

**ANALYSIS OF ROMANCE IN DELIA OWENS' *WHERE
THE CRAWDADS SING***

THESIS



**UIN SUNAN AMPEL
S U R A B A Y A**

BY :

ERSTE NANDA MAULIDYAH

REG. NUMBER A93219091

**ENGLISH LITERATURE DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF ADAB AND HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL
SURABAYA**

2023

DECLARATION

DECLARATION

I am the undersigned below:

Name : Erste Nanda Maulidyah
NIM : A93219091
Department : English Literature
Faculty : Adab and Humanities
University : UIN Sunan Ampel

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Who makes the statement



Erste Nanda Maulidyah
Reg. Number. A93219091

APPROVAL SHEET

ANALYSIS OF ROMANCE IN DELIA OWENS' *WHERE THE
CRAWDADS SING*

by

Erste Nanda Maulidyah
Reg. Number A93219091

approved to be examined by the board of examiners of English Literature
Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

Surabaya, June 26th 2023

Advisor 1



Dr. Abu Fanani, S.S., M.Pd.
NIP. 196906152007011051

Advisor 2



Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A
NIP. 199203062020122019

Acknowledged by
The Head of the English Literature Department



Endratno Pilih Swasono, M.Pd

NIP. 197106072003121001

EXAMINER SHEET

This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Erste Nanda Maulidyah (Reg. Number A93219091) entitled **Analysis of Romance in Delia Owens' *Where The Crawdads Sing*** has been approved and accepted by the board of examiners for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)*, English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

Surabaya, July 3rd 2023

Board of Examiners:

Examiner 1



Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M. Hum.
NIP. 197002051999032002

Examiner 2



Sufi Ikrima Saada, M. Hum.
NIP. 201603318

Examiner 3



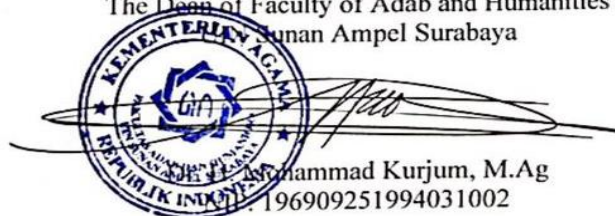
Dr. Abu Fanani, S.S., M.Pd
NIP.196906152007011051

Examiner 4



Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A.
NIP.199203062020122019

Acknowledged by:
The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Humanities
UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya



Muhammad Kurjum, M.Ag
196909251994031002



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**KEMENTERIAN AGAMA
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA
PERPUSTAKAAN**

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300
E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

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KARYA ILMIAH UNTUK KEPENTINGAN AKADEMIS

Sebagai sivitas akademika UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, yang bertanda tangan di bawah ini, saya:

Nama : Erste Nanda Maulidyah
NIM : A93219091
Fakultas/Jurusan : Adab dan Humaniora/ Sastra Inggris
E-mail address : ersteersn@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Maulidyah, Erste Nanda (2023). *Analysis of Romance in Delia Owen's Where The Crawdads Sing*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Dr. Abu Fanani, M. Pd., (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A

This study examines how romance is presented in the novel *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens. As romance is about love, the research problem formulation is divided into two: (1) How do Tate and Kya express their love for each other, and (2) How does love affect the relationship between Tate and Kya?

The researcher used qualitative methods in this study to collect and analyze all data about the topics discussed. After obtaining the required data, the researcher analyzed it using the new criticism theory, which focuses on the elements within the novel itself.

The results of this study show that romance in the novel *Where The Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens is presented by how the characters Tate and Kya express love for each other and the love that impacts their relationship. Tate and Kya express their love for each other by showing mutual care, understanding, respect, and a sense of mutual responsibility. The love they have then affects the relationship between them. After realizing they love each other, Tate and Kya become lovers. Both of them also managed to face problems that had worsened their relationship. In the end, Tate and Kya's relationship lasted for a long time.

Keywords: Commitment, Relationship



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ABSTRAK

Maulidyah, Erste Nanda (2023). *Analysis of Romance in Delia Owen's Where The Crawdads Sing*. English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisors: (I) Dr. Abu Fanani, M. Pd., (II) Ramadhina Ulfa Nuristama, M.A

Penelitian ini mengkaji bagaimana romansa disajikan dalam novel *Where The Crawdads Sing* karya Delia Owens. Karena asmara adalah tentang cinta, maka rumusan masalah penelitian dibagi menjadi dua: (1) Bagaimana Tate dan Kya mengungkapkan cinta mereka satu sama lain, dan (2) Bagaimana pengaruh cinta terhadap hubungan antara Tate dan Kya?

Peneliti menggunakan metode kualitatif dalam penelitian ini untuk mengumpulkan dan menganalisis semua data tentang topik yang dibahas. Setelah memperoleh data yang dibutuhkan, peneliti menganalisisnya dengan menggunakan teori kritik baru yang menitikberatkan pada unsur-unsur dalam novel itu sendiri.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa romansa dalam novel *Where The Crawdads Sing* karya Delia Owens ditampilkan melalui karakter Tate dan Kya yang mengungkapkan cinta kepada satu sama lain, dan cinta yang berdampak pada hubungan mereka. Tate dan Kya mengungkapkan cinta mereka satu sama lain dengan menunjukkan rasa saling peduli, pengertian, rasa hormat, dan rasa tanggung jawab. Cinta yang mereka miliki kemudian mempengaruhi hubungan di antara mereka. Setelah menyadari saling mencintai, Tate dan Kya menjadi sepasang kekasih. Keduanya pun berhasil menghadapi masalah yang sempat memperburuk hubungan mereka. Pada akhirnya, hubungan Tate dan Kya bertahan untuk waktu yang lama.

Kata Kunci: komitmen, hubungan

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The presence of love has become something that cannot be separated from human life Libowitz (in Wortman & Loftus, 1999) defines *love* as a positive feeling towards others. Boeree (2003) argues that love refers to the surface of care towards someone else more than oneself. In addition, the importance of love for humans can be proven by how education to love one another is instilled from an early age. From this it can be concluded that the existence of love is undeniably essential in life.

However, The depictions of love can not only be found in the real world. Many literary works portray love in it. It is in line with the definition of literature by Wellek and Warren (1956) which stated that literature is more than ordinary works of fiction because literature can reflect on real situations in life. Similarly, Pradopo (1994) also considered literary work a picture of the natural world and human life. From this it is clear that the phenomenon of love that are usually found in real world can also be depicted in a literary work.

A literary work that depicts a love story is called a romance literary work. According to Cawelti (1976) that a romance story is a story that describes how male and female characters can be together at the end of the story. Radway (1982) explains that romantic literature usually features a strong man who helps a female character out of her misery. From this, it can be understood that romance literature

is a literary work in which the story describes the relationship between the male character who helps the female character, and then, in the end, they are together.

Furthermore, romance is one of the most popular genres in the era of popular literature. Radway (1982) states that many people read literary works in the romance genre because it can bring happiness since it tends to have a happy ending. Similarly, in present days, Curcic (2022) reports that according to a survey that has been conducted, it shows that sales of romance novels in 2022 will increase by 36% compared to 2021 and generate around \$ 144 billion in revenue, making it the best-selling novel genre. From this, one of the reasons why the romance genre is so popular is because people like to read stories about love relationships with happy endings contained in romance novels.

As a product of popular culture, literary works in the romance genre are straightforward to find because one of the characteristics of popular culture is a mass culture that emphasizes production in large quantities so that many people can consume it (Storey, 2006). Since people show interest in literary works in the romance genre, this encourages artists to make literary works with the romance genre. It can be proven from many literary works, such as novels, films, and music, which carry romance themes.

The large number of literary works in the romance genre that tell about the phenomenon of love prompted researchers to analyze the romance stories depicted in the novel. Before this study, several studies have examined romance in literary works. Almujafer (2020) has reviewed the romance formula in the plot and characterization of the novel *Me Before You* and found that the romance in this

novel is made different from average romance because at the end of the story, the male character dies, leaving the female character behind. Safitri & Dewi (2021) have also analyzed the romance formula in a novel entitled Rainshadow Road by Lisa Kleypas and concluded that the novel's plot and characters build the novel's romance genre.

In this study, the researcher chose to use a novel, *Where The Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens. This novel was first published in August 2018 and marked the debut novel by the author. This novel is one of the novels that got the best-selling title because it has sold 12 million copies as of January 2022(Wittmer & Logan, 2022). Furthermore, in July 2022, the story of this novel was also adapted into a film which shows the popularity of this novel. Overall, this novel tells the life of the main character, Kya, a girl who lives in Marshland, North Carolina. Kya was abandoned by his family when she was little, which made her have to live alone. At first, her mom and siblings left her home because they could not stand their temperamental father. For a while, Kya was living only with her father. However, when she was ten, her father did not return home. Starting at that time, she ultimately continued her life alone in Marsh.

Even though this novel only has Kya as the main character, other characters also support the novel's storyline along with Kya. The first is Tate, and the second is Chase Andrews. The presence of these two characters has a primary role in the storyline because Kya is revealed to have a relationship with these two figures. The relationship between Kya and the two characters is explained in detail through the storyline, so it also helps build the entire story in the novel.

This story begins by describing Kya's early life, where she had to live alone since all her family had left her. Due to living alone at such a young age, she initially experienced many difficulties. She has to look for fish and mussels every day to sell them to a man named Jumpin, who has known her family for a long time, to get money or gas for her boat. Things were also worsening because the townspeople tried to hurt her, and the social servers kept looking for her.

Fast forward a few years later, she meets Tate, an old friend of her brother who has come to see him. Tate treats Kya differently from the others, which makes Kya feel comfortable around him. The relationship between the two grew, and they later became lovers. However, they later broke up because Tate went to university. After that, she met Chase Andrew, whom she did not know why approached her. After a while, the two started dating, but their relationship did not last long because Chase married another woman in town. A few times later, Chase Andrew was found dead, and Kya became a suspect.

Since this novel is famous and become a best-seller, there are already several researchers that pay attention to this novel. Lailatussyifa (2021) has analyzed the struggle against violence experienced by Kya and how Kya deals with this violence. Furthermore, Tyas (2020) also explored this novel through the hierarchy of human needs theory and found that even though Kya lives alone, she can still fulfill the five needs described in theory. Swastika (2021) examined the individuation process in Kya's character using Jung's psychoanalytic theory. She concluded that Kya underwent an individuation process before reaching middle age by recognizing her animus, identifying her shadow, reducing her persona, and

revealing her unconscious. Similarly, Faradhilla (2021) also researched this novel by investigating how the environment around Kya can affect her personality. This study found that the climate around Kya made him a skilled young boat rider, careful setting, observant, and versatile book writer.

Based on the previous study on this novel above, no research has discussed the romance in the novel. In contrast, the issue of Kya's love relationship as the main character becomes one of the topics presented in the book. Therefore, in this study, the researcher analyzes the romance shown in the novel by examining how Tate and Kya express their love for each other and how their love influences their relationship.

1.2 Problems of the study

According to the background of the study above, the researcher formed problems of the study as follows :

1. How do Tate and Kya express their love for each other?
2. How does love affect the relationship between Tate and Kya?

1.3 Objectives of the study

In line with the problem of the study, this study aims to :

1. To explain how the characters Tate and Kya express their love for each other
2. To explain how love affects the relationship between Tate and Kya

1.4 Significance of the study

The researcher hopes that this research can provide several contributions. The first is to make the reader understand how to express love to those loved. The second is to help the reader realize that love can affect a relationship. A

relationship built with love will last long, although many obstacles must be overcome.

1.5 Scope and Limitations

Research with a topic that is too universal might cause a study to have less than optimal results; therefore, the researcher only discusses the issue of romance in this study. The researcher uses the theory of new criticism because the researcher only focuses on examining intrinsic elements. Furthermore, this research only focuses on the characters of Tate and Kya because the researcher considers the stories between these characters prominent in the book.

1.6. Definition of key terms

To clarify the key terms used in this study, some definitions are put forward

-Commitment

According to Johnson (1973) commitment is a dedication or effort in doing something. In other words, commitment is not only about decisions, but also actions and efforts to maintain the decisions that have been taken

-Relationship

Littlejohn & Foss (2008) defined relationship as the situation where two people have each other and have a specific interactions. Furthermore Verderber & MacGeorge (2016) stated that there are three kinds of relationship and one of them is romantic relationship in which two people being romantically attached.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the researcher presents the theory used to analyze the problems of the study. The researcher uses the leading theory, namely new criticism because the researcher focuses on examining the intrinsic elements of the novel. Furthermore, the researcher also explains the definition and explanation about the concept of love and romance since this study focuses on analyzing the romance shown in the novel by examining how love is shown by the characters Tate and Kya and how this love affects their relationship

2.1 New Criticism

New criticism is one of the literary theories first proposed by John Crowe Ransom in his book, *The New Criticism*, published in 1941. This theory emerged as a form of reaction to the previous literary criticism that dominated American literary criticism around the 20th century, focusing only on aspects outside the work itself, such as focusing more on the author's background and literary history (Suarta & Dwipayana, 2014). At that time, many believed that the author's background influenced a literary work, so research on a literary work at that time focused on biological and historical research. However, a new criticism emerged, which had a different view from the previous one because it only focused on the text.

Although new criticism became popular in the 1940s and 1950s, two British critics and writers introduced the original basis for this new critical thought: T.S Elliot and I. A Richards. T.S Elliot states that a good poem is composed not only based on what the author has experienced but is written using language that can

represent the good feelings of the writer and people in general. Therefore a poem cannot be said to be only a personal reflection of the author. (Bressler, 2011, p.).

New criticism argued that a text can have meaning according to what is shown in the writing (Bressler, 2011, p.52). New criticism's people view that a literary work has internal elements that make it authentic and has value regardless of external elements (Suarta & Dwipayana, 2014). It follows what Peter (2005) stated that the main characteristic of new criticism is its disregard for historical, biographical, intellectual, or other components and only concerned with the text itself. From this, it can be inferred that analyzing a work using the theory of new criticism will remove other aspects besides what is present and displayed in the work itself.

New criticism thinking then delivers new terms in literary criticism : close reading, empirical, autonomy, concreteness, form, diction, tones, metaphor or simile,

1. Close reading

Close reading involves reading the text carefully, thoroughly, and in detail. By doing a close reading, the reader can understand the small information in the text. It is one of the characteristics of new criticism because new criticism focuses on objective historical text analysis, and by doing close reading, the reader will understand even the core and small parts of a text that contribute to building the text as a whole.W

2. Empirical

New criticism thinkers say that new criticism emphasizes analysis and observation of the work, not theory (Suartha & Dwipayana, 2014, p.32).

3. Autonomy

New criticism adheres to the idea that a literary work stands alone and can be analyzed based on what is presented in the text itself. Literary study is a scientific discipline that examines the work without being affiliated with other disciplines such as biography, history, and psychology.

4. Concreteness

Concreteness means that a literary work is alive, and its meaning can be felt. Concreteness in literary works can be felt when doing a close reading of a text because, with this, the reader will be conscious of the elements that make the text feel alive so that it stimulates their feelings towards the text

5. Forms

One of the focuses of studying new criticism is the form of a literary work. The form of a literary work determines the content of a literary work. The forms in question include the use of diction, imagery, and irony (Suartha & Dwipayana, 2014, p.33).

6. Diction

The choice of words or diction is studied in new criticism because poets can play with words in creating a literary work. By examining the use of these words, the meaning of the literary work will be obtained.

7. Tones

Tone refers to the attitude of the poet, writer, or narrator towards the object or material and the hearer (Suartha & Dwipayana, 2014, p.34). The tone shown in a literary work can make the audience understand the atmosphere displayed in the work.

8. Metaphors and Similes

A metaphor is a figure of speech or expression of an object through another object. While the simile is a parable with a comparison

9. Paradox

Paradox is usually used for satirical purposes because a paradox is a word or sentence that is the opposite of what the actual sentence wants to convey. (Suartha & Dwipayana, 2014, p.36).

10. Irony

The irony is anything that has a different meaning and is contrary to its true meaning. There are three kinds of irony: verbal, dramatic, and situational.

- a. Verbal irony is when what is said has a different meaning and is the opposite of what is actually meant
- b. Dramatic irony is when a character in a literary work such as a film or drama does not know what the reader or audience knows.
- c. Situational irony is when an expectation or prejudice is the opposite of what happened.

2.2 Romance

According to Cawelti (1976) a romance genre is a genre in which a literary work tells the love story between hero and heroine. Even though the depiction of

romance stories can be different in every literary work, the love story between hero and heroine remains the part highlighted in the story. Sometimes a romance also has an element of adventure in it. However, the story of adventure is not the main focus but becomes a support where the dangers or obstacles that are shown make the hero and heroine connect and become together.

Cawelti (1976) also explains that the moral that can be drawn from romance is that love is success and lasts even when faced with problems and hardships. Therefore, many romances have happy endings where the hero and heroine unite. However, some romance stories also have an ending where the hero or heroine dies. However, in stories like that, the love that exists between the hero and the heroine is still described as having succeeded in facing obstacles or having lasted a long time.

Furthermore, Cawelti (1976) states that one of the well-known types of romance is "gothic romance," which contains elements of mystery and adventure. The element of mystery contained in romance stories is usually in the form of unresolved issues between the hero and the heroine. The hero and heroine face problems, but in the end, all these things unite the hero and heroine

2.3 Love

Seccombbe and Warner (2004) defined *love* as a bond between two or more people where the bond shows if they have a sense of care and responsibility for others. Fromm (1956) defined love as a sense of caring, responsibility, knowledge, and respect for others. It can be concluded that love is a positive

emotional state where a person feels attracted to others so that they have a sense of care and responsibility for those they love.

From the definition of love above, it is clear that the existence of love affects relationships between humans. If a relationship is based on love, then the relationship will go nicely because of a sense of care and responsibility.

Furthermore, love can be expressed through the act of care, responsibility, respect, and knowing (Fromm, 1956, p.26).

1. Care

The attitude of caring as a form of love explains that love is about a sense of concern about what is better for something that is loved. This sense of concern then encourages them to do something for the sake of those they love. Fromm even explained that if there is no love, if there is a lack of active concern

2. Responsibility

The existence of a sense of care and concern then raises another important aspect, namely responsibility. In establishing love, responsibility means action in the form of a response to the needs or desires of a loved one. This action then aims to make the loved one feel happy.

3. Respect

Respect denotes that in love, there is no such thing as coercion. One would not force the one they love to be who they want. They do not use someone they love as an object to achieve what they want. Therefore, love is proven when someone accepts what they love as they are and does not force them to meet their expectations.

4. Knowing

The last aspect of love is knowing. It is impossible to respect someone if you do not understand them. Furthermore, According to Fromm (Fromm, 1956, p.29) knowledge of someone will also feel empty if a sense of concern does not drive it. From this, it can be concluded that understanding someone who is loved is a critical proof of the existence of love because when one knows a loved one, one will understand what they should do for the person they love.



CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter describes the research design, data sources, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques carried out by the researcher in conducting this research.

3.1 Research design

This study applied a descriptive-qualitative research method. Dawson (2009) asserted that a qualitative research method relies heavily on the primary data source. Similarly, Marczyk et al.,(2005)stated that qualitative research was conducted by analyzing the available data sources in-depth. Therefore in this study, the researcher conducts an in-depth analysis of how love is shown in the relationship between Tate and Kya using the new criticism theory because this theory emphasizes the analysis of the elements in literary works that build the literary work. This is in accordance with the intention of researchers who want to examine how romance is displayed in the novel *Where The Crawdads Sings* by Delia Owens.

3.2 Data sources

In this study, researchers used two types of data sources, namely primary data sources and secondary data sources. The primary data source in this study is the novel *Where The Crawdads* by Delia Owens. The researcher collects narration, dialogue, and monologue data in the novel, showing that Tate and Kya express their love for each other and how that love influences their relationship. While secondary data sources, researchers use books, journals, articles, theses, and

information from websites related to the topics in this research to support primary sources and complement this research.

3.3 Data collection technique

The researcher obtained the required data for this study through the steps below.

1. Read the novel *Where The Crawdads* carefully to get a deep understanding of the story in this novel
2. Highlight narratives, conversations, or monologues that show Tate and Kya showing their love for each other
3. Highlighting other narratives, conversations, or other monologues in the novel that describes the relationship between Tate and Kya
4. The researcher collected the highlighted data

3.4 Data analysis technique

After obtaining the required data, the researcher analyzes the data to answer the problem of the study. The steps are as follows.

1. To analyze the data that answers the first research problem, the researcher examines all the narrations, monologues, and dialogues collected to explain that the characters Tate and Kya express their love for each other.
2. Researcher classifies the expressions of love shown by Tate and Kya based on Fromm's four expressions of love: Care, Respect, Responsibility, and Knowing.
3. After that, the researcher analyzed the data to answer the second problem in the study. Researchers examine how the data that has been collected shows that the love between Tate and Kya affects their relationship.

4. Finally, the researcher concludes the results of the study based on the analysis that has been done.



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CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

4.1 Expressions of Tate and Kya's love

4.1.1 Care to each other

The first proof of Tate and Kya's love for each other in the novel is expressed by their care for one another. The attitude of caring can make others feel loved. The first was when Tate showed concern for Kya, who never went to school by teaching her.

With slow, careful hands, he formed the letters between the lines, A B B, asking her to do the same, patient with the tongue-in-between-lips effort. As she wrote, he said the letters out loud. Softly, Slowly. She remembered some of the letters from Jodie and Ma but didn't know much at all about putting them into proper words. After only minutes, he said, "See, you can already write a word." "What d'ya mean?" "C-a-b. You can write the word cab." "What's the cab? She asked" she asked. He knew not to laugh. "Don't worry if you don't know it. Let's keep going. Soon you'll write a word you know." (p. 112)

The quotation above shows the first learning agenda for Tate and Kya. It depicted how Tate taught Kya how to write. Tate understood that this was the first time Kya learned, so he taught her slowly, like teaching a child, even though Kya was already 14 years old. Tate taught her from the beginning how to write, and when Kya successfully wrote a word, he praised her so she could get the confidence to learn. After the writing learning session, he also taught her about reading.

He pointed to the opening sentence and asked her to read it back to him. The first word was there, and she had to go back to the alphabet and practice the sound of the letter, but she was patient, explaining the special sound of the, and when she finally said it, she threw her arms up and laughed. Beaming. He watched her. Slowly, she unraveled each word of the sentence : "There are

some who can live without wild things and some who cannot.” *“Oh,”* she said. *“Oh”* *“You can read, Kya. There will never be a time again when you can’t read. “It ain’t just that.”* She spoke almost in a whisper. “I wasn’t aware that words could hold so much. I didn’t know a sentence could be so full.” He smiled. “That’s a very good sentence. Not all words hold that much.” (p.113)

The quotation above explains how Tate patiently teaches Kya how to read a sentence. Besides complimenting her when she managed to read her first sentence, Tate also convinced Kya when she showed her lack of confidence in her reading ability. It shows that he cares for Kya, who is learning to read for the first time; therefore, he adjusts his teaching practice so that Kya is not afraid and insecure about learning. After learning to write and read, Tate also teaches her about arithmetic. “Here, I’ll show you the numbers, and we’ll do some basic arithmetic. It’s easy. I’ll bring you some books about it (p. 114)

Furthermore, after considering that Kya could read, Tate brought new books so that Kya could expand her knowledge, regardless of her not going to school. After started his senior year in September, he couldn’t come to Kya’s place as often, but when he did he brought her discarded textbooks from school (p.126). Even though school books might be difficult for Kya because she considered she never went to school, Tate convinced Kya to keep reading because she would be able to catch the material in the book little by little by saying, “Don’t worry, You’ll get a little more every time you read it”(p.126) so that Kya is confident to keep reading the books.

Apart from that, Tate also brings Kya a book about biology and marshland because Kya lives in nature with all the creatures and likes to explore creatures in the marshland. On every trip to Kya’s, Tate took to school or library books,

especially on marsh creatures and biology. (p.142). Tate also keep brings her new books so that she can gain more knowledge eventough Kya might had difficulty reading the books

By mid-August, they had read through A Sand County Almanac, and although she couldn't read every word, she got most of it. Aldo Leopold taught her that floodplains are living extensions of the rivers, which will claim them back any time they choose. Anyone living on floodplain is just waiting in the river's wings. She learned where the geese go in winter and the meaning of their music. (p.123)

The quotations above show how Tate keep bringing new books for Kya so she can gain more knowledge especially about nature. Eventough Kya may sometimes have difficulty reading the book, Tate knows that she will slowly understand the information in it. Tate's efforts so that Kya can gain new knowledges everyday shows that he cares about Kya because by gaining more knowledges from many books, it can help her to have a better life.

Tate also shows his care for Kya by encouraging her to publish a book. When he sees Kya's collection, Tate, who became a doctoral candidate in zoology, realizes that Kya's collection is complete and detailed, so he suggests Kya publish a book by saying, "Kya, these are wonderful, beautifully detailed. You could publish these. This could be a book-lots of the book" (p.210). However, Kya initially rejected the suggestion because she had never considered publishing a book. Nevertheless, Tate still tries to convince her and says that by publishing, she will earn money. Tate told Kya, "It would bring some money in. Probably not a huge amount, but maybe you wouldn't have to dig mussels for the rest of your life." (p.211) Therefore, in the end, Kya agrees to try publishing a book from her collection..

Tate, who convinced Kya that by publishing a book she would not have to look for mussels to make money shows her care for Kya because the income she gets from selling the mussels is uncertain since people seldom need to buy the mussels, which means that Kya still needs financial well-being. Therefore when he finds out that Kya has a detailed collection of creatures in the marshland, Tate offers Kya to publish a book because by publishing a book, it will be easier for her to get money. Another form of care Tate gives Kya is when he gives her something or a gift. The first is when he brings her a cake when visiting her to study.

As he pulled onto the lagoon shore and stepped out of the boat, he carried a white box tied up with string. “Yo! Kya, where are you?” he called. “I brought a petite cake from Parkers. Kya had not tasted anything like cake for years. (p.132)

The quotation above shows how Tate brings Kya a cake when he comes to her place. Even though his actual plan is to study together, he still brings Kya cake as she never ate cake for years because she lived alone in Marsh. Besides that, Tate also gives a surprise to celebrate Kya’s 15th birthday.

“Happy birthday, Kya,” he said. “You’re fifteen.” A two-tiered bakery cake, tall as a hatbox and decorated with shells of pink icing, rose from the basket. Her name is scripted on top. Presents, wrapped in colorful paper and tied with bows, surrounded the cake. She stared, flabbergasted, her mouth open. No one had wished her happy birthday since Ma left. No one had ever given her a store-bought cake with her name on it. She’d never had presents in real wrapping paper with ribbons. *How’d you know my birthday?* Having no calendar, she had no idea it was today. *I read it in your Bible. (p.137-138)*

The quotations above show how well Tate prepared Kya's birthday surprise. The cake he gives her is beautifully made, and he wraps the gift so beautifully that it touches Kya because she has never had a birthday present like this before. It

shows that Tate cares about Kya. He wanted Kya to feel happy because she had lived alone all this time, and no one had ever given her a birthday surprise.

Therefore Tate planned and gave a special birthday surprise for Kya. Not only that, he also gave a birthday present that suited Kya.

The first : is a small magnifying glass “so you can see the fine details of insect wings.” Second: a plastic clasp, painted silver and decorated with a rhinestone seagull, “for your hair.” Somewhat awkwardly, he pulled some locks behind her ear and clipped the barrette in place. She touched it. More beautiful than Ma’s. “The last present was in a larger box, and Kya opened it to find ten jars of oil point, tins of watercolors, and different-sized brushes : “for your paintings.” Kya picked up each color, each brush. “I can get more if when you need them. Even canvas, from Sea Oaks.” She dipped her head. “Thank you, Tate”. (p.138)

The quotations above shows Tate gives her a small magnifying glass that can help Kya see the details of the creatures she finds because Kya has a hobby of collecting them and later examining them. He also gives her a painting kit because Kya usually paints and draws details of the creatures she finds in the marshland. The birthday surprise and birthday gifts given by Tate prove his care for Kya because it means he pays attention to details about Kya and wants to make Kya happy on her birthday.

Apart from giving gifts and birthday cakes, Tate has also given Kya several other gifts to Kya. One of them is a Christmas gift.

One cold day, long after all the sycamore leaves had fallen, Tate stepped out of his boat with a present wrapped in red-and-green paper. “I don’t have anything for you,” she said as he held the present out for her. “I didn’t know it was Christmas.” “It’s not.” He smiled. “Not by a long shot,” he lied. “Come on, it’s not much.” Carefully she took the paper off to find a secondhand Webster’s dictionary. “Oh, Tate, Thank you.” “Look inside”, he said. Tucked in the P section was a pelican feather, forget-me-not blossoms pressed between two pages of the Fs, a dried mushroom under M. So many treasures were stashed among the pages, the book would not completely close.” (p. 142-143)

The quotation above shows when Tate goes to Kya's place to give her a Christmas present. Tate gives her a secondhand dictionary which he had decorated beautifully. Tate puts something in the novel based on the initial alphabet of that thing's name. It means that he has prepared a Christmas present special for Kya.

Another day, Tate also gives Kya a compass.

Inside the carton, wrapped in tissue paper, was an old army-issue compass in a brass case, tarnished green-gray with age. She breathed in at the sight of it. She had never needed a compass because the directions seemed obvious to her. But on cloudy days, when the sun was elusive, the compass would guide her. A folded note read : Dearest Kya, This compass was my grandpa's from the First World War. He gave it to me when I was little, but I've never used it, and I thought maybe you would get the best out of it. Love, Tate. P.S. I'm glad you can read this note! (p.259)

The quotation above shows when Kya found a Compass gift from Tate for her. Even though the compass was a gift from his grandfather, Tate is willing to give it to Kya because it will be more beneficial as it can help Kya find directions when exploring the Marsh to collect the creatures. It proves his concern for Kya because, with that compass, it will be easier for Kya to explore the marshes and won't get lost again. When Kya decides to remain a writer, Tate also gives her the equipment to help her work.

Archbald Lab offered a job, but she turned it down and continued writing her books. She and Tate hired a fix-it man again, and he built a lab and studio-of raw wood, hand own posts, and tin roof for her behind the shack. Tate gave her a microscope and installed worktables, shelves, and closets for her specimens. (p.373)

The quotation above shows that Kya refused an offer to work in a lab because she wanted to continue her work as a book writer. Therefore she and Tate hired a worker to build their lab. From the quotation above, it is also shown that Tate gives Kya a microscope to help her see the details of the creature she is studying,

the workbench, shelves, and the closet for the specimens she will learn, which proves her care for Kya. It indicates his care for Kya because Kya can do his job more efficiently with that equipment.

Tate's concern for Kya was also shown when Tate expressed his worries about Kya's condition. The first was when Kya said she had a stomach ache; Tate offered to stay with her until the pain got better.

“What’s wrong?” he asked. “What do you mean?” “You don’t look good. What’s wrong?” “I think I’m sick. My stomach’s cramping real hard.” “Oh.” Tate looked out over the sea. Dug his bare toes in the sand. “Maybe you should go,” she said, head down. “Maybe I should stay till you’re better. Suppose you can’t get yourself home?” (p.128-129)

The quotation above shows when Tate and Kya accidentally meet, and Tate realizes Kya is not feeling well. The way Tate asks Kya if there's something wrong with her after he finds that Kya looks sick shows that he cares for her. Besides that, when Kya said her stomach ached, Tate offered to accompany her. It also supports that Tate cares about Kya as he is afraid that Kya might experience difficulty and not be able to go home because she was sick while at the stump.

However, a few minutes later, Tate realizes that Kya may get her period time as she was almost fifteen and said., “It might be, you know, what happens to girls your age. Remember, a few months ago, I brought you a pamphlet about it. It was with those biology books.” (p.129). After hearing this, the situation becomes awkward. However, because Tate is still worried, he asks Kya again if she can go home alone, and Kya, embarrassed because Tate was the first to know about her period, refuses Tate’s offer.

“Can you get yourself home?” he asked, still not looking at her. “I think so.” “It’ll be okay, Kya. Every girl goes through this just fine. You go on home. I’ll

follow way back to make sure you get there.” “You don’t have to.” “Don’t worry about me. Now get going.” (p.130)

The quotation above shows Tate's concern for Kya, who is experiencing period cramps. He tries to make Kya not embarrassed by avoiding eye contact with her and convincing Kya that every girl goes through this phase, so she doesn't need to be ashamed. Tate also persisted in taking Kya home to ensure that she arrived safely at her house by following her from behind so that she wouldn't feel uncomfortable

Another day, Tate also shows his worries that Kya would catch a cold when during winter, she was wearing a sleeveless chiffon dress outside the house waiting for him, by saying, “Now, let’s get you inside. You must be freezing in that dress.”(p.143). Furthermore, because it was a winter he also suggest Kya to change her clothes into a sweater and jeans. The kitchen was warm from the woodstove, but still, he suggested she change into a sweater and jeans” (p.143). It showed Tate's care for Kya because he knew she was cold enough to wear that dress to welcome him. Therefore, he ordered Kya to immediately enter the house and change into warm clothes so that Kya would feel comfortable and will not get cold.

Besides that, Tate is worried when he sees that Kya has a wound on her face. He shows his worry by asking Kya what happens to her.

“Kya” He started to ask a question, but when she faced him, he saw the fading bruise on her cheek. “What happened to your face?” He walked toward her, reaching to touch her cheek. She turned away. “Nothing. I ran into a door in the middle of the night.” (p.293)

The quotations above show how Tate hangs up his word when he realizes that there is a wound on Kya's face and chooses to ask Kya what happens to her. Moreover, Tate also tries to approach Kya to look closely at the wound on Kya's face. Asking about Kya's condition when he accidentally saw a scar on her face was one form of Tate's care for Kya. Tate wants to know what might happen to Kya so he can do something about it.

Tate again also shows concern for Kya when he is worried that Kya will catch a cold when Kya is about to come home from his place. Tate, who notices the water is getting colder and windier, asks Kya if she needs a jacket or something so she will not get cold on her way home. As she walked toward her boat, he called out, "Kya, it's gotten cooler. Don't you want a jacket or something?" "No. I'm fine." (p.294). Eventough Kya says that she is fine, but Tate still giving her his cap so that she will not get the cold. "Here, at least take my cap," and he tossed a red ski cap toward her. (p.294)

Tate also expressed his concern for Kya when she was in jail. At that time, he met Kya's lawyer to discuss Kya's case. Here Tate shows his worries about Kya by asking if Kya should be alone in the cell.

Tate walked to the window, which was crisscrossed with a mesh of white bars as if other verdict waiters had tried to escape. He asked Tom, "Where'd they take Kya? To her cell? Does she have to wait there alone? (p.356)

The quotation above shows Tate feeling worried if Kya has to be in her cell alone because it means she will be lonely. Kya is used to living alone, but being alone in a prison cell can worsen her condition. Therefore, when Kya's lawyer said he would meet Kya, Tate left several messages to give to Kya. "Please tell

Kya we're here and will sit with her if she wants" (p.357). Tate's message to Kya shows his worries about Kya being lonely. Therefore he wants to tell Kya that there are still people on her side even though, during the trial, almost everyone tried to accuse her. Furthermore, Tate also showed concern for Kya when he told Kya that he had always been worried about her condition in jail

"Kya, you look good. I've been so worried. Thank you for seeing me. Sit down." They sat opposite each other while Jacob stood in the corner reading a newspaper with considerate concentration. "Hello, Tate. Thanks for the books you brought." She acted calm, but her heart pulled into pieces. "What else can I do for you?" Maybe you could feed the gulls if you're out of my way." He smiled. "Yes, I've been feeding them. Every other day so." He made it sound easygoing but had driven or boated to her place every dawn and dusk to feed them.(p.304)

The quotation above shows how Tate said he was worried about Kya. It also can be seen that Tate always brings books to Kya so Kya can keep reading in her cell. It indicates Tate's care to Kya because Kya might feel lonely, so he sends several books because he knows Kya loves reading. Tate also tells her that he feeds the gulls at Kya's place like she usually does, so Kya does not have to worry about it.

Tate also shows concern for Kya when Kya feels confused about going to Greenville to meet his editor because she never leaves Marshland alone by telling her the details about how she can get to Greenville.

"Have you started a new book?" "I'm almost finished with the one on mushrooms. My editor's coming to Greenville sometime at the end of October and wants me to meet him there. But I'm not sure." "You should go. It'd be good to meet him. There's a bus from Barkley every day, one at night too. It doesn't take long. An hour and twenty minutes maybe, something like that." "I don't know how to buy a ticket." "The driver knows everything. Just show up at the bus stop at Main; he'll tell you what you need to do. I think Jumpin' has the schedule tacked up in his store." (p.293-294)

The quotation above shows Kya telling Tate that her editor asked her to meet in Greenville, but she still decides whether to meet him because she does not know how to go there. Tate realized that meeting her editor would be good for Kya; therefore, he told Kya to meet her editor and explain how to get to Greenville. It shows Tate's care for Kya because he knows Kya never goes out alone, so he explains how to go to Greenville so she can stay aware of the situation when she goes to Greenville.

Tate also once showed concern for Kya when he refrained from having sexual lovemaking with Kya. In the middle of their sexual activity, Tate realized that this could have a bad impact on Kya, so he stopped it. Abruptly, he pushed away from her and stepped back. "God, Kya, I'm sorry. I'm sorry." (p.145). Kya shocked that Tate had suddenly stopped their sexual activity, began questioning why he could not continue.

"Kya, I want you more than anything, I want you forever. But you're too young. You're only fifteen." "So what? You're only four years older. It's not like you're suddenly mister know-it-all adult." "Yes, but I can't get pregnant. And I can't be damaged as easily by this. I won't do it, Kya, because I love you." (p.146)

The quotation above shows how Tate explained to Kya that if they continued their sexual activities to a more intimate one, it could have a worse effect on Kya. As a woman, Kya might get pregnant, and she could have faced many difficulties and changes in herself after they had sex because she was still young, whereas as a man, Tate could not have faced any specific changes. Therefore When he realized this, Tate restrained his desire and stopped their sexual activity. It shows Tate's concern for Kya. He held back his desire for sexual lovemaking with her

because he did not want Kya to face more difficulties because of their sexual activity.

Another proof that Tate always cares about her is when he wants to make time for Kya. While Kya was in prison, Tate visited her every day.

Jacob stood outside her door the next day. "Mizz Clark, ya got another visitor." "Who is it?" "It's Mr. Tate again. He's done come several times now, Miz Clark, either brings sump or ask to see ya. Won't ya see him today, Mizz Clark? It's Saderdee, no court, nothin' to do in here the livelong day." (p.303).

After Jacob said that there is no court because it was Saturday, Kya agree to meet Tate and said, "All right Jacob"(p.304) After that Kya finally meet Tate after several times refused to meet him. Here, Tate tells Kya that he always with Kya in court, and will always be here everydaya by saying, I was in court, Kya. Sitting right behind you. You never turned around, so I didn't know if you knew that. But I'll be there every day". (p.304). Tate, who said that he would visit Kya every day in prison, showed his concern for Kya because by staying by her side every day, Kya would not feel alone.

At the end of the story in this novel, Tate also shows care for Kya when he decides to eliminate evidence that Kya was with Chase Andrews on the night of his death. After Kya died, Tate opened Kya's collections. There, laid out carefully on cotton, was the shell necklace Chase had worn until the night he died.(p.381). This necklace could be evidence that made Kya a suspect in Chase Andrews' death because Chase's parents realized that their son's body was not wearing a necklace, while Chase never took off this necklace, which means that the person who was with Chase when he died was carrying the necklace.

Kya was once detained because she was the only accused, but she was released because, at that time, there was not enough evidence to make her a suspect. Tate also did not know at first that Kya was the one who was with Chase the night he died. However, after finding this shell necklace, Tate realizes that it was confirmed that Kya was with Chase when he died. Nevertheless, Tate did not hand over this necklace to the police and chose to throw this necklace away because maybe Kya had other reasons for what happened between her and Chase. For a second, he stared at Chase's shell in his open palm and then dropped it on the sand. (p.382). Tate's decision to keep the secret and eliminate evidence that Kya was the person who was with Chase when he died shows his care for Kya because Kya's name will still be remembered nicely.

Likewise, Kya also shows concern for Tate. The first is When she gives Tate a Christmas present. Even though she is late, she still tries to give him a Christmas present a few days later when Tate returns to visit her.

Her first chance since Ma left to give a gift to someone she loved, and she'd missed it. A few days later, shivering in the sleeveless, peach-colored chiffon dress, she waited for Tate on the lagoon shore. Pacing, she clutched her present for him- a head tuft from a malae cardinal-wrapped in the paper he had used. As soon as he stepped out of his boat, she stuck the present into his hands, insisting he open it there, so he did. "Thank you, Kya. I don't have one" (p.143)

The quotation above shows how Kya finally gives Tate a Christmas present. At first, Kya does not recognize that it is Christmas and finds out when Tate gives her a Christmas present. She feels regret when she finds out she has nothing to give Tate that day. Therefore, Tate returns to her place the next day, and Kya gives him a Christmas gift. It shows her care to Tate because she also tries to make Tate happy by getting a Christmas gift.

Kya also showed her care for Tate when she gave him a copy of her first published book. After receiving several copies of her published book, she remembered Tate and all the love and helps Tate gave her. Even though their relationship was not very good then, Kya thought that just saying thanks was not enough because Tate had significantly helped her. Therefore, in the letter to Tate, Kya invited him to her place because she wanted to give him her published book. She added a postscript to the note: “If you’re near my place sometime, stop by. I’d like to give you a copy of the book,” and addressed it to him at the lab. (p.227). Tate came to her place a few days later, and Kya gave him a copy of her book. She handed him the book. “Here, Tate. this is for you.” (p. 231).

Kya also showed concern for Tate when he told her about his mother and sister, who had died. After their learning agenda, Kya asked Tate about his mother, who replied that his mother and sister had died. “My mother and little sister died in a car wreck over in Ashville.” (p.134). After hearing this, Kya said, “Oh, I’m so sorry, Tate. I bet your ma was real nice and pretty.” It proves Kya’s care for Tate because he was afraid that Tate might feel sad when he told her about his mother and sister, who had died

Apart from that, Kya’s care to Tate is also portrayed by her worries when she sees the sheriff meet Tate and take him with them. Kya stared until both boats disappeared behind a point of eelgrass. Why had they apprehended Tate? Was it something to do with Chase’s death? Had they arrested him? (p.367) .Kya’s worry is proved by how she wonders about the sheriff’s reason for bringing Tate. Furthermore, Kya went to see Jumpin’ to ask why the sheriff took Tate. Jumpin’

knew everything-he'd know why the sheriff had taken Tate in and what she could do about it.(p.368).

The feeling of worry shown by Kya portrays her attention to Tate because she is afraid that bad things will happen to Tate when the sheriff takes him with them. Kya even plans to go to Jumpin to ask what happened to Tate and what she can do, proving she is worried about Tate.

In addition, Kya's care for Tate is also portrayed when she waits for Tate's arrival. The first is when she looks forward to the arrival of Tate from university, who has promised to visit her.

Dressed in the low too-short peach chiffon, Kya walked barefoot to the lagoon on the fourth of July and sat on the reading log. Cruel heat shrugged off the last wisps of fog, and a dense humidity she could barely breathe filled the air. Now and then, she knelt to the lagoon and splashed cool water on her neck, all the while listening for the hum of Tate's boat. She didn't mind waiting; she read the books he'd given her. (p.152)

The quotation above shows Kya excitedly awaiting Tate's arrival at the lagoon. She knows it takes effort and time for Tate to meet her in her place. Therefore, she wants to welcome her so that Tate feels happy. Furthermore, when feeling hungry while waiting, Kya hurried to eat it for fear that Tate would arrive while she was eating. She rushed back to the shack for a leftover sausage and biscuits. She ate fast, afraid he would come, and she quit her post. (p.152). It proves her care for Tate because she does not want Tate to be someone waiting for her to come, while Tate is always the one who comes to her

Furthermore, after they became life together at Marsh, Kya was also waiting for Tate to arrive from his collecting trip. Kya lays on the soft duff near the lagoon one afternoon, waiting for Tate to return from a collecting trip. (p.374). Waiting

for someone is coming is a form of care because it means someone sets their time for the loved one, and when one realizes someone is waiting for their presence, one will feel special and happy. Therefore, Kya's willingness to wait for Tate's arrival can prove her concern for Tate because she wants Tate to feel happy and be loved by her.

4.1.2 Mutual Understanding

Having mutual understanding is also proof of the existence of love. Mutual understanding means that people in love understand each other's feelings and circumstances so they know what to do for someone they love. Tate proves that he understands Kya's disappointment in him for leaving her. When he decides to meet Kya to apologize, Tate gets a swear from Kya about him leaving her.

You are the one who left me, who didn't comeback when you promised, who never came back. You are the one who never wrote to explain why or even if you were alive or dead. You didn't have the nerve to break up with me. You were not man enough to face me. Just disappeared. CHICKEN SHIT ASSHOLE..." (p.207)

The quotation above shows how Kya poured out his disappointment and anger on Tate, who had left her when he saw Tate return to her place. Instead of defending himself, Tate said that everything Kya said was true. Palms open, he pleaded, "You're right about me, Kya. Everything you said is true. I was a chicken shit. I just need to apologize and explain things."(p.208)

Tate, who admits that what Kya had said about him was true before giving her further explanation, shows that he understood that Kya felt very disappointed in him. Therefore he did not try to defend himself. Tate understands that it is reasonable for Kya to behave like that.

In addition, Tate showed understanding for Kya when he explained to Kya that she did not need to leave Marshland to publish a book. When Tate convinced Kya to publish a book, Kya felt confused about whether publishing a book meant that she would leave Marsh and meet other people. In contrast, she avoids contact with people because most people always hurt her. She stared, not knowing how to see this. Would she have to go somewhere, meet people(p.210). Here, even though Kya does not straightly show her confusion, Tate can tell that Kya is thinking about that because he already understands that Kya avoids meeting other people since people outside have always been harmful to her. Tate didn't miss the question in her eyes, and said "You wouldn't have to leave home. You could mail your sample to a publisher."(p.210-211). Also, Tate is the one who will start looking for the right publisher for Kya so that in the future, Kya only needs to send samples to the publishers he has found.

Similarly, Kya also showed that he understood Tate, who thought that he was the cause of the death of his mother and sister because her mother and sister died.

"I think they went to Asheville to buy my birthday present. There was this certain bike I wanted, had to have it. The Western Auto didn't carry them, so I think they went to Ashville to buy that bike for me." That doesn't make it your fault," she said.

The quote above shows when Tate tells Kya about his mother and sister, who died because they wanted to buy a bicycle as a gift for Tate. Although Tate did not explicitly say that he feels her mother and sister died because of him, Kya understood that Tate thought he was the cause of his mother and sister's death because if he did not want the bike, maybe his mother and sister would not have gone to Ashville and had an accident. Therefore, Kya then told him that it was not

Tate's fault, so that Tate no longer felt guilty about the death of his mother and sister.

4.1.3 Mutual respect

An attitude of respect can prove the existence of love because it proves that someone accepts the loved one as they are. Furthermore, the attitude of respect also shows that someone considers the loved one important. Therefore they try always to respect decisions for the good of their loved ones. Tate showed respect for Kya when he did not force Kya to accept his apology.

He stepped up to her and touched her shoulder. Tried gently to turn her around. "Kya, I'm sorry about leaving you. Please can't you forgive me?. Finally, she turned and looked at him. "I don't know how to. Tate. I could never believe you again. Please, Tate, you have to go now. "I know. Thank you for listening to me, for giving me this chance to apologize. (p.211)

The quote above shows when Tate meets Kya and tries to get Kya to forgive him. However, Kya tells Tate that it will be difficult for her to forgive Tate because she may no longer be able to trust Tate. After all, Tate once broke her promise. After hearing Kya's answer, Tate no longer forces his way to get Kya's forgiveness because he realizes that his mistake in leaving Kya was difficult to forgive. Tate even thanked Kya for giving him a chance to apologize because Kya did not even want to have a conversation with Tate in the first place. Tate's attitude shows that he respects Kya, even though, at first, he still hopes that Kya will forgive him and they can come back together.

Tate again shows that he respects Kya when she wants him to stay away from her. At that time, Kya, who was in jail, asked Tate to stay away from her because she was tired of having relationships with others.

Tate, listen to me. For years I longed to be with people. I really believed that someone would stay with me, that I would actually have friends and a family. Be a part of a group. But no one stayed. Not you or one member of my family. Now I've finally learned how to deal with that and how to protect myself. But I can't talk about this now. I appreciate your coming to see me in here; I do. And maybe someday we can be friends, but I can't think what comes next. Not in here." "Okay. I understand. Really, I do." (p.304-305)

The quotation above shows when Kya reveals her feelings to Tate. She explained to Tate how, in the end, everyone, including Tate and her family, that she ever hoped for eventually left her, so she felt she could no longer lean on someone. Hearing Kya's statement about her feelings, Tate, that initially refused Kya's wish to stay away from her, decided to respect Kya's wishes. It shows that Tate respects Kya as he chooses to grant Kya's wishes rather than his own

Likewise, Kya also shows that he respects Tate when he allows Tate's wish to continue his studies at university, even though it means they have to experience a long-distance relationship and cannot meet often anymore. At first, Kya did not agree with Tate's wish to go to university and asked Tate why he wanted to study there, "Why do you have to go, Tate? Why can't you stay here, shrimp like your dad?"(p.147). Tate then told Kya he wanted to go to university to explore more about marshes and biology. In the end, Kya decided to respect Tate's decision to go to university to continue his studies. For a moment she looked somewhere over his shoulder and then into his eyes. A chasm she knew to its greatest depths, "Good-bye, Tate."(p.148)

4.1.4 The sense of responsibility

Having a sense of responsibility for the loved one can prove the existence of love. Responsibility can be shown when someone feels responsible for the loved

one's needs and happiness and tries to maintain a relationship. In this story, Tate shows his responsibility to Kya's needs and happiness when he always visits Kya to have a romantic time together as lovers. Around the work, as best he could, Tate got out to Kya's but could never stay long. Sometimes boating forty minutes for a ten-minute beach walk, holding hands. Kissing a lot. Not wasting a minute. Boating back. (p.141). It proves that Tate has a sense of responsibility for Kya's happiness; therefore, he is willing to travel far to meet Kya and enjoy time together as lovers.

In addition, Tate also showed responsibility for Kya's happiness when he decided to move to Marsh to live with Kya. After Kya receives his love again, Tate decides to move to Marsh to live with Kya because he knows Kya does not want to live outside Marshland. He move into the shack with her the next day, packing and unpacking within a single tide as sand creatures do.(p.373)

Apart from that, Tate and Kya also show their responsibility for becoming a couple by maintaining their commitment to live together. Having children is a goal and hope for a married couple, as well as Tate and Kya. Tate and Kya hoped for a family, but a child never came (p. 377). However, Tate and Kya did not give up on their relationship even though they were not blessed with children in their relationship and instead made them even closer. The disappointment wove them closer together, and they were seldom separated for more than a few hours. (p. 377). It shows that Tate and Kya are responsible for their commitment to living together.

4.2. The impacts of Tate and Kya's love on their relationship

4.2.1 Become lovers

After deciding to have a learning agenda together, Tate and Kya started spending much time together. Tate started to come to Kya's place frequently. In between helping his dad or pitching baseball with his friends, he came to Kya's place several times a week. (p. 113). Likewise, Kya always waits for Tate to come to his place every day. Tate, who treats her differently from most people, who always hurt her, makes her comfortable around Tate. No matter what she was doing-weeding the garden, feeding the chickens, searching for shells-she listened to the sound of her boat humming up the channel. (p. 113). It proves that Tate and Kya are getting close and comfortable with each other.

Furthermore, how Tate taught Kya slowly and patiently made Kya want to continue studying with Tate. Tate said long words were simply little ones strung together-so she wasn't afraid of them. Tate said long words were simply little ones strung together-so she wasn't afraid of them.(p. 114) Tate also always brings Kya new books to read so they spend more time together for their learning agenda. Tate and Kya even looked for another place to continue their learning when some social servers looking for Kya. They pattered slowly through the marsh, then planed off south through open sea away from town .(p.122). They finally find one old cabin, and for the rest of summer Kya and Tate did the reading lessons at the tumbledown cabin.(p.123). In addition, Tate and Kya also continue their learning activities even though in winter, the darkness is longer than the light, and the air is getting colder.

As the day grew shorter, again, they met near her shack because there wasn't enough daylight to get to the reading cabin. They had always studied outside, but when a crazed wind blew one morning, Kya built up the fire in the wood stove. (p.126)

The quotations above show how Tate and Kya manage everything so they can continue their study activities together. Feeling comfortable and close to each other as they consistently spend time together makes them fall in love. At first, Tate's feelings for Kya seem tangled between the sweet love for a lost sister and the fiery love for a girl. (p.133). However, over time he realized that he loved Kya as a girl. It was proven when he dared to kiss Kya while playing together. He took her shoulders, hesitated an instant, then kissed her lips as the leaves rained and danced around them silently as snow. (p.135).

Kya, who also always feels happy and comfortable with Tate because he treats her as special, felt a feeling of happiness she had never had before when Tate kissed her. Of all the ragged loves she'd known from wayward family, none had felt like this. (p.135). Therefore, Kya then told Tate that she wanted to be her girlfriend.

“Am I your girlfriend now?” she asked.

He smiled. “Do you want to be?”

“Yes.”

“You might be too young”, he said.

“But I know feathers. I bet the other girls don't know feathers.”

“Alright, then.” And he kissed her again. This time she tilted her head to the side and her lips softened. And for the first time in her life, her heart was full.” (p.135-136)

The quotation above shows when Kya told Tate she wanted to be her girlfriend. Tate, who has also realized that he loves Kya as a girl, then agrees for Kya to be his girlfriend so that they can become lovers. Furthermore, this novel

also portrays how Tate and Kya are happy as lovers. Both of them continue their study agenda, but what is different is that after becoming lovers, they make their activities more enjoyable. Now, every new word began with a squeal, every sentence a race.(p.137) . They are also stealing romantic time in the middle of their study agenda.

He wrote $12 \times 12 = 144$ in the sand, but she ran past him,dived into the breaking surf, down to the calm, and swam until he followed into a place where gray-blue light beams slanted through the quiet and highlighted their forms, Sleek as porpoised, Later, sandy and salty, they rolled across the beach, arms tight around each other as if they were one. (p.137).

The quotation above shows how Kya was mischievous during their learning agenda, but instead of reminding her, Tate followed Kya, and they swam together. It proves they can enjoy a romantic time as a couple in the middle of their study agenda. Apart from that, the happiness in Tate and Kya's relationship as lovers is also shown by how they enjoy their sexual activities.

“I’ll wash up,” she said as she poured hot water from the woodstove into the basin. “I’ll help you.” And he came up behind her and put his arms around her waist. She leaned her head back against his chest,eyes closed. Slowly his fingers moved under her sweater, across her sleek stomach, toward her breasts. As usual, she wore no bra, and his fingers circled her nipples. His touch lingered there, but a sensation spread down her body through his hands moved between her legs.(p. 143).

The quotation above shows When Tate and Kya have their first sexual activity. Tate is the first to initiate their sexual activities. Even though it was sudden, Kya does not show any rejection of what Tate is doing. Kya Even is depicted as enjoying the sexual touch given by Tate. Both enjoy their sexual activities and want sexual satisfaction from each other, proving that they are enjoying their relationship.

4.2.2 Overcoming obstacles in relationship

Tate and Kya's love for each other also makes them successful in dealing with the conflicts that arise in their relationship. The first is a misunderstanding between Tate and Kya when Tate does not keep his promise to visit Kya. Before going to university, Tate promises Kya that he will never leave and forget Kya. Apart from that, he also promises to visit Kya. Tate said to Kya, I'll come home in about a month, I promise. For the Fourth of July. I'll be back before you know it." (p. 148). Therefore on July 4th, Kya came to the lagoon to wait for Tate's arrival. However, until the sun began to set, Kya still saw no sign of Tate's arrival. The muggy afternoon rallied mosquitoes. no boats, no Tate. At dusk, she stood straight and still and silent as a stork, staring at the empty-quiet channel. (p. 152). Still believing that Tate will come to her, Kya keep waiting for Tate the next day, but Tate never comes. In the end, Kya had to accept that Tate had left her and maybe no longer loved her.

On the other hand, without Kya knowing fifteen days after the fourth of July, Tate gets a chance to go home, which he wants to use to visit Kya to apologize for his late coming. On his way to Kya's place, he accidentally sees Kya, but Kya does not see him coming, so he decides to spy on her. However, during his spying on Kya, Tate unexpectedly realizes that Kya is completely isolating herself when he sees how she becomes cautious when she hears a boat coming towards her.

Kya grabbed the knapsack, sprinted across the sandbar, and scrambled into tall grass. Squatting low to the ground, snatching glances to see if the boat had come into the view, she duck-walked toward her boat. Their knees lifted nearly to her chin. She was closer to Tate now, and he saw her eyes, dark and crazed.(p.165).

The quotation above shows when Tate accidentally saw Kya, who was scared and in a hurry when she heard the sound of another boat just passing by. This behavior shown by Kya then made Tate realize that Kya avoided the presence of someone even though the person did not intend to meet her. It then makes Tate doubt whether Kya can live in his world because he has a dream to become a scientist and establish relationships with many scientists out there, while Kya avoids contact with other people and seems unwilling to leave the marsh.

Kya's mind could easily live there, but she could not. Breathing hard, he stared at his decision hiding there in cord grass: Kya or everything else. Kya, Kya, I just can't do this," he whispered. "I'm sorry." After she motored away, he got into his boat and motored back toward the ocean. Swearing at the coward inside who would not tell her .goodbye. (p.166)

The quotation above show Tate's dilemma because he still loves Kya, but on the other hand, he is worried that Kya cannot live a normal life. As he is not man enough, he eventually leaves Kya without saying goodbye because he thinks Kya cannot live in a world like him. However, the decision to leave Kya and try to forget her is actually hard for Tate.

Those four years at university, he'd convince himself that Kya couldn't fit with the academic world he sought. All through undergraduate, he'd tried to forget her; after all, there were plenty of female distractions at Chapel Hill. He even had a few long term relationship, but no one compared. (p.189)

The quote above shows how Tate tries to forget Kya when he still loves her. Forgetting loved ones is difficult because it means lying about honest feelings. Tate even attempts to have relationships with girls in his college, but nothing can make him forget about Kya. It shows that he also faces struggles after he decides to leave Kya. Therefore, after completing his undergraduate, he decided to meet Kya again to apologize and explain everything.

Talking fast, he said, “Kya leaving you was not only wrong, it was the worst thing I have ever done or ever will do in my life. I have regretted it for years and will always regret it. I think of you everyday. For the rest of my life, I’ll be sorry I left you. I truly thought that you wouldn’t be able to leave the marsh and live in other world, so I didn’t see how we could stay together. But that was wrong, and it was bullshit that I didn’t comeback and talk to you about it...(p.208)

The quotation above shows When Tate goes to Kya to apologize and explain things about him leaving Kya years ago. Tate indicated that he deeply regretted ever leaving Kya without saying goodbye. However, Kya, who still feels hurt, cannot accept Tate's apology and accepts Tate back in his life. Kya thinks, "Why should the injured, the still bleeding, bear the onus of forgiveness?". Therefore, she does not answer Tate's apology

Knowing that his mistake in leaving Kya is not easy to apologize for, Tate then does not force Kya to forgive him easily. Nevertheless, Tate keeps trying to show Kya that he still loves her by giving her attention to Kya. For example, helping to publish books so that it will be easier for Kya to earn money, gives her a compass so she would not get lost when exploring the marshes, and showing worry when he saw Kya getting hurt. It then made Kya slowly accept Tate back in her life because she realized that Tate still really cared about her. Therefore, after she gave Tate a copy of her book as a symbol of her gratitude for Tate's help so far, Kya said to herself, “I could have at least invited him in for tea. That wouldn’t hurt anything. I could be his friend.”(p.232) After that, Tate and Kya's relationship enhances, although they have not yet returned to being lovers as Tate wants.

Unfortunately, their relationship faces difficulties again when Kya asks Tate to forget about them. When their relationship begins to sweeten, and Kya shows

signs that she is starting to open her heart again for Tate, Kya has to go to prison on charges of murdering Chase Andrews. This situation then made Kya mentally unstable and start blaming anyone for leaving her. Kya stood in the middle of her cell. Here she was in jail. If those she'd loved, including Jodie and Tate, hadn't left her, she wouldn't be here.(p.298). Kya then realized that leaning on someone brought her difficulties. Therefore when she met Tate, who at that time visited her, she told him to forget about her.

“Tate, please, you have to forget me.”

“I have never and will never forget you, Kya”

You know I'm different. I don't fit in with other people. I cannot be part of your world. Please, can't you understand? I'm afraid to be close to anybody ever again. I can't. (p.304)

The quotation above shows when Kya tells Tate she is afraid and does not want to get close to someone again. Therefore, she asks Tate to forget and leave her. After Kya asked Tate to keep his distance from her, the relationship between Tate and Kya drifted apart again. However, several times after Kya got out of jail, Tate decided to try to return to meet Kya to tell and convince her that he still and will continue to love her.

“I love you, Kya, you know that. You've known it for a long time.”

You left me like all the others,” she said.

“I will never leave you again.” “I know,” she said.

“Kya do you love me?” You've never spoken those words to me.”

“I've always loved you. Even as a child- in a time I don't remember-I already loved you.” She dipped her head.

“Look at me,” he said gently. She hesitated, face downcast.

“Kya, I need to know that the running and hiding are over. That you can love without being afraid.”

She lifted her face looked into his eyes, then led him through the woods to the oak grove, the place of the feathers. (p.371-372)

The quote above shows When Tate meets Kya again at her place. Tate does not give up on his love for Kya because he still loves Kya and realizes that before going to jail, Kya has given a sign that she will return to him, and they will return as a couple. Therefore, he again decides to meet Kya to tell her he still and will always love her. Tate also convinces Kya that they can love each other again as a couple. Kya, who initially still loves Tate but tries to keep her distance because being close to someone always brings difficulties, is finally honest with her feelings and decides to accept Tate in her life again.

4.2.4 Have a long last relationship

The love between Tate and Kya also makes their relationship last until the end. After Kya accepts him back into her life, Tate decides to stay with Kya in Marshland because he knows that Marsh has become a part of Kya's life. Tate's devotion and love towards Kya make Kya accept Tate's proposal so that they finally enjoy a happy life together as a couple in Marshland.

Each morning they rose at dawn and, while Tate percolated coffee, Kya fried corn fritters in Ma's old iron skillet-blackened and dented-or stirred grits and eggs as sunrise eased over the lagoon. The heron posing one legged in the mist. They cruised estuaries,waded waterways, and slipped through narrow steams, collectiong feathers and amoebas. In the evening they drifted in her old boat until sunset, then swam naked in moonlight or loved in beds of cool ferns.(p.373)

The quotation above describes how Tate and Kya happily live in Marshland.

They divided household duties in the morning, then continued to explore Marshland together and, after that, spent romantic time swimming together or making love at the end of the day. Furthermore, even though they were not blessed with children when they became a couple, they persisted in their

commitment to live together. This way, Tate and Kya peacefully, happily, and romantically lived together in Marshland despite all the obstacles they had been through, proving their powerful love. Even though at the end of the story, Kya is said to have died, the relationship between Tate and Kya remains last until the end because there is no further story about their relationship, and their love still last after all of the conflicts.



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CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

Based on the study above, the romance in the novel *Where The Crawdads Sing* is represented by the characters Kya and Tate, that express their love for each other through acts of caring, respect, understanding, and responsibility.

Furthermore, their love also impacts their relationship, making them become lovers, deal with relationship problems, and keep their relationship until the end.

Tate shows that he cares for Kya, intending to make Kya more comfortable and have a better life. He taught Kya all the things that she had never got before because she did not go to school so Kya could expand her knowledge, helped her publish books so that Kya could be financially stable, and often gave her gifts. Apart from that, Tate also showed care for Kya by always showing worries for Kya's condition, for example, by holding himself back from making love with Kya, because it would have more disadvantages on her. Tate also proves his care for Kya by always setting his time for Kya regardless of his busyness.

Likewise, Kya also shows her care for Tate by giving him Christmas gifts so that Tate feels happy and loved. She also cared for Tate when she apologized for asking about Tate's mother and sister, who had died since she was afraid Tate might feel sad when talking about it. Kya's portrayal of caring was also shown when Kya met Jumpin to ask what happened to Tate and if there was anything she could help with after she saw Tate being taken with the sheriffs. The last portrait

of Kya's concern for Tate is shown by Kya, who is willing to wait for Tate's arrival, both when they are still dating and when they get married

Apart from care, their mutual understanding shows Tate and Kya's love for each other. Tate showed that he understood how disappointed and hurt Kya was at him for ignoring her by not seeking defense when Kya was mad at him.

Furthermore, Tate also showed that he understood Kya when he directly explained that she did not have to go out of Marsh to publish a book because he could mail it to a publisher, even though Kya did not tell this matter to Tate. Besides, Kya also shows her understanding to Tate when she tries to comfort Tate, who tells her that her mother and sister died because they wanted to buy a bicycle for his birthday present. Kya understood that Tate feel that this was his fault, so she immediately told Tate that it was not his fault.

Furthermore, Kya and Tate also show that they respect each other. Tate shows that he respects Kya when he does not force Kya to accept his apology. Even though Tate initially hoped that Kya could forgive him and they would get back together, Tate did not force it in the end after Kya said it might be difficult for her to forgive Tate because she was already disappointed. Apart from that, he also once again showed that he always respected Kya's decision when Kya asked him to stay away from him because she felt tired of connecting with other people even though, in his soul, he still wanted them to return as lovers. Likewise, Kya also showed he appreciated Tate when she appreciated Tate's decision and wanted to continue his studies at university, even though it meant they had to undergo a long-distance relationship and could no longer see each other often.

The last expression of love between Tate and Kya is shown by how they feel they have a responsibility towards one another. Tate shows his responsibility for Kya when he decides to move to live in Marsh with Kya after Kya receives his love back and accepts his proposal because he knows Kya cannot leave Marsh. Tate and Kya showed their responsibility for their last decision to return to a relationship and live together by not separating when they were not blessed with children, even though they both hoped for it.

The love shown by Tate and Kya for each other then affected their relationship. The first is to make them both decide to become lovers. After deciding to study together, Tate and Kya started spending a lot of time together. Kya, who previously was unwilling to have anything to do with other people, felt comfortable being beside Tate because Tate treated her well. The two of them managed to carry out their study agenda despite the barriers, such as social servers who kept looking for Kya or the colder air in winter. The intensity of their togetherness, which was rarely separated, then the attention that Tate continued to give to Kya made the two of them realize they were falling in love with each other so that they later became lovers and lived their relationship happily as a couple.

Apart from that, the love that Tate and Kya have also made them successful in facing misunderstandings and obstacles in their relationship. The first was a misunderstanding when Tate decided to leave Kya when he was at university. When she realized that Tate had not kept his promise to come to her, Kya thought that Tate had completely left her and no longer loved her. However, on the other hand, it turns out that Tate left Kya because he thought that Kya might not be able

to live in an ordinary world like him even though, in reality, he still loves her. Therefore, after graduating, Tate tried apologizing to Kya and explaining everything. Even though Kya said it was difficult for her to forgive him, Tate still showed that he still loved Kya by continuing to pay attention to him. It made Kya finally realize that Tate cared about her, so their relationship got better again.

In addition, Tate and Kya also managed to overcome other obstacles that made their relationship drift away. It is when Kya tells Tate to leave her while she is in prison. Kya felt she was in prison because the people she loved always left her, including Tate. Kya thought she could not lean on someone anymore because it always brought her difficulties. Therefore she asked Tate to stay away from her and forget her. After that, their relationship backed away. However, Tate, who did not give up on his love for Kya, decided to return to meet Kya sometime after he got out of prison to convince Kya that he had never stopped loving her and that they could get back together. Moreover, Kya, who truthfully still loves Tate, finally agrees to get back together.

The love that Tate and Kya had made their relationship work together until the end. They managed to overcome obstacles that had worsened the relationship between them. After Tate returns to see Kya convince her they love each other and can get back together, they decide to marry and live happily in Marshland. Even though, at the end of the story, Kya is told to die, the relationship and love of the two remain strong and last until the end because they have managed to face all the obstacles.

5.2 Suggestions

This study succeeded in analyzing the romance in the novel *Where The Crawdads* with the theory of New Criticism. However, in this study, the researcher only analyzed the romance shown by the characters Tate and Kya. On the other hand, this novel also contains a love story between Kya and Chase Andrews. Therefore, the researcher suggests further research to analyze this novel's romance, focusing on the story of Kya and Chase Andrews. In addition, future research can also use other theories to analyze the problem. By doing this research, the next researcher will be able to fill in the gaps in the previous research.



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