THE INFLUENCE OF HOLLY’S FAMILY AND GERRY’S LETTERS ON HOLLY’S PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT AS SEEN IN AHERN’S P.S. I LOVE YOU

AN UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra in English Letters

By

NABILA
Student Number: 064214091

ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAMME
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LETTERS
FACULTY OF LETTERS
SANATA DHARMA UNIVERSITY
YOGYAKARTA
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February 13, 2012.
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I declare that this thesis which I have written does not contain the works of part of the works of other people, except those cited in the quotations and bibliography, as a scientific paper should.

Yogyakarta, March 13, 2012

Nabila
For those who always give me the biggest love, sacrifice, and support

My Beloved Parents,
D. Habib Aziz & Midawati

My Beloved Brothers&Sisters
Ulla, Ical, Imar, Edo, Dida, & Bajie
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my gratitude to those who have helped me do this undergraduate thesis with their attention, knowledge, love, and patience. First of all, I would like to give my thanks to Allah S.W.T. and my Lord Nabi Muhammad S.A.W. for their blessing and guidance during the completion of this undergraduate thesis.

I also would like to express my deep gratitude to my advisor, Linda Valentina Budiman, S.S., M.Hum., and my co-advisor, Maria Ananta Tri Suryandari, S.S., M.Ed., who have spent their precious time read and corrected my undergraduate thesis. All their suggestions, corrections, and support have encouraged me in completing this undergraduate thesis. To my super mom, Midawati, and my beloved dad, D. Habib Azis, I dedicated this undergraduate thesis to you. Thank you for your unconditional love, prayer, care, support and everything that I can not say one by one. I thank them for valuable help which encouraged me in writing this undergraduate thesis. I will always try to do my best to honor you.

To my dearest sisters, Ulla Kasturi, Marwah Zikra Habib, Raybasie Maharani and my dearest brothers, Jihado and Dida Alfayed, I appreciate their love, great care and support. Also to my beloved brother in heaven, Briptu Haekal, I dedicated this undergraduate thesis to you. I know you are glad in there and I am sure your love will never last for us. I thank God to have sent them in my life as my best gift that I have ever had. For all my life, I will do my best for them.

Furthermore, I am so happy to have best friends, Ansdrinia A. Danastri and Ireda Hening T. who have supported me in finishing this undergraduate thesis. I also thank God because of giving me friends who care and amaze, my classmates of 2006, Puput Trisanti, Wahyu Riyatno, Rizky Febrianto, Agustinus Dimas, Dea Rosari, Elsa Maria, Dewi Liem, Veronica, Hasan, Inkan Praviinti, Arina, Diksiita, Ira, and others who have shared the unforgettable moments in The English Letters Department of Sanata Dharma University.

Finally, thank you to all the administrative of staff of English Letters Faculty, especially Mba Ninik and others who have given me their precious time and patience in guiding me to finish this undergraduate thesis.

Nabila
LEMBAR PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN
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ABSTRACT


This thesis discusses the development of Holly’s personality in Ahern’s P.S. I Love You. Holly’s personality develops under the influences of her family and Gerry’s letters. The letters have been important because those bring a difference in Holly’s life. The letters contain some instructions and messages that Holly has to do after Gerry’s death. Those letters lead her to become an extravert.

There are three objectives that the writer wants to achieve in this thesis. First is to describe Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death. Second is to describe Holly’s family characteristics. The last objective is to describe the influence of Holly’s family and Gerry’s letters on Holly’s personality development.

This thesis is a library research. The data are taken from the novel itself and other supporting books theories which are used to solve the problems in the analysis. In answering the problems, the writer uses a phychological approach. This approach is thought as the best approach in answering the problem because the story relates to personality development.

The result of this study shows the main character, Holly Kennedy, experiences personality development in the novel. Her personality development develops because of her family and Gerry’s letters. Her siblings, Richard, Declan, and Ciara affect Holly’s personality development by supporting and encouraging her. She socializes with others and becomes more confident than before. Before Gerry’s death, Holly is described as an introvert. She is unsociable and unconfident. After Gerry’s death, she changes to an extravert. She is described as a sociable and a confident person.
ABSTRAK


CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In our daily life, we often hear from the radio or read mass media, such as television or newspaper, about someone who feels depressed because of losing his/her lover. It can influence his/her personality. Everybody has different personality and it can change because of some factors. Someone who loses his/her lover will feel sad and it can influence his/her personality. He/she can be a better or worse person because of changes in his/her personality.

Losing our lover will make a new problem in our life if we cannot pass this situation or try to solve this problem. Such thing can be seen in the novel P.S. I Love You. This novel written by Cecilia Ahern, is about an Irish widow, Holly Kennedy, who was going through a hard period in her life. She lost her husband, Gerry, even before her 30th birthday. Gerry passed away because of brain tumor. Gerry’s death devastated Holly and it influenced her personality. She could not imagine her life without him. Gerry left her a bundle of notes, gently guiding Holly into her new life without him, and signed P.S. I Love You. The letters have been important because those bring a difference in Holly’s life. Holly had undergone changes in her personality. It developed under the influences of those letters and Holly’s family.
Hurlock says (1976:120) there are two factors that influence changes in one’s personality, internal and external factors. The internal factors come from the person him/herself, such as changing of age which influences the individual’s personality. The external factors come from the outside of the person such as other people’s attitude and treatment toward him/her. The influence of other people which may cause good or worse personality development. It can be seen from Holly’s personality which get influence from her family.

The novel is written to show that true love never dies. Everyone has a soul mate and when they lose their soul mates, they feel sad, angry, even depressed, and of course the loss will affect their personalities which may be better or worse. Ahern describes the strength of a woman, Holly, who tries to get on with her life as a young widow. It is interesting to see how Ahern as a young writer describes about what actually a widow feels inside after having been left by her husband. Like what Holly feels when left by Gerry, her husband.

Hurlock also states in her book (1976:121) that people are not completely satisfied with their personality and they often desire to change it. It is because people are not satisfied with their belongings. They often desire to change it for the better. Furthermore, there are some choices that may be taken: being steady, being better, or being worst because the society has a variety of influences to a personality. It is rare for a person to be so completely satisfied with his personality that he/she has no desire to change it. The desire to change
the personality for the better, to improve it, usually develops in late childhood when the child becomes aware, from what parents, teachers, and peers say to him, that they dislike some of his behavior. In real life, we can find that there are people who later are known to be wise and also able to act as a leader. According to Hurlock (1976:124) there are many factors which influence personality development such as our desire to change the personality and the significant people around us.

The writer finds that in the novel Holly undergone changes in her personality, from being introverted to extraverted. It develops under the influences of Gerry’s letters and the family. The writer chooses the topic in order to give some useful information to readers about personality development and what factors influence. Therefore, the focus of this thesis is Holly’s personality development. The writer also analyzes her personalities before and after Gerry’s death, the characteristics of Holly’s family that influence her personality, and the influence of Gerry’s letters and the family on her personality development.

B. Problem Formulation

There are three problems that the writer wants to discuss in this thesis. Those problems relate to Holly’s personalities and Gerry’s letters.

1. How are Holly’s personalities described before and after Gerry’s death in Ahern’s P.S I Love You?
2. How is Holly’s family described in the novel?

3. How do Holly’s family and Gerry’s letters influence Holly’s personality development?

C. Objectives of the Study

The study aims to answer the problems formulation stated before. The first objective of the study is to examine Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death in the novel. The writer uses theory of character and characterization and theory of personality to reveal Holly’s personalities. The second objective is to analyze Holly’s family characteristics that are described in the novel. The last objective is to analyze the influence of Gerry’s letters and the family on Holly’s personality development as revealed in the novel. The writer uses the theory of personality development to reveal it.

D. Definition of Terms

In this part, the writer wants to clarify the meaning of the significant term that are used in this study to avoid misunderstanding on reading this thesis.

Personality Development

According to Allport in Hurlock’s Personality Development, personality development is a stage in growth of constantly changing and involving process within an individual (1947: 7). This process will influence one’s self concept, habits, attitudes, emotion states, sentiments, and motives. Moreover, Allport explains that personality development will determine his or her
uniqueness in speech, in reaction to people and things, in mannerism, in fantasy, and in other ways related to his or her environment (1970: 165). Thus, personality development here is the changes in a person’s personality because of various influences that influence the person’s thoughts and feelings.
CHAPTER II

Theoretical Review

A. Review of Related Studies

*P.S. I Love You* is a novel about a woman, Holly Kennedy, whose husband passes away because of brain tumor. She loses her husband even before her 30th birthday. Gerry leaves her a bundle of notes, all of which are signed P.S. I Love You. In the novel, the letters are described as Gerry’s way for guiding Holly into her new life without him. This is stated Anna Spencer in The New York Times as follow:

> Although *'P.S. I Love You' could have been just another 'run-of-the mill' romantic comedy, the novel approach of using the love letters to help Holly overcome her grief and begin a new life alone, after Gerry's demise, redeems the film. The opening scenes, depicting Holly and Gerry's idyllic life together, give no indication that Gerry is ill. All too suddenly and with no explanation, the setting changes to that of a funeral - Gerry's! This was, for me, too unexpected. The premise that these love letters can help Holly to cope with grief and to start a new life, is plausible.

From the above quotation, we can see that Gerry’s letters are important thing for Holly. Moreover, the letters help Holly overcome her grief and begin a new life without Gerry, and Holly can do it.

Sandy Crawford in her article in the Muhlenberg Weekly also gives comment that the dynamics of the characters work well together and create surprising situations in the novel. Ahern writes and describes the characters so you feel connected to them, almost like you are a part of Holly's world. Ahern
brings the characters alive and you feel as though you are experiencing the
details through your own senses. It is a tale about loss, those who are left
behind and how they cope after a death. Its language is readable and under
stable, making it an easy and quick read. Filled with Irish slang words, it gives
the book a bit of spice and a little looks into a world an ocean away. It is Irish
perspective provides a different and intriguing point of view not seen in
American literature.

B. Review of Related Theories

1. Theory of Character and Characterization

Mary Rohrberger and Samuel H. Woods Jr. In their book, Reading and
Writing about Literature states that “characters have particular personalities
and physical attributes that distinguish them from other characters. The
process by which an author creates the character is called characterization
(1971: 20).”

Perrine mentions two methods in presenting the characters. The first one
is direct presentations (1974: 68). In a direct presentation, the author simply
tells the readers about the characters in the story. In an indirect presentation,
the author shows us the characters in a action so that we can infer what they
are like from what they think, they say or they do.
Moreover, M.J Murphy (1972: 161-173) in *Understanding Unseens: An Introduction to English Poetry and the English Novel for Overseas Students* provides nine ways on how the author presents the characters as what follows:

a. Personal description

The author can describe a person’s appearance and clothing. He can describe clearly, what the characters are like and tell the reader the details of the character’s appearance: the face, skin, eyes, and clothing (1972: 161).

b. Characters as seen by others

The author describes the character’s appearance or personality by letting other characters in the story tell what they see about this character. The author describes him through the eyes and opinions of another, conveys through his choice of words and phrases, such as unquiet eyes, his smile, rare sound of her voice, unapproachable aspect, gazing at him stealthily (1972: 162).

c. Speech

The author can give the readers an insight into the character of one of the person in the story through what the person says. Whenever the person speaks, he is in conversation with another, whenever he puts forward an opinion, he is giving the readers some clues to his characters (1972: 164).
d. Past Life

The author helps the readers to understand a character’s personality by learning about the past experiences or important moments that influenced the character’s personality. The author gives a clue to events that have helped to shape a person’s character; by direct comment, though the person’s thoughts, through his conversation or through the medium of another person (1972: 166).

e. Conversation of others

The author can also give the readers clues about a person’s character through the conversation. People do talk about other people and the things they say often give as a clue to the character of the person spoken about (1972: 167).

f. Reactions

The author gives the clues by letting the readers know how the characters in the story react to various situations. Using this kind of characterization, the readers may expect to find the quality of the characters in dealing with those various situations (1972: 168).

g. Direct Comment

Usually the author gives his comment and opinion explicitly towards his characters in the story (1972: 171).
h. Thoughts

The author can describe a person’s mannerisms or habits both positive and negative one, which may also tell the readers something about his character (1972: 171).

i. Mannerism

The readers can understand the character’s personality based on his behavior and his habit the good or the bad ones. From the description of his behavior and his habit, the readers can conclude the character’s personality (1972: 173).

A theory of character is needed to approach a literary work, which relates to the character and his background. Abrams in his A Glossary of Literary Terms defines characters as the person who is presented in a narrative and dramatic work who reveal themselves in what they say and by what they do. A character’s speech or action may reveal some of the author’s ideas (1985: 23).

He also says a character,

may remain essential ‘stable’, or unchanged in his outlook and his dispositions, from beginning to end of a work, or he may undergo a radical change, either through a gradual development or as the result of an extreme crisis. Whether a character remains stable or changes, the reader of traditional, realistic work requires ‘consistency’ – the character should not suddenly break off and act in a way not plausibly grounded in his temperament as we have already come to know it (1985: 23).

The idea of changing character or stable character in a work of literature is also described by Perrine Laurence in his book Literature: Structure, Sound,
and Sense. Perrine (1974: 71) says that based on the development, a character can be static or dynamic.

1. Static Character

Static character is the same sort of person at the end of the story as he was at the beginning, or in another word that the character does not change.

2. Dynamic Character

Dynamic character is someone who is capable to change, maybe a large or small one, in some respects of his character. It may be for better or worse.

Moreover, to classify the characters in the novel, the writer uses Milligan’s (1983: 155) classification of fictional characters in his book The Novel in English: An Introduction. Milligan mentions two kinds of fictional characters based on their roles in the story. They are:

1. Major Characters

Major characters are characters that appear more often than the other characters in a story. Usually, from the beginning to the end of the story, those characters will become the focus. The content of the story is focused on their experiences. They perform the important role in clarifying the theme of the novel. Therefore, the success of the novel is counted on the performance of the major characters.
2. Minor Characters

Minor characters are characters that appear in a certain setting to support the main characters.

2. Theory of Personality Development

Allport in Hurlock’s book (1976: 7) clarifies that personality development is a stage in growth of a constantly changing and evoking process within and individual. In personality development, there is a series of sequential changes in an individual. It means that in personality development there is change in personality. The changing in personality is so because people are not completely satisfied with their personality. They often desire to change it for the better. Furthermore, there are some choices that may be taken: being steady, being better, or being worst because the society has a variety of influences to a personality.

According to Hurlock (1976: 119), a nice personality becomes the demand of a society and it requires such personality. All of the people want to be the best in all aspects. Sometimes they want to change their personality to be better persons.

Hurlock points out eight determinants that are responsible for influencing self-concept and characteristic pattern of adjusting to life. Those eight determinants are coming from physical, intellectual, emotional, social,
aspirations and achievements, sex, educational, and family. The writer finds one of eight determinants on P.S. I Love You’s main character personality development, and it is family. Hurlock says that family will determine one’s attitudes toward people and social activities. Therefore, family play the dominant role in shaping one’s personality pattern.

Hurlock (1974: 352-353) in her book Personality Development states that there are two ways where the family influence one’s personality development. The first way is direct influence which comes from the training methods that the parents used to shape the personality pattern and the communication of interest, attitudes, and values between family members. Through the training methods, it can direct him/her to conform the approved pattern she/he likes or that of the social group with which she/he is identified. While the second way is indirect influence which comes from the identification with family members whom she/he admires, respect, and love, and whom she/he either consciously or unconsciously imitate. She/he may develops a personality pattern similar to that of her/his family. She/he also may imitates her/his siblings whom she/he constantly associated with.

Hurlock (1974: 120-122) also divides characteristics of change in personality into three major categories.

a. Characteristics of change in personality

There are three categories of changes in personality. First, some changes are for the better and some are for the worst. The personality for better and for
worst reflects the kind of life adjustment the individual is making at the time. Successful adjustment improves the self-concept and the person exhibits greater composure, self-confidence, and self-assurance. On the other hand, failure to adjust leads the person to deterioration in self-concept and to feelings of inadequacy and inferiority.

Second, personality changes are for quantitative and some for qualitative. In quantitative changes, characteristics already present are reinforced, strengthened or weakened. Undesirable traits usually become weaken as the person is motivated to weaken such traits and conform to socially approved patterns. The stronger of the motivation to win social approval and acceptance strengthen desirable traits.

In qualitative changes, an already-present trait, usually an undesirable one is replaced by another trait, usually a desirable one. A person who has already be careful of his money becomes more or less as he/she discovers the social reaction to stinginess and generosity. If he/she is normal, he/she will probably be somewhat more generous, hoping to win greater social favor. But, if he/she is not normal, he/she may change into a spendthrift or he/she may change into an extravagant person or he/she may fluctuate between extreme generosity and miserliness.

The changes are also classified based on the period of time. Hurlock says that the third is slow versus rapid changes. She clarifies that changes are regarded as slow if they are barely perceptible, while rapid changes are readily
apparent to all. Normally, personality changes are slow and gradual. Every change in personality involves the violation of previous habit and the learning of a new habit to replace it.

Furthermore, changes in personality do not occur of their own accord. Usually they are the result of multiple revisions in the thoughts and feelings related to the person’s concept self. Many conditions have been reported to be responsible for personality changes. The changes of personality can be affected by several conditions (Hurlock, 1974: 124-130). The most significant conditions are:

1. Physical Changes

Physical changes in someone can change his/her personality. The physical changes are caused by some aspects, such as illness, blindness, and injuries in which those changes may make someone’s personality change. The physical changes also happen when someone is at puberty in which those changes may make someone have personality change in self concept (Hurlock, 1974: 124).

2. Environment

Environment is responsible for someone’s personality change. It may produce changes in the person’s self-concept and his/her characteristic behavior. The changes depend on how well someone adjust himself/herself to the new environment and how well the new environment meets his/her needs. The environment can make improvement in someone’s personality changes in two conditions. First is whether someone can meet equilibrium with the
environment or not. The example is moving to a friendly environment can lead someone to be an accepted person. Second is timing of the movement. The example is parents’ divorce when their children are still young has a greater effect than when their children are adults. Whether environment will lead to an improvement of the personality pattern will depend on largely on whether the personality moves toward equilibrium with its environment (Hurlock, 1974: 125).

3. Significant People

The significant people in an individual’s life can be responsible for personality changes. The changes will depend on how much the attitudes, values, beliefs of the significant people differ from those of the individual. If there is a great disparity, he/she will be motivated to effect greater changes and he/she will try to adapt the pattern of behavior, attitudes, beliefs, values, and so on (Hurlock, 1974: 126).

4. Social Pressures

Social pressure can make people change their personality in order to be accepted socially. Personalities which are rejected by social tend to change. As childhood progresses, the child becomes increasingly aware that some personality traits are admired while some are disliked. Since everyone normally has a strong desire to be accepted by those who are significant to him, he tries to change any personality trait that will militate against his being accepted (Hurlock, 1974:126).
5. Changes in Roles

Role changes result in status changes within the group. One’s role may change because of a change in age. When the result of the changes put the person into a favorable status, there will be a change for better in the person’s self-concept (Hurlock, 1974: 127).

6. Strong Motivation

When the motivation to improve the personality pattern is strong enough, changes can be effected. Ordinarily people are most strongly motivated to change those traits which they believe will improve their social relationship and earn them greater social acceptance (Hurlock, 1974: 127).

7. Changes in The Self-Concept

Changes in self-concept of one’s personality will change his/her personality pattern. Changes in self-concept are more difficult in older people and usually occur slowly. There are three obstacles to the changing of self-concept. First is the intellectual. People who are accustomed to certain behavior of solving problems are difficult to see that there are other ways to solve those problems. Second is the emotional. People who usually think to be follower experience dissatisfaction when they think to be a leader. Third is environment. People have difficulties to have good self-concepts if they are in the environment which tend to judge them based on race or religion (Hurlock, 1974: 128).
8. The Use of Psychotherapy

Even though a person is strongly motivated, he/she may require professional help in changing his self-concept, learning to think of himself in a new way, and breaking destructive habits. Psychotherapy is based on the assumption that a poorly adjusted person can make better adjustment if he is helped to develop a more favorable self-concept. The use of psychotherapy also helps to recognize how self-concept and his/her behavior are, to get the motivation and knowledge how to change his/her self-concept, and to alter the conditions in the environment which contribute to an unfavorable self-concept (Hurlock, 1974: 129).

3. Theory of Personality

According to Allport (1961: 28) in the book *Personality Theories, Basic Assumptions, Research, and Applications Second Edition*, personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his characteristic behavior and thought. The phrase “dynamic organization” suggests that human behavior is constantly evolving and changing, a person is not a static entity in Allport’s theory, although there is an underlying mental system that integrates and organizes the various elements of personality. The phrase “psychophysical systems” means both mind and body elements must be considered when describing and studying personality. Personality, then, reflects all of what a human being is. The term “determine”
is a logical consequence of Allport’s psychophysical orientation. The word “characteristic” in Allport’s definition simply highlights the paramount importance that he attached to individual uniqueness. Each person is truly an entity unto herself or himself in this personological system. Finally, the phrase “behavior and thought” is a blanket designed to cover everything the person does. Allport believed that personality may express itself in some way in virtually all observable human actions.

Larry A. Hjelle and Daniel J. Ziegler (1981: 6) say that personality has been viewed as the individual’s most striking or dominant characteristics. Also Larry and Daniel (1981: 7) summarize the common definitions of personality theories from behavioral observation (1981: 7). The second point is that it is only through the study of personality that the special properties or combination of properties that distinguish one person from another can be made clear (1981: 7). The third point is that personality represent and evolving process subject to a variety of internal and external influences, including genetic and biological properties, social experiences, and changing environmental circumstances (1981: 7). Observing the main character in a literary work can be seen by its personality. From its personality, readers can see clearly the person or the main character in the literary works and therefore they can understand the characteristics of the main character.

The writer also applies Jung’s two basic attitudes from his psychological types of theory, extraversion and introversion, as quoted from Jeff and Gregory Feist’s book entitled Theories of Personality (2009: 115). Jung states
that the introverts are characterized by the predominance of person’s subjective life. They desire spaces which is private in the mind and private environmental places.

According to Jill D. Burris and Liza Kaenzig in *The Often Forgotten Factor Impacting The Gifted*, introversion is not a pathological condition; it is not an abnormal response to the world. It is simply a personality trait found in a small percentage of the total population. These are some characteristics of introverts:

a. Territorial, it means that she/he desires private space and time for herself/himself

b. She/he becomes drained around large groups of people

c. She/he needs time alone to recharge (get agitated and irritated without enough time alone)

d. She/he prefer to work on own rather than do group work, she/he is happy to be alone

e. She/he does not share private thoughts with anyone, she/he conceals her/his feeling

f. She/he sees reflection as very important thing, concentrate well and deeply

g. She/he becomes absorbed in thoughts and ideas
h. She/he limits their interest but explore deeply

(http://cfge. Wm.edu/documents/Introversion.html)

According to Jung (2009: 116) is extraverts are more influenced by their surroundings than their inner world and they are more focus on the objective attitude while suppressing the subjective. Extraverts are overly suspicious of the subjective attitude, whether their own or that of someone else. Moreover, according to David Keirsey in *Please Understand Me: Character & Temperament Types* (1978: 101-102) extraverts are sociable and likely to approach something or someone unfamiliar without hesitation. They usually have better understood and relates well and easily to others. In consequence, the extravert grows up with fewer doubts about himself than does the introvert.

C. Theoretical framework

In this study, the writer uses three theories and psychological approach to make the explanation of the analysis more clearly. They are theory of character and characterization, theory of personality, and theory of personality development. The theory of character and characterization is used to analyze the main character in the novel *P. S. I Love You*, Holly Kennedy and Holly’s family. The writer analyzes Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death.
The writer also applies the theory of personality to analyze Holly’s personality. The theory of personality development is used in order to reveal Holly’s personalities development from introverted to extroverted as the main character in the novel and how Holly’s family and Gerry’s letters influence Holly’s personality development.
CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

In this chapter, there are three main parts. First is object of the study. It is about the focus of the study. Second is approach of the study. It is about the approach that is used in this thesis. The last is method of the study. It is about the steps that are employed in analyzing the problem formulation.

A. Object of the Study

The object of this study is a novel entitled *P.S I Love You* that is written by Irish writer, Cecilia Ahern and it is her first novel. The novel was published in 2004 by HarperCollins Publisher. It consists of 218 pages. The book reaches the bestseller status in Ireland for 19 weeks, in the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, and the Netherlands. The novel has been adapted several times, for radio, television, stage and cinema.

The novel tells the reader about an Irish widow, Holly Kennedy, who was going through a hard period in her life. She lost her husband, Gerry, even before her 30th birthday. Gerry passed away because of brain tumor. Gerry’s death devastated Holly. She could not imagine her life without him. Gerry left her a bundle of notes, gently guiding Holly into her
new life without him, all of which were signed P.S. I Love You. The messages include various tasks and treats Gerry has left for Holly. This is his way of letting her know that he will always be there for her. Here, Holly’s personalities change and develop day by day because of the influences of Gerry’s letters.

B. Approach of the Study

Literary is needed in order to analyze literary work so that a good analysis can be produced. In *Beginning Theory: An Introduction to literary and Culture Theory* divides literary approach such as structuralism, post-structuralism, post-modernism, psychoanalytic criticism, feminist criticisms, and more. To go into the depth of the story in this study, psychological approach is going to be employed. James S. Ross in his book, *Basic Psychology How We Behave and Why* states that psychology is the study of behavior and its motives. In its scope all behavior is included, whether that of individual adults, adolescents, infants, insane persons, animals, or groups of people. Each of these kinds of behavior is the subject- matter of a special branch of psychological study. (1946: 9).

According to Guerin’s *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature 4th Edition*, psychological approach is an approach that has important limitation in its aesthetic inadequacy (1999: 126). It means that psychological approach gives more information and attention on the psychological side of the work rather than its aesthetic side. However, this
approach lets the readers analyze psychologically the characters or situations in the literary works.

According to Wellek and Warren, psychology and literature have a very close relation in which some of literary works talk about psychological cases. They say that people can learn theory of psychology that may be revealed in works of literature by analyzing the works. Furthermore, the important part is the application of the psychological laws within works of literature (1956:81).

This approach is employed since it covers some aspects that are relevant to answer the problems formulation that the writer has made before. The focus of the study is on Holly’s personalities, before and after Gerry’s death. The writer pays close attention to Holly’s personalities and how it changes and develops. This approach is to analyze Holly’s personalities and the changes of Holly’s personalities, and her motivation to survive since being alone because of Gerry’s death, of course on her motivation for keeping her love toward Gerry. Through this approach we are going to see it deeper.

C. Method of the Study

In this study, the writer employed a library research as the method of gathering the information and sources. The primary source used in this study is the novel *P.S I Love You* by Cecilia Ahern. The secondary sources that the writer used were Abram’s book entitled *A Glossary of Literary
Terms, Murphy’s *Understanding Unseen: An Introduction to English Poetry and English Novel for Overseas Students*, Hurlock’s *Personality Development*, and Guerin’s *A Handbook of Critical Approach to Literature*. Besides, the writer was also browsing some information in relation with the novel *P.S I Love You* through the internet.

The writer did some steps in analyzing the novel for the research. The first step was reading and rereading the novel itself to have deep understanding about the story. After that, the writer focused on Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death and how the family and those letters influence Holly’s personality development, and it formulated into several questions. The writer made three problems formulation stated in chapter one. The second step was finding some theories of literature and others books related to the topic of this thesis. The writer also found data by browsing through the internet.

The next step was trying to answer the questions in the problem formulation. In answering the first and the second problem formulation, the writer used the theory of character and characterization by Murphy in *Understanding Unseen: An Introduction to English Poetry and English Novel for Overseas Students*, and also *A Glossary of Literary Terms* by Abrams. The writer also used the theory of personality by Gordon Allport in *Personality Theories Basic, Assumptions, Research, and Applications Second Edition* by Larry A. Hjelle and Daniel J. Ziegler. Those theories
was needed to determine Holly’s personalities and in analyzing Holly’s family characteristics.

In answering the last problem, the writer used theory of personality development from Hurlock’s book entitled *Personality Development*. It was used to reveal Holly’s personalities and how the family and Gerry’s letters influenced Holly’s personality development. The last step was drawing conclusion from the analysis. It was done by relating all the data into general statements.
CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS

In this chapter, the writer wants to analyze the problems that have been shown in Chapter 1. Firstly, the writer wants to analyze Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death described in the novel. Secondly, the writer wants to analyze the characteristics of Holly’s family. Thirdly, the writer wants to analyze the influence of Holly’s family and Gerry’s letters on Holly’s personality development as revealed in the novel.

In the first part of analysis, the writer analyzes the general description of Holly’s personalities as what has been portrayed in the novel. It is divided into two parts, Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death portrayed in the novel. In describing Holly’s characteristics, Murphy’s nine ways in determining a character in his Understanding Unseens: An Introduction to English Poetry and English Novel for Overseas Students is used. The writer also applies the theory of personality by Gordon Allport in the book Personality Theories, Basic Assumptions, Research, and Applications Second Edition to reveal Holly’s personalities. In the second part, the writer analyzes Holly’s family characteristics.

In the last part of analysis, the writer uses the theory of personality development written by Elizabeth Hurlock to reveal Holly’s personality development which is influenced by her family and Gerry’s letters. The writer analyzes those letters, which started in March and ended in December, and how
those letters can influence Holly’s personality development. It can be seen whether those letters give a bad or good influence on Holly’s personality development. The last, the writer analyzes the influence of Holly’s family on her personality development.

1. a) Holly’s Personalities before Gerry’s Death

Holly Kennedy is the major character in the novel. She appears from the beginning until the end of the story. She is also the protagonist. As Abrams points out in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms Sixth Edition*, “the chief character in a work, on whom our interest centers, is called the protagonist.” (Abrams, 1985:159), it means that Holly appears as the protagonist in the novel who appears from the beginning until the end of the story.

The focus of this study is Holly’s personality. Holly has introverted personality. However, before analyzing her introverted personality, the general characterization of Holly is described in this part. The characterization of Holly is done through several ways as what have been stated in Murphy’s theory about character.

According to Larry A. Hjelle and Daniel J. Ziegler, personality is an abstraction based on inferences derived from behavioral observation (1981: 7). The writer finds out that the main character, Holly Kennedy, has an introverted personality. It is based on behavioral observation on Holly’s personalities in the novel. Facts about why Holly has an introverted personality is described further in the next paragraph.
According to Jung as quoted from Jeff at al’s book (2009: 116) that the introvert is characterized by the predominance of person’s subjective life. The introvert tends to be reserved and wrap himself in a silence. Holly is an unsociable person. In describing Holly’s personality as an unsociable person, the writer uses Murphy’s theory number seven, direct comment, which points out that the author can describe or comment on a person’s character directly. Ahern describes Holly has a similarity to a home-bird and compares her to Ciara. Holly is a woman who can not leave the life she has made for herself. She used to stay at home than going outside to socialize with others. She can not move away from her family, especially her husband, Gerry. She feels comfortable when she wraps herself in silence. She isolates herself from the external world. It is totally different to her young sister, Ciara who is easy going. As an introvert, Holly desires private space and time for herself.

Unlike Ciara, Holly was a home-bird and could never imagine herself moving away from her family and friends and leaving the life she had made for herself here. At least, she could never have left the life she had once had (p.132).

Another thing that shows Holly is an unsociable person is seen from Murphy’s theory number nine, that is mannerism. The author describes a person’s mannerisms, or habits, which tells something about his character. The writer finds out another fact showing Holly as unsociable person through her relation to her family. Holly is not a good conversationalist with her younger brother, Declan. Although they are siblings, Holly do not know much about Declan. She only communicates with him on the phone when she calls at the house looking for her parents. Holly never has a good conversation with him when they meet each other
at home and she also do not socialize with him. When they meet each other, Holly just stays quiet and do not interest to make a conversation with him.

The only time Holly caught up on her younger brother, Declan, was when she called at the house looking for her parents and he would answer. Holly was not a great conversationalist. Holly never really knew that much about him (p.46).

Another evidence showing Holly does not socialize with her family is seen from Murphy’s theory number two, characters as seen by others. Holly meet Jack at home when she visits her family and Jack asks her to go to pub. Jack wants her to see Declan’s performance and his band as her support for her young brother. Jack says that they have not gone out together for so long and at the dinner Jack do not get a chance to talk with Holly, because she do not make a conversation and only stays quiet at the dinner. It shows that she does not socialize well with others.

“Please come, Holly. Declan’s really excited about it and no one else will come. He would love to see you there and we hardly got a chance to talk at dinner. We have not gone out for ages”, he pleaded (p.69).

Holly also does not socialize with her brother, Richard. She is dreading his lectures on all things which are boring, his insensitive questioning of her life and the whole feeling of being frustrated by Richard’s comment. That is why she prefers to keep silent everytime they meet each other.

When Holly celebrates her thirty birthday, Richard visits her and gives her a present. She actually does not believe that Richard comes and gives her a potted mini phalaenopsis orchid. It is a rare occurrence. Although Holly has got a present from Richard, it does not make her feel good for Richard’s company. It shows that
both of them have distant relationship. Such thing is seen from her speech when
she asks him whether he wants to come in or not.

“Would you like to come in or are you just passing through?” Please say no, please say no. Despite the thoughtful gift, Holly was in no mood for Richard’s company (p.82).

The writer finds out that the evidence above showing Holly limits herself from her family and it shows Holly is introvert. Holly is also out on her own in the family and she likes the feeling of being separated from those. It shows that she is happy to be alone as Jill D. Burrus and Liza Kaenzig point out in The Often Forgotten Factor Impacting The Gifted about characteristics of introverts. She isolates herself from the external world, and does not socialize with other people. She prefers to lock herself by staying at home than going outside to meet people. When there is a welcome-home-dinner for Ciara, her sister, Holly is not looking forward to that party.

Holly reluctantly knocked on the door. It was a welcome-home-dinner for Ciara. But was Holly looking forward to tonight? Absolutely not (p.47).

Holly hates to go to public places which are crowded. According to Jill D. Burrus and Liza Kaenzig in The Often Forgotten Factor Impacting The Gifted, it is one of the characteristics of introvert. Introvert becomes drained around large groups of people. When Jack asks her to come to Hogan’s pub where Declan performs with his band, Holly denies it by saying that she hates if she has to go there, listening to some loud rock band. She feels comfortable staying in silence than in a public place that is crowded and noisy. It can be seen from Holly’s speech. The writer uses Murphy’s theory number three, speech. The author gives clues about his character through his speech in the story.
“Where is it?”
“Hogan’s pub.”
“No way. There is no way I’m ever setting foot in a pub again, especially to listen some loud rock band with screeching guitars and noisy drums,” Holly told him (p.69-70).

When Jack asks her to go to Hogan’s pub, Holly gives her reason why she does not want to go there. She tells that the place is noisy and she hates to be there. Her refusal shows she prefers to stay in silence than go to a public place.

“Well, we’re hardly going to have a heart-to-heart with the Orgasmic Fish banging out their tunes,” she said sarcastically. Holly held her head in her hands and groaned, “Oh, please don’t make me go, Jack” (p.71).

Introverts do not share their private thought to others. They hide their feeling and do not share it to others. Holly used to conceal her feeling. She did not share her problem to others and kept it for herself. She had problem when she lost her job because she had to take care of Gerry. She hid it from Gerry and her family. When her mother asked her about it, she did not want to tell it to her mother. She had to look for a new job so that she could pay her bills. Getting out of bed in early morning and working on nine to five was hard enough for her. All these things she kept in her mind. She thought that she could handle those without other’s help.

She needed to start thinking about getting a job, but she was finding it hard enough to get out of bed in the morning as it was, another depressing nine-to-five job was not going to help matters. All these things she had to handle by herself. She spent too much time on her own thinking about them (p.103).

Previously, the writer has explained some evidences showing that Holly is an introvert. She used to wrap herself in silence, does not socialize with her family, hates to go to public places and becomes drained around large groups of
people, used to conceal her feelings and does not want to share it to her family. Those things show that she is an unsociable person.

According to Jill D. Burus and Liza Kaenzig in *The Often Forgotten Factor Impacting The Gifted*, some characteristics of introverts are territorial and happy to be alone. They desire space which is private in the mind and private in places. Holly isolated herself in silence by staying at home. Gerry held a party in their house and invited some of his friends. It was Friday and Gerry thought that weekend was good to hold a party. The house was crowded and Holly was angry when she went home after working hard. She complained that the house was crowded and noisy. After quarrel with Gerry, she finally decided not to join the party. Holly decided to wrap herself in the bedroom, she thought that she was happy to be alone than joining the party. Gerry considered that Holly never wanted to do anything and it happened everyday.

“Oh, everyday’s the same with you,” he snapped. You never want to do anything any more. Every single night, you come home in your cranky moods and bitch at me about everything! Holly’s jaw dropped, “Excuse me! I have been working hard!” “It’s Friday,” Gerry yelled, silencing her, “It’s the weekend! When is the last time you went out? Leave your work behind and let your hair down, for a change. Stop acting like such a granny!” (p.118).

When Holly decided not to join the party and preferred to stay in silence in her bedroom, this shows that Holly who has introverted personality is territorial. It means that she desires spaces which is private in place. She hates to be in crowded and noisy place. It determines her introverted personality.

The introvert tends to be unconfident. He or she has less confidence than the extravert. Such thing can be seen from Holly’s character. The writer uses
Murphy’s theory number seven, that is direct comment, to examine Holly’s personality as an unconfident person. Holly has less confidence than her young sister, Ciara does. Ahern describes it through her direct comment in the novel.

“Ciara was nothing like her at all. She was so carefree and confident, and did not seem to worry about anything” (p.132).

The evidence above shows that Ahern describes Holly is not same like Ciara. Totally different to Ciara, Holly worries about anything. It shows that Holly has less confidence within herself.

Holly has less confidence when she has to perform in public (p.122). She hates to sing in karaoke. She can not face her fear of karaoke. It is because she becomes drained around large groups of people. It determines her personality which is unconfident within herself.

From those explanations and evidences above that the writer has explained, the writer concludes that before Gerry’s death, Holly was unsociable and unconfident person. She used to wrap herself in silence, conceal her feeling, do not socialize with her family and others, and has less confidence within herself. Those things determine her as an introvert.

1. b) Holly’s Personalities after Gerry’s Death

In the previous part, before Gerry’s death, Holly is described as an introvert, and after her husband’s death Holly’s personality changes. Holly is described as an extraverted person. According to Jung quotes from Jeff at al’s book (2009: 116), extraverts are more influenced by their surroundings than their inner world.
Extraverts are overly suspicious of the subjective attitude, whether their own or that of someone else. They are sociable and likely to approach something or someone unfamiliar without hesitation. They usually have better understanding and relates well and easily to others. In consequence, the extravert grows up with fewer doubts about himself than does the introvert.

Holly became a sociable person after Gerry’s death. She tried to socialize with other people by meeting her family and did not wrap herself in silence anymore. She began her new daily life by doing some activities. She went to a local hairdressers, Leo. She decided to change her appearance by cutting her hair.

It was new spirit for her to begin her new life. She also spent her day having a conversation with him. It had been so long for her to share and have conversation with others (p.25). Holly also visited her family by attending a welcome-home-dinner for Ciara when her young sister went home. She got a beautiful waterford crystal vase for her birthday and she enjoyed having dinner with her family. By meeting her family and others, attending the dinner, having conversation with others, she opened her mind to socialize with others.

She had called in to her parents for Sunday dinner, when they presented her with a beautiful Waterford Crystal vase for her birthday. It had been a wonderful relaxing day (p.81).

Holly is sociable seen from her reaction when she meets new persons. The writer uses Murphy’s theory number six, that is reaction. She meets new persons and can socialize well with them. One of them is Daniel. They meet in Hogan’s pub. She responds him well by being friend with him. It is her reaction when she
meets new person after her husband’s death. She tries to socialize with that person. She can easily talk to Daniel, eventhough he is a new person for her.

“Hmm,” Sharon mused, “nice guy, Daniel, isn’t he?”
“Yeah, he is a really nice guy,” Holly agreed. “Very easy to talk to” (p.261).

Holly also met another new person who became her new friend, Rob. She thought that she really needed to start meeting new people. They met in a shop where Rob helped her put all her chocolate back into the bag. Rob asked her to go for a drink and Holly responded him well because he had helped her. That evidence showed that she was sociable after her husband’s death. She can relate well and easily to others.

What harm could it do to go for a coffee with a man who had been so polite to her? The fact that he was absolutely gorgeous also helped. But, regardless of his looks, Holly really craved company, and he seemed like a nice decent man to talk to. Holly really needed to start meeting new people (p.184).

The extraverts usually have better understood and relates well and easily to others. In this case, Holly socializes with others by meeting new people and can communicate with them easily eventhough they are new persons. As Jung states that the extravert is sociable and likely to approach someone unfamiliar without hesitation, Holly also approaches them without hesitation.

Holly also sosialized with her brother, Richard. Their relationship got closer than before. When she knew that actually the person who had fixed her garden was Richard, she was surprised and thought that it was the right time to have a good communication with her brother. She tried to be a good listener for Richard when she knew he had a problem in his family. It means that she was concern her brother. She tried to build a good relationship with her brother.
She concerned at her brother’s transformation. She had seen so many sides to him over the past few months that he had her slightly baffled (313).

Holly spent her time with Richard. That Sunday Richard called round to visit Holly with his kids. She told him he was glad to bring them. They played outside in the garden while Richard and Holly finished off their dinner and watched them through the patio doors. Holly took care of his kids while Richard helped her by fixing her garden. Holly could not believe that she was having this conversation with Richard. He seemed to be a totally different person these days or perhaps it was Holly who had changed. She had a higher tolerance for him now, and found it easier to ignore his annoying little comments. Richard considered her become very thoughtful. Such thing was seen from Murphy’s theory number two, characters as seen by others. Richard commented her as a Holly who was very thoughtful after her husband death.

“We’re all different, Richard. Ciara is slightly eccentric, Declan is dreamer, Jack is a joker, I’m ... well, I don’t know what I am. But you were always very controlled. Straight and serious. It’s not necessarily a bad thing, we’re all just different.”

“You are very thoughtful,” Richard said after a long silence (p.343-345).

Holly was also concern her young sister, Ciara. After Gerry’s death, she got closer with Ciara than before. Holly approached her when she knew that her sister had problem with her lover, Mathew. She was worried about her sister. She could not remember the last time she had seen Ciara cry. It must be something serious. Holly tried to be a good listener for Ciara (p.357). In this case, Holly was care about Ciara and it showed she had changed. She respected others and tried to socialize with others by caring them.
The extravert tends to open his/ her mind not to conceal his/ her feeling. Holly did not conceal her feeling anymore. She tried to share what she felt with others. First, she thought that she could handle all problems on her own, but now she realised that sharing with others helped her. It was better for her to share her worries.

“You know it’s good to be around people, Hol. Friends and family can help you.”
“Oh, I realise that now. I just thought I could handle it on my own at first” (p.201).

On Christmas day, after she visited the graveyard, she looked for her mother and told her about what happened between her and Daniel. She felt that her mother could help her, that was why she shared it to her mother.

She had taken a deep breath and explained to her mother what happened between her and Daniel and the decision she was faced with. Her mother had listened patiently. “So how do you feel about him?” Elizabeth had asked, studying her daughter’s face.”I like him, Mum, I really do, but...” she had shrugged again and trailed off (p.480).

The extravert grows up with fewer doubts about himself than does the introvert. The writer finds out that Holly is a confident person after her husband’s death. The writer uses Murphy’s theory, that is speech, to see Holly’s personality as a confident person. When she has her thirty birthday, she says confidently and vowes that she would be a mature thirty-year-old woman. From her speech, there is no doubt and it shows that she is confident within herself.

“From now on I will be a sensible, mature thirty-year-old woman” (p.191).

The extravert tends to be confident than an introvert. Such thing can be seen when Holly gets a new job which she loves and feels confident within herself to
reach for what she wants as Gerry says in his letter. She does not feel the same
dread that she usually feels before starting a new job.

She now had a job that she loved and felt confident within herself to reach
for what she wanted (p.502).

The writer uses Murphy’s theory number two, that is characters as seen by
others, that says the author describes the character’s personality by letting other
characters in the story tell what they see about this character. The writer uses other
character’s comment, the DJ. Holly had finished singing competition in a karaoke,
and she did it confidently.

The DJ took the microphone from her hand and managed to say, “Please
give it up for the incredibly brave Holly Kennedy!”
Denise and Sharon approached her with cheeks wet from tears of laughter.
“I’m so proud of you!” Sharon said (p.127).

The writer finds out another fact showing Holly is a confident person. It is
seen from her speech. The writer uses Murphy’s theory number three, that is
speech, which says that the author gives the clue about his characters through
what his characters say. Her brother, Jack, said that he would take care of Holly
after her husband’s death and offered a help for her, she denied it. She thought she
could do everything on her own.

“Hey, your little sister is doing just fine on her own, thank you very much,”
she said (p.483).

From those explanations and evidences above, the writer concludes that
Holly was sociable and confident after her husband’s death. She meets new
persons, socialize with them and her family, and she does not conceal her feeling
anymore by sharing her problems to her family. Those things determine her
personality as a sociable person. She also becomes more confident than before. She has undergone changes in her personality.

2. The Characteristics of Holly’s Family

Characters that represent Holly’s family are her siblings. They are Richard, the elder brother, Declan, the young brother, and Ciara, the young sister. Moreover, the writer analyzes their characteristics that are described in the novel further in the next paragraph.

In the novel, Richard is described as the elder brother in Holly’s sibling. He was born with serious affliction of being an eternal old man. The writer uses Murphy’s theory number nine, mannerism, in describing Richard’s characteristics.

He had his hands in his pockets and was rocking back and forth from his heels to the ball of his toes like a man mid-lecture (p.48).

His gestures show that Richard is serious person. It shows clearly how he puts his hands in his pockets and rocks back and forth from his heels to the ball of his toes showing his personal description as a serious person and being an eternal old man. Another evidence showing he was a serious person seen from his personal description was when he wore a suit going to a pub. He looked strange in his suit when everyone wore a casual cloth than him did. His life also revolved around rules and regulations and obedience. That’s why Holly does not get close to him. Both of them never have a good communication each other. Ahern describes Richard as a mature person in the novel. It is seen from his speech. The
writer uses Murphy’s theory number three, speech, in describing his characteristic as a mature person.

“Ciara, it’s important that Timothy knows when he has done something wrong,” explained Richard.
“Yeah, but couldn’t you just tell him?”
“He needs to know that his actions will lead to serious consequences so he will not repeat it” (p.53).

When Ciara has a conversation with Richard about Timothy’s punishment, Richard explains that it is a consequence for Timothy because he has done something wrong so that he will not repeat it again. His speech shows that he is a mature person. His explanation is right and Ciara considers it as his mature behavior.

Her second sibling is Declan. He is the young brother in Holly’s sibling. In the novel, he is described as a twenty two year old student who is critical and confident. It is seen when he debates with Richard about his college issue. He comments critically on Richard’s speech and it shows that he is confident person.

“No, it’s only a small college, Richard.”
“I suppose the bigger universities would be better equipped for things like that. They’re better all round.”
“No, I wouldn’t say that. The facilities are top of the range, there’s just fewer people so less equipment. And the lectures aren’t inferior to university lecturers. They’re a bonus because they work in the industry as well as lecturing. In other words, they practise what they preach. It’s not just textbook stuff” (p.105).

Ciara is the young sister in Holly’s sibling. She is twenty years old. She lives in Australia. She was described as an easy going person in the novel. It is seen from her behavior that she can move and live in abroad, which is far away from her family. It is totally different to Holly who is introverted. They are never the kind of sisters to swap clothes and giggle about boys. Ciara is closer to
Declan, both of them are dreamers. Ciara is describes as an expressive person. She expresses her feeling and everything in unique thing, like making a tattoo in her body.

“Did you get any more tattoos?” her mother asked.
“Yeah, look.” With that, Ciara stood up at the table and pulled down her trousers, revealing a butterfly on her behind (p.52).

She makes a butterfly tattoo in her body as her expressive feeling when she is in Australia. She also colors her hairs with pink color. It is an expression of love for her, that’s why she colors her hairs with pink color. Such things show that she is an expressive person.

From the evidences above showing Holly’s sibling characteristics, the writer concludes that Richard is a mature person, he is described as the elder brother, Declan is a confident person, and the last, Ciara is described as an easy going and expressive person.

3. The Influence of Holly’s Family and Gerry’s Letters on Holly’s Personality Development

As the writer has discussed above, Holly is characterized differently before and after Gerry’s death. She has undergone changes in her personality between those phases. In this part, the writer discusses the influence of the family and Gerry’s letters on Holly’s personality development, using Hurlock’s theory on factors that cause personality changes. According to Hurlock, there are three characteristics that are responsible for personality changes. First, some changes
are for the better and some changes are for the worst. The second, personality changes are for quantitative and some for qualitative. The last characteristic is the changes are based on the period of time, slow versus rapid changes. The writer uses those characteristics in analyzing how the family and Gerry’s letters influence Holly’s personality development.

A. The Influence of Holly’s Family on Holly’s Personality Development

Holly’s family contributes to Holly’s personality development. The characters that represent Holly’s family are Richard, Declan, and Ciara. Those people give influences to Holly’s personality development. Hurlock (1974) says that family will determine one’s attitudes toward people and social activities. It means that family plays dominant role in shaping one’s personality pattern. It shows that family takes part in developing one’s personality.

Ciara and Holly were totally different in personality, but they formed a bond because they were only two girls in a family of brothers. Ciara contributes to Holly’s personality development. Their closeness affect some changes on Holly’s personality development. By supporting Holly in facing her problem, Ciara helped her to not conceal her feeling anymore and became more sociable than before. It was seen from her action when she was willing to attend a welcome dinner. Ciara asked Holly to attend the dinner. It was her way in helping Holly to socialize to her family. When Ciara went home after travelling in Australia, her mother held a welcome-home-dinner for Ciara (p.81). Ciara called Holly to tell her about the dinner and asked her to come. Holly appreciated it and it was seen from her
reaction which was looking forward to that dinner. She spent her time with Ciara and others. In this case, Holly had undergone change in her personality. Through support from Ciara by asking Holly to attend the dinner, Holly could socialize with her family and fixed her relationship with Ciara.

Ciara had been good company over the last few months and had always succeeded in cheering Holly up when she felt that life just could not be worse (p.356-357).

Ciara also did another action in helping Holly to socialize with others. Ciara held a surprise party for Holly when she had her thirty birthday. Ciara invited some of Holly’s close friends and her young brother, Declan, to give her a surprise. By holding that surprise party and inviting Holly’s friends, Ciara helped Holly to socialize with her friends and her family. Holly met her friends and had conversation to them. It was one way for her to open her mind not to wrap herself in silence anymore. She also got closer to her siblings and it was seen when she got present from Ciara. Holly appreciated it by showing her feeling that she was glad and gave Ciara a hug. She showed that she could socialize with Ciara by showing her warmth to her young sister (p.64).

Ciara encouraged Holly when she had to face her fear of karaoke. In doing Gerry’s order in his letter on May, Holly's family supported her and her young sister, Ciara also encouraged her to face her fear. It was seen from her speech.

“Holly, why did not you tell us you’re going to sing in a competition” her sister asked.
“Because I can’t sing!”
“Then why are you doing it” Ciara burst out laughing.
“Well, there’s no way my sister is singing in a competition without me being there,” declared Ciara encouraging her sister (p.106).
Ciara asked Holly why she did not tell her family about the competition and Ciara told her she would be there to support Holly in singing in that competition. It was her action in encouraging Holly in doing Gerry’s order. By encouraging her sister to face her fear of karaoke, they became closer as the sibling and Holly became more encouraging than before. Holly finally did the competition of that singing and faced her fear to perform in public.

Holly became a good listener for Ciara when her young sister had problem. She concerned about Ciara and tried to show her warmth to her young sister. It was seen from the way she treated Ciara when she was crying.

Holly quickly sat back down and wrapped her arms protectively round her younger sister. Holly stroked Ciara’s silky pink hair while she cried quietly. “Do you want to tell me what’s wrong?” she asked softly (p. 195).

She treated Ciara protectively and tried to show her warmth to Ciara by wrapping her and asking her to share her problem so that Holly could help her. Ciara shared her problem to her sister and Holly listened to her patiently. It showed that she had a close relationship with her young sister and she had a good progress in her changes. She could socialize with her sibling. After Gerry’s death, Holly tried not to conceal her feeling and problems to others. She tried to share her problem to Ciara. They helped and supported each other. By being a good listener for her sister, it affected Holly’s personality not to conceal her feeling anymore.

Hurlock (1974: 352-353), says that family plays the dominant role in shaping one’s personality pattern. Ciara plays the dominant role in affecting Holly’s personality development. She did it in some ways. Firstly, by supporting
Holly to attend the dinner makes Holly socialize with her family and get closer to her sibling. Secondly, by encouraging Holly to face her fear of karaoke makes her become more confident than before. Thirdly, by holding a surprise party for Holly in her thirty birthday makes her able to meet and socialize with her friends and her sibling. By being a good listener for Holly also makes her open her mind not to conceal her feeling anymore. Holly had undergone changes in her personality, she was extraverted in her personality and she became a sociable person.

Her young brother, Declan, also plays a dominant role in Holly’s personality development. Declan gives his support for Holly in facing her problem like what Ciara does. By supporting and encouraging Holly in facing her problem and passing her difficult days after her husband death, Declan successfully affected Holly’s change for the better. After Gerry’s death, Declan knew that it was a difficult time for Holly and he tried to support her in getting through the days.

Declan encouraged Holly when she had to sing in a competition. The day she had to sing, Holly hid and spent her time in the toilet because she felt nervous to face her fear of karaoke. Declan encouraged her by giving her a bouquet of flowers as a good luck sign. He supported Holly and made her sure that she could do the competition on her own.

“Relax, Holly,” Declan said soothingly, “Everything will be fine” (p.109).

Declan tried to encourage Holly to do the competition. He knew how to make Holly feel good in facing her fear of karaoke and he did. It was his way in helping her sister face her fear. Holly finally did the competition and could face her fear because of support from her siblings.
Their closeness also affected Holly’s personality development. Previously, the writer pointed out that Declan was critical of having conversation with others. In a chance of discussion between her and Declan, she debated on Declan’s explanation.

He shrugged his shoulders, “When you end up spending the day with people like that it’s kind of hard to be happy about the fact that what he has to say is so bad that it makes a great documentary. The worse off he is the better of I am.” Holly listened with interest, “No, I don’t agree with that, Declan. I think that you filming this will make a difference to him. People will see it and want to help” (p. 382).

She was not afraid in uttering her thinking toward the quotation that they had discussed. It could be seen how Holly commented critically on Declan’s speech and that evidence showed Holly was confident through her speech.

Holly tried to make sure her boss that she was suitable for the job that she had applied. Although she did not work for over a year, she tried to impress him through her speech that she was competent in that job and would be responsible for that. In that interview, she was confident in explaining and impressing the boss.

“So how do I know you won’t desert me after a few months?” he smiled, but she knew he was serious. “Because this is the right job for me,” she said seriously. Holly took a deep breath as she was not prepared to give up that easily. “Mr Feeney,” she said, moving forward to sit on the edge of her chair, “I am a very hard worker. When I love something I give it one hundred per cent. I am very capable person and what I don’t know now I am more than willing to learn so that I can do my best for my self, for you and for the company. If you put your trust in me I promise I won’t let you down” (p. 324)

Seen from her speech above, Holly was confident. There was no doubt in her speech in explaining about the job. According to David Keirsey in Please
Understand Me: Character & Temperament Types (1978: 101-102), the extravert grows up with fewer doubts about himself than does the introvert. And from her speech above determines her as a confident person and has no doubt within herself. Because of her confident action, finally she succeeded in impressing the boss and she got the job. Holly also became more confident day by day and it was also influenced by her sibling. In her thirty birthday, she vowed that she would be more mature than before.

“From now on I will be a sensible, mature thirty-year-old woman” (p.191).

In her thirty birthday, she said that she would be more mature than before. It can be seen from the evidence above that Holly changed in her personality. The writer points out that her closeness to Declan affects her personality. The writer finds out that by encouraging her sister and give a lot of support make Holly changes in her personality. She can face her fear of karaoke and it shows she is more encourageous than before.

Her elder brother, Richard, also did the same thing in helping Holly get through her difficult day after Gerry’s death. He contributed to Holly’s changes by supporting her and it also made them get closer. Previously, the writer pointed out that Richard and Holly had not a good relationship even though they were sibling. It changed after Gerry’s death. When Holly has sung at the competition, she moved over and had a conversation with Richard. She opened the conversation by asking whether her brother enjoyed the event or not. She was actually surprised to know that Richard came to the pub to support her in competition, and it also changed her mind that actually she and Richard had to
support each other. She opened her mind that Richard was not a strange person that she hated because of his annoying comments. Richard also encouraged Holly by attending her performance at singing competition and saying that sibling must support each other. In this case, the writer finds out that Holly changes for better, she can socialize with Richard and opens her mind about her brother.

Holly moved over and sat on the high stool opposite Richard, and struck up a conversation. “You enjoying yourself?”
He looked up from his drink, startled that someone had spoken to him. “Yes, thank you, I’m having fun, Hol.” “I’m surprised you came, actually. I did not think this would be your scene.” “Oh, you know, you have to support the family” (p.131).

Holly and Richard had the same experiences in their life. They lost their lover. Holly’s husband died, and Richard’s wife left him. The condition made them get closer and support each other. Richard as the elder brother in Holly’s family helped Holly in recoverying her life after Gerry’s death and she changed for the better. After Gerry’s death, Holly had changed in her personality. She socialize with her siblings by taking care them. It was seen from her speech when she asked Richard to tell her about his problem.

“Richard, I’ve recently learned that talking about things helps,” Holly said gently, “and coming from me that’s a huge tip, because I used to keep my mouth shut thinking I was Superwoman.” She smiled at him encouragingly. “why don’t you tell me about it?” (p.313).

Holly used to conceal her problem and did not share it to others, but now she had changed. She tried to support her sibling.

The writer concludes that Holly’s siblings affect her changes in her personality development. Ciara, her young sister, contributes to her personality development. By supporting and encouraging her sister, Ciara plays the dominant
role in shaping Holly’s personality pattern. Holly does not conceal her feeling anymore. Ciara holds a surprise party which is inviting Holly’s friend and her family, that makes Hollyable to adapt and socialize with others. It helps her open mind not to wrap herself in silence anymore. Declan and Richard also contribute to Holly’s personality development. She also can face her fear of karaoke. She able to perform in public because of support from her siblings. She also fixes her relationship with Richard. They support each other. The writer concludes that her siblings affect her changes. She becomes more sociable and confident than before.

B. The Influence of Gerry’s Letters on Holly’s Personality Development

Hurlock (1976: 124-129) says that there are eight factors or conditions that cause personality changes. They are physical changes, environment, significant people, strong motivation, changes in role, changes in social pressures, changes in the self concept, and use of psychotherapy. The writer uses environment as a factor that is used to define specifically the factor that contribute to Holly’s personality development. Hurlock explains in her book that environment may produce changes in the person’s self-concept and his/her characteristic behavior.

The changes depend on how well someone adjust himself/herself to the new environment and how well the new environment meets his/her needs. The writer finds out that Gerry’s letters bring some changes in Holly’s personality. Holly’s personality changed after receiving those letters. Those letters influenced Holly’s changes because those contained some instructions that Holly had never
done before and she had to do them. Although Gerry had died, he appeared through his letters by accompanying her through all of instructions in his letters. By doing those instructions, Holly found something new and met new environment that influenced her changes. Through his letters, Gerry motivated Holly to achieve a new life and made her eager to work hard in order to do it. He exactly knew how she was feeling, he would know exactly what to say and what to do. That was why those letters contributed to Holly’s personality development.

The writer uses Hurlock’s theory in analysing the influence of Gerry’s letters on Holly’s personality development. Hurlock says that environment is one factor that influence one’s personality development. It may produce changes in the person’s self-concept and his/her characteristic behavior. The changes depend on how well someone adjust himself/herself to the new environment and how well the new environment meets his/her needs.

Gerry’s letters have been important because those bring a difference in Holly’s life. Holly had undergone changes in her personality. It developed under the influences of those letters.

Gerry’s letter in May is about facing Holly’s fear of karaoke at club diva. Gerry knew that she hated to go to karaoke and singing in public place, but Gerry also knew that she could face her fear of karaoke.

‘Go on, disco diva! Face your fear of karaoke at Club Diva this month, and you never know, you might be rewarded. PS. I Love You’ (p.78).

Before Gerry’s death, Holly was an unsociable person. As an introvert, she hated to be in crowded place, like going to karaoke. Her reaction after reading that
letter was shocked. She did not want to do Gerry’s order because she hated to go
to there.

She felt Gerry watching her and the corners of her lips lifted into a smile. She began to laugh, repeating, No Way! Whenever she caught her breath. Gerry laughed louder. “This is not funny. You know how I feel about karaoke, and I refuse to do it. Nope. No way. Not doing it.”

“You have to do it, you know,” laughed Gerry.
“I do not have to do this!”
“Do it for me”
“I’m not doing it for you, for me or for world peace, I hate karaoke!” (p.79).

After reading that letter, she felt that Gerry was there and watched her as if she had conversation with him and discussed about that instruction. Days went by when she felt so happy and content, and confident that her life would be okay. Then as quickly as the feeling came it would disappear and she would feel sadness appears again. She tried to find a new daily routine she could fall into so that she felt as though she belonged in her body. Unfortunately the routine had not turned out exactly as she hoped it would.

Her family helped her. Holly told them about Gerry’s order to go to karaoke. She tried to share her problem and did not conceal her feeling like before Gerry’s death. Her family gave her advise to make sure that Gerry had a purpose in his letter. Holly spent her time thinking about it. And finally, Holly wanted to do Gerry’s order, that was going to karaoke. She registered at Club Diva for the competition. At the moment she had to sing and the karaoke host’s called her to perform, Holly was panic and she hid in the toilet. Her family and her friends came to give support for her, and finally she wanted to perform. Holly felt that she had to obey Gerry’s order. In the last, she did not win the competition, but she felt that she was the winner because actually she could face
her fear of karaoke. She could sing and perform in the public. She showed to others that she could change for better. She became brave and it can be seen from other’s speech.

The DJ took the microphone from her hand and managed to say,”Please give it up for the incredibly brave Holly Kennedy!” (p.127).

The evidence above shows that Holly had fulfilled Gerry’s order and faced her fear of karaoke. She could adapt to the new environment. In this case, the pub was the new environment for her. She had to do Gerry’s order and there she met new people. She needed to meet new people and it helped her in recovering her life after her husband’s death. Moving to that new environment led her to be an sociable person.

“Holly really needed to start meeting new people” (p.184).

Holly had undergone changes in her personality. Firstly, she became a sociable person, she socialized with her family and new people, and enjoyed being with them. According to LONGMAN Dictionary of Contemporary English, Third Edition, a sociable person is a person who can socialize with others well and enjoy being with other people. Secondly, the writer found that Holly became brave. She did not only fulfill Gerry’s order, but she also faced her fear of karaoke. She did not win the karaoke competition, but she felt great because actually the award that Gerry meant in his letter was Holly could face her fear of karaoke and being in a large of people. The writer found those changes were the change for the better.
The next Gerry’s message was about looking for a new job. The letter was for September. Gerry knew that Holly lost her job for a year. She had changed jobs so often.

‘Shoot for the moon and if you miss you’ll still be among the stars. Promise me you will find a job you love this time! (p.291).

Holly had been dreading going back to work for such a long time, had believed that she was not ready to move on, that it was too soon. But now she knew she had no choice and it was time, if Gerry said it was to be, it would be. She had changed jobs so often and it had been long time she had lost her job. But now she knew that if Gerry said to find a job, she was going to find a job.

This time she felt different, she was excited to get back to work and to try something new. Her first interview was for a job selling advertising space for a magazine that circulated throughout Dublin. It was something she had absolutely no experience in, but she was willing to learn because the idea of it sounded far more interesting than any of her former jobs. In this case, the writer found out that she was confident within herself and it could be seen from her reaction. Even though she had no experience in selling advertising, she was willing to learn. That evidence showed that she changed than before. The second interview was with a leading Irish advertising company, and she knew she had no hope getting it. But Gerry had told her to shoot the moon, it means that she had to work hard to find a new job in order she could achieve her success in her new life without Gerry anymore.

Gerry’s letter in September also influenced Holly’s change to become more confident. Such thing was seen when Holly interviewed for those jobs. She did
not work for a year and she also did not have experiences to fill the qualification for the jobs she had applied, but she was confident to reach it. She still applied for the jobs and she was sure she could get the jobs. In fact, she got the job and she changed. In other jobs, Holly would stop working at least half an hour before lunchtime just to think about what she was going to eat. Then she would leave fifteen minutes early and return fifteen minutes late due to traffic, even though she would walk to the shop. She also became the first in queue to collect her monthly pay. But, her new job was very different from her previous jobs, she was looking forward to every minute of it. It was the most impressive job she had ever had, and it was because Gerry’s motivation through his letter.

In her third week, Holly felt great working hard. She did not know it was possible to actually enjoy work so much. It was totally different to her last job. The writer found she changed for the better. In previous part, Holly was described as an introvert, and after Gerry’s death she became an extravert. Gerry’s letter in September also influenced her changes, she became more confident than before. In looking for her new job, she tried hard and could work in part of team. According to Jung quoted from Jeff at al’s book, an extravert grows up with fewer doubts about himself/herself than does the introvert. Holly as an extravert also grew up with fewer doubts, it was seen when she could work on group. It shows that she could socialize well with others.

“She loved feeling that she was a part of the team, as though she were actually doing something that made a huge impact on the finished product” (p.361).
The evidence above shows that Holly was confident in her new job. She could work in group and be a part of the team. It also shows that she could socialize with others and adapt to the new environment. The new environment here refers to her new office where she works out. She met her new friends in her new office and working in a part of a team showed that those things as a proof Holly could socialize with others. She could adapt and sosialize with her new friends in her new office easily.

“Oh, I love it, Mum,” Holly said and her eyes lit up. “It’s so much more interesting and challenging than any job I’ve done, and all the staff are just so friendly. There’s a great atmosphere in the place” (p.359).

The writer pointed out that the process of Holly’s change became more confident was slow based on classification on the period of time. Hurlock divides the process of one’s changes into two, slow and rapid. Holly’s change was slow because the change did not take a short time and the change was regarded as slow if it was barely perceptible.

The next Gerry’s letter was about having holiday to Lanzarote, Spain. Gerry had prepared holiday for Holly and her friends. She had to have a holiday with her friends because Gerry knew that Holly needed to start her new life without him and tried to move on by having holiday with her friends.

“Have a good Holly day! PS. I love you” (p.221).

Holly went to Lanzarote with her friends, Sharon and Denise. She tried to move away from her daily life by having this holiday. She also socialized well with her friends and enjoyed being with them.
“We’re all going on our summer Holly days!” the girls sang in the car all the way to the airport. Holly could not remember the last time she had felt so truly excited (p.242).

During the holiday, Holly got closer to her friends and felt excited. She opened her mind that by having that holiday, she moved on and changed. She had been so positive on her holiday. She adapted to her new environment and led her to become sociable person.

Holly had to open her mind not to feel afraid in falling in love again. It was the next Gerry’s letter for her. She had to open her heart and followed where it led her. After Gerry’s death, she had met new persons and enjoyed being with them.

“Do not be afraid to fall in love again. Open your heart and follow where it leads you and remember, shoot for the moon. PS. I will always love you (p.468).

As Jung states that the extravert is sociable and likely to approach someone unfamiliar without hesitation. Holly also approached her new friends without hesitation. She could easily talk to them and shared everything. Gerry’s letters had affected her on her personality development. She was confident within herself to approach others and socialized with them without hesitation. It determined her personality as an extravert.

When he was alive she had lived for him and now he was gone she lived for his messages. Everything was about him. She had truly believed that her purpose in life had been to meet Gerry and enjoy all their days together for the rest of their lives. Now, she had to obey his messages (p.275).

Gerry’s letters had been so important in Holly’s life. After Gerry’s death, she lived for his messages. That was why she had to obey his messages. Those letters affected her personality development and led her become sociable and confident person.
From those explanations above, the writer concluded that Gerry’s letters had influenced on Holly’s personality. Holly had undergone changes in her personality because of the environment. The environment in this case are the pub and her new office where she works out. She could adapt to her new environment. Holly became a sociable and a confident person. The writer divided Holly’s changes into three characteristics, the first was Holly’s changes was for the better, the second was Holly changes was for qualitative. In qualitative changes, an already present trait, usually an undesirable one is replaced by another trait. Holly’s personalities as an introvert was replaced by another trait, she changed to an extravert. The last, the writer pointed out that changes in Holly’s personality was classified based on the period of time. It was slow changes, because the period of time in Holly’s changes was not short time and that changes were regarded as slow if they were barely perceptible.
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

*P.S. I Love You* is one of the great well known writer Cecilia Ahern’s work which tells about the woman who experiences personality development. Holly Kennedy, the main character that the writer focuses on, lost her husband, Gerry. Gerry died because of brain tumor and he left Holly ten letters. Those letters contained some instructions and messages that Holly had to do after his death. The writer found that those letters influenced Holly’s personality development.

The writer formulated three problems in this thesis. The first problem was about Holly’s personalities. It was divided into two parts, Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death. The second problem was about Holly’s family characteristics. The last problem was about the influence of Gerry’s letters and the family on Holly’s personality development. In analyzing the problems that had been formulated, the writer used three theories. First, the theory of character and characterization was used in analyzing Holly’s personalities before and after Gerry’s death. Second, the theory of personality was also used in answering the first problem formulation. Third, the theory of personality development was used in analyzing Holly’s personality development.

In discussing Holly’s personalities before Gerry’s death, the writer found that Holly was an introvert. She was described as an sociable person. It was seen from her personality, she used to lock herself in silence, she used to work on her own that work on group, she also used to conceal her feeling and problems. In the
novel, Holly also was described as un confident person. As an introvert, she had less confidence within herself.

In discussing Holly’s personalities after Gerry’s death, the writer found out that she was an extravert. She was described as a sociable person after her husband’s death. She was also described as a confident person in the novel. The process of Holly’s changes were influenced by Gerry’s letters. She had undergone changes after her husband’s death. She changed from introverted to extraverted.

Holly’s personality developed under the influences of the family and Gerry’s letters. Holly had undergone changes in her personality because of the environment. She could adapt to her new environment and it brought about some changes to her personality. She became a sociable and a confident person. Her family also influenced her personality development. Her closeness to her siblings brought some changes. She became more sociable and confident.

The writer divided Holly’s changes into three characteristics, the first was Holly’s changes was for the better, the second was Holly changes was for qualitative. In qualitative changes, an already present trait, usually an undesirable one is replaced by another trait. Holly’s personalities as an introvert was replaced by another trait, she changed to an extravert. The last, the writer pointed out that changes in Holly’s personality was classified based on the period of time. It was slow changes, because the period of time in Holly’s changes was not short time and that changes were regarded as slow if they were barely perceptible.
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APPENDIX

Summary of P.S. I Love You

It was about a lady, Holly Kennedy, who lost her husband, Gerry, even before her 30th birthday. Gerry passed away because of brain tumor. He died in the month of February. Holly was totally devastated by his death. She could not imagine her life without him. The shock of his death made Holly stay locked in her house for a month. She did not care about eating, drinking, going out, even taking bath.

In the end of March, her mother called Holly and told something that there was a parcel in her house waiting for Holly and there was a word ‘the list’ written on top. The parcel had been there for several weeks. Holly remembered a promise that Gerry had made to her. It was about a list of things that he wanted her to remember and follow when he had gone.

Gerry left her some letters and all of which were signed P.S. I love you. He asked Holly to open one letter for a month. Every letter had something in store for her. He guided his wife through the ups and downs of life by communicating through letters he had written before death. Holly met some new friends, she went vacation with her best friends, and she also got a new job. She became a sociable and confident person. The letters have been important because those bring a difference in Holly’s life. Holly had undergone changes in her personality. It developed under the influences of those letters and Holly’s family.