CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This section presents such topics as background of study, statement of problems, purposes of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and also definition of key terms. Each section is presented as follows.

1.1 Background of the Study

In the daily life, literature is like a best friend. It can be found in anytime and anywhere. Literature is meaningful because from literature people are being able to see the world from other perspective. It means that there are so many ways in seeing the world not only from the own eyes but someone else’s eyes. Koesnosoebroto (1988: 2) states, “Literature, then, exists because it pleases us by imitating life, or more precisely, by displaying its writer’s visions of life as it is or as the writers think it should be.” It means that literature is a kind of reflection of people’s life and it tells people how to face a certain problem in their life that may appear based on the author’s eyes.

Literature cannot be separated from human beings life. For the most cases, literature deals with life experiences. According to Conolly (in Koesnosoebroto, 1988: 1), “Men read to discover themselves and their world, to assess their special roles in the universe, to learn the meaning of the personal struggles in which they are engaged.” It means that, through literature, the readers are able to know about the problem and the struggle that faced by the other person. Thus, when the readers come
to the real life, they are expected to know themselves, to find out what they are interested in and to make their life better.

There are some kinds of literary works which express the feeling about the world in the form of language. Moody (1984: 2) states, “There are a number of different branches such as Drama, Poetry, the Novel, the Short Story; all these are works of the imagination or the capacity for invention.” Literary works express happiness, sacrifice, struggle, and conflict of life, either reality or unreality. One of the kinds of literary works that tell about the human life in extended prose is novel. There are some excess of novel, the first one is, by reading novel, the readers are able to look at the character’s experiences about life in series. The second one is the readers are able to face the problems related to their life based on the author’s perspective. The third is the language of the novel is easily to understand. The last one is, the readers are freely imagine about the story of the novel from the effective and attractive words of the author. Therefore, novel is one of the literary works which is interesting. Based on the statements above about the excess of novel, the writer chooses novel to be analyzed.

The novel is chosen because the novel gives the example about the good of parenting style. Parenting style is important to be analyzed because it helps the parents about how to nurture the children as well. It also indicates that demandingness and responsiveness should be balance. Besides, parenting style is effective in avoiding the misunderstanding between children and parents. The reason of the writer in choosing the parenting style in this novel is because the parenting
style was done by the single father who had a daughter which acted rude towards him and he successfully handled it. The father used certain parenting style that suit for the child’s character.

In the previous research done by Reni Dwi Rahmawati (2011) with the titled “An Analysis on Bridget’s Parenting Style Found In Anita Shreve’s novel “A Wedding in December”, the researcher discussed the parenting style of the single mom towards her son. The mom suffered breast cancer which means she would not live long. She had a son and she nurtured her son very well for the successful future of her son. She did not curb her son because her son would hate her for the rest of the life. By studying the previous literature, the result in analyzing parenting style is useful for the child outcomes.

Based on the explanation above the researcher analyzed Steve’s parenting style from “The Last Song” in Nicholas Sparks’ novel entitled “An analysis on Steve’s Parenting Style Found in The Last Song Novel by Nicholas Sparks.”

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are many problems that can be analyzed in “The Last Song” novel written by Nicholas Sparks. Therefore, the discussion will be focused on the problems as follows:

1. What are Steve’s parenting style found in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks?
2. Why does Steve use such parenting style in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks?

3. What are the effects of Steve’s parenting style in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the statements of problems above, the purposes of the study are:

1. to find out Steve’s parenting style found in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks.

2. to explain the reasons of Steve in using such parenting style in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks.

3. to know the effect of Steve’s parenting style in “The Last Song” Novel by Nicholas Sparks.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

In this study, the writer focused on the novel “The Last Song” written by Nicholas Sparks. There are many topics that can be analyzed in this novel but the writer focuses on the kinds of Steve’s parenting style, the reasons of Steve in choosing parenting style and the effect of Steve’s in his parenting style. Meanwhile, for the limitation of study, the writer only focuses on Steve. Steve is the father of the main character.
1.5 Significance of the Study

The result of the study is expected to be able to encourage the readers to pay attention to literature especially novel. The story is expected to be useful for the readers and get some information about parenting style. For the next researcher hopefully it can be reference to conduct the similar term of study with different topic.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding and interpreting the terms that is used in title, the writer would like to describe the definition related to the literature terms before entering this discussion further.

1. **Analysis** is a method by which a thing is separated into parts and those parts are given rigorous, logical, detail, scrutiny, resulting in a consistent and relatively complete account of the elements of thing and the principles of their organization. (Holman. 1986: 19)

2. **Parenting Style** is variations in parents’ disciplining style, warmth, attention to the needs of the child, and parenting attitudes and beliefs can all be characterized in terms of consistent patterns of child rearing. (Smetana, 201: 193)

3. **Novel** is a book-length story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense that, while we read, we experience actual life. (Kennedy, 1983: 2).