APPENDICES

a. Biography of Nicholas Sparks

Nicholas Charles Sparks was born in Omaha, Nebraska, on December 31, 1965, the second son of Patrick Michael (1942-1996) and Jill Emma Marie (Thorne) Sparks (1942-1989). His siblings are Michael Earl Sparks (b. Dec. 1964), and Danielle Sparks (December 1966 - June 2000). As a child, he lived in Minnesota, Los Angeles, and Grand Island, Nebraska, finally settling in Fair Oaks, California, at the age of eight. His father was a professor, his mother a homemaker, then an optometrist’s assistant. He lived in Fair Oaks through high school, graduated valedictorian in 1984, and received a full track scholarship to the University of Notre Dame. After breaking the Notre Dame school record as part of a relay team in 1985 as a freshman (a record which still stands), he was injured and spent the summer recovering. During that summer, he wrote his first novel, though it was never published.

His father was pursuing graduate studies, and the family moved a great deal, so by the time Sparks was 8, he had lived in Watertown, Minnesota, Los Angeles, and Grand Island, Nebraska. In 1974 his family settled in Fair Oaks, California, and remained there through Nicholas's high school days. He graduated in 1984 as valedictorian from Bella Vista High School, then enrolling at the University of Notre Dame, having received a full track and field scholarship.
He majored in Business Finance and graduated with high honors in 1988. He and his wife Catherine, who met on spring break in 1988, were married in July 1989. While living in Sacramento, he wrote a second novel that same year, though that novel wasn’t published, either. He worked a variety of jobs over the next three years, including real estate appraisal, waiting tables, selling dental products by phone, and starting his own small manufacturing business which struggled from the beginning. In 1990, he collaborated on a book with Billy Mills, the Olympic Gold Medalist, and it was published by Feather Publishing before later being picked up by Random House. (It was recently re-issued by Hay House Books.) Though it received scant publicity, sales topped 50,000 copies in the first year of release. He began selling pharmaceuticals and moved from Sacramento, California to North Carolina in 1992. In 1994, at the age of 28, he wrote The Notebook over a period of six months. In October 1995, rights to The Notebook were sold to Warner Books.

**Published Works**

1)  *The Notebook* (October 1996)  
2)  *Message in a Bottle* (April 1998)  
3)  *A Walk to Remember* (October 1999)  
4)  *The Rescue* (September 2000)  
5)  *A Bend in the Road* (September 2001)  
6)  *Nights in Rodanthe* (September 2002)  
8)  *The Wedding* (September 2003)
9) *Three Weeks With My Brother* (April 2004) - A non-fiction account of traveling with his brother after the men lost both parents and their sister in quick succession.

10) *True Believer* (April 2005)

11) *At First Sight (novel)* (October 2005)

12) *Dear John* (October 2006)

13) *The Choice* (September 2007)

14) *The Lucky One* (October 2008)

15) *The Last Song* (September 2009)

16) *Safe Haven* (September 2010)

17) *The Best Of Me* (October 2011)

**Film Adaptations**

1) *Message in a Bottle* (February 12, 1999)

2) *A Walk to Remember* (January 25, 2002)

3) *The Notebook* (June 25, 2004)

4) *Nights in Rodanthe* (September 26, 2008)

5) *Dear John* (February 5, 2010)

6) *The Last Song* (March 31, 2010)

7) *The Lucky One* (April 20, 2012)

8) *Safe Haven (film)* Set to be released in 2013 Production has not yet started and it has not been cast.
b. Summary of the Choice Novel

This novel about true love between Travis Parker and Gabby Holland. This novel pressed to the readers "How far should a person go in the name of love." It is an easy question, but can make impressed people. This novel is also tells about the meaning of true love, faith, and how to overcoming problem with the loved ones. This novel is very romantic and worth to reading.

The beginning story of this novel is a man named Travis Parker who struggling to get love Gabby. They are neighbors but don't communicate until Gabby suspects that Travis's dog got her dog pregnant. After a night of ranting he advises her to take her dog to the vet, little does she know that the vet is him. After assisting the dog during her pregnancy Gabby and Travis begin to spend time together. Gabby has had a boyfriend and she want to keep the relationship even though she also felt a sense of bored with her boyfriend. Travis with all the charm and try to find a soulmate, Gabby with her bored love story, and finally they falling in love.

The conflict of this novel is when Gabby had to choose between Travis or Kevin to be escort of her life. Gabby who has dating for 4 years, wavering with the presence of Travis who has always amuse her. But ultimately, he decided to pick Travis and raise a family. Travis and Gabby have been happily married and have two daughters. However, 11 years later there had been a car accident. Travis escaped with minor injuries; Gabby had gone into a coma and had yet to come out of it.
Climax problem in this novel is increasing. As time drew longer Travis began to be faced with a choice, honor his wife’s plans and wishes, or keep his hope of love alive. The question he must answer is what he will do for his hope of love to continue of. He hopes to get the right answer from others. However he knows that he must answer that question yourself. Travis did not feel all that choice on his side. A very difficult choice for him and did not deserve him.

But, Travis could face it at all the trials that have been encountered. Eventhough the fact that Travis should denied his promise, he has made everyone to see, that maybe true love does exist, that despite the hard times will not make a true love lost, though love is not going to make us see what will happen next in the future.