THE MEANING OF LOVE FOR MARIAM AND LAILA AS SEEN
IN KHALED HOSSEINI’S A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS

A SARJANA PENDIDIKAN THESIS

Presented as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
to Obtain the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree
in English Language Education

By
Charulla Wisnu Wardani
Student Number: 051214114

ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS EDUCATION
FACULTY OF TEACHERS TRAINING AND EDUCATION
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Defended before the Board of Examiners
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Yogyakarta, July 16th, 2012
Faculty of Teachers Training and Education
Sanata Dharma University
“You don’t have to feel like a waste of space
You’re original, cannot be replaced
If you only knew what the future holds
After a hurricane comes a rainbow
Maybe you’re reason why all the doors are closed
So you could open one that leads you to the perfect road”

(Fireworks_by Katy Perry)

This thesis is dedicated to:

- My beloved parents and my brother
- My beloved husband and my son

Thank you for teaching me what is worth living for
STATEMENT OF WORK’S ORIGINALITY

I honestly declare that this thesis, which I have written, does not contain the work or parts of the work of other people, except those cited in the quotations and the references, as a scientific paper should.

Yogyakarta, July 16th, 2012

The Writer

Charulla Wisnu Wardani
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ABSTRACT

Wardani, Charulla Wisnu, 2012. The Meaning of Love for Mariam and Laila as seen in Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns. Yogyakarta: English Language Education Study Program, Department of Language and Arts Education, Faculty of Teachers Training and Education, Sanata Dharma University.

This study analyses a novel by Khaled Hosseini entitled A Thousand Splendid Suns. This novel tells about a husband who has two wives. Those wives are Mariam and Laila. As wives of the same husband, of course they have different understanding of loving their husband. This interesting case is analyzed in this thesis.

The aims of this study are to answers two questions stated in problem formulation: (1) how are Mariam and Laila described? and (2) What is the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila?

This study applies library study. There are two kinds of sources in working on this study, namely primary and secondary sources. The primary source is the novel from Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns. The secondary sources are taken from books on literary theories and articles which are related to this study. The internet sources are also used as supportive data for this analysis. Theories of character and characterization are applied to answer the first problem. Theories of love and theories of marriage are used to discuss the second problem.

The results of the analysis show Mariam and Laila are the main characters in the novel. Mariam is a round character because her character has capability to change. Mariam is described as a faithful wife, religious, unconfident, naïve, and weak. Laila is a flat character because her character is still the same from the beginning until the end of the story. Laila is described as a beautiful, smart, loving, brave, and friendly woman. It is also found out that both of them have different understanding of loving their husband. The results of analysis show that for Mariam, love means sacrificing, loyalty, understanding, and being submissive. Meanwhile, Laila’s love means sacrificing. She is willing to do what her husband command to her although she does not want to do that, like wearing a burqa, going for watching convoy, and living in togetherness when their family in poverty.

This study also provides suggestions for the future researchers using the same novel A Thousand Splendid Suns as their object of the study. It is suggested for future researchers to conduct further analysis about the influence of polygamous family on family prosperity. The future researchers also can conduct a study about the influence of polygamous family on children’s character development.

Key Words: love, marriage, family
ABSTRAK


Tujuan dari skripsi ini adalah untuk menjawab dua pertanyaan, yaitu (1) bagaimana Mariam dan Laila digambarkan dalam novel? dan (2) apa arti cinta bagi Mariam dan Laila?


Hasil dari pembahasan menunjukkan bahwa Mariam dan Laila adalah tokoh utama dalam novel. Mariam digambarkan sebagai seorang wanita yang lemah, taat beribadah, penyayang, lugu, dan wanita yang tidak percaya diri. Sedangkan Laila adalah seorang wanita yang cantik, pintar, berani, penyayang dan dia adalah seorang teman yang baik bagi para sahabatnya. Dalam pembahasan juga terdapat perbedaan pengertian tentang mencintai sang suami bagi Mariam dan Laila. Arti cinta bagi Mariam adalah pengorbanan, kesetiaan, pengertian dan kepuahan terhadap suaminya. Sedangkan arti cinta bagi Laila adalah pengorbanan. Dia bersedia melakukan hal-hal yang diperintahkan suaminya walaupun dia enggan untuk melakukannya,seperti memakai burqa dan berjalan – jalan untuk melihat konvoi. Laila juga menderita bersama saat keluarga mereka didera kelaparan.


Kata kunci: love, marriage, family
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TITLE PAGE</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVAL PAGES</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEDICATION PAGE</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATEMENT OF WORKS ORIGINALITY</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERNYATAAN PERSETUJUAN PUBLIKASI</td>
<td>vi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRAK</td>
<td>viii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>ix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study                                            1

1.2. Problem Formulation                                                 4

1.3. Objectives of the Study                                             4

1.4. Benefits of the Study                                               5

1.5. Definition of Terms                                                 5

## CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1. Review of Related Studies                                           8

2.2. Theoretical Review                                                  9

2.2.1. Character                                                        10

2.2.1.1. Meaning of Character                                          10

2.2.1.2. Kinds of Character                                             10

2.2.2. Characterization                                                 12

2.2.2.1. Meaning of Characterization                                    12

2.2.2.2. Ways to Characterization                                      12

2.2.3. Critical Approaches                                              14

2.2.4. Love                                                            14
2.2.4.1. Meaning of Love ................................................................. 14
2.2.4.2. Love Between A husband and A wife .............................. 15
2.2.4.3. Relationship Between A Husband and A Wife in A Family…. 16
2.2.5. Marriage................................................................. 19
2.2.6. Polygamy................................................................. 19
2.3. Theoretical Framework ................................................................. 21

CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY ................................................................. 23
3.1. Object of the Study ................................................................. 23
3.2. Approach of the Study ................................................................. 24
3.3. Method of the Study ................................................................. 25

CHAPTER 4 ANALYSIS ................................................................. 27
4.1. The Description of Mariam and Laila ........................................ 27
4.1.1. Characterization of Mariam ................................................ 28
4.1.1.1. Faithful ................................................................. 28
4.1.1.2. Religious ................................................................. 29
4.1.1.3. Unconfident ................................................................. 30
4.1.1.4. Naïve........................................................................ 32
4.1.1.5. Weak ........................................................................ 33
4.1.2. Characterization of Laila .................................................... 34
4.1.2.1. Pretty ........................................................................ 34
4.1.2.2. Smart........................................................................ 35
4.1.2.3. Loving ........................................................................ 37

xii
4.1.2.4. Brave ................................................................. 39
4.1.2.5. Friendly ............................................................. 40
4.1.3. Mariam and Laila as A Round Flat Character in the Novel.......... 41
4.2. The Meaning of Love for Mariam and Laila ................................. 43
4.2.1. The Meaning of Love for Mariam ........................................ 46
   4.2.1.1. Sacrificing .......................................................... 47
   4.2.1.2. Loyalty ............................................................ 48
   4.2.1.3. Understanding ...................................................... 49
   4.2.1.4. Being submissive ................................................... 51
4.2.2. The Meaning of Love for Laila ............................................ 53

CHAPTER 5 CONCLUSION, IMPLICATION, SUGGESTIONS .......... 56
5.1. Conclusion ........................................................................ 56
5.2. Implication ....................................................................... 59
5.3. Suggestion for Future Researchers ....................................... 59

REFERENCES ........................................................................ 61
APPENDICES ......................................................................... 62
Appendix 1 Cover of Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns ........ 63
Appendix 2 Summary of Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns .... 64
Appendix 3 The author’s biography ............................................... 67
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five parts: background of the study, problem formulations, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, and definition terms. Background of the study presents about the reason why the writer chooses the novel and the topic. Here, the writer also describes some important information related to the topic. Problem formulation presents general description in the form of questions that will be discussed in this study. Objectives of the study describes about expected answers to the questions formulated in problem formulation. Benefits of the study describes about the people who will get benefit of the study. And the last is definition of terms. It will present about definitions of key terms related to the study.

1.1 Background of the study

According to Ozment (1983), marriage as a shared responsibility between husband and wife, whose expectations of one another are clearly defined (p. 50). It means that a husband or a wife has his or her role in family. It is better if a husband does not control of all things in his family. There is a wife who is always ready to help her husband in controlling their family. Ozment (1983) also says that the basic duties of a husband are to provide for the welfare of his wife and children, to protect his household from any who would harm them, and to rule over his family and servants with a firm but just hand. It is clear that the main
roles of a husband are protecting his family and fulfill the family needs (p. 50). Men should work hard in order to get some money to fulfill his family needs. In other word, men are the breadwinner of family. But in some cases, woman can also be a breadwinner of her family.

Ozment (1983) says that a wife is no maid or common servant of her husband. As he is the “father of the house”, she is the “mother of the house”, a position of high authority and equal respect (p. 54). It means that a husband can not do everything that he wants to his wife. A wife is not husband’s servant, but she is husband’s friend; friend in happy or sad moments. They are equal in every aspect.

A husband and a wife should be able to maintain their relationship. A good husband and a wife relationship also bring good effect to the family. It makes the situation in the family become comfortable to live in. Children also grow up as people who have affectionate feeling for others. Love among them is a key for their happiness.

Love between a husband and a wife is an interesting topic to discuss. Many novels use this as their topic. By reading novel, we can learn or see human beings and their nature. Reading a novel also gives us lesson about life expressions like love. Rohrberger and Woods Jr. (1971) say that a primary assumption of the novel is that it would report the actions of individual characters with details sufficient and abundant to create the illusion of authenticity to the material facts of the everyday world (p. 29). It is good for the reader because they can get the lesson about life without experience it by themselves. For example we never know the feeling of becoming a second wife. By reading Khaled Hosseini’s
“A Thousand Splendid Suns” we can get some important points about how it feels to be a second wife. We also can learn that between the first wife and second wife there is not always a fight, but they can be good friends. By reading a novel, we can gain life experiences and some important things from another person’s experiences.

Khaled Hosseini’s novel “A Thousand Splendid Suns” talks about a family in Afghanistan. Historically, at that time this country was under Soviet control, so the life became difficult. The story is about a family where a husband has two wives. Rasheed, the husband, has Mariam and Laila as his wives. In the beginning of their polygamous family, the two wives hate each other. It is normal for two women who have the same husband. They have to “share” their husband. They live together in a house. The first wife, Mariam, really loves her husband. It can be seen from her decision to allow her husband to get married with Laila. Of course it hurts her so much. But there is nothing she can do. She is a good wife actually. She always serves what her husband’s needs. As a woman, she does everything for her husband. One thing that she cannot give to her husband is a child. That is what makes her husband become rude to her. However, still she gives big attention and affection to her husband.

Compared to Mariam, Laila uses a different way in loving her husband. Actually, she agrees to get married with Rasheed just because of one reason. She is pregnant with her friend, Tariq, but Tariq goes to war. So Laila marries with Rasheed in order to avoid her child from being called ‘harami’. Her love is not as much as Mariam has for Rasheed. She still remembers about Tariq everyday.
MARIAM’S love is a tragic story. After some years they live together as a family, Mariam and Laila become good friends. One day when Rasheed abuses Laila, Mariam kills him to protect her. It is unbelievable to see that Mariam can do that to her husband. As a result of her action, she is executed. We can see from the story of this novel that love sometimes is difficult to understand. Mariam, a wife who loves her husband much, can kill her beloved one to protect her friend.

The story in this novel is very interesting to analyze. There are two women who have to share the husband. Both of the two wives have their own characteristic. They also have different love for their husband. Usually, two wives live together in one house will fight everyday. This novel also tells the reader about the struggle of a woman in difficult situation, also gives us the lesson about love. That is why it is interesting to analyze Khaled Hosseini’s “A Splendid Thousand Suns”.

1.2 Problem Formulation

From the background of the study above, there are some questions to be discussed in this research:

1. How are Mariam and Laila described?
2. What does love mean for Mariam and Laila?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to analyze about two questions described in problem formulation. The first is to analyze the description of marriage life in Rasheed family.
The second is about the meaning of love seen from Mariam and Laila points of view. It is important to be discussed because both of them has different characteristic of love. Mariam’s way in loving her husband is different with what Laila has for her husband.

1.4 Benefits of the Study

This study is meant to give some benefits for the future researcher and also the writer herself. Whoever reads this study can use it as a source or guide to conduct the next research of this novel. The benefits for the writer is by conducting this study the writer can develop her ability in writing by arranging words, sentences and also paragraph in a good order.

1.5 Definition of Terms

1.5.1 Love

As defined by Hauck (1983), in his book *How to love and be loved*, love is a powerful feeling that one has for person, animals, or a thing, that has satisfied, is satisfying, or will satisfy our desires and needs (p. 16). Thus love is not only for human, but also love can be for animal or things which make our life become happier and complete.

1.5.2 Marriage

According to Whitehead and Whitehead (1981), marriage means the social institution of matrimony, which has legal definition and rights and duties that are
regulated by the state and sanctioned in many religious traditions through special rites and ceremonies (p. 20). It means that in marriage, a wife and a husband has the same right and duty in managing their marriage life. They are united in marriage, and they have a responsibility to God, their social environment, and the marriage institution itself.

1.5.3 Character

According to Barnett (1988), the character is personality, that is, the mental and moral qualities of a figure, as when we say that a character is strong, or weak, or immoral, or whatever (p. 71). Thus the character describes someone’s personality which has closed relationship with their act or behavior. Abrams (1993) also states that characters are the persons presented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say, the dialogue, and by what they do, the action (p. 23). So the character can be seen from their act, speech, or their appearance.

1.5.4 Afghanistan

Afghanistan is a mountainous land-locked country located in Central Asia. The capital of Afghanistan is Kabul. The exact population of Afghanistan is unknown, however, it is estimated to be somewhere close to 32 million. Afghanistan is a heterogeneous nation, in which there are four major ethnic groups: Pashtun Tajiks, Hazaras, and Uzbeks. The majority of Afghans (99%)
belong to the Islamic faith. Today, Afghanistan is on a road to recovery, however, after decades of war, the economy is still in ruins, and its environment is in a state of crises (Abdullah Qazi, n.d)

1.5.5 Pashtun

According to *Encyclopedia of World Culture Volume III South Asia*, Pashtun is an ethnic group that inhabits southern and eastern Afghanistan and western Pakistan. Its area is primarily mountainous. The most important activities in the Pashtun economy are grain farming, and animal husbandry. Pashtun have earned reputations as successful traders and businessmen. As the largest and most influential ethnic group in Afghanistan, the Pashtuns have dominated the society and politics of that country for the past 200 years (p. 230-231)
CHAPTER 2

REVIEW ON RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter is divided into two parts. The first part is theoretical review. This part explains about some related theories that will be employed in the analysis part. The theories that will be used here are related to these topics. The theories presented here are the critical approaches that are commonly used in literary study, theory of character, theory of characterization, theory of love, and theory of marriage. The second part of this chapter is theoretical framework.

2.1 Review on Related Study

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* is a novel written by Khaled Hosseini. It tells about a family live in Afghanistan, where the husband has two wives. These two wives have good relationship. Their husband often does the bad things to them. This situation makes them often cooperate to against the husband. By reading this novel, readers will know the struggle of two women in difficult situation at that time; war everywhere, and bad action from their husband.

Khaled Hosseini’s “*A Thousand Splendid Suns*” is interesting to discuss. There are two different studies done on this novel. The first study was conducted by Paskalina Widiastuti Ratnaningsih. The title of her study is *The Influence of Jalil, Rasheed, and Laila on Mariam’s Personality Changes in Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns*. This study discusses about the characters of Jalil, Rasheed, and Laila and how they influence Mariam’s personality changes. In her
study, Ratnaningsih concludes that Jalil and Rasheed make Mariam’s personality change for better and for the worse, and Laila makes Mariam’s personality change just for the better. Ratnaningsih also concludes that Mariam’s personality changes are also related to the variations in personality changes, such as; age of change, kinds of people, and areas of personality patterns.

The second thesis is written by Andreas Indra Pangarsa entitled Rasheed’s Aggression Over His Wives in Khaled Hosseini’s A Thousand Splendid Suns. This study mainly discusses about Rasheed’s Aggression over his wives. Pangarsa concludes that Rasheed aggresses against his wives both psychologically and physically which can be seen by his behaviors. Pangarsa also concludes that there are some reasons why Rasheed aggresses his wives. The first reason is his old-painful experience of losing a son, and the next reason is he becomes frustrated after losing his job and lacking food to eat. The last but not least, Pangarsa concludes that male domination in Afghanistan provides more spaces for man to aggress against woman as a wife.

Considering to those studies, this thesis will analyze the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. As the wives of a husband, of course they have different meanings of love for their husband. This study also covers on the characteristics of Mariam and Laila.

2.2 Theoretical Review

The theories that are used in this study are the theory of character, theory of characterization, the critical approach, theory of love, and theory of marriage.
These theories are important to be applied because these theories are related to this study to find out the description of Mariam and Laila, and the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila.

2.2.1 Character

2.2.1.1 Meaning of character

Barnett (1988) says that character can be defined into two meanings, firstly, the character is a figure in literary work, and secondly the character is personality, that is, the mental and moral qualities of a figure, as when we say that a character is strong, or weak, or immoral, or whatever (p. 71). Every character has his or her personality. The author creates the character and uses them to assist in forming the plot of a story and creating mood.

A character has the important roles in literary work. It is an element which builds reader’s interest. Therefore, in order to cope with the analysis, it is important to present some theories related to the character. Moreover, it will also help work on the analysis part later.

2.2.1.2 Kinds of character

Forster (1974) in his book *Aspects of the Novel* divides the character of the novel into two kinds: flat and round characters. A flat character has only one outstanding trait or feature, or at most a few distinguishing marks. It is relatively simple, and usually has only one trait. Flat character is usually static. There are two advantages of a flat character. First is that they are easily recognized whenever they come in. It because she or he has her or his own characteristic
compared to others character in the story. A flat character is also recognized by the reader’s emotional eye, not by the visual eye which merely notes the recurrence of a proper name. The second advantage is that the reader can easily remember a flat character. Flat characters were not changed by circumstances so that they were remained as unalterable (p. 46-51).

Forster (1974) states that round characters are presented with more facets. A round character is likely to be dynamic, changing considerably as the story progresses. That is, their authors portray them in greater depth and in more generous detail. Such a round character may appear to the readers as he appears to the other characters in the story (p. 61). A round character is complex in temperament and motivation. It means that it is difficult for the reader to remember him so easily for he waxes and wanes and has many facets like human being. Flat characters tend to say the same throughout a story, but round characters often change- learn or become enlightened, grow or deteriorate. The test of a round character is whether it is capable of surprising in a convincing way. If it never surprises, so it can be said as a flat character. If it does not convince, it is flat pretending to be round.

In addition, Rohrberger and Woods Jr. (1971) states that characters have an important role in a story since they help the readers to participate vicariously in the experience or the story by sharing imaginatively the feelings or activities of the characters in the story (p. 20).
2.2.2 Characterization

2.2.2.1 Meaning of characterization

Barnett (1988) states that personality in character is often called as characterization that is showed by the characters in their action. Characterization is the way the author presents and defines a character (p. 746). Barnet also explains in his book *Literature for Composition* that characterization or personality is defined, as in fiction, by what the characters do and by what they say, by what others say about them, and by the setting in which they move. Characters also defined in part by other characters (p. 746).

Characterization has important role in a novel. Rohrberger and Woods Jr. (1971) state that characterization is a process by which an author creates a character (p. 20). Each character has a particular personality and physical attributes that show the difference between one character and another.

2.2.2.2 Ways to characterize

Murphy (1972) in *Understanding Unseen* mentions nine ways in which an author attempts to present his characters in his novel and make them alive for his readers (p. 161-173). First is a personal description. This aim is to bring the character to the reader’s sense. For this reason, the author can make use of some adjectives to tell the readers the detail of each character’s appearance like from his/her face, skin, eyes, and clothing. Second ways is characters as seen by others. It means that the author describes the character with help from the other character’s eyes and opinion. The third is from speech. Here, the author can give us the characterization of one person in the novel through what the person says.
and the readers get. The forth way is from past life. In this case, the reader will be enabled to gain the hint on condition that he is about to learnt something about the person’s past life. The author’s direct comment, the person’s own thoughts, his conversation with another, and another person’s role will help the reader apprehend the person’s past life. Next way is from conversation with others. It means that a character can be revealed through the conversation of other people and thing people and thing they say about him. People do talk about other people and thing they say often give as a clue to character of the person spoke about.

The sixth way is from reactions. Each character in a novel can react specifically to various kinds of situations, occasions, and conflicts. These particular reactions are considered to represent his personality. Therefore, the authors make it possible for the readers to get a character’s personality by letting them to know the character through his reactions to those situations and occasions. Next is direct comment. In order to make character easy to be understood, the author can give comment on the character’s personality directly. The eighth ways is thought. This principle is basic to the concept that the world in a novel is sometimes different in reality. The author can help the reader gain a more profound understanding of different people’s thinking in the sense that what the reader might deem it impossible is very likely to happen in the world of the novel. In other words, the reader is due to audit what the character of the novel thinks and undergoes. The last way is from mannerism. Here, the author usually uses mannerism, habits, and unique features, which his character possesses with motivation behind them to help characterize the person.
2.2.3 Critical Approach

Rohrberger and Woods Jr. (1971) mention that there are five kinds of critical approaches (p. 6-13). They are the formalist approach, the biographical approach, the sociocultural-historical approach, the mythopoeic approach, and the psychological approach. The first is formalist approach. This critic examines the literary piece without reference to facts of author’s life, without reference to the genre, and without reference to its social milieu. This approach is used when the critic only concerns in any parts of the literary work which constitute its structure into account. The second is the biographical approach. This approach asserts the necessity for an appreciation of the ideas and personality of the author to an understanding of the literary object. The third is the sociocultural- historical approach. This approach insists that the only way to locate the real work is in reference to the civilization that produced it. It is necessary that the critic investigate the social milieu in which a work was created and which it necessarily reflects. The fourth is the mythopoeic approach. It is used when the critic intends to find our particular recurrent pattern of human thought. Usually, they concern with death and rebirth, guilt and sacrifice, primitive rites, and also theological aspect of Christian doctrine. The last is the psychological approach. It is used when the critic will analyze about any aspects of psychology as a certain element of literary work. Theory of psychology is used to explain the personality of each character.

2.2.4 Love

2.2.4.1 Meaning of love

Everybody needs love in their life. Love makes our life more beautiful. Love has so many meanings. It depends on the people who describe it. Pearson
(1976) states that love exists not only when you are happy but also when you are down. It means that love happens anywhere anytime. When we are happy, of course, love exists. And when we are sad, it is also possible that love still exists too (p. 193).

According to Hauck (1983) in *How to Love and to be loved*, love is that powerful feeling one has for person, animals, or things, that has satisfied, is satisfying, or will satisfy our desire and needs”. Love is a need. Everybody needs love. So if they do not have love in their life, it can be said that they are missing something in their life (p. 16).

### 2.2.4.2 Love between a husband and a wife

As a couple, a husband and a wife have to love each other. According to Pearson (1976), love exists not only when you are happy but also when you are down. A husband and a wife have to face every chapter in their marriage life together. A husband and a wife will spend a lot of time together because they choose to do so. It is important that both partners should enjoy their time together. Drescher (1979) states that love grows through nurture, esteem, and respect (p. 58). A couple should respect their mate’s right and give them a freedom. Freedom here means freedom to hang out with his or her friends, freedom to join a community, etc.

Cheal (2002) in his book *Sociology of Family Life* states that marriage partners are recommended to learn communication skills which can help them to avoid arguments and conflicts, and they should look for ways to make their partner’s enjoyment of their interaction more pleasurable (p. 73). It means that
communication is very important in marriage life. By communicating, a couple can share about their feeling and emotions. If a husband and a wife have a good communication, they can solve the problems well, without a crash between them.

2.2.4.2 Relationship between a husband and a wife in a family

A husband and a wife unite in a marriage. In marriage, they promise to live together, in happiness and sorrow. Hauck (1983) states that marriage requires dedication, patience, and the acceptance of long – range responsibilities that are often crushing in their intensity (p. 9). A husband and a wife have to cooperate to maintain their family life. They may have trouble communicating in love relationship, and it is normal. Sometimes marriage does not go well like our expectation. There are some cases caused miscommunication between a husband and a wife. According to Brannon (1996), a trouble in communicating between a husband and a wife happens partly because their styles and goals of communication differ; men are trying to establish independence and dominance and women are trying to share feelings and make connections (p. 259). As two different people, it is normal if a husband and a wife have different ideas or arguments. Sometimes they argue about whose argument is better. Their selfishness will lead them into a quarrel which brings about negative effect of the family. So it is better if a husband and a wife understand each other and try to make a good communication between them.

A husband and a wife have an important role in a marriage. By knowing their role, it is expected that they can work together to create a happy family. Each partner also has important duties in the relationship; it means that each partner
holds primary responsibility for the important part of their life together. Whitehead and Whitehead (1981) in *Marrying Well, Stages on the Journey of Christians Marriage* explains about husband’s and wife’s role in a family. A husband is expected to hold an outside job that enables him to support his family financially (p. 272). It can be denied that good finance plays an important role in a family. If a husband can fulfill his family needs, it can be said that he fulfills his role as a breadwinner for his family.

A husband’s duty not only as a breadwinner, but also he has to be able to be a “guardian angel” for his family. Guardian angel here means that a husband has to be able to guard his family from any dangerous thing surround them which may happen. It means that a husband has to be able to give safety for his family. A husband has a bigger responsibility than a wife’s. A certain part of the world, the society puts a husband as the leader of a family. Maybe it relates with a description of a men as a strong figure who can guard his family.

A wife also plays an important role in the family. Still according to Whitehead and Whitehead (1981), a wife is expected to work in the home to carry out the many demanding tasks of family life (p. 272). A wife holds primary responsibility for raising the children. This responsibility usually is taken by both husband and wife, but still a wife has bigger portion in this part. Besides raising the children, a wife also has to be able to provide a well - ordered home and she has to be able to manage the family financial needs. Some women choose to be a housewife. Becoming a housewife is not as simple as many people think about them. Although a housewife does not work in an office, she is very busy at home;
cleaning the house, cooking meals, preparing her husband’s and children’s needs, washing clothes, etc. A housewife is a honorable job. A housewife work from early in the morning until late at night, and she is not paid for doing that.

From the explanation above we can conclude that husband is responsible for the family’s financial well - being and the wife is responsible for the family’s home life. Because of the development era, the role of husband and wife also changes. As explained above, a woman usually works at home and nurtures the children. Nowadays, we can see that many women surround us become career women. It caused by some reasons. They want to help the husband for additional income. Another reason is the situation which makes her to do that. For example, she has to be a breadwinner of her family because the husband is passed away.

Based on the text above, good relationship between a husband and a wife can be achieved if there is good cooperation and good communication between them. A husband and a wife have to understand each other. In *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, we can find that Rasheed has a bad relationship with his wives. There is no good communication between them. Rasheed often does the bad things to his wives and his children. Physical violence in a family will bring the negative effects for the family member. According to Brannon (1996), relationships that involve physical violence are less stable than those with no violence (p. 253). A family with physical violence becomes unhappy family. No love between husband and wife will cause the children to become unconfident children because of lack affection from their parents.
Why Mariam and Laila stay with a man who repeatedly abuses them is a big question. As unemployed wives and have young children who need the financial support the husband gives, Mariam and Laila have no options except to stay in relationship, no matter how abusive their husband is. Abusive relationships are an extreme case of conflict in love relationship. All couples experience some level of conflict. Some of them can solve their problems with discussion to find the best way out, but some couples better to choose divorce to end their problem relationship.

2.2.5 Marriage

According to Whitehead and Whitehead (1981), marriage means a social institution of matrimony, which has a legal definition and rights and duties that are regulated by the state and sanctioned in many religious traditions through special rites and ceremonies (p. 20). Here, marriage is recognized as a legal love relationship where the couples have their rights and duties to build a family life.

In a marriage life, the couples have to be able to cooperate to build a success family. The main factor in maintaining a family is love. Love here is pure feeling. Love between family members. Other factors that can be help for maintaining family is trust and respect. Every member in the family has to show their respect to another member.

2.2.6 Polygamy

The passage in the Quran dealing directly with the topic of polygamy is in Surah 4 verse 2. It is said that a husband in an Islamic family is not limited to
have only a single wife, though the number of legal wives he may have at any one
time is limited to four free women. If a husband has more than four wives, there is
punishment as a penalty. The man who disobeys this regulation usually ‘punished’
with social sanction.

Polygamy involves a person’s engaging in a marriage with several spouses,
whether the relationship includes many wives or many husbands. There are two
kinds of polygamy; those are polygyny and polyandry
(http://www.soc.ucsb.sexinfo/article/polygamy). First type is polygyny. Polygyny
is the most common type in polygamy. It occurs when one man gets married with
several women. Second type is polyandry. It means that one woman gets married
with several men. It rarely happens in our society.

It is stated in Quran that a man can do polygamy with some rules. Surah 4
verse 3 in Quran says (http://www.soc.ucsb.sexinfo/article/polygamy. It means
that a man can marry more than one woman but only for them who can deal justly
with them.

Many people are against polygamy because it can bring a harmful effect,
especially for woman. Brooks says that a woman in polygamous marriage is at
higher risk of low self-esteem, as well as depression then woman in non-
polygamous relationship. In addition, a woman in polygamous marriage is
vulnerable to depression after becoming pregnant, and the husband usually turns
the attention to the other wife. These kinds of situation often happen in a
polygamous marriage, and of course it can make the wife feel depressed and for
the children they will get no attention from their father (Thom Brooks, n.d).
Brooks also says that woman in a polygamous marriage is also at higher risk of sexual disease for example AIDS. As it is known that if a men or a woman have more than one partner in their sexual relationship they will suffer from AIDS easily. Not only the wife who can be suffered from AIDS, but also the baby. If a pregnant woman suffers from AIDS, the baby will have a possibility to suffer from AIDS too.

From the explanation above it can be concluded that polygamy has many disadvantages for a family. It will not easy to live in polygamous family. Not all the woman can “share” their husband, and for the children it is also difficult to “share” their father. According to Brooks, children of polygamous family experience a higher incidence of marital conflicts, violence in the family, and family disruption than do other children of monogamous family.

2.3 Theoretical Framework

There are some theories applied to analyze the novel. Those are theory of character, theory of characterization, theory of critical approach, theory of love, and theory of marriage. In order to analyze the first problem in this study, theory of character is applied. It is used to help me to know how KhaledHosseini describes the character of Mariam and Laila.

The theory of characterization is used to analyze the characteristics of Mariam and Laila. Their characteristic can be identified from their personal description, their speech, their thoughts, and their mannerism. Then the critical approach which the writer uses is psychological approach. The writer chooses psychological approach because it helps in analyzing the characters in the novel.
Next is theory of love. This theory is to explain the idea of love, since this thesis discusses about the meaning of love. The theory is used in analyzing the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila in order to answer the second question in this study. The last is theory of marriage. Theory of marriage is applied to analyze Rasheed’s marriage relationship with his two wives.
CHAPTER 3

METHODOLOGY

This chapter consists of three parts. They are object of the study, approach of the study and method of the study. The object of the study discusses about the physical description of the novel, in this case is Khaled Hosseini’s “A Thousand Splendid Suns”. In approach of the study, a chosen approach is explained and also the reasons why that approach is the appropriate one for this analysis.

3.1 Object of the Study

The main object in this study is Khaled Hosseini’s “A Thousand Splendid Suns”. This novel was published in Great Britain in 2007. This novel consists of 402 pages in 51 chapters. The author, Khaled Hosseini, was born in 1965 in Kabul. A Thousand Splendid Suns is one of his most popular novels. Another of his famous novel is The Kite Runner.

The story in this novel is about a life of two women, Mariam and Laila. They are the wives of a husband, Rasheed. It is told in the novel that many years before he gets married with Mariam, he already has a wife. Later, it is known that the wife is already dead. It can be said that actually Mariam is his second wife and Laila as the third wife. But considering that Rasheed’s wife is already dead many years before Rasheed and Mariam get married, Mariam is regarded as the first wife and Laila as the second wife. Usually, the women who have same husband have bad relationship among them. In this case, Mariam and Laila have a unique
relationship because they can be friend although they have to share their husband. This study focus on the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. Those wives have different characteristics, automatically they have different love for their husband too. Mariam is a good wife actually. She is described as a faithful, religious, unconfident, naïve, and weak women. She always prepares her husband’s needs. She always besides her husband although her husband has a bad temper. The meaning of love for Mariam can be seen as sacrificing, loyalty, understanding, and being submissive.

Laila, Rasheed’s second wife, is describes as a beautiful women. She is also a brave woman, smart, loving, and friendly women. Different with Mariam, Laila does not love her husband. She does this in order to hide the child's illegitimacy. Her love is just for Tariq. It is revealed from the novel that in the end of the story they become husband and wife.

3.2 Approach of the Study

This study will use the psychological approach. The psychological approach has various theories about psychology, which help so much in analyzing this study, especially in understanding the personality of the character in this novel. The behavior of the character in the story can be seen and analyzed using psychological approach.

By using the psychological approach the behavior and characteristic of the character of the story can be revealed. Rohrberger and Woods Jr. (1971) state that the unconscious area of the human mind leads us to the conclusion that it is the
area the wellspring of man’s rich imagination, capacity of creation and the complexity of the through and behavior (p. 14).

3.3 Method of the Study

This part explains about the process in writing this thesis. In analyzing this novel, I used library study. The main procedure that I used to gain the data was reading the novel and taking some important notes. It helped me in analyzing the novel. In this method I also searched some valid resources from Internet. I used it to answer and analyze the questions presented in problem formulation.

The primary data in this study was Khaled Hosseini’s “A Thousand Splendid Suns”. The secondary data were books and some valid article about his work “A Thousand Splendid Suns” from Internet. I also looked for some books to find the theories that could support my analysis in this novel.

There were some steps in analyzing this novel. First, I had to choose the novel that would be the primary data in this study. The title of this novel is “A Thousand Splendid Suns”. After reading this novel, I found some interesting topic to be discussed in this study. The meaning of love for the two wives an interesting topic to discuss. The two wives had to share the husband, but they are tied in a good relationship.

After reading this novel I decided a topic used for this study. Then, I formulated them into questions in the problem formulation. In the next step, I looked for some books to find theory that can support my analysis. From the book
I got many important information related to the study. I got books about the meaning of love, family relationship and also study about psychological approach.

After collecting the data, I began to analyze the topic. First, I analyzed about how Mariam and Laila were described in this story. Here, I used theory of characterization. The next step was I analyzed about the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. As I explained above that as the two wives they had different point of view about love for their husband.
CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS

This chapter consists of two parts. The first part discusses the description of Mariam and Laila. Second part discusses the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. These are the answer of the questions stated in chapter one.

4.1 The description of Mariam and Laila

There are two characters analyzed in this novel: Mariam and Laila. Mariam is Rasheed’s first wife while Laila is Rasheed’s second wife. Based on Henkle’s theory, both of them are major characters in the novel. It is because they dominate the story. They appear in the story from the beginning until the end of the story. Henkle (1977) states that major character has the reader’s fullest attention (p. 92).

According to Abrams (1993), in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms*, characters are the persons pretended in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with moral, dispositional, and emotional qualities. The characters are expressed in what they say in the dialogue and by what they do in action (p. 23). Based on the explanation, character is the person who is presented in a literary work, such a novel. The characters have their own characteristic. It means that each character is different with the other character in the novel.
Forster (1974) differentiates the characters into flat character and round character. Here, Mariam belongs to round character. It is because of her character has capability to change. Different with Mariam, Laila is a flat character. Her character does not change from the beginning until the end of the story. In the novel, it is stated that Laila is a brave woman. She is not afraid of her husband although he often tortures her. She is also a good mother for her children.

4.1.1 Characterization of Mariam

4.1.1.1 Faithful

Mariam is described as a faithful wife. Faithful here means Mariam always serves her husband well, and always obeys what her husband says. Everyday Mariam has to prepare what her husband needs. Mariam is a good wife actually. She always does the house work but Rasheed does not appreciate to what Mariam has done for him.

She cleaned the house, made sure he always had a supply of clean shirts, cooked him his favorite dishes. Once, disastrously, she even bought makeup and put it on for him. But when he came home, he took one look at her and winced with such distaste that she rushed to the bathroom and washed it all off, tears of shame mixing with soapy water, rouge, and mascara (p. 98)

It can be seen that Mariam always tries to give the best for her husband. Although her husband never appreciates her work, Mariam still gives her best service to her husband. As a faithful wife, Mariam does not brave to against her husband. We can see it when Rasheed says to her that he wants Laila to be his wife. At the first time, Mariam does not agree with Rasheed’s plan. She tries to tell Rasheed that she disagrees with his plan.
“I … I don’t want this,” Mariam said, numb with contempt and helplessness.
“It’s not your decision. It’s hers and mine.”
“I’m too old.”
“She’s too young, you’re too old. This is nonsense.”
“I’m too old. Too old for you to do this to me,” Mariam said, balling up fistfuls of her dress so tightly her hands shook “For you, after all these years, to make me an ambagh.”
“Don’t be so dramatic. It’s a common thing and you know it. I have friends who have two, three, four wives. Your own father had three. Besides, what I’m doing now most men I know would have done long ago. You know it’s true”
“I won’t allow it”
At this, Rasheed smiled sadly (p. 208 - 209)

After Rasheed married with Laila, Mariam still serves her husband as usual. It is a proof that Mariam is a faithful wife for her husband, no matter what Rasheed has done to her. Mariam also does not leave the house although she has to share her husband with Laila.

4.1.1.2 Religious

Although Mariam never goes to school, she has the spirit to study about religion. There is an akhund, a Koran teacher, who comes to her house once or twice in a week. He is Mullah Faizullah. Mullah Faizullah is the one who teaches Mariam Koran recitation and how to do the five daily prayers. He is Mariam’s favorite guest after Jalil of course (pp. 15 – 16; bk. 1, ch. 1). With him, Mariam can improve her knowledge about religion. Mullah Faizullah also teaches Mariam how to write Arabic letter, like what he does when Mariam’s mother is a child. Sometimes Mullah Faizullah also tells Mariam some stories about his experiences when he is young. He tells Mariam about a two-headed snake that he has found in Iran, Ishafan’s Thirty-three Arch Bridge, and about the watermelon that he splits
outside the Blue Mosque in Mazar with seeds forming the words Allah on one half and Akbar on the other side (p. 16).

Mariam is good at Koran recitation. That is why she teaches Aziza, Laila’s daughter, how to read Koran. “Aziza went over to Mariam and climbed up in her lap. The two of them were inseparable now. Of late, with Laila’s blessing, Mariam had started teaching Aziza verses from the Koran” (pp. 290, bk. 3, ch. 40).

As a religious person, Mariam also prays to God before the Talib shoots her. She asks for God’s forgiving because she kills her own husband. She also mutters a few words from the Koran. Here, we can see that Mariam is a religious person. She remembers God before her death and she apologize to God for all of her sins that she made (p. 361).

4.1.1.3 Unconfident

Mariam is an unconfident person. It is proven when Mariam says to little Aziza why she likes Mariam so much. “Why have you pinned your little heart to an ugly hag like me?” Mariam would murmur into Aziza’s hair. “Huh? I am nobody, don’t you see? A dehati. What have I got to give you? (p. 246). In this case, it seems that Mariam is not confident with herself. She always thinks that she is dehati, a slave. Maybe it is caused by her past when she is a child. At that time, her mother always calls her a harami, which has a negative meaning. Mariam’s mother also blames her as the reason why her life is so hard. That is why Mariam grows up as an unconfident person. She feels that nobody loves her and cares about her. As a person who is not confident with herself, Mariam gets
the benefit by wearing burqa. The benefit is that she is no longer worried that people know her shameful past by seeing her face.

One day, Mariam find a photo in Rasheed room (p. 83). In that photo, there is a seated beautiful woman with younger Rasheed at her back. She is Rasheed first wife. Mariam looks at the photo carefully. She starts to look that women’s face. She thinks that the woman is more beautiful than her.

The woman was beautiful. Not as beautiful as the women in the magazine, perhaps, but beautiful. Certainly more beautiful than her, Mariam. She had a delicate chin and long, black hair parted in the center. High cheekbones and a gentle forehead. Mariam pictured her own face, her lips and long chin, and felt a flicker of jealousy (p. 83)

As an unconfident woman, Mariam thinks that she is an ugly woman. When she looks the woman in the photo, she feels jealous because she thinks that the woman is more beautiful than her. Mariam is a woman who feels that there is no something special in her. Mariam also does not comfortable when she is in the public area. It can be seen when she goes to tandoor. She meets some women in tandoor. They are gossiping about something which makes Mariam not comfortable of being there. Mariam feels that the women are gossiping about her past life. She is afraid whether they know that she is a harami. “In the tandoor line, Mariam caught sideways glances shot at her, heard whispers. Her hands began to sweat. She imagined they all knew that she’d been born a harami, a source of shame to her father and his family. They all knew that she’s betrayed her mother and disgraced herself” (p. 65)

Mariam’s past life follows Mariam everywhere she goes. Mariam always thinks that she is a harami, a bad label which other people give to her. That is why
she grows up as an unconfident women who thinks that she is not deserve to have happiness.

4.1.1.4 Naïve

Mariam is a naïve person. It is revealed when she opens Rasheed’s porn magazine. There, Mariam sees some beautiful girls who wear no shirts, no trousers, no socks or underpants. Mariam asks to her self, why they allow themselves to be photographed like that. As a person who grows up in a small village, Mariam never finds a porn magazine before. That is why Mariam is very shocked when she finds that kind of magazine in Rasheed’s room. “Mariam quickly put the magazine back where she’d found it. She felt drugged. Who were these women? How could they allow themselves to be photographed this way? Her stomach revolted with distaste. Was this what he did then, those nights that he did not visit her room?” (p. 81)

As a person who comes from a small village, Mariam finds a new world when she lives in Kabul. One day, Rasheed invites her to go out. When they pass Chicken Street, Mariam is amazed by the women there. For Mariam, they look so beautiful and modern. She thinks that the women have educated in a university and she says to herself that they are important person.

These women were all swinging handbags and rustling skirts. Mariam even spotted one smoking behind the wheel of a car. Their nails were long, polished pink or orange, their lips red as tulips. They walked in high heels, and quickly, as if on perpetually urgent business. They wore dark sunglasses, and, when they breezed by, Mariam caught a whiff of their perfume. She imagine that they all had university degrees, that they worked in office buildings, behind desks of their own, where they typed and smoked and made important telephone calls to important people. These women mystified Mariam. They made her aware of her own
lowliness, her plain looks, her lack of information, her ignorance of so many things. (p. 74)

As a naïve person, Mariam is amazed with a common thing. For other people, it is a common thing to see a woman wears a good dress, works on an office, or has makeup in her face. But, for Mariam this common thing seems so spectacular when she looks at that kind of women by herself.

4.1.1.5 Weak

Mariam is a weak person. Weak here means she can not defend her self from her husband’s torture. Mariam is afraid of her husband. She can do nothing when Rasheed does the bad things to her. If Rasheed kicks her or punches her, she just cry and never against him. Mariam lives in suffering when she lives with Rasheed. Mariam tries to harden herself against his scorn and reproach, but Mariam cannot do that. She is still shivers when Rasheed does the bad things to her (p. 234).

As a weak person, sometimes Mariam apologized to Rasheed even if she does not make a mistake. She does that in order to make Rasheed does not angry with her.

“I worry that you are angry with me.” Rasheed sighed.

“Are you?”

His eyes shifted to her. “Why would I be angry?”

“I don’t know, but ever since the baby....”

“Is that the kind of man you take me for, after everything I’ve done for you?”

“No. Of course not.”

“Then stop pestering me me!”

“I’m sorry. Bebakhsh, Rasheed. I’m sorry.” (p. 94)
By analyzing the dialogue above, we can see that Mariam is a weak woman. Mariam is always in a low position in front of Rasheed. She cannot defend herself from Rasheed’s torture. It reveals from the dialogue that actually Mariam does not make a mistake to Rasheed. She just asks him whether he angry with her or not. Rasheed’s violence becomes an usual thing for Mariam. She also tells Laila that Laila has to get used to Rasheed’s violence in their house, whether she likes it or not.

4.1.2 Characterization of Laila

4.1.2.1 Pretty

Different with Mariam, Laila has a beautiful face, which makes Rasheed interested in having her as his second wife. Laila means the beautiful night, which describes her beautiful face. “Mammy always told Laila that she had inherited her hair color- as well as her thick-lashed, turquoise green eyes, her dimpled cheeks, her high cheekbones, and the pout of her lower lip, which Mammy shared-from her great-grandmother, Mammy’s grandmother” (p. 108)

When Laila is born, her families are amazed with her beauty. They are marveling at the Laila’s light hair, at her pink cheeks and puckered, rosebud lips, at the slits of jade green eyes moving behind her puffy lids (p. 101).

Laila grows up as a girl who has a beautiful face. That is why some naughty boys try to disturb her. When she becomes Rasheed’s wife, she is lucky because Rasheed loves her much more than he loves Mariam. Rasheed compares her beauty with Mariam’s as a brand- new, first- class, Benz. “You,” Rasheed said to the girl, “you, on the other hand, would be a Benz. A brand-new, first- class, shiny Benz. Wah wah. But. But. “ He raised one greasy index finger. “ one must
take certain…cares…with a Benz. As a matter of respect for its beauty and
 craftsmanship, you see.” (p. 216).

Rasheed compares Mariam’s and Laila’s beauty like a Volga and a Benz, which Mariam is the Volga and Laila is the Benz. Everybody knows that Benz is more expensive than Volga. It means that Laila is more beautiful and more precious than Mariam. For Rasheed, Laila is a *malika*, a queen in the house. In the beginning if their marriage, Rasheed loves Laila so much. He often gives Laila a gift. Rasheed also asks Mariam to serve Laila and Mariam always be ready if Laila needs her.

### 4.1.2.2 Smart

Laila has a good background as an educated person. Formerly, her father works as a teacher. Laila is a smart woman. Different with Mariam who never goes to school, Laila has a chance to have education in the school. She is the smartest student compared to her friends. In her family, education is number one. Her father reminds her that education is more important than marriage. One day, her father says that she is a smart girl, and she can be anything that she wants. It means that Laila’s father always supports her to continue her study.

I know you’re still young, but I want you to understand and learn this now, he said. Marriage can wait education cannot. You’re a very, very bright girl. Truly, you are. You can be anything that you want, Laila. I know this about you. And I also know that when this war is over, Afghanistan is going to need you as much as its men, maybe even more. Because a society has no chance of success if its women are uneducated, Laila. No chance (p. 114)

Every night after the dinner, Laila’s father helps Laila to do her homework, and gives her other exercises (p. 132- 133). This way is to make Laila one or two steps
ahead her friends. In June, 1992, there is a war between Pashtun force and Hazaras of the Wahdat faction. The street becomes so unsafe. Because of not wanting something dangerous happened to his daughter, Laila’s father decides to drop out Laila from the school (p. 176). After that, he teaches Laila by himself. He teaches Laila about poetry or mathematics.

He took over the teaching duties himself. Laila went into his study every day after sundown, and, as Hekmatyar launched his rockets at Massoud from the southern outskirts of the city, Babi and she discussed the ghazals of Hafez and the works of the beloved Afghan poet Ustad Khalilullah Khalili. Babi taught her to derive the quadratic equation, showed her how to factor polynomials and plot parametric curves (p. 174).

As a smart student, Laila receives the awal numra certificate for the last two years (p. 114). This certificate is given yearly to the top-ranked student in each grade. Because of her smartness, sometimes her friend asks her help to do their homework. For example, Tariq, her close friend, often comes to her and ask her help to finish his homework, although he is in the higher grade than Laila (p. 130). Usually Laila helps him to finish his mathematic homework.

Besides Tariq, Laila also has another two close friends. They are Giti and Hasina. Laila is the smartest between them. Both Giti and Hasina are proud to have a smart friend like Laila. Hasina ever says to Laila that one day she will find Laila picture on the first page of newspaper as an important person. “By the time we’re twenty, Hasina used to say, Giti and I, we’ll have pushed out four, five kids each. But you, Laila, you’ll make us two dummies proud. You’re going to be somebody. I know one day I’ll pick up a newspaper and find your picture on the front page” (p. 163).
Some years later, Hasina’s prediction about Laila really happens. In the end of the story, it is written that Laila works on an orphanage. Anis, one of Kabul’s newspapers writes about the renovation of the orphanage where Laila works. They take a photo of Zaman, the orphanage owner, Tariq, Laila, and one of the attendants (p. 399-400). The photo is not on the first page of the newspaper, but it is enough to prove what Hasina has predicted.

4.1.2.3 Loving

Laila grows up as a kind hearted girl. She has a warm heart for the people around her. She loves her parents so much, and later she also loves her children more than everything. When Laila is a child, her two older brothers are dead in war. This situation makes Laila’s mother comes into depression. Laila’s mother spends her time just by lying on her bed. She does not care about Laila and her husband. As a good daughter, Laila always accompanies her mother. Laila will lay on the bed besides her mother. Laila will tell her experience on that day. Although her mother does not respond to her, Laila still accompanies her mother because she has a big love for her.

Laila is a good mother for her children; Aziza and Zalmai. Here, her children have the different father actually. Aziza is Tariq’s daughter, and Zalmai is Rasheed’s son. She really loves her children so much. Everyday she takes care the children. She feed them, wash their clothes, and she will very panic if her children were sick (p. 233). Laila loves her daughter very much. She likes to spend her time with Aziza. “Of all earthly pleasure, Laila’s favorite was lying next to Aziza, her baby’s face so close that she could watch her big pupils dilate and
shrink. Laila loved running her finger over Aziza’s pleasing, soft skin, over the
dimpled knuckles, the folds of fat of her elbows” (p. 239).

In her second pregnancy, Laila has the idea that she wants to kill her baby.
She can not imagine having a baby from the husband that she does not love. She
is afraid that she can not love the baby as much as she loves Aziza. But finally she
realizes that kills the baby is a bad idea. She thinks that the baby is blameless. So
she does not continue her action to kill her own baby (p. 276-277). Her worried is
not come true. When Zalmai was born, Laila knows that she loves him so much.
She does not care who Zalmai’s father is. She loves Zalmai as much as she loves
Aziza.

In Taliban era, Rasheed’s family almost lives in poverty. Then, Rasheed
decides to send Aziza to an orphanage. Laila refuses Rasheed’s plan because it
will difficult for her to meet Aziza. Rasheed persuades Laila and tells her that if
he gets money, he will take Aziza out from the orphanage. Rasheed also promises
to Laila that he will accompany her to visit Aziza in the orphanage. Later,
Rasheed breaks the promise and Laila tries to visit Aziza herself. The Taliban
forbids a woman go out from the house without her husband. Laila loves Aziza so
much so she does not care about that regulation. As the result, she will get
assortments of wooden club, fresh tree branches, short whips, slaps, often fist (p.
313). Laila does this as a mother who loves her daughter. She tries to meet Aziza
in orphanage no matter what the bad things come to her.
4.1.2.4 Brave

In the novel, Laila is described as a strong and brave woman. She can survive although all of her family members are dead. As a wife, Laila is a type of a woman who is not afraid of her husband. Sometimes when Rasheed does the bad things to her, Laila against him with her own power. “Laila watched the arch of her closed fist, slicing through the air, felt the crinkle of Rasheed’s stubbly, coarse skin under her knuckles. It made a sound like dropping a rice bag to the floor. She hit him hard. The impact actually made him stagger two steps backward” (p. 292).

Here, we can see that Laila is not afraid of her husband’s torture. She will hit him back if Rasheed hits her. Laila also describes as a woman who will do anything to have what she wants. For example, when Laila has a big plan to leave Afghanistan and go to Peshawar. She wants to leave her husband. Laila realizes that she needs much money to do her plan. So, Laila decideds to steal her husband’s money from his wallet when he is not at home (p. 241). What Laila has done is a proof that she is a brave woman. Her action by stealing Rasheed’s money takes a high risk. If Rasheed know what Laila has done, he will angry and do the violence to Laila.

Laila as a brave woman also can be seen when she will give birth to her second child. In the hospital there is no anesthetic to operate on her. Because of she is a brave woman, Laila says to the doctor that it is no problem if the operation done without anesthetic.

“But if we delay, you will lose your baby”
“Then, cut me open,” Laila said. She dropped back on the bed and drew up her knees.
“Cut me open and give me my baby” (p. 283).

For many people, especially women, it is horrified if they are operated without using anesthetic. For Laila, it is better to conduct the operation without anesthetic than she has to lose her baby.

4.1.2.5 Friendly

Laila is described as a friendly person. Her kindness makes people comfortable beside her. Laila has two close girl friends. They are Giti and Hasina. They go to same school. Laila is the smartest between those girls. That is why Laila is the one who they are looking for help if they have difficulties in school materials. Laila also has a close boy friend. He is Tariq. Every night, they will play a nightly signaling game. They have played it for so long and became a bedtime ritual (p. 110). As a friend, Tariq will save Laila if she in a difficult situation, for example when some naughty boys disturb Laila, Tariq will fight against them (p. 116-117). Their close relationship continues until they grow up as teenager. People around them start to talk about their togetherness. Gradually, they fall in love each other. In the end of the story, Tariq and Laila become a husband and a wife, and live happily with their children.

Laila also has a best friend. She is Mariam. In the beginning, the relationship between Mariam and Laila is not good. Mariam thinks that Laila steals her husband. Laila always tries to make Mariam likes her and they become friend. But it is not an easy thing to do. As time goes by, their relationship
becomes better than before. Laila and Mariam can be a friend who help each other.

After they become a friend, they do the housework together. Sometimes Mariam help Laila to take care the baby. They cook together in the kitchen while Aziza playing on the yard. They will share three cups of chai in the yard every night, and it is become their nightly ritual (p. 245). Their relationship becomes closer day to day. Now it is not like that they are friend, but they are like a mother and a daughter. They help each other and they save each other from their husband’s torture.

After Mariam is dead, Laila always remembers her as a best friend and also a mother. Laila is also very thankful for Mariam’s sacrifice. Laila always remembers about Mariam’s love, care, and her attention. As a result, Laila will give her baby with a name that reminds her to her lovely friend. The name is Mariam (p. 402).

4.1.3 Mariam and Laila as a round and flat character in the novel.

Forster (1974) differentiates the characters into flat character and round character. Here, Mariam belongs to round character. It is because of her character has capability to change. It is said in the novel that when Mariam is a child, she loves her father much. Thursday becomes her favorite day because her father will visit her. In that day, Mariam and her father will spend the time together. They go for fishing, walking on the river side, or just chattering about their daily life. One day Mariam leaves her house to go to Kabul, where her father lives with his three
wives. She goes there without her mother’s permission. There, she can not meet her father. One of her father’s servant tells her that her father out of town for several days. Mariam knows that actually her father is in the house but he refuses to meet Mariam. He feels shame because Mariam is like a sin for him. Mariam is Jalil’s daughter with his own servant. After she waits all night long for her father, she decides back to her house. She feels very disappointed of her father. She does not reach her house yet until she finds her mother’s body hanging under a tree. Mariam feels guilty. She thinks that she is the reason why her mother does that. Because of this situation and her disappoint feeling to her father which make her character is change. Start from that moment she hates her father. After she gets married with Rasheed she also refuses to meet her father.

Mariam’s character also changes when she becomes Rasheed’s wife. According to the novel, Mariam is described as a woman who is afraid of her husband. Mariam is also a good wife because she always serves her husband well and prepares everything he needs. Everyday her husband always does the bad things to her, but she can do nothing against him. Her husband often punches her or kicks her just because a little mistake. Not only to Mariam, Rasheed also does the bad thing to Laila, his second wife. Forster (1974) said that the test of round character is whether it is capable of surprising in a convincing way (p. 54). If it never surprises, it is flat. It is told in the novel that Mariam kills Rasheed with a shovel. She kills him because he tries to kill Laila. Based on Forster’s theory, it is true that Mariam is a round character because what she has done makes a surprise for the reader. In the first time she is a good woman who is afraid of her husband,
but because of situation and condition at that time, she kills her husband for saving Laila.

Before Laila comes to Rasheed’s house, Mariam does not have a friend at all. Mariam is an introvert woman. She does not have a friend to share her feeling. In her life in Rasheed’s house, Mariam never gets love or happiness. She pasts her life in sorrow without someone’s love or to be loved. After Laila comes to the house, and the birth of Aziza and Zalmai, Mariam feels a pure love from someone else. With them, Mariam feels happy and she has a friend to share her problem. Mariam and Laila always help each other in the house. They do the house work together. With Laila, Mariam knows the meaning of a friendship.

Different with Mariam, Laila is a flat character of the novel. Her character does not change from the beginning until the end of the story. In the novel, it is stated that Laila is a brave woman. She is not afraid of her husband although he often tortures her. She is also a good mother for her children.

4.2 The meaning of love for Mariam and Laila

In Islam, polygamy is allowed for men, with the specific limitation that they can only have up to four wives at any one time. This regulation can be found in Quran, Surah 4 verse 2 which says that a husband in an Islamic family is not limited to have only a single wife, though the number of legal wives he may have at any one time is limited to four free women. It is not stated what punishment men can get if they have more than four wives.
It is stated in Quran that a men can do polygamy with some rules. Surah 4 verse 3 in Quran says “Marry woman of your choice, two or three, or four; but if you fear that you shall not be able to deal justly with them, then only one or one that your right hands posses. That will be more suitable, to prevent you from being injustice”. It means that a man who chooses this route must deal with their wives as fairly as possible, doing everything that they can to spend equal amounts of time and money on each one of them. If the husband cannot deal with his wives fairly, one is enough. Polygamy is prohibited by law in some Muslim countries that have not adopted Islamic law for marital regulations, such as Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Tunisia and Turkey (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polygamy in Islam).

A polygamous family is more difficult than a common family. A polygamous family has more complex problems compared with a common family. For example, a husband of polygamous family needs to work harder than a husband of common family. It is because of the two families has different financial needs. The polygamous family takes the higher financial needs than common family. The other problem is that in polygamous family there is a lack of love or attention among family member. A polygamous family, of course, consists of many family members. It caused the children are lack of parent’s love and attention. The parents have to share their love for the children. The lack of love in a family makes the situation is not comfortable to live in. Love in the family is needed to make the relationship among family members closer. That is why love is an important point in a family.
Love in a family starts with love between a husband and a wife. In family, a husband and a wife as the parents should teach the children to love each other. Love in a family can make the relationship among family members closer and stronger. With love, they will help and support each other. A husband and a wife are united in a marriage. In marriage, they promise to love each other whether in a good or bad condition. A husband and a wife will spend the time together.

According to Drescher (1979), marriage is the best school ever devised for the development of character (p. 67). It means that in a marriage, a couple should learn to know each other, to accept each other, and to love each other. To do those things, a husband and a wife should know the characteristic of their couple. Still according to Drescher (1979), one of the first qualities of genuine love is the deep desire to make other happy (p. 58). If we love someone, we will try to give the best for him or her. If they are happy, we are happy too. Someone in love will do anything to make their beloved one becomes happy. In some cases, they will sacrifice to proof their love to someone they love.

A husband and a wife are in general different. Drescher (1979) says that men tend to be interested in communicating ideas and programs and plans. Women tend to be interested in talking about feelings and emotions. In other words, men have theoretical minds while women are person minded (p. 29). That is why in a discussion between a husband and a wife sometimes finally blurs out. In order to achieve good communication between a husband and a wife, each of them should understand each other. They also have to learn to accept their couple’s ideas in order to avoid misunderstanding among them which can lead to
a quarrel. If each of them will take time to listen to the other, much can be learned and each grows in a broader understanding of life.

Based on the explanation above, I will describe the meaning of love for the two wives; Mariam and Laila. Mariam as the first wife has more meaning of love for Rasheed than Laila.

4.2.1 The meaning of love for Mariam

A husband and a wife unite in a marriage. In a marriage, they have to understand each other and accept their spouse just the way he or she is. A husband and a wife have to cooperate to maintain their family life. Good communication between a husband and a wife also hold important factor in husband and wife relationship. Good communication is essential to healthy couple relationships. Bad communication can build barriers between a husband and a wife that drive them apart. Drescher (1979) states that a happy marriage is the one that deals with its difficulties in a sympathetic spirit in which partners search together for solutions rather than dealing with difficulties by vindication, blaming, or escape (p. 7). It can be conclude that between a husband and a wife have to cooperate in solving their marriage problems. It is better for couple to find the best solution for every problem than they decide to divorce.

Drescher (1979) says that the marks of married love are: an acceptance of each other as he or she is, a desire to make the other happy, an eagerness to work out differences as they surface, a focus on building the marriage rather than one’s own ego. So, one way to achieve a happy marriage is that a couple tries to make
his or her spouse happy. Every person has their own understanding in loving their mates. In this case, Mariam also has understanding in loving her husband. the meaning of love for Mariam is sacrificing, loyalty, understanding, and submissive.

4.2.1.1 Sacrificing

As it is stated above, a happy marriage can be achieved if a couple always tries to make their mates happy. According to Drescher (1979), one of the first qualities of genuine love is the deep desire to make other happy (p. 58). Like Mariam, she also tries to make Rasheed happy although she has to sacrifice her own happiness. Hauck (1983) states that most unhappiness in marriages and relationships occurs because one of both persons have sacrificed too much (p. 6). It is clear in the novel that Mariam is the one who always sacrifice for her mate’s happiness. Her sacrifices have no meaning for her husband. Mariam always gives but she never gets the return from her husband.

Mariam is a good wife for Rasheed. Mariam never against her husband. She always obeys what her husband says. When her husband says that he wants married with Laila, Mariam can do nothing and she accepts Rasheed decision (p. 208 - 210). Rasheed decicion to marry Laila hurts Mariam so much. But as a faithful wife, Mariam can accept that her husband wants to married again although she is disagree about that plan at the first time. This is a proof that Mariam is willing to sacrifice for her husband’s happiness. Mariam sacrifices her own happiness for her husband’s happiness.
Before Rasheed marries with Laila, he gives a ring to that girl. Rasheed says to Laila that he has to trade Mariam’s ring for it. Laila refuses to accept that ring because she does not want to hurt Mariam. But Rasheed persuades her and he says that Mariam will not notice that. “Rasheed sat on the bed beside her, made a great show of slowly undoing the ribbon, of opening the box and plucking out the ring delicately. He let on that he’d traded in Mariam’s old wedding ring for it. She doesn’t care. Believe me. She won’t even notice.” (p.211)

For her husband’s happiness, Mariam has to lost her wedding ring. For a wife, a wedding ring has precious value. A wedding ring is a symbol to memorize the love for her husband. According to Mariam, she will sacrifice for her husband’s happiness although she to sacrifice her beloved thing likes a wedding ring.

4.2.1.2 Loyalty

Hauck (1983) states that relationship will become unbalanced relationship if one partner giving a great deal and the other receiving a great deal (p. 6). It means that the relationship will become a sick relationship if there is only a partner who always gives without receives as a reward. This case is similar with Mariam. She always serves her husband well but Rasheed does not care about that.

Mariam is a wife who always serves her husband’s needs. She works hard everyday in her house. Mariam will cook, wash the clothes, clean the house, etc. She always be a good wife for Rasheed. Mariam still serves her husband well
although Rasheed tortures her. Mariam’s loyalty for Rasheed is shown from her services for her husband.

When Rasheed came home that night, he brought with him a brown paper bag. Mariam was disappointed that he did not notice the clean windows, the swept floors, the missing cobwebs. But he did look pleased that she had already set his dinner plate, on a clean sofrah spread on the living room floor (p. 68)

As a wife who loves her husband, Mariam also shows her loyalty when Rasheed married with Laila. Although Rasheed has betrayed her, Mariam does not leave him, and she still be a good wife for her husband. Actually Mariam does not agree when Rasheed will marry Laila, but Mariam can do nothing. As a weak wife, Mariam always obey what her husband says.

As a loyalty wife, Mariam tries to give the best for her husband. She always tries to serve her husband well and prepares all of her husband’s needs. Sometimes, Mariam is afraid whether she already does a good job or not.

He dipped his spoon into gold – colored daal. Mariam swayed a bit. What if he was disappointed or angry? What if he pushed his plate away in displeasure?
“Careful,” she managed to say. “It’s hot.” Rasheed pursed his lips and blew, then put the spoon into his mouth. “It’s good,” he said. ‘A little undersalted but good. Maybe better than good, even.”
Relieved, Mariam looked on as he ate. A flare of pride caught her off guard. She had done well, and it surprised her, this thrill she felt over his small compliment. The day’s earlier unpleasantness receded a bit (p. 68)

It’s clear that Mariam really cares about her husband’s satisfaction. She wants everything is perfect in front of her husband.

4.2.1.3 Understanding

Hauck (1983) states that love means different things to different people (p. 22). Explaining this statement, he states that when you love somebody to love
you, it is extremely important that you try to understand what it takes to make that person happy. A husband and a wife have to understand each other. Both of them have to know how to make their mate happy. Understanding what other people want is not an easy thing to do because they have their own characteristic. Mariam as a good wife also tries to understand about her husband. It is difficult for her to understand Rasheed’s condition because Rasheed has bad temper characteristic.

When Mariam finds a porn magazine in Rasheed’s room, she is very shocked to see the picture in the magazine. The models in the magazine wear no shirts, no trousers, no socks or underpants. Mariam does not believe that her husband has porn magazines in her room. She asks herself why the models allow themselves to be photographed like that. Mariam becomes confused and embarrassed. Finally, an explanation comes to her mind.

Slowly, an explanation presented itself. He was a man, after all, living alone for years before she had moved in. His needs differed from hers. For her, all these months later, their coupling was still an exercise in tolerating pain. His appetite, on the other hand, was fierce, sometimes bordering on the violent (p. 82)

Here, we can see that Mariam always understanding about her husband’s need. She realizes that Rasheed lives alone before she comes to the house without a wife. Mariam also understands that men’s need is different with a woman’s needs. So, it is not be a problem anymore for Mariam to know that Rasheed has a porn magazine in his room.

Firstly, Mariam does not agree when Rasheed wants to marry Laila. It hurts her so much to know that she has to share her husband with another woman. When Mariam tells Rasheed that she will not allow him to marry again, Rasheed tries to convince Mariam that what he does is for Laila’s future.
“Look, “he said, sounding more conciliatory now, as a victor could afford too. “I knew you wouldn’t take this well. I don’t really blame you. But this is for the best. You’ll see. Think of it this way, Mariam. I’m giving you help around the house and her a sanctuary. A home and a husband. These days, times being what they are, a woman needs a husband. Haven’t you noticed all the widows sleeping on the streets? They would kill for this chance (p. 210)

After listening Rasheed’s argument, Mariam thinks that there is nothing to do. She does not have a choice. Finally, she allows Rasheed to marry with Laila. Mariam understands about her husband’s wants, although it hurts herself. It is not easy for Mariam to accept Laila in the house. She does this for Rasheed’s happiness.

Mariam also understands about Rasheed’s condition when she has miscarried. Mariam asks Rasheed to have a proper burial for the baby. Rasheed refuses her wants because he does not want to bury another son. It is because formerly Rasheed ever lost a son. Then, Mariam thinks that Rasheed is still trauma with his past life. Understand with Rasheed’s condition, Mariam buries her baby in the yard by herself. As a wife, Mariam always understands what her husband’s need, but her husband never understands her.

4.2.1.4 Being submissive

Mariam is also described as a submissive wife. She always obeys what her husband says to her. She is never against her husband. What her husband says is a command for her. For example, Mariam agrees when Rasheed asks her to wear a burqa. Although she is not accustomed to wear a burqa, Mariam tries to wear it to please Rasheed.

Mariam had never before worn a burqa. Rasheed had to help her put it on. The padded headpiece felt tight and heavy on her skull, and it was strange seeing the world through a mess screen. She practices walking around her
room in it and kept stepping on the hem and stumbling. The loss of peripheral vision was unnerving, and she did not like the suffocating way the pleated cloth kept pressing against her mouth (p. 71)

It is clear that Mariam has difficulty to wear a burqa. She is difficult to walk and difficult to breathe. But as a submissive wife, she tries to obey what her husband commands to her.

Although she does the house work well, Mariam often gets “punishment” from Rasheed. All that she does has no meaning for Rasheed. One day, it is told that Rasheed is angry because the rice is not boiled enough. Mariam says to him that she boils the rice five minutes more than usual. Then, Rasheed goes out from the house, and goes back with pebbles in his hands.

He snatched her hand, opened it, and dropped a handful of pebbles into it. “Put these in your mouth,”
“What?”
“Put. These. In your mouth”
“Stop it, Rasheed, I’m….”
“Now chew,” he said
“CHEW!” he bellowed.
“Good,” Rasheed said. “Now you know what you’ve given me in this marriage. Bad food and nothing else”
Then he was gone, leaving Mariam to spit out the pebbles, blood, and the fragments of two broken molars (p. 103)

Here, we can see that Mariam always obeys what her husband commands although it is not an easy thing to do. Rasheed always tries to blame Mariam. He will be very angry just because of a small mistake that Mariam does.

When Rasheed’s family lives in poverty, Rasheed’s asks Mariam to call her father. Rasheed thinks that Jalil will help them financially. Actually Mariam does not want to do that. When she lives in Kabul with Rasheed, she refuses to meet her father when he visits her. Later, she will disappoint herself. Because she feels shameful with herself, Mariam does not want to call her father, but Rasheed
asks her to do that. So, Mariam obeys what her husband says and she knows that her father is already dead (p. 299-300). Because Mariam is a submissive wife, she will obey what her husband commands although it is a difficult thing to do.

4.2.2 The meaning of love for Laila

Different with Mariam, the meaning of love for Laila is not clearly seen. In the novel, it is often stated that Laila is always against her husband. It seems that she has no love for her husband. But if we look deeper into her behavior, we will find that actually Laila also has a love for Rasheed. She expresses her love by doing some simple things. Love does not mean that we have to do a great thing to make our mate happy. Doing a simple action also can express our love to our mate. According to Hauck (1983), love is a powerful feeling that one has for person, animals, or a thing, that has satisfied, is satisfying, or will satisfy our desires and needs (p. 16). So, love is a feeling to make our mate becomes satisfy or happy which can make our life becomes complete.

There are three evidences of Laila’s actions which show her love to Rasheed. First is when Rasheed asks her to wear a burqa. Rasheed convinces her that by wearing a burqa will protect her from lewd men in the town. “Oh, I also ask that when we are out together, that you wear a burqa. For your own protection, naturally. It is best. So many lewd men in this town now. Such vile attentions, so eager to dishonor even a married woman. So. That’s all.” (p. 217). Laila agrees to wear a burqa when she wants to go somewhere. At the first time, it is difficult for her to walk with wear a burqa. Gradually, she accustomed to wear a burqa like Mariam. Although she is a brave woman who is always against what
her husband says, Laila obeys Rasheed’s command which asks her to wear a burqa. This is a kind of love that she can give for Rasheed.

Early morning the next spring, of 1993, Mariam stood by the living – room window and watched Rasheed escort the girl out of the house. The girl was tottering forward, bent at the waist, one arm draped protectively across the taut drum of her belly, the shape of which was visible through her burqa (p. 229).

We can see from the quotation above that Laila is already wearing a burqa when she will give a birth to her first child, Aziza. Many women in Afghanistan wear burqas. Burqa is used to cover their whole body except eyes. Like what Rasheed says to Laila, burqa is used to protect the women from unwanted negative behavior from some lewd men.

Second is when Rasheed invites his family to see the convoy (p. 268). Four of them, Rasheed, Mariam, Laila and Aziza, go out to see the convoy because Taliban comes. Rasheed leads them from one bus to the next. The street is full with people. The national anthem plays on cassette decks. Everywhere, there are shouts: Allah -u- Akbar! Laila’s willingness to go out with Rasheed can also be categorized as a kind of love for her husband. Laila accompanies Rasheed not only in sorrow when they live in poverty, but also in happiness when they go to see a convoy.

Third is when Laila lives in poverty with her family. It is stated in the novel that Rasheed’s shoes shop is burnt down. That is why Rasheed’s family lives in poverty because Rasheed loses his job.

The, late that summer, a fabric merchant fell asleep and forgot to put out his cigarette. He survived the fire, but this store did not. The fire took the adjacent fabric store as well, a secondhand clothing store, a small furniture shop, a bakery.
They told Rasheed later that if the winds had blown east instead of west, his shop, which was at the corner of the block, might have been spared (p. 297)

Because he has lost his job, Rasheed cannot earn money to fulfill his family needs. As a result, they sell anything that they have. Laila sells Aziza’s baby clothes and her toys. Rasheed’s old transistor radio, his pair of neckties, his shoes, and his wedding ring are sold to get money (p. 297). Pearson (1976) states that love exists not only when you are happy but also when you are down. It means that love happens anywhere anytime. When we are happy, of course, love exists. And when we are sad, it is also possible that love still exists too (p. 193). In the difficult situation, Laila still lives with Rasheed in his house. She does not leave the house to look for better life outside her home. It shows that Laila accompany Rasheed not only in happiness but also in sorrow.
CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter consists of two parts, those are conclusions and suggestions. The conclusions concern with the answers of the questions stated in the problem formulation. The suggestions contain suggestions for future researchers and recommendation for English teaching and learning process through the novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

5.1 Conclusions

There are two main points that can be concluded from the analysis. Those are how Mariam and Laila are described in the novel and the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that both Mariam and Laila are the main characters in the story. They become the focus of the story. They appear from the beginning until the end of the story. Mariam and Laila dominate the story.

In the story, Mariam is described as a round character. Her character is easy to change. According to the novel, Mariam’s character is change until three times. First is when she is a child. She loves her father so much. She becomes hate her father because her father do nothing when his wives asks Mariam to marry with Rasheed. When her father visits her in Kabul, Mariam refuses to meet him. Second is when Laila comes to Rasheed’s house. When they become friends, Mariam feels that Laila and her children give a pure love that she never has before. Mariam turns to be a friendly woman and has love and respect for others.
Mariam also does not feel lonely anymore. Last is when Mariam kills Rasheed with a shovel. Actually, Mariam is a good wife and always obeys what her husband says. Mariam decides to kill Rasheed to protect Laila from Rasheed harassment. Another main character in this novel is Laila. She is described as a flat character because her character is the same from the beginning until the end of the story.

Mariam is a faithful wife for Rasheed. She is never against what her husband says. Mariam always obeys what her husband asks to her. Mariam is also a religious woman. When she is a child, she studies to read the Koran with Mullah Faizullah. Mariam always remember to pray to God in every situation. Mariam is an unconfident person. She always says that she is a dehati, a slave. She often looks herself as a person who has lack of self-esteem.

Mariam is a naãve person. As a woman who grows up in a small village outside the town, she never experiences with the modern life. Mariam is also a weak woman. Weak here means that she cannot defend her self from her husband’s torture. Mariam can do nothing when her husband does bad things to her.

Rasheed’s second husband is Laila. Laila has a beautiful face. Her name is symbolizing her beauty. Laila means a night beauty. Rasheed always compares her beauty with Mariam’s as a brand - new, first class, Benz. Laila is a smart woman. She has a good background as an educated person. Her father is a teacher. He always says to Laila that education is number one.
Laila is a kind hearted girl. She is a loving person. She loves her parents so much. Laila also loves her children. She takes care of them everyday. She loves Zalmai as well as she loves Aziza. Laila is a strong and brave woman. Laila is a type of a woman who does not afraid of her husband. Laila also describes as a friendly person. Her kindness makes people comfortable beside her.

As the wives of a husband, Mariam and Laila understand the different meaning of love. Mariam understands her love to her husband as sacrificing, loyalty, understanding, and being submissive. Sacrificing here means that Mariam will do everything that her husband says for his happiness. Mariam sacrifices her own happiness for her husband’s happiness. Mariam also understands her love as a loyalty. Mariam is a wife who always serves her husband's needs. As a wife who loves her husband, Mariam also shows her loyalty when Rasheed marries with Laila. Although Rasheed has betrayed her, Mariam does not leave him, and is still a good wife for her husband. Mariam as a wife always tries to understand her husband’s wants and needs. Last is being submissive. Mariam expresses her love to her husband by obeying what her husband says to her. What her husband says is a command for her.

Different with Mariam, Laila loves Rasheed differently. She agrees to married with Rasheed because she is already pregnant. The baby’s father is Tariq, and he already leaves Afghanistan to go to Pakistan. Laila thinks that the marriage can solve her problem. She shows her love to her husband in simple ways like wearing a burqa, going for watching a convoy, and living in togetherness when their family in poverty.
5.2 Implications

This study focuses on the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. This study also discusses the importance a love in a family. Love in family can make the relationship between family members become closer. Love also makes the situation in a family becomes happy and comfortable to live in. If there is no love in a family, the relationship among family members turns to bad. Every family member is responsible to maintain their family happiness.

As the implementation of this study, the teacher can teach the students about how important the love in a family. At school, every student has to love all of her friends in order to create a comfortable environment in their school. Love here does not mean love between a girl and a boy, but love here means love to friends or teachers. By teaching them about love to others, it is expected that students can have self – respect for others too.

5.3 Suggestions for Future Researchers

Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is an interesting novel to read and analyze because it portrays a polygamous Afghanistan family. It tells about the struggle of the two wives Mariam and Laila in facing their husband’s violence.

This study focuses on the meaning of love for Mariam and Laila. As wives of a husband, they have different meaning of love for their husband. This study opens opportunities for other researchers to conduct further analysis in the future. The writer suggests two aspects which can be discussed by future researchers who
want to take Khaled Hosseini’s *A Thousand Splendid Suns* as the object of the study. First is the future researchers may conduct studies on the influences of polygamous family on family prosperity. Second is the future researchers can consider to discuss the influences of polygamous family on children’s character development.
REFERENCES


APPENDICES
Appendix 1

COVER OF KHALED HOSSEINI’S *A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS*

Taken from: http://khaledhosseini.com/cover/
Appendix 2

SUMMARY OF KHALED HOSSEINI’S A THOUSAND SPLENDID SUNS

Mariam lives in a kolba on the outskirts of Herat with her mother. Jalil, her father, is a wealthy man who lives in town with three wives and nine children. Because Mariam is his illegitimate daughter, she cannot live with them, but Jalil visits her every Thursday. On her fifteenth birthday, Mariam wants her father to take her to see Pinocchio at his movie theater. When he does not show up, she hikes into town and goes to his house. He refuses to see her, and she ends up sleeping on the porch. In the morning, Mariam returns home to find that her mother has hanged herself out of fear that her daughter has deserted her. Mariam is then taken to live in her father's house. Jalil arranges for her to be married to Rasheed, a shoemaker from Kabul who is thirty years her senior. In Kabul, Mariam becomes pregnant seven successive times, but is never able to carry a child to term, and Rasheed gradually becomes more abusive.

In the same neighborhood live a girl named Laila and a boy named Tariq, who are close friends, but careful of social boundaries. War comes to Afghanistan, and Kabul is bombarded by rocket attacks. Tariq's family decides to leave the city, and the emotional farewell between Laila and Tariq ends with them making love. Laila's family also decides to leave Kabul, but as they are packing a rocket destroys the house, kills her parents, and severely injures Laila. Laila is taken in by Rasheed and Mariam.
After recovering from her injuries, Laila discovers that she is pregnant with Tariq's child. After being told that Tariq is dead, she agrees to marry Rasheed, who is eager to have a young and attractive second wife, and hopes to have a child with her. When Laila gives birth to a daughter, Aziza, Rasheed is displeased and suspicious, and he soon becomes abusive toward Laila. Mariam and Laila eventually become confidantes and best friends. They plan to run away from Rasheed and leave Kabul, but they are caught at the bus station. Rasheed beats them and deprives them of water for several days, almost killing Aziza.

A few years later, Laila gives birth to Zalmai, Rasheed's son. The Taliban has risen to power, and there is a drought, and living conditions in Kabul become poor. Rasheed's workshop burns down, and he is forced to take jobs for which he is ill-suited. Rasheed sends Aziza to an orphanage. Then one day, Tariq appears outside the house. He and Laila are reunited, and their passions flare anew. When Rasheed returns home from work, Zalmai tells his father about the visitor. Rasheed starts to savagely beat Laila. He nearly strangles her, but Mariam intervenes and kills Rasheed with a shovel. Afterwards, Mariam confesses to killing Rasheed, in order to draw attention away from Laila and Tariq, and is executed, while Laila and Tariq leave for Pakistan with Aziza and Zalmai.

After the fall of the Taliban, Laila and Tariq return to Afghanistan. They stop in the village where Mariam was raised, and discover a package that Mariam's father left behind for her: a videotape of Pinocchio, a small pile of money and a letter. Laila reads the letter and discovers that Jalil regretted sending
Mariam away. Laila and Tariq return to Kabul and fix up the orphanage, where Laila starts working as a teacher. Laila is pregnant with her third child, and if it is a girl, it is suggested she will be named Mariam.

**Adapted from:**

http://monkeynote.stores.yahoo.net/index.html
Appendix 3

THE AUTHOR’S BIOGRAPHY

Khaled Hosseini was born in Kabul, Afghanistan, in 1965. His father was a diplomat with the Afghan Foreign Ministry and his mother taught Farsi and History at a large high school in Kabul. In 1976, the Afghan Foreign Ministry relocated the Hosseini family to Paris. They were ready to return to Kabul in 1980, but by then Afghanistan had already witnessed a bloody communist coup and the invasion of the Soviet army. The Hosseinis sought and were granted political asylum in the United States. In September of 1980, Hosseini's family moved to San Jose, California. Hosseini graduated from high school in 1984 and enrolled at Santa Clara University where he earned a bachelor's degree in Biology in 1988. The following year, he entered the University of California-San Diego's School of Medicine, where he earned a Medical Degree in 1993. He completed his residency at Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles. Hosseini was a practicing internist between 1996 and 2004.

While in medical practice, Hosseini began writing his first novel, The Kite Runner, in March of 2001. In 2003, The Kite Runner, was published and has since become an...
international bestseller, published in 70 countries. In 2006 he was named a goodwill envoy to UNHCR, the United Nations Refugee Agency. His second novel, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* was published in May of 2007. Currently, *A Thousand Splendid Suns* is published in 60 countries. Khaled has been working to provide humanitarian assistance in Afghanistan through The Khaled Hosseini Foundation. The concept for The Khaled Hosseini Foundation was inspired by a trip to Afghanistan Khaled made in 2007 with the UNHCR. He lives in northern California.