

## **Chapter III**

### **Research Methodology**

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This research subject is to analyze the plot and characterization in *Sparks's The choice*, the suitable method to describe this research is qualitative approach. Qualitative approach of data analysis provides the ways of discerning, examining, comparing, and contrasting, and interpreting meaningful patterns or themes. According to Alwasilah (2002:67), data is commonly viewed as information used to decide and discuss object of investigation.

This research deals with words consist of text of narrative, descriptive and dialogue. Furthermore, the writer uses qualitative approaches in order to describe, analyze and interpret all of observation and data found in this research.

#### **3.2 Procedures of Data Collection**

The writer uses several steps in collecting and analyzing the data. There are :

1. Reading *The Choice*
2. Finding, underlining, and writing down the sentences including the intrinsic element especially plot and characterization.
3. The writer will do literary review about what literature is especially plot and characterization. It uses for keeping the research focus on the main

purposes. Besides, literary review is used for theoretical foundation and giving general description.

4. The last step is to display data. The data will be organized and arranged in a pattern of plot and characterization, furthermore they would be understood easily.

### **3.3 Data Analysis**

Data analysis is the way to find conclusion. In this case, the analysis will be done to answer the main question “How is the plot arranged in Sparks’s *the choice*? And “How the author describes the characterization of Gaby and Travis?” For the simply, the process of this research would be doing reading deeply and literary reviewing about plot and characterization which uses to keep this research stick to the main aims. Next step to do is to write or collect the data which consists of narrative, descriptive and dialogue text. Besides, data reduction will be done while collecting data. Data reduction is used for collecting main data after reading. In data reduction, the writer summarizes and focuses on the important data. Next step of the process will be to set the result for the last activity. Data in qualitative research will be interpreted and analyzed in pattern of plot and characterization as the theory. The last step is conclusion drawing or verification. It is used to describe all of the data and the answers clearly.

## **Chapter IV**

### **Data Analysis and Findings**

In this fourth chapter, the writer will discuss the analysis and findings in the novel. This chapter explained about how is the plot arranged in Sparks *The Choice* and how the author describes the characterization of *The Choice* novel.

#### **4.1 Data Analysis**

In this stage the writer will explain about the main character and characterization by the theory of Koesmobroto and relates theory. But first of all, the writer will analyze plot by using the Freytag Pyramid that consist of exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement.

##### **4.1.1 Plot**

##### **Exposition :**

The first phase in Freytag's pyramid is the exposition, which introduces the character, especially the main character, also known as the protagonist. it shows how the characters relate to one another, their goals and motivations, as well as their moral character. During the exposition, the protagonist learns their main goal and what is at stake.

*Travis Parker, who was pushing the massive box alongside him, managed to shrug. "Because you thought it would be fun," he said. He lowered his shoulder and shoved; the spa-which must have weighed four hundred pounds-moved another couple of inches. He, hated the look. Well not always most of this time he enjoyed his friends boundless enthusiasm. (Page 18)*

Travis is someone who has so many spirit in his life, someone who can do anything in this life while anyone cannot afford to do this. His friends think that he always do some activities which the other people cannot do that thing. When his friends try to pick this big box, his friends think that it is really impossible picking this box without some tools, but Travis can do this very easy only using his shoulder. Everything is possible for Travis if he wants to try anything as long as he got eageraness.

*unllike travis he didn't make it into a gym four days a week or play racquitball or go running or go scuba diving in Aruba or surfing in Bali or skiing in vail or anything else the guy did. (Page 20)*

Travis has healthy life style and always do activity like traveling, swimming, and many more. Someone who always find something new in this world. Try to do something like visiting to some places in this world and from this he will get some lessons about life. Someone who never stay in one place such as not enjoying this life. In his life if he just do the same thing, it is really boring because the world too wonderful to be ignored

*Travis looked around the table, pleased that his childhood friends not only had become good husbands and fathers, but were still a part of his life. It didn't always turn out that way. At thirty-two, he knew that life was sometimes a gamble. All six of them, he thought, took a bit too much interest in his love life. The trouble with married people was that they seemed to believe that everyone they knew should get married. Every woman Travis dated was thus subjected to subtle, though unyielding, evaluation, especially by Megan. (Page 24-26)*

He realizes although he has a perfect life but he feels like imperfect. He enjoys his life until he forgot to find someone who will accompany himself and build a family like his friends who already have family and child. But he think that he is not alone, he has good friends who ready to make him happy and can assess about someone who will date and get married with Travis. His friends are really care about his life, try to give something best for Travis life.

*reminding herself again that the man might be a nice guy. He always waved to her whenever he saw her pulling in from work, and she vaguely remembered that he'd dropped off a basket of cheese and wine to welcome her to the neighborhood when she'd moved in a couple of months back. She hadn't been home, but he'd left it on the porch, and she'd promised herself that she'd send a thank-you note, one that she never quite got around to writing. (Page 35)*

He is a good person that can be seen when he treats his neighbor with good things, someone who humble and always happy to be acquainted with new acquaintance. Try to know with each other and share something who will make them close. He is really friendly because with this he knows that he can find new friends in his life.

*Megan leaned back in her chair. "I think Monica might be on to something. If you ask me, I think you have commitment issues." (Page 27)*

Among his friends, only Travis who have not married yet, because Travis thinks that does not need woman for serious, he very enjoyed without woman to marry, so he still single until he can get someone who love and understand with everything that he want.

*The sound of his voice brought her back, and memories of their argument the other night followed.*

*"You're-you're the vet?" Gabby stammered. Travis nodded as he continued to scratch Molly's neck. "Along with my dad. He started the clinic, I joined him after I finished school. (Page 72)*

He is vegetarian in this town. He build this clinic with his father, he is someone who admire his father so much, and he is a pet lover, he has a dog and he really love his dog. Travis always help someone pet. He helps a hurt horse and without thingking twice he go and treat the horse.

*But that wasn't the problem. The problem was that he had neighbors, including her, and she had a castle, too, and neighbors were supposed to be considerate. (Page 32)*

Gaby is Travis neighbor, she has a house beside him. She buy a house because she tries to learn inpedently from her parents. She buy the house because this house has uniqe arcitecture, and has beautiful view, and has a big space to run with a pet and play in there. And the house is cheap therefore Gaby can pay this with her money.

*Anything about marriage made the man get as quiet as a stone, especially lately. She supposed she shouldn't have been surprised-they'd been dating almost four years (a year less than her cousin, she was tempted to point out), and if she'd learned one thing about him. (Page 36)*

She has a boyfriend but the relationship is boring and she cannot find opportunity for the future, because having a boyfriend as she thinks is enough but she wants more than this such as marriage. But she already walk on this relationship for a long time. And just wait until the moment come.

*She loved her mother, but her mother was one of those ladies who never lost control. It drove Gabby crazy; more than once during her teenage years, she'd wanted to take her mother by the arms and shake her, just to elicit a spontaneous response. Her dad, a successful real estate developer and general contractor. (Page 53-54)*

She comes from a rich family and have everything in her life. Before she tries to be by herself, she lived with her parents, and her mother always treat Gaby to be

a good woman or a perfect woman, although she does not like every taught from her mother but she cannot refute but follow what her mother say.

*Even as a child, she preferred overalls to dresses, adored climbing in trees, and spent hours playing in the dirt. Every now and then, she would traipse behind her father at a job site, mimicking his movements as he checked the seals on newly installed windows or peeked into boxes that had recently arrived from Mitchell's hardware store. (Page 55)*

Gaby grow like tomboy girl or her act like a boy because she always prefer close to her father rather than her mother, she always do anything with her father. It makes her happy and feel like being herself because her father always let her do what she wants. After her father went home from working, both of them will play around the house, playing football and chasing each other.

*she didn't really have any friends here. She'd barely gotten to know anyone outside the office, and truth be told, her neighbor was the first person she'd spoken with since she'd moved in. but on her last day, he'd forced the issue by placing an infant in her arms. As the baby cooed, (58-62)*

She does not have many friends because she is not a good type when she is in a new place. And she is assistant of doctor and get a duty as peditrian in a hospital, before she chooses to be a doctor asistant, she actually wanted to be a doctor but she think twice and her mother tell her if she busy with her duty how she will manage a family, and finally Gaby choose this job and think once she married family will be everything and will never make her very busy.

## **Rising Action**

Rising action is the second phase in Freytag's five-phase structures. It starts with a conflict, for example, the death of a character. It is the event that catalyzes the protagonist to go into motion and take action. Rising action involves the build-up of events until the climax.

In this phase, the protagonist understands his or her goal and begins to work toward it. Smaller problems, their initial success, and their progress is directed primarily against these secondary obstacles. This phase demonstrates how the protagonist overcomes these obstacles.

*Molly, she was certain, was pregnant. It had to be that man's dog. When Molly was in heat, that dog had practically staked out her house like a private detective, and he was the only dog she'd seen wandering around the hen she find heneighborhood in weeks. (32-33)*

The conflict starts when she finds her dog having a strange act, and she is afraid something will happen with her dog, and she thinks if her dog is pregnant, she is afraid and thinks that her neighbor dog who induced her dog, and made the dog pregnant, and Gaby tries to ask the neighbor responsibility. Gaby is worrying about her neighbor responsibility, she thinks that what will happen if the dog has a baby birth, and who will adopt them while she does not want to treat the puppies.



*Courtesy dictated that she head first to the front door and knock, but with the music roaring, she doubted he'd even be able to hear it. Besides, she wanted to get this over with while she was still worked up and willing to confront him head-on. (Page 37)*

She meet a neighbor and will explain with everything who happen with her dog, she tries to make herself brave, and try to solve the problem about her dog, she walk in to the road behind and looking arround like detective who find something. She just want to fight how a fate about her dog and try to ask a responsibility to the neighbor.

*That allowed him to put two and two together until it dawned on him that she believed Moby was responsible for Molly getting pregnant. He wanted to tell her that it wasn't Moby, but she was on such a roll, he thought it best to let her finish before protesting. (page45)*

They eventually meet Gaby and try to explain his dog mistake, she explain like a crazy girl, blew everything up. But Travis let her speak and stay calm, and keep hearing her. Travis try to make her calm and explain to her wisely, and tell her that maybe her dog is not pregnant but having another illness. Travis suggest her to bring her dog to doctor, but Gaby did not care with his suggestion, what she insist is, she wants her neighbor responsible and find a new place for the next puppies.

*After cleaning up, Travis carefully loaded Molly into the truck while Gabby started with the puppies. Once all six were settled (Page 95)*

After this incident finally he responsible and help her although the truth is not his dog who did it, but this incident make their closer, and make his venetarian profesion ready to help her if her dog giving birth.

*She'd certainly been wrong about Travis Parker, wrong about everything from the beginning. He'd been so steady during the emergency. It still amazed her, though she shouldn't have been surprised. It was his job, after all, she reminded herself. (Page 97)*

Her opinion about this guy changes, she thinks this guy is not as she thought before, she admired him now, but something burden her feeling, she just cannot fell like this because she already have a boyfriend, she should not think about other guy. There are so many moments who have they done and make them getting closer. He treats her very comfortable. Everyday Travis and Gaby together and even she spend much time with Travis more than with her boyfriend.

### **Climax**

The climax is the ruining point or highest point of the story. The protagonist make the single big decision that defines not only the outcome of the story, but also who they are as a person. Freytag defines the climax as the third of the five dramatic phases which occupies the middle of the story.

At the beginning of this phase, the protagonist finally clears away, the preliminary barriers and engages with the adversary. Usually, both the protagonist and antagonist have a plan to win against the other as they enter this phase. For the first time, the audience sees the pair going against one another in direct or nearly direct conflict.

This struggle usually results in either character completely winning or losing in most cases. Each characters plans is both partially successful and partially foiled by their adversary. The central struggle between the two characters

is unique in that the protagonist make a decision which shows their moral quality, and ultimately decides their fate. In a tragedy, the protagonist here makes a poor decision or miscalculation that demonstrates their tragic flaw.

*Though barefoot, she was dressed in slacks and an off-white blouse, her hair fastened loosely by an ivory clip. He noted again how attractive she was, but today it struck him that her appeal lay more in an unfeigned openness than conventional good looks. (Page 101)*

By her simplicity, Travis begin to interest in her, he feels something different from Gaby personality, Gaby is not like other girl who Travis found, he starts to love her and Travis know where he should continue his life and already have decide a choice. He already found something precise, his heart who empty now already fulfilled, he start to have passionate but the problem is she already have a boyfriend.

*She was still trying to make sense of her reaction to Travis when he finally emerged from the ocean and started toward her, shaking the water from his hair. A moment later, he plopped down on the sand beside her, and when they accidentally touched, Gabby had the briefest flash of them sitting together just like this on a hundred different weekends in the future. (Page 177)*

She also look something different from him, he's make her comfort when she near him, with him she like having a good experience and have a funny moment in her life. Travis give something new whom she cannot get from the other, all activities with him always make her happy and he such as giving warm atmosphere like a true love.

*"I don't know what else I can tell you, other than that I can imagine spending the rest of my life with you. I know that sounds crazy. I know we're just getting to know each other, and even admitting what I just did might make you think I'm nuts, but I've never been more sure about anything. And if you give me a chance-if you give us a chance-I'm going to live the rest of my life proving to you that you made the right decision. I love you, Gabby. And not just for the person you are, but for the way you make me think that we can be." (Page 266)*

They love each other but burden from Gaby's heart, Gaby has another boy, Kevin. But Travis want to have a whole of her heart. with confident, Travis convince Gaby that he loves her so much, that she is the destined girl for him, he will proof anything to her with all his sincere heart that he loves her and he will do anything to take her from his boyfriends.

### **Falling action**

Explanation in this falling action is when Gaby confused with her feeling, she feels worried in her life, she try to cannot hurt someone feeling, especially someone who has become part of her life. Gaby always ask a question to Travis, she wants to prove something to Travis. She should make everything clear for his heart and she wants to proof that this is something she really wants.

*Don't be. There's nothing for you to be sorry for." She forced a smile. "It's my fault, not yours. I knew what I was getting into. Did you mean what you said earlier?" she asked. "About wanting a family?. (Page 254)*

She just wants to make sure about Travis feeling and everything who already have done by him. She really needs something who make sure about this feeling although maybe she's make wrong decision by hurting other thing, but she is sure that this is a right decision because she follow her feeling to choses the choice.

*He felt as if he'd reached the end of a long journey, unaware until this moment that Gabby had been his destination all along. "I love you, Gabby Holland," against her ear, he'd never felt more sure about anything.*

*Gabby sank into him.*

*"I love you, too, Travis Parker," she whispered, and as they stood in each other's arms, Gabby couldn't imagine wanting anything more than what was happening now, all regrets and reservations swept aside. (Page 255)*

Gaby belief heart is never wrong, in her life she always arranged by her mother and always do something that do not appropriate with what she really wants. Now Gaby should decide her future, and she should be with someone she loves for spending the rest of her life. She is finally sure with her feeling and feels that Travis has sincerity love for her. Travis success to make Gaby become his girlfriend, and convince her heart and make she leaves Kevin forever, but they cannot know where destiny bring us.

## **Denouement**

In this phase the protagonist and antagonist have solved their problems and either the protagonist or antagonist wins the conflict. The conflict officially ends, some stories show what happens to the character after the conflict ends and they show what happens to the characters in the future.

*I don't. All I know is that I fell in love with you, and I've never been more frightened about anything in my entire life. Spending time with you showed me what I've been missing in my life. The more time we spent together, the more I could imagine it lasting in the future. That's never happened to me before, and I'm not sure it'll ever happen again. (265)*

They are realized about what they feel, they truly follow their heart. Even though they are look like wicked, because they hurt people, but the heart does not lie. Such find a missing piece, they believe that the relationship they've built can make them happy. They still take the responsibility and apologize to people who hurt because of their decision, because a choice that chosen by heart must never be wrong.

*She didn't dignify his answer with a response. Instead, she held out her hand to him. As they moved toward the bedroom, she broke into the tiniest of smiles, finally knowing what she had to do. He couldn't finish his sentence. The past was gone and the future had yet to unfold, and he knew he should focus his life on the present . . . yet his day-to-day existence suddenly struck him as endless and unbearable. (Page 267-364)*

They know what they should do, especially Gaby who become the role of all relationship that will happen in the future. She takes courage to come out from comfort zone. She never does something she really wanted to do in her life, she will not regret about her love life, even though she have to hurt someone feeling, because she already know who to choose.

#### **4.1.1.1 Type of Plot**

In this section the writer will analyze what kind of plot that the author used in the story. Overall, the novel is telling about the story from beginning in to the end. How the events runs by the flow from the introduction, face some conflict until it reach resolution in the end.

In this case, shown by how Travis life and how when Travis meet Gaby with something problem who make they more closer and show how Travis convince his feeling to Gaby and get Gaby love, and when Gaby finally sure to choose Travis for become a truth choice. After analyze the plot who exist in this novel. The writer have a conclusion that type this plot is progressive plot.

#### **4.1.2 Main Character**

Main character is a person who has most important role in the story. The writers concludes that main character called have important role than the other because she or he is the person mentioned as the subject from the beginning until the end of the story. He or She is so central to the action of the story. After reading and studying the novel, the writer finding the main characters based on Koesmobroto who states that the main character can be distinguished by how important his role in the story, or in this case how much he involved in the story.

There are many characters in the novel, but characters who has central role from the beginning the end are Travis and Gaby. This character always related and make the story have a good run and bring the reader get a point from the story.

### **4.1.3 Characterization**

In analyzing the characterization of main character, the writer analyze it by using theory from chapter two which states that we can analyze the characterization based on four level characterization. Those are: physical, social, psychological, and moral.

#### **Travis**

##### **A. Physical Characterization**

*t when she faced him, she found herself focusing up at someone at least six inches taller than her own five feet seven. She wasn't used to that, and as she tilted her head upward, she noticed his angled cheekbones and clean skin. His brown hair was wavy, curling naturally at the ends, and his teeth gleamed white. Up close, he was good-looking-okay, really good-looking*

Travis, is a man who already 32 years old, he is handsome and tall,he has sharp face with with prominent cheekbones. He has white teeth , and wavy brown hair. Perfect is the word who can describe Travis physical appearances.



## **B. Social Characterization**

*he'd dropped off a basket of cheese and wine to welcome her to the neighborhood when she'd moved in a couple of months back. "You're-you're the vet?" Gabby stammered. "Along with my dad. He started the clinic, I joined him after I finished school." Growing up, Travis had been organized and capable when it came to school, getting good grades with a minimum of fuss or anxiety, (page 72-81)*

Travis is veterinarian, he built a clinic with his father after graduate.

Travis is smart person who always get the high scores, and also he is a good neighbors because he has good relationship with other.

## **C. Psychological Characterization**

*But school didn't excite him the way riding his bike at breakneck speed or surfing in the Outer Banks did. While other kids thought about sports in terms of baseball and soccer, he thought of floating on air on his motorbike as he soared off a dirt ramp or the rush of energy he felt when he successfully landed it. His friends marveled at the rigidity of his self-control ( page 81-82)*

Travis is someone who has a different way of thinking and has a great imagination. Sometimes he may be a stubborn person when talking about his target lifes. Travis is an ambitious person and firmly against himself. He did not want someone to manage his life.

## **D. Moral Characterization**

*he had the same thing every day, after the exact same breakfast of oatmeal, scrambled egg whites, and a banana. His friends marveled at the rigidity of his self-control. "I don't want to lose you, Gabby. I can't imagine being in love with any other woman."*

Travis someone who has stubborn character because he always do same thing with his though, and can not hear other opinion. He is ambitius person because he always do something who never people try before. But

he someone who has weak because he looks like a person who can not life without someone he loves.

## **Gaby**

### **A. Physical Characterization**

*Gabby was attractive in a similar but not quite perfect kind of way. Her blue eyes were a little too wide set, her nose was just a bit too big, and red hair was always hard to pull off, but somehow these imperfections lent an air of vulnerability to her natural good looks, which most men would find arresting. (Page 43)*

Gaby has unique face and different characters, she has blue eyes, with a bit big nose and red long hair. And everything what she has on his body make all of man fall in love with her.

### **B. Social Characterization**

*Her dad, a successful real estate developer and general contractor. she'd decided to work in a pediatric office (page 54=61)*

Gaby was born in a fine family with her good parent and siblings, her family is successful and her father was successful bussinesman. And she is pediactric, she loves children. Every task that gave to Gaby, she always doing good.

### **C. Physiological Characterization**

*she'd wanted to take her mother by the arms and shake her, just to elicit a spontaneous response. Gabby acquiesced more to her mother's opinions about clothing and the proper behavior for ladies, simply to avoid feeling guilty.*

She never follow her heart. She always follow her mother command and she felt depressed about that but she did not want to felt it. But, because of that, it makes she turn into a introvert person because she cannot choose what she want in her life.

### **D. Moral Characterization**

*Gabby became an expert in making a covert entry and exit, at least when it came to her house. She loved Kevin and wanted to marry him; in the past couple of days, that feeling hadn't changed at all. And yet . . . she couldn't deny that spending time with Travis seemed . . . right, somehow. (page 85-216)*

Gabby someone who look like looser, because she always avoid with her problem. And she like a person who cheated her boyfriends, and can not make decision with her life, and she like hypocrite because in her life she promise that she never make other people sad, but in real life she doing this with someone who give her happiness before.

## 4.2 Finding

After doing the research the writer found some result such as intrinsic elements especially plot and characterization in the novel *The Choice*.

The plot in the novel using dramatic plot or progressive plot, this is a chronological structure which first establishes conflict, followed by rising action, climax and concludes with a denouement.

After analyzing by using the theory, the writer have found out what kind of plot that author used. The plot is really simple, it not makes the readers think hard to understand this novel. This plot in this story is simple, but has different style from the author.

The writer also found characters which has an important role, there are two lead characters in this novel. That two lead characters have characteristic that have made by the author. The characters can decide the decision in this story from the aspects of each characters that they have.