesting conflicts between the main character with her heart and mind also with other characters too. Because of that the researcher choose this novel as the main data.

Data collection

The data collection for this study used observation and note-taking methods. The data was collected by reading the novel and taking note of the conflict part. The process of collecting the data as follows:

1. Reading the novel carefully and comprehensively.

The first step was to read the novel several times to understand the plot, conflict and the main character of the whole story, so it will be easier to find out the conflict point.

2. Note-taking about the plot of the story and the conflict of the main character.

The note-taking was needed to give marks to certain parts that were approximately close to the external and internal conflict as the data.

3. Reading a lot of articles about the conflict in the novel and analyzing them.

Reading a lot of articles was really helpful in enriching the reference and the thought about the related topic. After having a lot of understanding about the related topic, then started to analyze the data that had all been found.

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed qualitatively and presented descriptively according to the theories adopted. The data was analyzed based on the theory of literature. The first step in the analysis was gathering the data. Second, classifying and sorting the data to each conflict type, whether internal conflict or external conflict and lastly, analyzing the data by using the theory proposed by Kenney (1966).

III. Findings and Discussion

The finding was to find the types of conflict that were found in the “It ends with us” novel. There was an external and external conflict found. Internal conflict is a conflict that is based on the argument of the character with their heart and mind. Meanwhile, the external conflict happened from the outside factor it could be with the other character, nature, and society. The number of occurrences was shown in the table 1.

Table 1. The Types of Conflict

No	Types of Conflict	Number of occurrences
1	Internal conflict	
	Lily VS her heart	3
	Lily VS her mind	1
2	External conflict	
	Man against Man	1
	Man against Society	1
	Man against Nature	-
TOTAL		6

Based on the table 1, shows that internal conflict has the most dominant data. The internal conflict was 4 data the external conflict was 2 data in the total data was 6 data. The details and explanation of the data as below:

Data 1

“I might fear for my safety and feel the need to leave, and really don’t want to leave. As I said before... I’m comfortable.”

Analysis:

The data shown that the main character can’t stand with her own feeling. Internal conflict is supposed to be a conflict between the character and the feeling inside. It could be many the character passed a hard situation that could showing an uncomfortable feeling. She can’t choose between stay or leave that place. There was doubt in her mind. She really wants to feel

peace after what happened to her. If she could ask, she wants the person with her in the rooftop was female but the universe give the opposite of what Lily wish for. It was a man and she don't want leave the place at the end. She worried about her safety if she chooses to be there. On the other side, she still wants there because she feels comfortable. In this data, we can see obviously that the main character states she uncomfortable with the situation she going through which is indicate the internal conflict happen.

Data 2

“I know, It’s awful. It’s the name of a two-year-old little girl, not a twenty-three-year-old woman.”

Analysis:

The data show that Lily was upset with the name that her parent gave to her. She feels shame about her name because it is really silly and not suitable for her age. This is indicated she not confident, while if we talk about confident is a necessary thing if we connected with the mental health. In the data Lily directly said her name was awful, it means she unconfident grew up with that name. This is showing that she has internal conflict since she child with her feeling about the name. It turns worst because she loves gardening and wants to open a flower shop. When other people thought it was a great thing because her name and her hobby are related to each other but her heart said it was ugly and childish. this could be Therefore, the internal conflict between Lily VS her heart really shows in this part when she hates to admit her name.

Data 3

“I don’t know,” I say with a shrug. “As his daughter, I loved him. But, as human, I hated him”

Analysis:

Based on the data above, shows that Lily's heart was hurt since she was a child. It happened because her father was abusive to her mom. The abuse effected to the whole life of Lily. She was trauma because of that she said that kind of thing whether should be glad or sad because there is no more abuse that her mom got because her father was dead. She hates all the things that her father due to her mom. She is confused about her feelings to her father after this matter. We can see Lily has a hard situation; love hate situation with her father. As a child she loves her dad because she doesn't know, but grew up makes she understand the situation and the result she hates her father much that before. This is showing the internal conflict between Lily and his heart.

Data 4

Covering up what she doesn't want to see. Taking blame that isn't even hers to take.

Analysis:

The data explain that Lily really mad with situation she going through. Why does she have parents like this? Her mom that always in denial that she was fine all the time and her father that have unstable emotions that could peak in unpredictable times. Lily always has to accept what her mom said but the truth is she hates it so much. Sometimes really feels guilty about what happened to her mom and her life but she can't do anything because the situation forces her to follow everything her mom said. This is showing the internal conflict between Lily with her heart. The internal conflict could happen because the main character having problem with situation, they have it could be uncomfortable, fear, sadness, etc.

Data 5

"My father was abusive. Not to me but my mother. He would get so angry when they fought that sometimes he would hit her. But the abusive was inevitable with their marriage, and it become our norm."

Analysis:

From the data above the external conflict between the main character VS society was very obvious. Lily grew up with a bad habit that she adopted from her parents. Her dad always abuses her mom then Lily thought that it was a normal thing that other families doing it too. But, after she had grown, she realized it was totally inappropriate and unforgivable. Her father doing a crime and she started to think that she was the same as her dad, doing bad things with her mom. This gives a huge impact to the personal life of Lily. She passed a hard relationship with new people, have a trust issue with people. This external conflict happen because the main character have difficulty to choose the right thing, it was the impact of the abuse from her father long time ago.

Data 6

I rushed to the kitchen and tried to help her, but she never wants me to see her like this. She waved me away and said "I'm fine, Lily. Go back to your room."

Analysis:

Based on the data above the external conflict between the main character VS other character happened it was Lily and her mom. Lily was arguing with her mom. She wants to help her mom, but her mom always refused and deny that she was fine. Lily as her daughter mad at her mom that lies to her and doesn't want to accept the help that Lily gave to her. Lily thought she was good enough to against her father and could save her mom from being abusive. But, in the end, Lily can't do anything because her mom told Lily back to her room.

From the analysis above, the researcher found internal and external conflict. The indication of the internal conflict is the main character's trauma since she was child, she got abuse from her father that give a huge impact to her future life. While the external conflict is between the main character VS other character. Which is in this case is Lily with her mother and her father the way of communication between them is the most thing that cause the external conflict happen.

IV. Conclusion

It Ends With Us novel had so many conflicts in it. It can be shown from the finding and discussion found out that there are two types of conflict in this article. There is internal and external conflict. The internal conflict happens between Lily, the main character. The internal conflict that occurs from Lily and her feelings inside. She often feels uncomfortable, threatened and does not get enough affection from her parents triggers her to experience a trust issue when starting relationships with new people. While, the external conflict happens when she fights with the other character which is her parents. Lily and her father frequently argue because Lily doesn't accept the fact that her father is cruel and frequently hits her mother. However, Lily's mother won't stand up for herself, thus the three of them often argue and sometimes hurt one another which made Lily angry and upset over her mother's reaction to her father's abuse. Based on the data table and the discussion shown, it can conclude that internal conflict is the most dominant type of conflict that occurred in this novel. The internal conflict is more dominant because the main character has many arguments with her heart and mind

References

- Coombs, C. H., & Avrunin, G. S. (2016). *The structure of conflict*. Psychology Press.
- Diansari Artawan, N. M., Shanti Sari Dewi, A. A., & Weddha Savitri, P. (2020). The external conflict faced by the main character in five feet apart movie. *Udayana Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities (UJoSSH)*, 4(1), 31. <https://doi.org/10.24843/ujossh.2020.v04.i01.p06>
- Hanna, I. D. (2016). An analysis of the main characters' conflicts in Jane Austen novel entitled "Sense and sensibility." *Wacana Didaktika*, 4(2), 156–170. <https://doi.org/10.31102/wacanadidaktika.4.2.156-170>
- Jesa Putri Yasari, P., Wandia, I. K., & Isnu Maharani, S. A. (2019). *Conflicts in Condon's movie "Beauty and the beast 2017"*. Humanis, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.24843/jh.2019.v23.i01.p01>
- Lusiana, N. L. M. E. (2017). The Analysis of Conflict in the Movie "LUCY." *Jurnal Humanis, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya Unud*, 20, 225–231.

- Maulidiyah, R., Rohmadi, M., & Saddhono, K. (2021). The Conflict of Main Character in the Novel Faith and The City by Hanum Salsabiela Rais And Rangga Almahendra. *American Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research (AJHSSR)*, 5(2), 268–271.
- Pradnyaningsih, K. P., Sudipa, I. N., & Shanti Sari Dewi, A. A. S. (2022). The External Conflicts Faced By Simon In Love, Simon Movie Script. *ULIL ALBAB : Jurnal Ilmiah Multidisiplin*, 1, 1911–1918.
- Siswanto, D. W. (2013). *Pengantar Teori sastra*. Aditya Media Publishing.
- Wijayanti, I. G. A. N., & Laba, I. N. (2020). Conflict Analysis of Novel Main Character: A Discourse Perspective. *International Journal of Linguistics and Discourse Analytics (Ijolida)*, 1(2). <https://doi.org/10.52232/ijolida.v1i2.18>
- William Kenney. 1996. *How to Analyze Fiction*. New york : Random House Inc.