

**THE ANALYSIS OF MICHAEL'S PERCEPTION TOWARDS
HANNA IN *THE READER* BY BERNHARD SCHLINK**

THESIS



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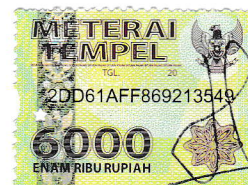
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature consists of works in language, and it defined itself through the course of its history (McFadden, 1978:56). It means that literature has an important role in the history because with the help of literature it can give a knowledge of the history at that time. A lot of literary works have the connection between the story and the historical event because almost all of the literary works idea is come from the historical background that happens at that time so the author can make a connection between them. Because of that, it creates some genres, such as historical fiction, historical romance, and etc. The genre itself become an important thing in the literary works because it makes a differences between one and another literary works.

Literary works is also can be analyzed from some different aspects. Rene Wellek and Warren introduced two kinds of approach in analyzing literary works; they are intrinsic approach and extrinsic approach. The intrinsic approach emphasizes the analysis of the text, and the extrinsic approach emphasizes the analysis of the external courses of literary work such as history, social culture, religion, psychology, and philosophy (1962:139). Two of the elements is very important to build a story line. However, many of the important aspect to arrange the story is portrayed in the intrinsic element. There are some aspects in an intrinsic element such as choice of metaphors, the use of symbols, structure, style,

contrasts, images and the development of the plot, to work out what a text means (Eaglestone, 2009:41). Intrinsic element also helps the readers to understand and build the story itself. Besides the intrinsic and extrinsic element, people can also analyze literature from many literary theories, one of them is to analyze from the perception of the character.

This research analyzes about the main character's perception from the novel entitled *The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink. *The Reader* is a German novel published in Germany in 1995 and the United States in 1997. This novel is originally written in German and has translated to English by Carol Brown Janeaway. This novel has been sold for more than 500,000 copies in Germany and it also received many literary awards (Wroe, 2002:1). One of them is Hans Fallada Prize, a German literary award, in 1998. It tells the story of Michael Berg, as the main character in this novel, who has a relationship with an older woman named Hanna Schmitz.

The author of the novel, Bernhard Schlink, was born in 6 July 1994 in Bielefeld, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany. He is the son of Edmund Schlink, a leading German Lutheran theologian, and the youngest of four siblings. He is a German author who wrote so many literary works. One of the best known is *The Reader*. He started his career as an author when he wrote a detective story with a main character named *Selb* for which he won the Glauser Prize in 1989. In 1995, Schlink published *The Reader* or known as *Der Vorleser*. That novel becomes bestseller in Germany as well as in United States and it was translated to many languages, one of them is English. In the 2008, his bestseller novel, *The Reader*,

was adapted into a movie with the same title (Grange, 2009:212-214). Schlink is also a professor of law at the University Berlin and a practicing judge. Now he lives in Bonn and Berlin.

The issue in this research is about an affair of a young boy with an older woman. It shows about the perception of a young boy who has a relationship with an older woman and the characterization of the other character based on the main character's point of view. The perception itself can influence how the character's attitude or behavior towards another character. The influences of perception towards the attitude or behavior can make a person changes from the good one to bad one or vice versa. One of the literary theories that focused on the perception or the experience of the character is phenomenology. Phenomenology focuses on our experience of phenomena. It is aimed to provide a text analysis which considers only from the text of the story as evidence (Carter, 2006:82). Also, phenomenology focuses on the first point of view of the character, so it can be defined that phenomenology focuses on the perception or experience of the consciousness action of the main character and it can be shown from the text itself as evidence.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher intends to focus analyze on the perception of Michael Berg as the main character in this novel towards his past love, Hanna Schmitz, and the influence of Michael's perception towards Hanna in Bernhard Schlink's *The Reader*. This research use phenomenology theory as the main theory to analyze about the perceptions of Michael towards

Practically, the researcher expects that it can give knowledge that the experience or the background history of someone can influence their attitude in the present time. And also it gives us the thought that we must be honest to ourselves with every condition that happens to us, so other people can trust us because of we were always honest with each other.

1.5 Scope and Limitations

In this research, the researcher uses the novel as a source of main data. The title is *The Reader*. The author of this novel is Bernhard Schlink. This research focuses on the text, which is to reveal the perception of Michael Berg toward his past love, Hanna Schmitz. This research also had the limitation; the limitation is the researcher only focuses on the perception of Michael Berg as the main character in the story. The theories used in this research are phenomenology theory by Edmund Husserl as the main theory and new criticism as the supporting theory which is focusing on the analysis of characterization of Hanna based on Michael's point of view.

1.6 Method of Study

This part is discussing the way to conduct this research. In this part, there are several points discussed; they are research design, sources of research data, the data collection, and analysis of data.

1.6.1 Research Design

This research uses a qualitative method to analyzing the data. Qualitative research involves an interpretive and naturalistic approach (Lincoln, 2002, p.3).

With the using of qualitative method, the researcher will be easier to explain the interpretation and describe the result.

1.6.2 Data Source

The main data are taken from the novel itself. This research focused on the data that described of the perception Michael Berg toward Hanna. The supporting source is from books and research published in scholarly or academic journals that related to this analysis.

1.6.3 Data Collection

The data used in this research are from the novel by Bernhard Schlink entitled *The Reader*. To collect the data, the researcher uses some steps, including:

1. Reading the novel entitled *The Reader* to understand the story.
2. Highlighting the sentences and dialogues that reflect the perception of Michael Berg to Hanna Schmitz.
3. Classifying the perception of Michael Berg of his past love.
4. Highlighting the sentences and dialogues that portray the characterization of Hanna based on Michael's point of view.
5. Classifying Hanna's characterization.

1.6.4 Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed based on the statement of the problems as the following steps:

1. The researcher analyzes the characterization of Hanna based on Michael's point of view.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Theoretical Framework

This chapter focuses on the explanation of the theory related to problems stated previously. The theories that are used in this research are phenomenology theory by Edmund Husserl as the main theory which is focusing on the perception of Michael Berg towards Hanna Schmitz, and new criticism as the supporting theory which is focusing on character and characterization to help analyzing Michael's attitude toward Hanna.

2.1.1 Phenomenology

Phenomenology focuses on our experience of phenomena. This theory aimed to provide a text analysis which considers only from the text of the story as evidence (Carter, 2006:82). It can define that phenomenology focuses on the perception or experience of the main character and it can be shown from the text itself as evidence.

Phenomenology is first announced by Edmund Husserl. He is known as the father of phenomenology and one of the influential philosopher movement of the 20th century. He was born on April 8, 1859, in the Jewish family in Moravia (Zahavi and Gallagher, 2008:5). In the first decade of the 20th century, Husserl considerably refined and modified his method into what he called "transcendental phenomenology". This method focuses on the essential structures that allow the objects in the "natural attitude" (which is characteristic of both our everyday life and ordinary science) to "constitute themselves" in consciousness. Husserl

itself (Tyson, 2015:137). New Criticism can be used as a tool to analyze the intrinsic elements of the story because intrinsic elements is inside the story or the text itself, so it is same with the characteristic of the New Criticism which the evidence is just from the text itself.

New criticism focused predominantly on poetry. But there is one of the American scholar, Mark Schorer (Carter, 2006:28), said that new criticism is extended its main precepts to include analysis of prose fiction, such like a short story, novel, drama and so on. This theory can be used on all of the literary works, is not just a tool to analyze in poetry but it can be analyzed on all of the intrinsic elements in the literary works.

Based on the explanation above, to answer the statement of the problems, the researcher would like to apply the new criticism theory, which concerns the character and characterization.

2.1.2.1 Character

Character is a person who represented in literary works, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities (Abrams, 1997:32). The character also could be produced by comparing or described it with the another characters or with the setting, by describing the physical appearance, or even by motive analyzed from the character mind and evaluate it through other character (Dietrich and Sundell, 1983:77). When the readers read the story, they usually feel that he or she has the same condition or feeling with the character in the story itself.

Based on the explanation above, in the literary works such as drama, short story, novel or the other literary works, a character has an important element, which helps to build the story in the literary works.

2.1.2.2 Characterization

In literature, characterization becomes an important thing to introduce a character. Characterization is how the author presents and reveals the character's personality to the readers which contain in a novel or literary work (Coyle, 1990:150). The author of literary works needs to introduce the characters to the readers first to help the author build the story. It is almost difficult to identify the characters to the readers who do not understand the characters. Thus, the author must create the character as if he or she were alive. Based on that, the author will involve the readers to get in the story and might sympathize or oppose the character. It is as if succumbing to the illusion that a character in a book is a person (Mullan, 2006:79). So the characterization can make the reader to understand about the character itself and can be sympathize to the character because it makes the reader understand about the story and to help author build the story with the help of the reader.

The purpose of characterization is to help the readers know and understand more about the character's personality. It is easy to presume that successful characterization involves taking the reader to the heart, the inner core, of an imagined person (Mullan, 2006:84). Based on Royle and Bennett book (2009:63) the realist characterization presupposes a mimetic model of literary texts whereby what is primary or original is a real person, and a character in a book is simply a

copy of such a person. Such a model does not allow for a reversal of this relationship; it does not allow for the possibility that, for example, a person in a real life might be convincing to the extent that he or she resembles a person in a book.

There are two types of characterization, direct characterization and indirect characterization. Direct characterization refers to what the speaker or narrator directly says or thinks about the character. While indirect characterization refers to what the character says or does (Bernardo, 2012:2). So the direct characterization is comes from the author's mind who already said about the character while the indirect characterization comes from the conversation or a description of what the character says or does.

Holman (1992:76) states that there are three methods of characterization in fiction:

1. The explicit presentation by the author of the character through direct exposition, either in an introductory block or more often piecemeal throughout the work, illustrated by action.
2. The presentation of the character in action, with little or no explicit comment by the author, in the expectation that the reader will be able to deduce the attributes of the actor from the actions.
3. The representation from within a character, without comment on the character by the author, of the impact of actions and emotions upon the character's inner

self, with the expectation that the reader will come to a clear understanding of the attributes of the character.

Based on the explanation above, characterization is also important. With characterization, it can help the reader understand how attitude and behavior that portray in character itself. And with the help of characterization, it makes the readers understand the story.

2.2 Review of Related Study

To enlarge the knowledge about this research, the researcher reviewed the previous studies which have a relation with this research in some aspects. The first previous study that used the same theory is a thesis entitled *Nick's Perception toward his Wife's Disappearance in Gillian Flynn's Gone Girl* by Ovik Setyolestanti. This thesis analyzes Nick's perception into his wife's disappearance in the novel of Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*. This thesis focuses on Nick's perception of his wife's disappearance based on his marriage experience. Based on Nick's experience, he knows his wife's behavior so; he can solve his wife's clues from the facts founded by him. To solve that case, it uses a theory of phenomenology to know Nick's perception toward his wife's disappearance based on his experience without being influenced by another person. To know Nick's marriage experience with his wife in their household, it uses theory of a new criticism to know the events that make up a story.

The second previous study has the same literary work with this analysis. It is a thesis by Epiphana Ratri entitled *The Inferiority Complex of Hanna Schmitz as Portrayed in Bernhard Schlink's The Reader*. This thesis focuses on the Hanna

character traits described in the story, second is about the portrayal of Hanna Schmitz's inferiority complex and the last is what are the causes of it concerning with the character traits. The aims of this study are to find out the description of Hanna Schmitz's character traits. It also aims to discover the description of Hanna Schmitz's inferiority complex and its causes. The research method employed in this study was the library research. The approach used was the psychological approach. The theory of literature, theory of character, and characterization and theory of personality were applied in answering the first question. The second question is answered by the application of the theory of inferiority complex, psychoanalytic theory of personality and theory of existentialism.

This research used the same theory with the first previous study and also issues; the theory is phenomenological theory by Edmund Husserl. Ovik focused on analyzing about Nick's perception towards his wife's disappearance in the novel entitle *Gone Girl* written by Gillian Flynn. This research and Ovik has the same issue that analysis on the perception in the relationship. Ovik issues are a perception about the marriage couple, and this research is not a marriage couple. And also how the marriage and non-marriage couple can solve their problems with the same issues. The result of this study found that the Nick's experience in marriage life is cheating and his missing wife, Amy, left a clue and Nick is realized that the clue is connected with all of his irresponsibility in his life. For the second previous studies by Ratri, the differences are from the focuses on the theory. This second previous studies and this research has the same literary work, *The Reader*. But in the Ratri's analysis, she focused more on the psychological

aspect of Hanna; how Hanna character traits and inferiority complex and its causes which is portrayed in the Hanna. The result of this thesis showed that Hanna's psychical characteristics and Hanna's inferiority complex are demonstrated both in direct and indirect mechanism. While this research is focused on how the perception of Michael toward Hanna and how his perception influences his attitude toward Hanna. In Ratri's thesis also used different theory with this research. She uses a psychological approach while this research used phenomenology as the first theory and used new criticism as supporting theory.

The previous studies mentioned above discuss the perception and the perception affects to the behavior, however there is no researcher take the main character's perception in this novel. Therefore, this study is concern to discuss the characterization and the perception based on the main character's point of view in *The Reader*.

CHAPTER III

MICHAEL'S PERCEPTION TOWARDS HANNA

As the previous chapter explained, phenomenology is something that consciousness experiences and it comes from the first person point of view. Hence, it allows people to create some kind of perspective for other people. Such perspective can be seen from how this person views the other person and how this person thinks about the other person. Furthermore, perception can sometimes influence one's attitude toward others.

This research examines a novel entitled *The Reader* by Bernhard Schlink. The setting of this novel is in Neustadt, West Germany, at 1958. It tells a story about Michael Berg, the main character who also serves as the narrator of the novel, and Hanna Schmitz. They met for the first time when Hanna helped Michael who was sick at the middle of the street when he was going home. Michael was fifteen at that time and Hanna was thirty years old. Though Hanna did not know who Michael was when they met for the first time, she did not hesitate helping him.

After Michael came to Hanna's apartment to say thank you because she helped him, he found himself attracted to her. Both of them spent their time together, which eventually resulted in Michael often lied to his family and skipped the last class in his school just to spend more time with Hanna. They had sex frequently, they went to a short vacation together, and they spent a lot of times in Hanna's apartment together. But then again, just like in many other relationships,

Michael and Hanna sometimes had their problems which resulted in fighting and crying. Yet, they still enjoyed their relationship and time together.

One day, out of sudden, Hanna left Michael without saying a word to him. Michael felt guilty and broken because Hanna left him. He tried so hard to forget their relationship and lived his life without Hanna. However, a long time after that, they reunite again in the courtyard. Michael is a twenty-one years old and he join the law study now. Michael is a part of group of law class who comes to war crimes trial. The trial is about the SS guard of Auschwitz which killed 300 Jewish women. They locked them in a church and burn all of them during the evacuation of the camp. Hanna is in the trial for her crime, she is the main suspect of this crime. When they first met at the courtyard, Michael, who had closed his heart and tried to move on from Hanna, feels broken because he meets her again after a long time. He still feels very upset with Hanna because she left him without saying goodbye to him and without any explanation on why she left him. That's why, initially Michael did not want to visit Hanna in the prison and also feel little grateful when she gets her punishment for her crime. However, even though Michael feels upset to her, deep down in his heart, he still loves Hanna. After all, Michael has so many memorable events in his life with Hanna.

In this chapter, the analysis of the data which used to answer the statement of the problems raised in this study will be presented. There are two main problems which will be examined. The first problem is to know how Hanna's characterization based on Michael's point of view and the second is how the perception of Michael towards Hanna.

3.1 Hanna's Characterization Based on Michael's Point of View

This first part answers the first problem about Hanna's characterization based on Michael's point of view. Michael was a younger boy when he met Hanna. He was fifteen at that time and Hanna was around thirty at that time. As a young boy, he had a lot of love to give to someone and then he met Hanna. It can be concluding that all of Hanna's trait is known from Michael's point of view. So here it is Hanna's trait from Michael's perception;

3.1.1 Kindness

Michael thinks that Hanna is a kind person. Kindness is a helpful action intentionally directed towards another person, it is motivated by the desire to help another and not to gain explicit reward or to avoid explicit punishment (Pam, 2013). Kind person can be described as a person who always puts other people first then him or herself and sympathizes to situation around him or her. It describes Hanna when she met Michael for the first time. "Nor I do remember how I greeted Frau Schmitz. I had probably prepared two or three sentences about my illness and her help and how grateful I was, and recited them to her. She led me into the kitchen." (11)

From that evidence it shows how Michael feels grateful when Hanna saves him. Michael wants to make a good first impression to Hanna, because it is a second time they meet after Michael's incident. He prepares about what he wants to say to her. He already prepares a couple of sentence to say thank you to Hanna because she already saves his life. And also tells a little bit about his illness and

From the quotation above, it describes that she lives in a German community in Rumania and then in her young age she moves to Berlin. She got a job at the Siemens company and become an army at twenty-one. The army is full of a strong and independent person. Hanna joins the army so she became more independent in her army's life. She was alone by herself. She went through all of the upside down of her life by herself. She did not rely on somebody else and did not asks helps to solve her problems, she doing everything alone. The last is she become a conductor for several years of her life. And she met Michael when she already becomes a conductor.

Hanna did not have family or siblings who helps her grow older. She prefers do her tasks and everything alone. She also lives by herself. And it makes her as independent woman. "...she had no family. She was thirty-six. She told me all this as if it were not her life but somebody else's, someone she didn't know well and who wasn't important to her" (39)

Another quotation stated that she is an older woman with no family. She did not share much of her life, because she gets used to living by herself. She feels that she did not own her life, she thinks that she lives in somebody else. She did not enjoy her own life. She did not care with her own life, maybe because she just lives alone and she did not have someone to share a story so she closed herself to the others.

It can be conclude that Hanna is an independent person. From her life record, she lives alone by herself. She doing everything alone without rely on someone or asks helps for someone to solve her problems. She did not have a family

Michael is already knowing that Hanna is always blame him for everything. But because Michael loves her, he always takes all of the responsibility when Hanna blames him. He also did not want feels angry to Hanna, because he loves her, he willingly doing everything.

“If she threatened, I instantly and unconditionally surrendered. I took all the blame. I admitted mistakes I hadn’t made; intentions I’d never had. Whenever she turned cold and hard, I begged her to be good to me again, to forgive me and love me. Sometimes I had the feeling that she hurt herself when she turned cold and rigid. As if what she was yearning for was the warmth of my apologies, protestations, and entreaties. Sometimes I thought she just bullied me. But either way, I had no choice.” (49-50)

Hanna always refuses to blame herself for everything that happened. She always blames Michael for everything. She let Michael takes responsibility for Hanna’s mistake. Michael knows that he is not guilty of everything. It is just Hanna’s misunderstanding and misinterpreting but she always blames Michael for everything that he has done.

Hanna is a type of person who did not appreciate other people. Even though they want to makes her happy or makes her surprise, she did not appreciate it. When Michael want to do a little surprise for her, she feels what Michael do is wrong, she misunderstanding and misinterpret for what Michael’s do. And she always blames him for everything. Even though she also doing some wrong things she never says sorry to Michael. Always Michael who started to say sorry to Hanna for everything. When in some relationship or society, people who has a problem with others people must said sorry, because sorry is a kind of expression who express about guilty for something. And it not happens in Hanna and Michael.

meeting Hanna to say thank you to her and seeing her naked, Michael has a some feeling to her.

After that accident, Michael always thinks about Hanna. He is very shy when he looks at Hanna changing her clothes. He thinks about her every day and every time. And it makes Michael wants to come to her apartment again. "A week later I was standing at her door again. For a week I had tried not to think about her." (17) Michael comes back to Hanna's apartment twice. For the first time in Hanna's apartment, when Michael has already in front of her apartment he tried to call and ring the bell but there is nobody there. And the second times Michael comes back again to Hanna's apartment and finally after wait her in front of her apartment, Michael meet Hanna again. And after that they have sex.

After Michael comes to Hanna's apartment to say thank you because she saves his life, it is makes Michael wants to come to her apartment again. He wants to meet Hanna again. His mind is full with Hanna for a week and it makes him want to meet her again and again.

It can be stated that after Hanna helps him and also after Michael meets Hanna for the second times, Michael always thinking about Hanna. Michael cannot put away his mind about Hanna. Michael also tries to come to her apartment again after that accident. And after that Michael is frequently comes to her apartment again to spend more time with her.

The night after Michael had sex with Hanna, he always thinking and still has a feeling after having sex with Hanna.

After he met Hanna, he often lies to his family about his relationship with Hanna. Michael was fifteen at that times, and Hanna is an older woman who is around thirty. So it is not usual when you have an older partner in your relationship. The gap of their age is twenty years old, so it becomes very odd when his family knows that he is with an older woman.

Michael start lying to his family when Michael likes to come to her apartment, to spend his time with Hanna. For the third times Michael comes to her apartment and meet Hanna. Hanna asks Michael to help her bring some bucket of coal that she left down stairs. Because of the coal, Michael's face becomes dirty and Hanna offers Michael to take a bath before he comes back to his house. But after Michael takes a bath, both of them spontaneously have a sex.

“I said that I'd lost my way, that I'd wanted to walk through the memorial garden in the cemetery to Molkenkur, but wandered around who knows where for a long time and ended up in Nussloch. “I had no money, so I had to walk home from Nussloch.”” (29)

Because of that incident, Michael comes home very late. All members of his family is ready to eat dinner and Michael still does not come. It makes his mother feels panic when he not come home on time because he barely feels healthy from his hepatitis. It makes some argument in the dining table between Michael and his dad. The quote above is what Michael tells to his family because cannot tell the truth to them. Michael lied to his family that he just lost in his way home. When Michael lied to his family, his younger sister said that he is a liar but his mother said that Michael never lied to her.

about her every time. “She came home at noon, and I cut my last class every day so as to be waiting for her on the landing outside her apartment.” (32)

His desire to see Hanna makes Michael wants to left his school early. He wants to go to Hanna’s apartment very fast, so they can have more intimate things. He cuts his last class every day and he directly goes to her apartment and waited for her in front of her apartment. He waits for her to come to her house after she finished her works.

Even though he always cuts his class to be with Hanna, Michael feels very enjoyed with that. He knows that what he always doing is wrong, but he always does that. “Tenth grade. I’ve missed too much in the last months while I was ill. If I still wanted to move up next year, I’d have to work like an idiot. I’d also have to be in school right now.” I told her I was cutting classes. (35)

Michael is being honest to Hanna that he always cut the last class to have more time with her. He said that he misses his class when he was sick and if he wants to move to the next grade next year he must catch up his lateness. And after he said that he also said that he cutting his class. Everything that Michael does is because he feels more comfortable when he is with Hanna and he wants to spend more time with her.

Michael knows that after a long time she spent her life by herself. When Michael comes to her life, Hanna seems happy. Michael wants to makes her happy too. Michael wants to take Hanna to a short trip vacation.

After a long time he has a relationship with Hanna, Michael feels like that they have a strong chemistry. Michael just wants to know Hanna more so he

forgetting person who has a really important place in his heart and Hanna disappearing is one of the things that makes Michael heart's hurt.

After a long time, he finally moves on. He took a step to avoid everything about her, start from her apartment. He takes another route so he did not across her apartment. And later he and his family is moving to another part of the town. Most of the guilty feeling for Hanna already faded. He thinks that everything about Hanna must stop in there. With this moving to another part of the city, Michael seems a little bit relieved because he can fully forget about her. He lets his memories just remain in the old city. He did not bring his memories to his new life. He just wants to start a new chapter of his life without Hanna, without thinking and dreams about Hanna, without feeling upset, angry or guilty about what he has been done to Hanna or what Hanna do to him. When people can let go of her/his ex, he/she is already moved on. The denial that Michael does such as not to go across her apartment is a part of his way to forget about her. He denied everything about Hanna. So it can be concluded that his heart is broken when Hanna left him without saying goodbye. Now he takes a new step, a new chapter of his life without Hanna.

Michael continues his life. After he graduated he joined law seminar. The seminar began in winter and the trial is in the spring. There is also the court that happen in Monday to Thursday and the professor makes him go to the court. So Michael and his friends go to the court. When Michael is in there he heard a familiar name, Hanna Schmitz. He recognizes her, from her hair to her body. He

From that quotation it can be known that Michael hates her. He did not know what he is to her. He always comes to the court to listen about everything about Hanna's crime but he did not want to visit her. It seems did not fair for Michael to pass through this condition again after a long time Michael never meets Hanna. He did not know how he should act or talks with her after a long time of his effort to fade everything about Hanna. Michael is completely moved on because Hanna left him without saying anything and then they meet again after a long time, and it makes Michael shocked about what is happen to him. Who is he, what is he to her, just a little reader or a little bedmate. Also Michael thinks that is he important to Hanna because when a person feels important and needed for the other person it cannot easy to let it go. that person must do everything to keep the other person in their life if the other person's is important to him or her. He still thinks about that. He still confuses about himself and all of his thought about Hanna.

Michael talks to the judge and lawyer that conclude in Hanna's crime because they know there is some groups of people who join seminar that also join the courtyard. After questioning each other about all of the court and trial's thing. Michael feels something. "I took it all in and felt nothing. I was no longer upset at having been left, deceived, and used by Hanna. I no longer had to meddle with her." (160). It can be stated that Michael is no longer thinking about Hanna after a long time he tried to forget about her.

It is time for Michael to let Hanna go. He feels nothing. He did not feel confused again about everything. He was not blame himself again. He did not

upset about what Hanna do to him. He no longer has a business with Hanna. So it can be concluded that he let Hanna go. "It would be too much to say I was happy about this. But I felt it was right. It allowed me to return to and continue to live my everyday life." (160). Michael seems relief because he has already moving on from Hanna and he feels happy that he can continue his life without being disturb by his own memory about Hanna.

After a long time, he tried to forget about Hanna and then they met again in the courtyard. All of the memories of the past is rising again. However, Michael always rejects and denials everything about Hanna. He did not visit her. He likes to see her to be in custody. He stays away from Hanna. He just did not want to make all of his effort useless about forgetting Hanna. But a long time after that he takes a good decision. He feels so happy about what decision he makes. He lets go of Hanna, and he happy about that. He can continue his life like usual.

Even though Michael hates and has already moving on from Hanna, but there is still a little feeling from Michael to Hanna that he still remembering that time their spend together, when they have a intimate things in Hanna's apartment, when they having sex for a lot of times, a lot of beautiful memories that they had. When the first time Michael left Hanna for no reason, Michael's body feels like miss everything about Hanna, his body want to do sex with Hanna but Michael hates Hanna because Hanna left him no matter what.

Based on this part, it shows that Michael's guilty because he cannot spend his time together with Hanna after she left him without leaving and saying goodbye to Michael, especially in sex. When Hanna's left him, Michael's body

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

The Reader is a German novel by Bernhard Schlink which was published in 1995. It tells about a German man who was firstly portrayed in the novel as a fifteen old boy name Michael Berg. He had interested with an older woman named Hanna Schmitz, which was thirty at that time.

As time passes by, Michael had some perceptions towards Hanna's characterization. These characterizations come from how Michael views and thinks about Hanna. There are eight characterization of Michael towards Hanna which are : Hanna is a kind person because she helped Michael without knowing who Michael was, Hanna is an independent person because Michael learns that Hanna lives alone by herself since she was a teenager, Hanna is a struggle person because she wants to try to learn about writing and reading, Hanna is a commanding person because she always commands Michael to do anything for her even though sometimes her command to Michael is nonsense, Hanna is a dominant person because she insists on being the leader and Michael be the submissive in their relationship, Hanna is a dismissive person because she sometimes rejects Michael when Michael wants to be with her, Hanna is always blaming another person of everything when there is misunderstanding and misinterpretation in their relationship, and the last is Hanna is illiterate, she keeps the secret by herself because she feels ashamed with her condition.

Hanna's characterization from Michael point of view influences on Michael's perception towards Hanna. The author of this novel showed that all of

Hanna's characterization makes Michael want to have more intimate relationship with an older woman especially in sex. Michael feels like he must give a feedback to Hanna after all of Hanna's good characterization with having sex with her. The researcher concludes that there are two major contradictory sides resulted from Michael's perception of Hanna. The first side is Michael's Pay Back and the second one is Michael's Guilty

The first side, Michael's pay back, is shown when Michael wants to spend more time with Hanna because of her kindness to him when he was sick. After Hanna helps him, he feels that he supposed to give feedback to her, with sex. Spending a lot of times together makes both of them has an interest toward one another. Michael is doing everything to make Hanna happy. He plans to have a short trip with Hanna to spend more times with her. Michael is even willing to sell his stamp collection so he can pay for two to go to that short trip. Michael also reads a lot of books for Hanna because Hanna asked him to do so. However, by doing so, there come some bad effect in Michael's life. For instance, he must lie to his family because he has a relationship with an older woman and he also cuts his classes to spend more time with Hanna.

The second side, Michael's guilty because she left him without saying goodbye or left some notes. Michael blames himself at first for Hanna's leaving. He feels guilty because he cannot spend his time with Hanna and also one important thing is he cannot have sex again with Hanna. But as time passes by, Michael forget about Hanna. He wants to forget all of their memories together. Yet, both of them meet again later in the courtyard and it makes Michael hate her

more because it destroys everything that Michael does for all this times to forget everything about her.

Michael has an upside-down condition with Hanna. In one hand, he has a feeling with Hanna and cannot let her go. He also has done a lot of things to makes Hanna happy. But in the other hand, there are some of Hanna's attitude who makes Michael hates her. One of them is leaving Michael when everything seems fine. Hanna did not leave a note before she left Michael.

The researcher provides some suggestions related to this study. The first is phenomenology theory which can be used by other researchers who want to analyze the relation regarding to the experience of the first person point of view and hopefully there will be more studies in the future who also apply this theory because the using of this theory is still rare to find. The second is the other researcher would not worry of Bernhard Schlink's literary works. Since even though he wrote his works in German language, many of his works is already translated to English. So the other researcher will be easier to read about his literary works.

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