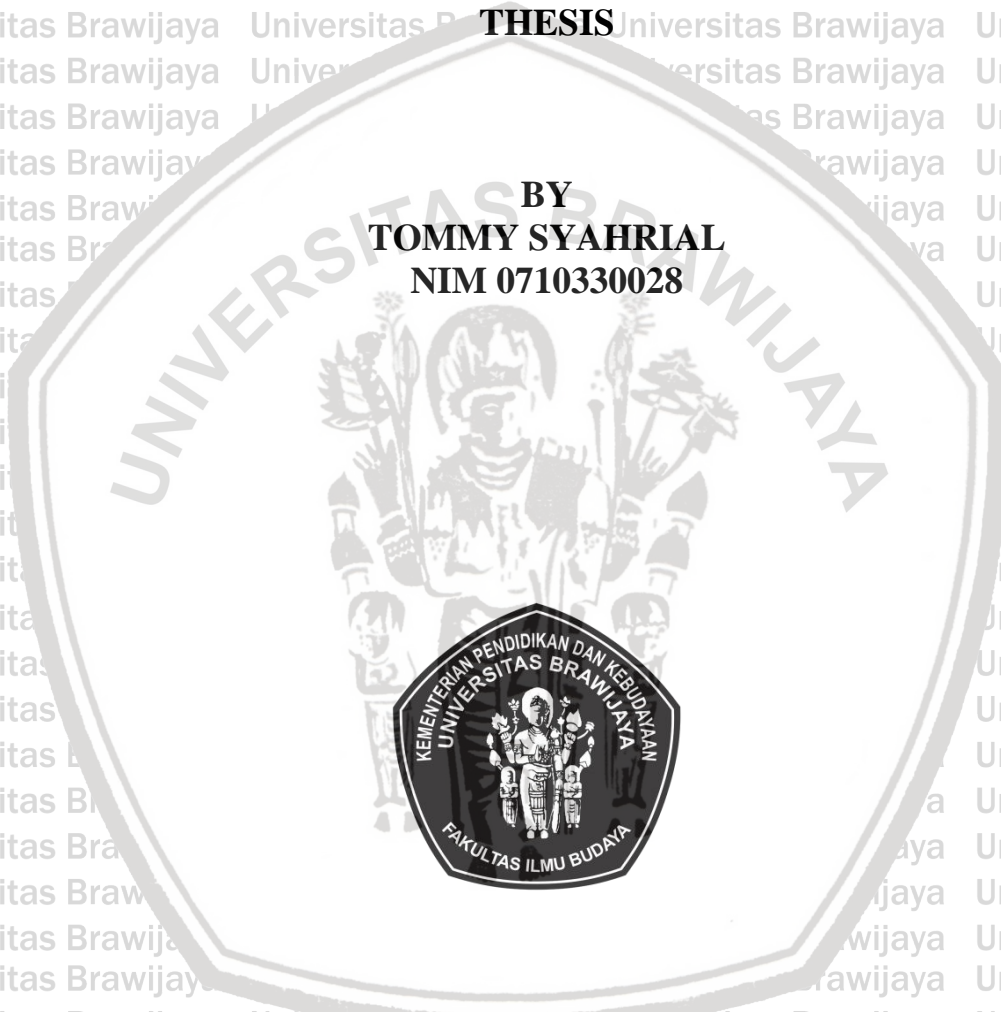


**PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT  
OF LONDON CARTER'S IN HIS ADOLESCENCE PERIOD  
IN NICHOLAS SPARKS' *A WALK TO REMEMBER***

**THESIS**

**BY  
TOMMY SYAHRIAL  
NIM 0710330028**



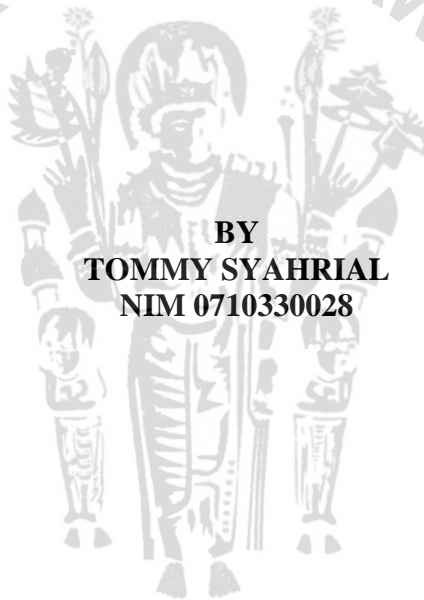
**STUDY PROGRAM OF ENGLISH  
DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
FACULTY OF CULTURE STUDIES  
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**2012**

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**THESIS**

**Presented to  
Universitas Brawijaya  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra***



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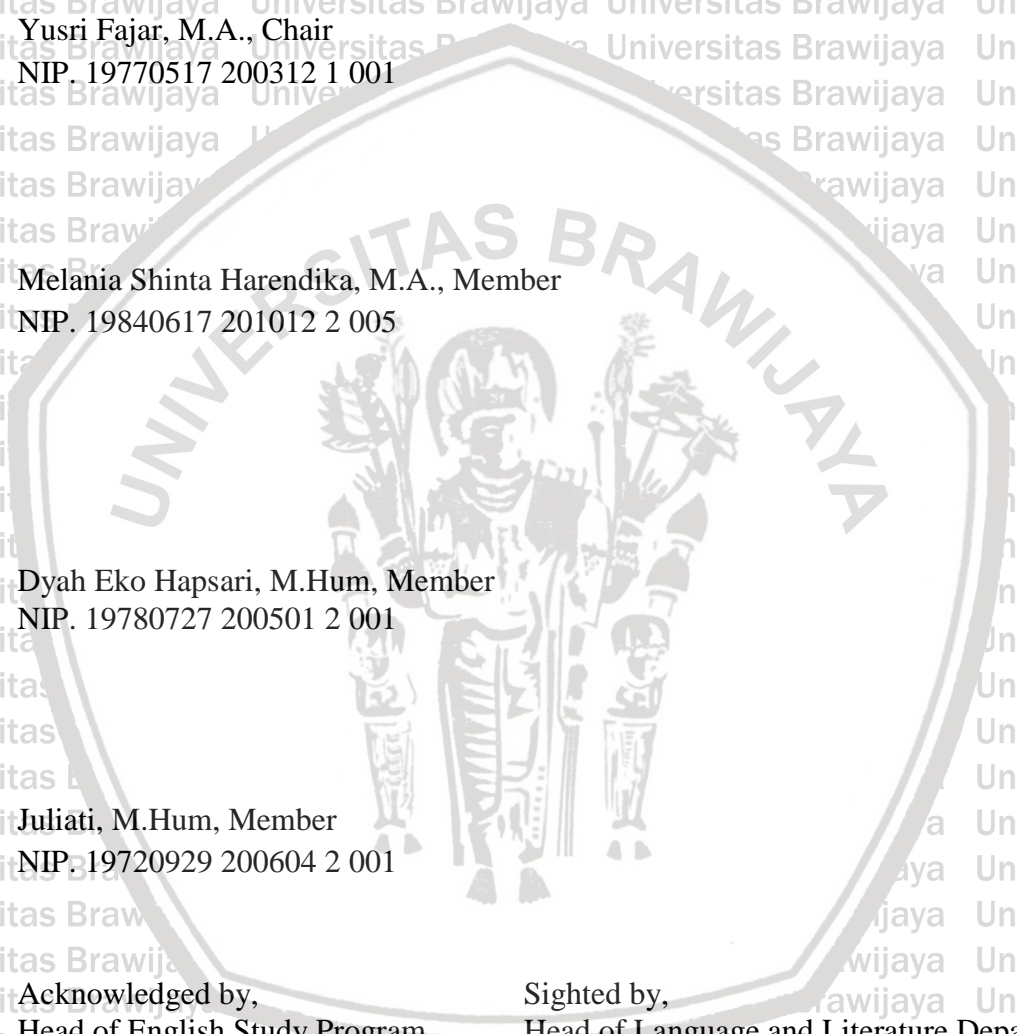
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The Writer

## ABSTRAK

Syahrial, Tommy, 2012. **Perkembangan Kepribadian Landon Carter Pada Masa Remaja dalam Novel *A Walk to Remember* Karya Nicholas Sparks.** Program Studi Sastra Inggris Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing (I) Yusri Fajar, M.A., (II) Melania Shinta Harendika, M.A.

Kata Kunci: kepribadian, perkembangan kepribadian, remaja, psikososial.

Kepribadian adalah bagian dari hidup manusia yang membuat mereka menjadi berbeda satu sama lain. Kepribadian memberikan keunikan pada setiap manusia dalam berpikir dan bertindak. Kepribadian ini berkembang seumur hidup; sejak lahir sampai tua. Perkembangan kepribadian tersebut dapat dilihat dalam novel *A Walk to Remember*, yang bercerita tentang seorang remaja nakal, bernama Landon, yang jatuh cinta pada seorang perempuan, Jamie. Landon mempunyai perilaku yang buruk sebelum bertemu dengan Jamie. Tetapi, dia berubah menjadi baik setelahnya. Penulis percaya bahwa perkembangan kepribadianlah yang mengubah remaja tersebut. Dengan menggunakan Teori Psikososial sebagai teori utama, penulis akan mencoba mengupas bagaimana perkembangan kepribadian terjadi pada karakter utama dari novel *A Walk to Remember*.

Dalam studi ini, penulis menjelaskan perkembangan kepribadian Landon di dalam novel *A Walk to Remember*. Penulis menemukan bahwa perilaku nakal Landon dikarenakan kekecewaannya pada masa kecil yang kurang akan kasih sayang ayahnya. Hal tersebut membuat dia membangkang pada masa remajanya. Setiap remaja akan mengalami krisis identitas, seperti terlihat dalam novel, Landon menghadapi krisis identitas pada masa remajanya. Krisis tersebut membuat dia bingung dengan dirinya sendiri. Tetapi, dia dapat menemukan identitasnya dengan bantuan Jamie, perempuan yang dia cintai. Setelah yakin dengan identitasnya, Landon mencari keintiman di dalam hidupnya. Beruntung, dia menemukan hal tersebut pada Jamie. Dia jatuh cinta pada Jamie dan bersedia hidup bersama dengan Jamie, meskipun perempuan tersebut dalam keadaan hampir meninggal.

Sebagai kesimpulan, novel *A Walk to Remember* memberikan pengetahuan kepada pembacanya tentang pentingnya perhatian orang tua pada masa kecil. Selebihnya, novel tersebut juga mendeskripsikan bahwa seorang remaja nakal juga dapat berubah menjadi baik dan bertanggung jawab. Untuk peneliti selanjutnya, penulis menyarankan bahwa masih ada banyak aspek yang bisa dianalisis di novel ini. Oleh karena itu, tidak menutup kemungkinan untuk menganalisis novel ini dengan menggunakan teori yang lain.



## ABSTRACT

Syahrial, Tommy. 2009. **Personality Development of Landon Carter's in His Adolescent Period in Nicholas Sparks' a *Walk to Remember***. English Department, University of Brawijaya. Supervisor Yusri Fajar, M.A., Co-Supervisor Melania Shinta Harendika, M.A.

Keywords: personality, personality development, adolescent, psychosocial.

Personality is a part of human life, which makes them different from each other. It gives uniqueness to human and makes human differs in thinking and acting. This personality develops through life span, which means from infancy into old-age. This personality development can be seen in the story of *A Walk to Remember* novel. This novel told a story of mischief adolescent as the main character, named Landon, who fell in love with a girl. Landon had a mischief behavior before he met the girl. However, he changed and became kind after falling in love with the girl. The writer believes that personality development which changes him. By using Psychosocial as the main theory, the writer will try to reveal how personality development occurs in the main character of *A Walk to Remember*.

In this study, the writer focuses on describing Landon's personality development in *A Walk to Remember* novel. The writer finds that the mischief behavior of Landon is caused by disillusionment of his childhood which lacks of father's care. Growing with the disillusionment makes him rebellious in his adolescent stage. As human in adolescent stage, human will face identity crisis. Landon in the novel surely faces identity crisis in his adolescent period. It makes him confused about who he is. However, he is able to find his identity in the story because of Jamie, the girl whom he falls in love with. After achieving his identity, Landon has to find intimacy in his life. Luckily, he finds it within Jamie. He falls in love with Jamie and wants to live with Jamie, even she is dying.

In conclusion, *A Walk to Remember* novel gives the reader knowledge about the important of parent's care in childhood. Moreover, it gives description that adolescent with mischief behavior can also change into a kind and responsible adult. For the future researchers, the writer suggests that there are still many aspects that can be analyzed in *A Walk to Remember* novel. Thus, it will not close a chance to analyze this novel using other theories.



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>TITLE PAGE</b> .....	i
<b>DECLARATION OF AUTHORSHIP</b> .....	ii
<b>SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL</b> .....	iii
<b>BOARD OF EXAMINERS CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL</b> .....	iv
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</b> .....	v
<b>ABSTRAK</b> .....	vi
<b>ABSTRACT</b> .....	vii
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS</b> .....	viii
<b>LIST OF TABLE</b> .....	ix
<b>CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background of the Study .....	1
1.2 Problem of the Study .....	4
1.3 Objective of the Study .....	4
<b>CHAPTER II REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE</b>	
2.1 Theoretical Framework .....	5
2.1.1 Personality Development .....	5
2.1.2 Psychosocial .....	7
2.1.3 Adolescence .....	9
2.1.4 Identity Crisis .....	12
2.1.5 Social Factors in Adolescent Development .....	13
2.1.5.1 Parents .....	14
2.1.5.2 Peer Relationship .....	14
2.1.6 Previous Studies .....	16
<b>CHAPTER III FINDING AND DISCUSSION</b>	
3.1 Landon's Life .....	18
3.2 Landon's Adolescence Period .....	20
3.3 Influence from Parents and Peer .....	30
3.3.1 Parents .....	30
3.3.2 Peers .....	33
3.4 The Proof of Succession .....	37
<b>CHAPTER IV CONCLUSION</b>	
4.1 Conclusion .....	41
4.2 Suggestion .....	42
<b>REFERENCES</b> .....	43
<b>APPENDIX</b> .....	45

**LIST OF TABLE**

Table 3.1 The Differences Between Landon and Jamie ..... 25





# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is made to express people's emotion, opinion, idea, or criticism, and to entertain others. As Barnet, *et al* stated in the book entitled *Introduction to Literature*, literature has the elements of entertaining display in it, and it belongs to sense of entertaining or affording pleasure (1963, p.1). Actually, the use of literature is not only to entertain people, but also to reflect our lives. For example, the author of a novel has daily activities and faces life problems, which later become the inspiration for him.

The readers can see pieces of the author's experience by reading his literary work, for example is *A Walk to Remember*, a novel by Nicholas Sparks.

The inspiration of this novel comes from the author's sister who died because of cancer. Therefore, a literary work can be a portrayal of the author's life or others' and it might be possible for people to see the issues of human personality in it. It

can also be seen in *A Walk to Remember* that was published in October 1999 and became a best-seller novel in that era. The novel told a story about two teenagers who fell in love each other although had personality differences. In 2002, the adaptation movie was released and became popular.

All people in their lives have a youth or adolescence period, which refers to the second decade of human life and as a stage to become adult. This period ends the childhood time of human and they have to go deep inside society to learn

about their life purpose. The story of *A Walk to Remember* makes people remember their youth or adolescence period, which is the transitional period of growth, development, and maturation that begins at the end of childhood (Salkind, 2006, p. 28). In other words, that is the period when people change or develop their personality, which can be seen in the main male character of *A Walk to Remember*, Landon Carter.

Landon Carter, or which later will be called as Landon, is the main male character in the novel and told as the son of a rich family in Beaufort, North Carolina. Landon is a male teenager or adolescence with a mischief behavior, which is described as follows:

...and that fact, coupled with my growing disillusionment with my father, made me become something of a rebel, even at a young age. ...Me. A bad boy. For eating boiled peanuts in the graveyard. Go figure. (Sparks, 1999, p. 9)

His mischief behavior occurs because he never gets enough father's care in his childhood. His father is a congressman in a Washington and seldom spends his time in Beaufort. This becomes the reason why Landon is disappointed with his father and hates to spend time with him. Landon's disappointment also influences his personality development.

In psychology, personality is a core study within it. Personality comes from the word "persona" that refers to a mask which is worn by an actor to portray a particular character. In this theatrical sense, personality has to do with the role or character that the person plays in life's drama (Haslam, 2007, p.4).

Based on Strickland, Personality is a unique pattern of psychological and behavioral characteristics by which each person can be distinguished from other



people (2001, p. 500). It makes people different one another in the ways of behaving, thinking, and feeling. It can also be considered as the object side of human, when it is seen as traits or acts (Roberts, 1968, p. 52). Every human has different personalities and it develops based on the experience and individual thought. Because of it, personality of each person is unique and cannot be exactly same with other people. Human always has different experiences and thought, which affect their personality development.

The story of *A Walk to Remember* starts with old Landon tells a story about his past, then story takes place in Landon's past. In childhood, Landon likes to annoy people and has no guilt after do it. He has a father, but his father never cares to him which makes Landon grows up into rebellious teenager. In high school, Landon meets Jamie who is known as a weird girl. Landon and Jamie never close before, but after some occurrences they become very close. They are very close until Landon feels that he falls in love with her. Since Landon close with Jamie, he starts to care to other people's feeling. One day, Jamie tells Landon that she is dying. Landon is shocked and feels very sad. At the end, Landon asks Jamie to marry him, and then they are married in the church.

Based on the information above, the writer chooses this novel as the study of personality development. The writer focuses on the personality development of the main male character, Landon, by using Psychosocial theory. Psychosocial is a theory of Erik Erikson that divides the stages of human life into eight stages. This theory views that human personality is built based on psychological interaction with social factor (Salkind, 2006, p. 1047). This study aims to show personality

development that occurs in the adolescence period of Landon. The significance of this study is to help other researcher who wants to study about personality development in other literary work.

## 1.2 Problem of the Study

The writer formulates the problem of this study as follows: how the personality development occurs in the adolescence period of Landon Carter, the main character of Nicholas Sparks' *A Walk to Remember* novel.

## 1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem above, this study has an objective to show and analyze the personality development of Landon Carter as the main male character in the novel of Nicholas Sparks, *A Walk to Remember*.



## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

In this chapter, some theories that will be used in this study will be explained. Those theories are considered important in order to analyze Landon Carter's personality development. Moreover, this chapter includes previous studies which have the same topic as this study.

##### 2.1.1 Personality Development

Every human has a unique personality that makes them different. We can view it based on our traits, mind, or behavior. According to Robert, personality can be considered as the object of human side when people view it based on traits, acts, etc (1968, p.52). Personality arises from an individual mind and is made up from his/her characteristics. It becomes the pattern of thought, behavior, acts, and feelings that develop within the life span.

As Allport stated in *The Construction of Personality*, personality has different meanings for theologians, philosophers, and sociologists, and within psychology it has been defined in many ways (Allport, 1937, cited in Hampson, 1982, p.1). Many researchers have attempted to define personality, and each of them has different points of view. Based on sociological point of view, Faris describes personality as subjective aspect of culture and Allport gives a definition

from psychologist's view, that personality is the dynamic organization within the individual of those psychophysical systems that determine his unique adjustments to his environment (cited in Lindesmith, *et al*, 1966, p. 485). Another personality definition is stated by Strickland, he states that personality is a unique pattern of psychological and behavioral characteristics by which each person can be distinguished from other people (2001, p. 500). Personality is also defined as internal factors that make one person's behavior consistent from time to time, and different from the other people's behavior that would manifest in comparable situations (Child, 1968, p.83, cited in Hampson, 1982, p.1). There are still a lot of definitions from other researchers, because personality concept is not easy to put into a simple definition. However, over of all definition, personality refers to psychological differences between people having to do with thought, emotion, motivation, and behavior (Haslam, 2007, p.5).

Some theories of personality are made by psychologists to indicate human personality development and describe various occurrences, steps, and stages on the process of development. Those theories are focused in such angles in personality as cognitive, behavior, moral, and social development. One of those theories is made by Erik Erikson, a German psychologist. His theory is called Psychosocial, which highlights the interaction of psychological and social factors, and it is applicable to all people from all cultures (Abbott, 2001, p. 84). This theory explains many stages that should be faced by human and gives a picture on how human personality develops based on social factor. Erikson (1968, p. 54, cited in Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p.33) stated that:



Personality can be said to develop according to steps predetermined in the human organism's readiness to be driven towards, to be aware of, and to interact with widening social radius, beginning with the dim image of a mother and ending with mankind, or at any rate that segment of mankind which counts in the particular individual's life.

It means that personality can develop based on human's readiness to develop.

Personality will begin to develop using mother as the first model and move to society as the final model. Thus, by seeing the description above, social influences also have an active role in building human personality.

The writer uses personality development theory as the ground theory and frame in this research because the object of this research is to analyze Landon's personality development in *A Walk to Remember* novel. Therefore, the writer will focus only on Landon's personality development.

### 2.1.2 Psychosocial

Psychosocial is a theory about human development based on interaction of psychological and social factor. It refers to the interaction of both psychological and social forces over the development of individuals across the life span (Salkind, 2006, p. 1047). This theory is made by Erik Erikson who is a psychoanalyst that known for his work in developmental psychology (Corsini, 1994, p.55), and his work refers to the eight crises as psychosocial stages of development, emphasizing the important role that social and cultural factors play in personality development which is contrast to Freud's emphasis on psychosexual factors (Salkind, 2006, p.473).

This theory explains the stages of life that must be faced by human from infancy through old age. Erikson (cited in Abbott, 2001, p. 84) assumes that every human goes through a series of eight developmental stages and each of the stage involves a crisis in which people negotiate and resolve, which has an effect on human development that can be either positive or negative (Abbott, 2001, p. 84-85). Although this theory is deeply influenced by Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic, it is very different from Freud's psychosexual. Erikson's psychosocial gives description about development of personality through maturity and the scope of this theory rounds on the entirety of human's life cycle. He also focuses his theory on the social and cultural aspects of psychological development. Thus, his account of personality development proposes 'psychosocial' stages extending into old age rather than the Freudian stages of 'psychosexual' development that extend no further than childhood (Haslam, 2007, p.170).

The eight stages of Psychosocial are infancy, early childhood, play-age, school-age, adolescence, early adulthood, adulthood, and old age or late adulthood stages (Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p. 33). The first stage or infancy stage is the period of human where they learn basic trust in their life, which comes from the relationship between the infant and the caregiver. After passing the infancy stage, human moves to early childhood stage where the process of acquiring independent sense occurs in this stage. The next stage is play age, in which human learns to take initiative in terms of trying out new things (Abbott, 2001, p. 85). As the play age ends, human enters school stage in which they learn creativity and gain their



skill. After school age ends, human enters adolescence stage, where human faces identity crisis and asks themselves about what they are and their purpose in their life. When this stage is over, human moves to early adulthood stage. In that stage, human learns about intimacy and the ability to feel close to others. There are also some events that occur in this stage, such as a long-term intimate and committed relationship. The next stage after early adulthood is adulthood stage where human learns behavior to care others, which is called as generativity (Salkind, 2006, p. 1049). When this stage is over, human enters the last stage or late adulthood stage where human tries to review their whole life and prepare for the end of life. This study will focus on the fifth stage because it is the time when human enters adolescence period in their life. It is suitable with Landon who has a young age and is told as an adolescent in the novel.

### 2.1.3 Adolescence

All people in the world pass this period in their life. The age of adolescence starts from 12 to 20 years old (Salkind, 2006, p.1048). This period is the last period of childhood in human age, and become a link between childhood and adulthood. Adolescence comes from Latin word, derived from the verb *adolescere*, which means "to grow into adulthood" (Strickland, 2001, p. 21). As stated in *Encyclopedia of Human Development*, adolescence is the transitional period of growth, development, and maturation that begins at the end of childhood (Salkind, 2006, p. 28). The transition in this period steps gradually and it could influence upon many aspects of individual behavior, development, and

relationship. It means that human will gradually change in this period and may become different from their shape in childhood. The young human, or adolescent, will feel the change inside their body. They will realize physical change and genital maturity which can make the adolescent feels the change of need inside him, such as the need for consolidation of social roles (Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p. 38). In this period, adolescents try to build their own personal identity by exploring many new experiences in the society and the social factor becomes very important, because they need appropriate models and influences to get experiences from their surround such as parents and peers. However, this is the time where adolescents face identity crisis in their life. Identity crisis is like a fork in developmental way which can lead adolescents to a healthy sense of identity or to the torments of identity confusion (Ewen, 2003, p. 179).

According to Erikson, young people need to know who they are and what they want out of life before they can move on to the formation of a stable adult identity (1968, cited in Abbott, 2001, p. 86). In their way to seek identities, they are trying to involve in many roles in society. However, this situation may become a problem when the adolescent finds a suitable role within society and then lose tolerance for anything else. This occurrence is called as fanaticism, as stated in *Social and Personality Development*:

A complication in this stage of development can occur if the person becomes so involved in a particular role in society... An example of this is when a young person joins a religious cult and takes on the beliefs and behaviors of the cult to such an extent that their previous views are forgotten. Erikson calls this maladaptive tendency *fanaticism*. (Abbott, 2001, p. 87)



On the other hand, the problem also occurs if the adolescents cannot make their way to obtain identity. They will withdraw themselves from adult world and be passive from achieving identity, which is called as repudiation (Erikson, 1968, cited in Abbott, 2001, p. 86). They may involve in negative such activities which can harm them, as using drugs or alcohol addiction, and withdrawing from the society to live in their "own" world. The success in this stage is marked by achieving identity that leads the adolescent into a good individual. This succession in achieving suitable identity is called as Fidelity. Erikson states Fidelity as the ability to sustain loyalties freely pledged in spite of the inevitable contradictions of value systems (1994, p. 125, cited in Ewen, 2003, p. 180). It means the adolescent has found a place to contribute in the society and live with accepting the standards set by the society itself (Abbott, 2001, p. 87).

After passing the adolescence stage, an adolescent faces early adulthood stage. When they come into this stage, their identity crisis is coming to an end, but sometimes it still occurs at the foundation of this stage. They, who already come into early period of this stage, are called as young adults. Considering they have already found their own identities at the previous stage, they will try to seek and blend their identities with their peers. They may feel comfortable with their own identities and place in the society, but the next step is to find someone or some others to share. Intimacy becomes important in this stage; it is the ability to feel close to others, whether as a friend or lover, without fear of losing one's own sense of self (Abbott, 2001, p. 87). Having intimacy between individuals will complete them to establish their identity and giving them more view about who

they are (Salkind, 2006, p. 1049). Once the identities have established, people are ready to make a long-term commitment to others. However, there is counterpart of intimacy in this stage which called as isolation. Isolation is caused by the individual's failure in establishing close or comitted relationship with other (Myers, 2007, p. 87). Isolation will lead the individual into loneliness and hateful to other.

This study analyzes adolescence personality development of main character in *A Walk to Remember* novel, Landon. Landon is told as 17 years old boy in the novel, in other words, he is an adolescent. Adolescence period is the most crucial time in human development, because it is the period where people get knowledge about life and experiences. Then, people will enter the next stage after adolescence period or the stage of early-adulthood. This development can be seen in *A Walk to Remember* novel. Therefore, the development of this character will be analyzed in this study.

#### **2.1.4 Identity Crisis**

During adolescence, human faces crucial time to get identity. Erikson views identity as a complicated inner state that includes feelings of individuality and uniqueness, a sense of wholeness and indivisibility, an unconscious striving for sameness and continuity, and a sense of solidarity with the ideals and values of some group (cited in Ewen, 2003, p. 175). It means that identity makes an individual has a uniqueness that gives them the existence among others or a distinct entity and gives the individual a sense of wholeness or a satisfied self-



image, which has similarity between the past and future. Identity can also be a significant symbol of solidarity to a certain group's ideal or values. In brief, for adolescent, identity is both a matter of determining who one is and a matter of deciding who one will be (Moshman, 2005, p. 79).

Adolescence is the stage between childhood and adulthood in which identity is the crisis within. Identity crisis is a crucial turning point in the development of personality that occurs during adolescence, and leads to either a sense of identity or identity confusion (Ewen, 2003, p. 175). Adolescents will try to search their own identity and place in society. When they find a suitable one, they will achieve their own identity. However, there is also a risk in this crisis which called identity confusion. It is a term in failure in achieving identity which makes adolescents still confused about their identity and their place in society.

Erikson believes that the solution for adolescence to solve this crisis is that they have to take some ways to go off on their own, to get to know who they are and what they want in life (Erikson, 1968, cited in Abbott, 2001, p.87). Erikson also views that identity crises could be unconscious, so people might not be aware of having them (Erikson, 1958, cited in Hogan *et al*, 1997, p. 695). As an adolescent,

Landon may face identity crisis in his life. Therefore, this theory will be used to analyze Landon's identity crisis.

### **2.1.5 Social Factors in Adolescent Development**

In searching their identity, adolescents will be involved in the society, and during the process, their environment also takes a role in their development. There

are some social factors that influenced adolescents' development, such as parents and peers as follows.

#### **2.1.5.1 Parents**

Parents have a vital role in assisting adolescent relationship with the outside world. In order to assist them to face the outside world, parents have to build good relationship with their children. Parents hope to become a "container" for adolescents' fear and anxiety, and, parent can give solutions to their problem and help them to solve it. For example, adolescents are turned to their parents when they need advice about choosing decision, education, or careers. However, if the parents have broken relationship with their children, the internal change in children may result misbehavior and aggressive action (Jarvis, cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 123).

In *A Walk to Remember*, Landon was told as a son of a rich family and his father was a congressman in the country. In the story, Landon faced many problems in his life and his parents helped him to solve it. Thus, this factor will be looked as a determinant in Landon's personality development.

#### **2.1.5.2 Peer Relationship**

Peer relationship is one of the most influential factors in adolescent personality development. Interaction among people is important, especially those from different ages. Based on a study by Hartup (cited in Abbott, 2001, p. 93), the interaction among different ages of children can be crucial in terms of the



development of particular social competencies. For example, older children interact with younger ones to develop their compassion and caregiving skills, as well as assertive and leadership skills. While younger children can acquire a variety of skills from watching older peers, including how to ask for help, and how to defer gracefully to the directions of older and more powerful associates.

The characteristics of adolescent friendship is they tend to choose other individual with same interest, aptitudes, values, and beliefs (Salkind, 2006, p. 981). By being involved in friendship, adolescent will develop intimacy with friends that become a way to find their identity. Adolescents share their problems, personal feelings, values, and beliefs with their friends, and that is the way to define themselves and explore their identities. They tend to concern about how they appear to their peers and want to present the 'right' image but inside their body, they are really different from their appearance (Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p. 38).

Adolescents are more likely to discuss a lot of issue and personal feelings with their peers, such as personal relationship issue, social events, hobbies, or trends.

In their friendships, adolescents also may form an intimate sexual relationship, as stated by Jarvis (Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 126):

Friendships formed during adolescence provide the young person with intensely charged relationships that embody aspects of themselves (Copley, 1993). They identify with their friends and these identifications and relationships are then internalised. Through internalisation a varied and complex internal world is built up that provides a widening basis from which more intimate sexual relationships can be formed. When this happens, and the adolescent 'falls in love' ...

The statement above means that when friendship between adolescents become close, the intimate sexual relationship can be formed and it is called as “falls in love”.

Landon is told as an adolescent who has family and peers. Based on the description above, the environment of the adolescents is the main factor that influences their personality development. Therefore, these factors will be used to analyze the personality development that occurs in the main character of Nicholas Sparks' *A Walk to Remember*.

### 2.1.6 Previous Studies

Before conducting the research, the writer tries to find any studies to get references. A study about personality development as one of the reference of this thesis is *The Effects of Richard Brown's Unfulfilled Oedipal Phase On His Adult Life: A Psychoanalysis On The Character of Michael Cunningham's Novel The Hours* by Anita Rahman (2005). In this study, Oedipal Phase in a character named Richard Brown is analyzed. Oedipal Phase is the children's early phase which is very important for their development. This stage is found by Sigmund Freud, which is divided into some stages: oral, anal, phallic, latency, and genital. This Oedipal Phase is the stage of development based on Freud's view, but its range only from the early to mid age of human or puberty time.

In this research, the writer analyzes also human development. However, the writer uses Erik Erikson's Psychosocial theory of human development, which has a range from early childhood into late-adulthood period. By seeing the



previous study above, the writer knows the difference between Freud's human development theory and Erik Erikson's theory. By knowing the differences, the writer gets more comprehension about Psychosocial theory. Since this research is focused on adolescent development, the psychosocial theory is more suitable to be used in this research because it is based on the social interaction.

The next study using personality development as its study is entitled *Research Paper Landon Carter's Personalities Development In Adam Shankman's A Walk To Remember Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach* by Rahajeng Sariningdyah Auroria (2010). In this study, she tries to find the personality development in character Landon Carter in *A Walk to Remember* movie. Although it is almost the same as the writer's title, there are many differences with the content and analysis. The study above uses the movie version of *A Walk to Remember* as its object and uses Psychoanalysis of Sigmund Freud as its theory. Psychoanalysis is the theory from Sigmund Freud that used to observing human mental development. It is different from the writer's study that uses Erik Erikson's Psychosocial theory and focuses at the development of Adolescent period of Landon in *A Walk to Remember* novel.

## CHAPTER III

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This chapter discusses Landon's life, childhood period, adolescence stage, and early adulthood stage, as the main character of *A Walk to Remember*.

#### 3.1 Landon's Life

Landon Carter is a seventeen-year boy who lives in a coastal city called Beaufort, North Carolina. He comes from a rich family, and his father is a congressman in Washington. From the narration in the novel, it can be seen that Landon likes humor and annoys people, for example "when we were younger, my friends and I would hide behind the trees and shout, 'Hegbert is a fornicator!' when we saw him walking down the street, and we'd giggle like idiots, like we were the wittiest creatures ever to inhabit the planet" (Sparks, 1999, p. 3,4). What Landon has done shows that the little Landon is an annoying person and he loves to tease Hegbert, an old man who works as minister in the local church. Even the "victim" is an old man, Landon is not ashamed or feels guilty to do it. It seems that Landon's action leads to misbehavior, because he disrespects Hegbert as an old man by teasing him. In this case, there is an assumption that Landon's misbehavior is influenced by his parent's care or family condition.

Landon has one best friend, Eric Hunter. Landon and Eric have been friends since they are in kindergarten. It is seen when Landon describes his father:



...For the first five years of my life I thought all fathers lived somewhere else. It wasn't until my best friend, Eric Hunter, asked me in kindergarten who that guy was who showed up at my house the night before that I realized something wasn't quite right about the situation.

"He's my father," I said proudly.

"Oh," Eric said as he rifled through my lunchbox, looking for my Milky Way, "I didn't know you had a father. (Sparks, 1999, p. 7,8)

Landon and Eric are best friends until high school, for they are at the same school, Beaufort High School. They do many trivial things together. For example, Landon and Eric always eat peanuts in the graveyard with their friends.

I could sneak out the window again and head to the graveyard for my late night forays.

Eric and me were out there one Saturday night with a couple of other friends, eating boiled peanuts and talking about Henry Preston, when Eric boomed me how my "date" went with Jamie Sullivan. (Sparks, 1999, p. 31)

Also, they like teasing other students who they do not like. It is seen when Landon describes John Foreman, his rival in president election.

...he would almost always give the right one, and he'd turn his head from side to side with a smug look on his face, as if proving how superior his intellect was when compared with those of the other peons in the room. Eric and I used to shoot spitballs at him when the teacher's back was turned. (Sparks, 1999, p.16)

Landon's mischief behavior is also seen below:

...I remembered seeing the containers in places like Cecil's Diner and the Crown Theater. My friends and I used to toss paper clips and slugs in there when the cashiers weren't looking, since they sounded sort of like a coin being dropped inside, then we'd chuckle to ourselves about how we were putting something over on Jamie. We used to joke about how she'd open one of her cans, expecting something good because of the weight, and she'd dump it out and find nothing but slugs and paper clips. (Sparks, 1999, p.69)

Those quotations above show that Landon's behavior leads to mischief behavior. He likes teasing people and doing activities against social values.

Therefore, it can be assumed that Landon has a behavior that is different from other children. His behavior leads to mischief and uncontrolled. When a child has broken relationship with his parent, there is an internal change inside him and leads him to misbehavior or aggressive action (Jarvis, cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p.123). Therefore, it can be assumed that Landon's misbehavior of is caused by his broken relationship with family.

### **3.2 Landon's Adolescence Period**

In the novel, Landon is an adolescent with mischief behavior. It is found that the source of his mischievousness comes from his childhood that is lack of father's care. During his childhood, Landon is lack of his father's care. Landon is not close enough to his father since his childhood. His father, Worth Carter, is a congressman in Washington and he is really busy with his job.

Despite his father's neglect of Landon's childhood, he grows up under his mother's care. However, his mother can not provide the need of a boy for a male figure to be his role model. It can be seen in this statement:

So, I grew up under the care of my mother. Now she was a nice lady, sweet and gentle, the kind of mother most people dream about. But she wasn't, nor could she ever be, a manly influence in my life, and that fact, coupled with my growing disillusionment with my father, made me become something of a rebel, even at a young age. (Sparks, 1999, p.8)



Therefore, it can be seen that Landon does not have enough parent's care in his childhood. He needs a father figure who can teach him to become a man.

According to Dogget, children who are rejected by their parents, who grow up in homes with considerable conflict, or who are inadequately supervised are at the greatest risk of becoming delinquent (n.d., para.4). Father in a family has a responsibility for ensuring that his children grow up with an appropriate sense of values (Lamb, 2010, p. 2). A child that is grown up without father tends to have "problems" in the areas of sex role and gender-identity development, school performance, psychosocial adjustment, and perhaps in the control of aggression (Lamb, 2010, p. 5). Landon's family may not have a considerable conflict within it, but Landon has inadequate father's care. His father's absence in Landon's childhood influences him that makes his behavior uncontrolled. It is supported by Jarvis who states that a child with broken relationship with his parents will lead him to misbehavior or aggressive action (cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 123). Landon does not have a good relation with his father, so his behavior changes into youth rebellion or delinquency.

Based on psychosocial theory, identity crisis occurs in human adolescent period. Erikson views that Identity Crisis is a normal, possible universal human development stage and it is typically associated to adolescence (Erikson, 1958, cited in Hogan *et al*, 1997, p. 695). An adolescent will start to find identity and try to define himself by involving in the society. He has to find a suitable identity in order to answer their own questions about life. Identity crisis that is faced by them

makes adolescents doubt about themselves, then they move out from their own and try to seek identity from their surrounds.

In the story, the first scene that is seen as the identity crisis of Landon is when Landon plans what he wants to do after high school. Landon plans to go to UNC or University of North Carolina to continue his school:

After high school I planned to go to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. My father wanted me to go to Harvard or Princeton like some of the sons of other congressmen did, but with my grades it wasn't possible (Sparks, 1999, p.14)

It can be seen that Landon is a high school student and practically, he is an adolescent. At first, his father wants him to go to Harvard or Princeton University. He wants Landon to study there because the sons of other congressman are studying there. However, Landon realizes that his grades are not enough to enter those universities. So, he plans to go to UNC, and that university is his father's alma mater, so his father will allow him to study there.

Another example of Landon's rebellion to his father is after he enters high school for a week, his father comes home and tells his plan for Landon. During dinner, his father tells Landon that he has to become President of Student Body or a leader in the school, because it will make good Landon's record in the high school.

I'd just finished my first week of school and we were sitting down for dinner. He was home for three days on account of Labor Day weekend. "I think you should run for student body president," he said. "You'll be graduating in June, and I think it would look good on your record. Your mother thinks so, too, by the way." (Sparks, 1999, p.14)



However, it seems that Landon does not agree with the idea. He doubts that he can win the election. Still, his father insists him to become president at his school, as follows:

"I don't think I'd have a chance at winning," I said.

"Of course you can win," my father said quickly. "We Carters always win." (Sparks, 1999, p.14)

Landon thinks that his father wants Landon to be like him, but Landon does not want it. It is because he is grown up without his father, and has already unaccustomed with his father presence. He hates also spending time with his father, as seen in statement below:

That's another one of the reasons I didn't like spending time with my father. During those few times he was home, I think he wanted to mold me into a miniature version of himself. Since I'd grown up pretty much without him, I'd come to resent having him around.

"But what if I don't want to?"

...I think," he said slowly, "that it would be a good idea."

I knew that when he talked that way the issue was settled. That's the way it was in my family. My father's word was law. But the fact was, even after I agreed, I didn't want to do it. (Sparks, 1999, p.15)

In this scene, Landon is not sure about his father's plan, and he tries to refuse it.

His father, however, insists him to be a school president and Landon cannot refuse it. He feels that president status is not appropriate for him. As a contrary, he deeply thinks about his father plan, if he wants to go to UNC, then he has to have records which can make him accepted in there. Then, he realizes that his father has a point, so he follows his father's plan.

Here, Landon unconsciously faces the identity crisis between accepting his identity as a congressman's son or not. He does not want to be like his father and most of Landon's childhood is spent with his mother. His father is too busy with his job as a congressman, so he seldom has time with his own son. When his father insists him to become a leader, he doubts it. It can be seen that he is confused about his identity. It is true that he is a son of a congressman, but his father never takes care of him during his childhood.

The next identity crisis occurs when Landon is in high school. Landon views Jamie as a weird student and not an attractive girl, as it is seen below:

...But Jamie wasn't exactly what I considered attractive, either. Despite the fact that she was thin, with honey blond hair and soft blue eyes, most of the time she looked sort of . . . plain, and that was when you noticed her at all. Jamie didn't care much about outward appearances, because she was always looking for things like "inner beauty," and I suppose that's part of the reason she looked the way she did. For as long as I'd known her-and this was going way back, remember-she'd always worn her hair in a tight bun, almost like a spinster, without a stitch of makeup on her face. (Sparks, 1999, p.11)

Jamie has also different habits from other usual girls do. She loves carrying a Bible wherever she goes and reading it during lunch break at school. This habit makes Landon seeing Jamie as an abnormal girl.

...Jamie carried her Bible wherever she went, and if her looks and Hegbert didn't keep the boys away, the Bible sure as heck did. Now, I liked the Bible as much as the next teenage boy, but Jamie seemed to enjoy it in a way that was completely foreign to me. Not only did she go to vacation Bible school every August, but she would read the Bible during lunch break at school. In my mind that just wasn't normal, even if she was the minister's daughter. (Sparks, 1999, p.12)



Although Jamie has a different habit, she is a nice girl and has a good heart which makes Landon admits that she is nice. It is seen at the text below:

Because of all her Bible reading, or maybe because of Hegbert's influence, Jamie believed it was important to help others, and helping others is exactly what she did. I knew she volunteered at the orphanage in Morehead City, but for her that simply wasn't enough. She was always in charge of one fund-raiser or another, helping everyone from the Boy Scouts to the Indian Princesses, and I know that when she was fourteen, she spent part of her summer painting the outside of an elderly neighbor's house. Jamie was the kind of girl who would pull weeds in someone's garden without being asked or stop traffic to help little kids cross the road. She'd save her allowance to buy a new basketball for the orphans, or she'd turn around and drop the money into the church basket on Sunday. She was, in other words, the kind of girl who made the rest of us look bad, and whenever she glanced my way, I couldn't help but feel guilty, even though I hadn't done anything wrong. (Sparks, 1999, p. 12)

Jamie's characteristics are really different from Landon's. Landon is not nice like Jamie, because he likes to annoy people. The differences between Landon and Jamie are seen in this table:

**Table 3.1 Personality Differences Between Landon and Jamie**

Jamie	Landon
Loves to help people	Loves to annoy people
Care to people's feeling	Does not care to people's feeling
Obedient girl	Rebellious boy
Have nice attitude	Have mischief behaviors
Religious	Not religious

Jamie is a girl who is really kind to people. She cares to other feeling and become an obedient girl in her family. She also has nice attitude and religious, that is why a lot of people loves her. In the contrary, Landon loves to annoy people. He never

cares to other's feeling. His uncontrolled behavior makes him become rebellious boy. It is proved by making dirty in the graveyard which is against the rule in the town. He is very different from Jamie that always comes to the church.

One day, Landon is confused because there is no girl to accompany with in homecoming dance at his high school. He tries to search any girls in the year book, and he finds Jamie's picture. At first, he refuses to go with Jamie but he does not have any choice. So he asks Jamie to become his partner in homecoming dance. Landon asks her to go with, although he does not like it. It can be seen as follows:

I didn't want to go to the dance without a date-what would that look like? I'd be the only student body president ever to attend the homecoming dance alone. I'd end up being the guy scooping punch all night long or mopping up the barf in the bathroom. That's what people without dates usually did.

I closed the yearbook. Jamie Sullivan? Hegbert's daughter? No way. Absolutely not. My friends would roast me alive....

...I spent the rest of the evening debating the pros and cons of my dilemma. Believe me, I went back and forth for a while, but in the end the choice was obvious, even to me. I had to ask Jamie to the dance, and I paced around the room thinking of the best way to ask her. (Sparks, 1999, p. 17)

Here, it can be seen that Landon is thinking hard in choosing his decision between being alone in homecoming dance or going with weird Jamie. He is thinking also that he is a President and it is not good if the President comes alone in homecoming dance. Then, he chooses to go to homecoming dance with Jamie.

Several days after homecoming dance, Jamie calls Landon and asks him to go to her home. There, Jamie asks Landon to be a main character in her theatre.



Here, he thinks that it will be trouble if his friends know if he goes with Jamie again. It is stated at text below:

Now, I didn't want to do the play at all, and not only because I'd come to realize that drama was just about the most boring class ever invented. The thing was, I'd already taken Jamie to homecoming, and with her as the angel, I just couldn't bear the thought that I'd have to spend every afternoon with her for the next month or so. Being seen with her once was bad enough . . . but being seen with her every day? What would my friends say? (Sparks, 1999, p.37)

However, he thinks that he owes a help to Jamie because she helps him when Landon asks her to go to homecoming dance. Then, Landon accepts Jamie's request.

Landon feels that being together with Jamie is a shame, because she is weird and different. His friends will mock him if they see Landon walks together with Jamie, as seen below:

My noble feelings about doing the play had worn off by the second day of rehearsals. Even though I knew I was doing the "right thing," my friends didn't understand it at all, and they'd been riding me since they'd found out. "You're doing what?" Eric asked when he learned about it. "You're doing the play with Jamie Sullivan? Are you insane or just plain stupid?" I sort of mumbled that I had a good reason, but he wouldn't let it drop, and he told everyone around us that I had a crush on her (Sparks, 1999, p.40)

Landon tries to deny that he is close to Jamie. Landon is ashamed when his friends mock him. He feels also that what he has done to Jamie is wrong.

It can be seen that Landon does not like to be close to Jamie. If it is not because of homecoming dance, he never asks Jamie and be close to her. There is an occurrence of Landon's identity crisis here. It is seen when he is asked by Jamie to join her theatre. Actually, he does not want to join, but Jamie has already

helped him before. It means that Landon owes a help to Jamie. Landon has a president status at his school and as a president he should be responsible.

According to Simanowitz, adolescents can become obsessively concerned about how they appear to their peers, want to present the 'right' image but feel that inside they are really someone different from their outer façade (Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p. 38). This statement explains that the inside of adolescent is different from the outside or what he looks like in front of his peers, because he pursues a good or a suitable image than feeling inside him. This condition occurs in Landon's situation in choosing his answer to help Jamie. He wants to help her, but on the other side, he wants to refuse it because his friends will mock him instead of being close to Jamie. He is a popular student and Landon thinks that it would be ashamed if he helps Jamie who is a weird student.

As stated by Erikson, identity refers to a symbol that the individual is connected with a certain group ideals or values (Ewen, 2003, p. 175). Here, the identity crisis is that he belongs to popular peers and he is a president. Jamie, on the other hand, is not a popular student and she is known as a weird girl at school.

In brief, he is confused of being a good guy for Jamie, or being a part of his peers.

However, he chooses to help her after thinking it deeply.

Landon agrees to help Jamie and he accepts Jamie's request to become a player in her theatre show. This is because he feels guilty to Jamie. Before he is close to Jamie, Landon often mocks her in the school without Jamie knows.

However, Jamie helps Landon when he needs partner in homecoming dance. This is the reason why Landon feels guilty to Jamie and he lets himself accept Jamie's



request. This reason, proves that Landon starts to learn how to understand others' feeling and become responsible. He knows that he is wrong in mocking Jamie and he wants to pay Jamie's help by accepting the request.

In searching his/her identity, an adolescent will go inside the society and try to seek a role. Landon himself tries to seek his own identity by accepting his father's plan to become a student president. Landon accepts it because he does not know himself and he tries to seek his own identity. He needs that status to enter the university. His confusion about himself is seen below:

But then again, I knew my father had a point. If I wanted to go to UNC, I had to do something. I didn't play football or basketball, I didn't play an instrument, I wasn't in the chess club or the bowling club or anything else. I didn't excel in the classroom-hell, I didn't excel at much of anything. Growing despondent, I started listing the things I actually could do, but to be honest, there really wasn't that much. I could tie eight different types of sailing knots, I could walk barefoot across hot asphalt farther than anyone I knew, I could balance a pencil vertically on my finger for thirty seconds . . . but I didn't think that any of those things would really stand out on a college application. So there I was, lying in bed all night long, slowly coming to the sinking realization that I was a loser. Thanks, Dad. (Sparks, 1999, p.15)

It is seen that Landon does not recognize himself. He does not know his own academic ability and realizes that he is not a sport player or a smart student. He thinks that he is a loser or someone who cannot do anything and does not know how to make himself qualified for entering UNC. It is seen that he is in confusion to define himself and accept his father's plan is his only way to make himself qualified. Landon also tries to seek his identity by becoming a president in the school. He does not have any ability and good mark in academic, so he accepts his father's plan to become president.

### 3.3 Influence from Parents and Peer

Adolescents are influenced by his surroundings, especially their parents and peers. Parents and peers are the social factors who are able to build adolescent's personality. Parents have a vital role in assisting adolescent relationship with the outside world (Jarvis, cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 123), and peers can give the adolescent about influence that can not found in parents influence, for example learning self-confidence that important to reach independence as adult (Steinberg and Silverberg, 1986, cited in Abbott, 2001, p. 93). In Landon's case, there are findings which show that Landon's parents and his peer are influential to him. Therefore, it can be said that Landon's personality can be influenced by his surroundings.

#### 3.3.1 Parents

Parents have a great influence in a child's development because Parent-child relationships remain important social and emotional resources well beyond the childhood years (Steinberg and Lerner, 2004, p.331). Parents are the closest individuals in child's life and they are also the first model to be imitated before the society. Thus, the parents' ways in caring and helping his child will influence the child's development. In the story, Landon parents' care can be seen when they try to help Landon when he is in problem. Landon may rise only by his mother but at the end of the story, he realizes that his father cares to him. In *A Walk to Remember*, there are some scenes indicating the parents' care to Landon and their way to help Landon's problem.



When Landon describes his father, he becomes rebellious because of his disappointment of childhood. The way his parents treat him in childhood influences his personality development. As stated in previous chapter, the absence of Landon's father in his childhood gives bad effect for him. Because of it, Landon hates his father and becomes rebellious. However, his father's care can also be seen when Landon was asked to be a student president in his school. In the scene, Landon tries to refuse his father order to enter president election but his father still insists him to enter it. Landon finally knows that his father has a point in ordering him to become president. He knows if it will make a good advantage for entering university. Then, he follows his father's plan to enter the president election. It is implicitly stated in the novel that his father knows that Landon does not have any skill to enter university, so then he orders him to enter the president collection. This gives Landon a chance to learn about responsibility. Moreover, his father also teaches him to learn about saving allowance

Though my family was wealthy and gave me an allowance, they never gave me more if I ran through it too quickly. "It builds responsibility," my father said, explaining it once. (Sparks, 1999, p.92)

Landon's mother is a great figure for Landon because it is her who raised Landon and she really cares about Landon. She always tries to help Landon whenever he is in trouble or dilemma. When Landon does not have any partner to accompany with in homecoming dance, his mother knows it and offers herself to become Landon's partner.

My mom knew what I was going through, and she finally came into my room and sat on the bed beside me.

"If you can't get a date, I'll be happy to go with you," she said.

"Thanks, Mom," I said dejectedly. (Sparks, 1999, p.17)

Another scene that shows his mother's care is when Landon confesses to his mother that he likes Jamie. He does not know how to know that Jamie has the same feeling or not. His mother then gives him advice for Landon to invite Jamie to dinner in restaurant on New Year's Eve.

On New Year's Eve I took Jamie out to dinner. It was the very first real date she'd ever been on, and we went to a small waterfront restaurant in Morehead City, a place called Flauvin's...

...It was actually my mom's idea to take Jamie out someplace special. A couple of days before, on one of those days Jamie was wearing her hair in a bun, I talked to my mom about the things I was going through.

"She's all I think about, Mom," I confessed. "I mean, I know she likes me, but I don't know if she feels the same way that I do." (Sparks, 1999, p. 91)

...My mom put her hand on my knee. Even though she wasn't a great homemaker and sometimes stuck it to me, like I said earlier, she really was a sweet lady.

"Going to her house is a nice thing to do, but it's not the most romantic thing there is. You should do something that will really let her know how you feel about her." (Sparks, 1999, p. 92)

It can be seen that Landon's mother helps Landon to show a way to express his feeling to Jamie. It is also seen that Landon is open to his mother.

From the scenes above, it can be seen that Landon's parents always try to help Landon in solving his problem. Although Landon's relationship with his father is not good, his father tries to teach him about responsibility. It is seen when he orders Landon to become President in school and give a limitation in allowance. The one who helps Landon a lot is his mother. Parents are hoped to



become container for adolescents' fear and anxiety, and can give solutions to their problem and help them to solve it (Jarvis, cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 123). It is proved by his mother's care, because his mother always tries to help Landon and solve his problem. A good relationship with an adolescent will help him to become a good person, because maintaining parent-child relationship is important for the psychological development of the child (Strickland, 2001, p. 477). It means that when the relationship between parent and child is good, the psychological development of the child will be good too. Thus, it can be assumed that Landon's change is also influenced by his parents' care, because he becomes a well-mannered man after being advised by his mother.

### 3.3.2 Peers

Beside parents, Landon's peers also influence him in his development, because Landon spends his time mostly with them. The one who has a great influence to Landon is Jamie. Although Landon does not like Jamie at the first time, he later accepts Jamie as his friend and realizes that Jamie changes him a lot. The first change of Landon appears in the scene when he is angry to Jamie and tries to leave his promise as an actor in the theatre. He is in a bad mood because the mockery of his peers to him, because he goes with Jamie who is known as a weird girl.

... Once they'd pulled out of sight, Jamie turned to me and smiled.

"You have nice friends, Landon."

"Sure I do." Notice the careful way I phrased my answer

After dropping Jamie off-no, I didn't stay for any cider-I started back to my house, grumbling the whole time. By then Jamie's story had left me completely, and I could practically hear my friends

laughing about me, all the way from Cecil's Diner. (Sparks, 1999, p.58)

Landon is mocked by his friends because of Jamie. He thinks that all of what his done to Jamie is false. He feels ashamed and his emotion is at peak when Jamie asks him to walk home with her.

"Don't you get it?" I said, exasperated. "I'm not nervous about the play, I just don't want to be here. I don't want to walk you home, I don't want my friends to keep talking about me, and I don't want to spend time with you. You keep acting like we're friends, but we're not. We're not anything. I just want the whole thing to be over so I can go back to my normal life." (Sparks, 1999, p. 60)

He thinks that being close to Jamie and helping her is not usual for him. His emotion explodes when Jamie asks him to go home together again. He does not want to play at theatre, and it means he will break his promise. However, he feels guilty after scolding Jamie. He realizes that Jamie is very kind to him, and he regrets about what he has done to Jamie before. On the next day, he tries to apology to Jamie and tries to do the best for the theatre.

... We had to arrive an hour early, and I'd been feeling pretty bad all day about the way I'd talked to Jamie the night before. She'd never been anything but nice to me, and I knew that I'd been a jerk. I saw her in the hallways between classes, and I wanted to go up to apologize to her for what I'd said, but she'd sort of slip back into the crowd before I got the chance... (Sparks, 1999, p.61)

... "I'm sorry about those things I said last night," I began. "I know they probably hurt your feelings, and I was wrong to have said them." She looked at me, as if wondering whether to believe me.

... "Look," I said, reaching for her hand, "I promise to make it up to you." Don't ask me why I said it-it just seemed like the right thing to do at that moment. (Sparks, 1999, p.62)



It can be seen that Landon has changed from irresponsible to a responsible boy.

He never feels guilty after teasing someone or doing the wrong thing, but with Jamie, he starts to feel guilty and dares to say sorry after doing something wrong.

It is because he is getting along with Jamie. When Landon goes with Jamie, Jamie always shows her good attitude to everyone, even to people who always do bad thing to her. Without being realized, Landon is affected by Jamie's good personality and he tries to change. The scene below shows that Landon is growing up. He starts to realize that his act is wrong, and he feels guilty about it, he regrets after he scolds Jamie. And even his best friend, Eric, knows that Landon is growing up:

"So," Eric said with a mischievous grin on his face, "what are you going to do?" I looked at him curiously.

"What do you mean?" I asked.

"About the play, stupid. You gonna flub up your lines or something?"

I shook my head. "No."

"You gonna knock the props over?" Everyone knew about the props.

"I hadn't planned on it," I answered stoically.

"You mean you're going to do this thing straight up?" I nodded. Thinking otherwise hadn't even occurred to me.

He looked at me for a long time, as if he were seeing someone he'd never seen before.

"I guess you're finally growing up, Landon," he said at last. Coming from Eric (Sparks, 1999, p. 63)

Jamie's influence on Landon can also be seen when he starts to concern other people. It can be seen when Landon tries to collect some money jars from people in the town. One day, Jamie asks Landon to collect all money jars because it is near Christmas and Jamie wants to give presents to the orphans near the town.

She asked if I wouldn't mind gathering the pickle jars and coffee cans she'd set out in businesses all over town early in the year. They sat on the counters, usually near the cash registers, so that people could drop their loose change in. The money was to go to the orphans. (Sparks, 1999, p. 69)

As Jamie asks, Landon goes to every place in the town and collects it. However, he finds that the money is not quite much and not enough to buy presents for all orphans. He feels pity to the money and Jamie will be disappointed with it, because it is not enough to buy presents to all orphans.

Seeing how little had been collected in all-\$55.73-made me feel awful, especially considering that the jars had been out for almost a whole year and that I myself had seen them countless times. That night I was supposed to call Jamie to tell her the amount I'd collected, but I just couldn't do it. She'd told me how she'd wanted something extra special this year, and this wasn't going to do it-even I knew that. Instead I lied to her and told her that I wasn't going to count the total until the two of us could do it together, because it was her project, not mine. It was just too depressing... (Sparks, 1999, p. 71, 72)

But when Landon gives the jar to Jamie on the next day, the amount of money is increase.

"Landon," she said to me after counting it up, "this is a miracle!"

"How much is there?" I asked. I knew exactly how much it was.

"There's almost two hundred and forty-seven dollars here!" She was absolutely joyous as she looked up at me. (Sparks, 1999, p.72)

Without Jamie realizes, Landon adds some money to the jars, so Jamie is not disappointed with the amount of money. Therefore, there is a change of Landon in this scene. Landon never cares to other people before, but here, he cares for the money that is used to buy presents for orphan and cares to Jamie's feeling. He



starts to concern to other people and leaves his delinquent behavior. It can be assumed that Landon personality is developed and change into a better one.

### 3.4 The Proof of Succession

Those analyses in the previous sub-chapters indicate that Landon has gone through adolescent stage. He starts to face identity crisis and change in his life. At first, Landon does not know about his own identity but later he achieves his identity in the middle of story. He accepts his father's plan to become student president and starts caring to other people. His identity is achieved when he becomes Jamie's friend. Jamie shows him how to become a responsible man and cares other people. Landon and Jamie become so close after the drama, and then Landon falls in Love into Jamie. This occurrence is the same as Jarvis' theory saying that when adolescent friendships become so close, there will be an occurrence called "falls in Love" (Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 126). Landon's in this stage will make him grow into a better adult man.

In one's Early Adulthood stage, human becomes a young adult. Therefore, he has to find a place in the society or someone to share, and has to learn intimacy or ability to close to others. Intimacy refers to the capacity for sharing oneself with another in a deep, mutually satisfactory, and committed manner (Lippe and Skoe, 2005, p.201). It means that the individual will open himself towards society and tries to share with other people. At the novel, Landon is told that he has already grown up and left his delinquent behavior. According to Buhrmester, Intimacy with romantic partners also increases with age, to the point that, in late

adolescence, it equals to self-disclosure to best friends and surpasses closeness to parents (1996, cited in Lerner & Steinberg, 2004, p. 386). Since Landon falls in love with Jamie, he never leaves Jamie and always in her side every day. They become close and caring each other. Then, it can be assumed that Landon has become a young adult and he has already found someone to share his life and learn intimacy. Someone for Landon is Jamie, with whom he falls in.

I was in love, and the feeling was even more wonderful than I ever imagined it could be. (Sparks, 1999, p. 97)

"I love you, Jamie," I said to her. "You're the best thing that ever happened to me." (Sparks, 1999, p. 100)

When human has already found someone to share and his identities are established, they will be ready to make a long-term commitment. This is suitable to Landon's condition at the end of the novel. Landon willingly marries Jamie although he knows that Jamie is dying and she does not have long life anymore.

I was in love with her, so deeply in love that I didn't care if she was sick. I didn't care that we wouldn't have long together. None of those things mattered to me. All I cared about was doing something that my heart had told me was the right thing to do. (Sparks, 1999, p. 128)

...I would have married Jamie Sullivan no matter what happened in the future. I would have married Jamie Sullivan if the miracle I was praying for had suddenly come true. I knew it at the moment I asked her, and I still know it today. (Sparks, 1999, p. 129)

For Landon, Jamie is someone who is very precious to him. Jamie is the one who changes his life until he becomes a good man. Jamie also makes Landon's life becomes meaningful, because she makes Landon relationship with his father becomes better and intense.



...Jamie was more than just the woman I loved. In that year Jamie helped me become the man I am today. With her steady hand she showed me how important it was to help others; with her patience and kindness she showed me what life is really all about. Her cheerfulness and optimism, even in times of sickness, was the most amazing thing I have ever witnessed.

Jamie had brought my father and me together again; somehow she'd also managed to heal some of the wounds between our two families. After what he'd done for me and for Jamie, I knew in the end that my father was someone I could always count on, and as the years passed our relationship grew steadily stronger until his death. Jamie also taught me the value of forgiveness and the transforming power that it offers. I realized this the day that Eric and Margaret had come to her house. (Sparks, 1999, p. 129)

From all of Landon's friends, Jamie is the one who can change him a lot. Landon falls in love with Jamie, and that makes her become really important for Landon rather than his friends. Landon can achieve his intimacy when he is with Jamie.

According to Abbot, intimacy is an ability to feel close to others, whether as a friend or lover, without fear of losing one's own sense of self (Abbott, 2001, p. 87). He accepts Jamie as his love and makes her as someone that is really precious in his life. Thus, he starts to change his personality into a better one.

As seen in the early adulthood of Landon, he is successful in learning intimacy at that stage. If Landon can get intimacy in his early adulthood, then it can be concluded that he is also successful in passing his adolescence period. This is because in each stage of psychosocial, there is a connection. Erikson asserts that it is only after a young person has established a real sense of identity that true intimacy with another can occur (Erikson, cited in Simanowitz and Pearce, 2003, p. 40). It means that only the person that already obtained identity can able to get intimacy. If Landon does not obtain his identity in his adolescent stage, he may

fall into identity confusion. He may get the repudiation or pulling himself from adult world and not interested in achieving identity. If this state happens, he will not learn intimacy. Instead, he will fall into isolation. In the analysis above, Landon comes to early adulthood stage and learns intimacy. It means that Landon has already been successful through his adolescent stage.





## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

#### 4.1 Conclusion

*A Walk to Remember* novel definitely tells about human in adolescent period. In this novel, it is told that an adolescent with mischief behavior can become kind and responsible when he grows up. The novel also tells the readers that parent's influence in childhood gives important role in child's personality development. Parenting becomes a very crucial part in personality development. When parenting is poor in childhood, the result will be bad too. It will make the child become rebellious. This occurrence can be seen in Landon's life. Landon becomes rebellious because he lacks of father's care in his childhood. It gives Landon a bad influence in his personality and makes him becomes rebellious. As stated by Jarvis that if the parents have a broken relationship with their children, the internal change in children may result misbehavior and aggressive action (cited in Hindle and Smith, 1999, p. 123. The lack of care in his childhood makes him become someone who has mischief behaviors and his actions are against social values.

As he grows up becomes adolescent, he faces identity crisis in his life.

Identity crisis makes him confused about himself, but later he knows who he is. In his crisis, Landon meets Jamie. At the first time, Landon and Jamie are not friends but after some events, they become close. Jamie has a great meaning for Landon.

Jamie teaches Landon how to understand people's feeling and caring to other

people. Because of Jamie, Landon becomes a good man and his personality develops into a better way. Without Jamie, Landon will not find intimacy which is an ability that he must achieve in early adulthood. Peers also give influence to adolescent's personality development, because an adolescent mostly spends his time with his peers. It is seen in Landon when he is close to Jamie. Landon starts to care to people. He becomes a responsible man and leaves his mischief behavior.

It is only Jamie who can change Landon a lot, because Landon falls in love with her and she is really important for him. Because of this reason, he starts to change his personality into a better one.

Personality develops as long as people live in this world. It develops from their birth or infancy, until the individual becomes old. The personality develops based on how people interact with their surroundings. In childhood, children will depend on their caregiver or parents. They will learn from them and from their surroundings. Gradually, people will learn from the world where they live to help them in developing their personality.

#### **4.2 Suggestion**

For the next researchers, it is suggested to analyze *A Walk to Remember* by using different theories. The next researchers could analyze the main character by using self-concept as its theory. The next researchers may also be interested in researching the social background of the main character.



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1.	26 Maret 2011	Pengajuan dan persetujuan Judul	Pembimbing I	
2.	6 April 2011	Konsultasi topik dan teori	Pembimbing I	
3.	14 April 2011	Konsultasi BAB 1	Pembimbing I	
4.	21 April 2011	Revisi BAB 1	Pembimbing I	
5.	5 Mei 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing I	
6.	10 Mei 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing II	
7.	26 Mei 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing II	
8.	20 Juni 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing II	
9.	22 Juli 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing I	
10.	5 Agustus 2011	ACC. BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing I	
11.	11 Agustus 2011	Revisi BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing II	
12.	12 September 2011	ACC BAB 1 - BAB 2	Pembimbing II	
13.	21 September 2011	Seminar Proposal	Pembimbing I	
14.	21 September 2011	Seminar Proposal	Pembimbing II	
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16.	21 Desember 2011	Revisi BAB 3	Pembimbing I	
17.	20 January 2012	ACC BAB 1 - 4	Pembimbing I	

Lanjutan tabel...

No.	Tanggal	Materi	Pembimbing	Paraf
18.	24 January 2012	Revisi BAB 2 - BAB 3	Pembimbing II	
19.	16 Maret 2012	Revisi BAB 1 – 4	Pembimbing II	
20.	28 Maret 2012	Revisi BAB 1 – 4	Pembimbing II	
21.	11 April 2012	ACC BAB 1 – 4	Pembimbing II	
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23.	24 April 2012	Seminar Hasil	Pembimbing II	
24.	24 April 2012	Seminar Hasil	Penguji I	
25.	24 April 2012	Seminar Hasil	Penguji II	
26.	7 Mei 2012	Revisi BAB 3	Pembimbing I	
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28.	14 Mei 2012	Revisi BAB 3	Penguji I	
29.	14 Mei 2012	ACC Revisi	Penguji I	
30.	14 Mei 2012	ACC Revisi	Penguji II	
31.	14 Mei 2012	ACC Revisi	Pembimbing I	
32.	22 Mei 2012	Revisi BAB 1 – 4	Pembimbing II	
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