CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Review of the Study

The theory which is applied to analyze the conflict of the major characters of the novel *Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen was taken from John Peck and Martin Coyle through their book *Literary and Criticisms*.

“...novel reflects a move away from as essentially religious view of life towards a new interest in the complexities of everyday experience. Most novel are concerned with ordinary people and their problems in the societies in which the find themselves. Novels, however, are long works with a great amount of detail on every page. They thus present all the complicating facts that need to be taken into account before we can reach any sort any judgment. The effect of this detail is that we come to recognize the complex reality of a character or event in the story.”

*(John Peck and Martin Coyle, 1947:103)*

From John Peck and Martin Coyle’s opinion, it can be seen that novel is a long work that relates to human lives which consist of common conflict or problems that usually can be found in real life society. Novel presents what human usually have in the reality as the part of a particular society. It is one of the proofs that a novel is a reflection of human’s life.

*Flipped* can be classified as a romance novel. As generally known, romance is also one of the major part in human live specially for the young. There is one unique definition about romance novel taken from Janet Evanovich, a novelist who said that:
“Romance novels are birthday cake and life is often peanut butter and jelly. I think everyone should have lots of delicious romance novels lying around for those times when the peanut butter of life gets stuck to the roof of your mouth.” (http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Novel)

According to Janet, romance is just like a birthday cake which usually known as delicious and beautiful decorated. She also compares life as a peanut butter and jelly that the writer agrees. If someone eats peanut butter too much, it will be like a glue in their mouth which drives to the sick feeling. As well like when a human has problems in life which Jane refers as a peanut butter and Jelly in the mouth, thus they need a birthday cake to make a their life better against their suck life reality.

Flipped is a novel by Wendelin Van Draanen which can be classified as a romance novel. The idea of the story is the common one with the portrayed problem common human’s life. The story revolves around unrequited love of a girl and a boy. A story portrays the dynamic changes of love into hatred. Flipped has two major characters, they are Julianna Baker and Bryce Loski, a childhood friend. Julia fell in love to Bryce first. On the other side, Bryce hated Juli but in the end fell in love with Juli in the end.

This novel concerns to the dynamic flip that happens between Juli and Bryce. This ‘Flipped’ means thereversed of feeling of the both of the major characters between their feelings. Juli’s feeling has flipped and so has Bryce. Love and hatred are deconstructing their positions in the novel. The idea of the conflicts which is going to be analyzed in the novel are the internal and external conflicts which revolves around the both of the characters with their own self and society that cause the flip of love and hatred feeling.
After all, *Flipped* is a unique novel with a different style of deconstructional writing. As this novel presents two points of view between Bryce and Juli, the reverse version is the power of this novel which rarely found in the common works. Some of the chapter of this novel presents Bryce’s monologue about his impression about Juli and it continues with the the monologue of Juli and her impression about Bryce.

### 2.2 Review of Related Studies

Actually, this study is not the first study which discussed about novel *Flipped* by Wendelin Van Draanen. Some studies and reviews about this book also has important contribution to help analyzing and understanding this novel thoroughly. Here are some reviews about the novel:

1. In his blog, Aaron Vincent begins by stating that ‘If John Green have written an 8th grade he-said she-said coming-of-age novel, it would have been something like this….’ and relegates and relegates ‘the Draanen’s to a half page ‘note’ at the end of the first, introductory, chapter. In his acknowledges that Wendelin van Draanen was a genius and that *Flipped*, an ‘astonishing work’, should be seen, in the story of the novel in America, as a ‘kind of sport’:

   ….It’s not until you’ve finally finish the book until you realize how much you’re able to take out of it. The idea of being you—being genuine and brave—being able to live out loud, is nicely demonstrated in this novel. If you’re looking for some encouragement and inspiration for living out loud, go pick up a copy of *Flipped*! It might not even be close as the length of *The Odyssey*, but it’s definitely filled with lots of sparks!
2. In The Horn Book Magazine, Martin C. stated that:

‘I must say, Flipped is a great book and also has a great teaching, as well as being huge amount of fun to read because of the author's fabulous techniques. One of the techniques the author uses in the book is showing different perspectives throughout the book, to be specific: the way he describes the point of view from Juli's and Bryce's perspective, also a very fun technique since you're always wondering what the other character in the story thinks too. Another entertaining technique is the quite fancy way the author makes suspense in the story, like slowing down time, he shows the characters feelings and exposes his or her thoughts toward the event. One last thing that makes this book a must is that the author creates a tremendous amount of conflict building up all the time that makes an intense background for what's happening right then. The teaching of this book is a very good one, that "A painting is more than the sum of its parts" which means that all the pieces that make up something are not what make something special, but what they make up is what's special.’

2.3 The Connection Plot, Character and Conflict

Plot and character obviously cannot be separated. They need each other to complete a story. Roberts and Jacobs (1995:1695) states that plot, generally has common forms that can be divided as straight-line construction, episodic construction and pyramidal construction. The structure of plot also can be divided as exposition, complication, crisis or climax, falling action, and resolution.

Exposition is a complete and detailed analysis of a work literature, often word by word and line by line. Complication is a stage of narrative and dramatic structure in which the major conflict is brought out of the rising action of a drama. Climax is the high point of conflict and tension preceding the resolution of a drama, the point of decision, of inevitability and no return. Falling down is the turning downward of the dramatic plot, the four stage in structure after the climax. In addition, the last one is resolution. Resolution is the final stage of plot development, in which mysteries are explained, characters find their destinies, and the work is completed.
As Characters is the reflection of a human in a novel, it is definitely one of the main elements which bring the story of the novel feels alive since the character portrays as a real human suppose to be with soul, behavior, and many things like human themself. Characters are usually presented through their actions, dialect, and thought, as well as by description. According to Edgar V Robert (1993:20):

“Character are the person present in dramatics of narrative work, who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with the normal and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say in the dialogue and what they do in action.”

A character is a person depicted in a drama. Characters may be flat, minor characters or round, and major.

Robert (1993:131) says, in a novel the character may be defined as a verbal representative of human being. Through action, speech, description, and commentary, authors portray characters are worth caring about, rooting for, and even loving, although there are also characters you may laugh at, dislike, or even hate.

As plot and character are part of conflict, it happens by the action of characters and the flow of the story. Conflict can happen from the personality of the character. It also can happen from society. Everything can cause conflict. In literary studies, conflict includes internal and external conflict. Internal conflict comes from the characters themselves. It comes from the problem of their personality and external conflict comes from society and environment.

As commonly known that there are definitions about conflict that is a part of the plot, one of the elements of fiction. Along with characterization, setting and theme, conflict within the plot creates the narrative. The story unfolds with
exposition, in which the author present the main characters and describes the setting. The action rises to a climax or turning point, with conflict between two opposing forces. Action falls as the conflict is resolved, and the narrative ends with the denouement or resolution.

Sharon Penn, an eHow Contributor, says that there are four types of conflict in literature. Characters might be pitted against each other, or they may be fighting something in nature. A character might be trying to solve a problem in society. They are:

1. Man vs. Man

From the simplest stories to the most complex, we will find external conflict in the form of ‘man vs. man’, a character in conflict with another character. Whether it is Jack from “Jack and the Beanstalk” against the giant, the good guys against the bad guys in old time Westerns story, or Romeo against Tybalt in “Romeo and Juliet”, main characters show their personalities as they fight against literary antagonists.

2. Man vs. Society

Just as in real life, characters sometimes struggle against society in literature. In George Orwell’s “Animal Farm”, the author creates a thinly veiled metaphor of the Russian revolution. Here the farm owner represents the last tsar of Russia, Nicholas II, and the pigs represents the Communists. Boxer the horse represents the exploited workers, and the sheep represents the masses at large. Readers can relate to this type of conflict when it symbolizes important situations in the real world.
3. Man vs. Self

The type of conflict that pits a person against himself is called internal conflict. In ‘Sophie’s Choice’, a Jewish woman is forced to decide which child to save and which child to give up to the Nazis during the Holocaust. This moral dilemma presents a heart wrenching struggle for protagonist. The reader relates to internal conflict because we are sometimes faced with emotional challenges for which there is no clear solutions.

4. Man vs. Nature

In today’s world, people are particularly interested in conflict that pits the sympathetic protagonist against an occurrence in the natural world. Today, we are concerned about hard to control viruses, earthquakes, and severe weather. “The Andromeda Strain” by Michael Crichton is a techno-thriller that spotlights a team of scientists countering a fatal extraterrestrial organism. Novel such as this capture the reader’s attention because the situation depicted is all too realistic (http://www.ehow.com/about_6503127_definition-conflict-literature.html).

Moreover Christie Craig and Faye Hughes also emphasize that in real life, conflicts is everywhere. It can stem from the weather, from traffic, from other people, from bad potato salad, or even from someone’s cookies. However, in books, it is crucial that the conflict be a natural extension of either our plot or characters. Before we can define what characters’ conflict will be, we need to have a clear definition of both your story goal and the personal goals our characters. Conflict is not something a writer just magically pulls out of thin air(http://www.netplaces.com/writing-a-romance-novel/the-all-important-conflict/no-conflict-no-story.htm).
As character is a part of society thus in the novel a particular society also portrayed in the novel as the important details to make the story even more real as to human’s life. As it is commonly known that a particular society can influence a person through their mind. The way of they are thinking is also influenced as well by ideas and perspectives in the society itself. The author, as the part of society in the real life as well put the description of the society as the important background of the story in order to lead the reader to understand the particular character behavior as the impact of the society around them. Every body will be impacted psychologically because of the society. Whatever it leads to the good or bad result, it is unavoidably true fact.

Novel can be stated as the part of a particular society as well. A novel usually describes society as one of the important element of background in order to make the story feels more alive. In the other words, literature can be picture in society or our society can be pictured in literature as well. Obviously literary works and society have a strong connection. As the author of a novel is undeniably a part of society, they describe the society on their own perspective which can affect the reader. They do not only observe and judge the social condition around them but they also criticize and analyze through their work. As to the reader, they will read, compare and analyze the situation with their own reality as probably the new perspective for them. Thus the authors communicate their idea to the reader through their work which definitely the proof as the impact of the author to the reader.