A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS ON TWO MAIN CHARACTERS' FRIENDSHIP IN NOVEL “VERONICA”

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A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS ON TWO MAIN CHARACTERS' FRIENDSHIP IN NOVEL “VERONICA”

A Thesis
Submitted to the Faculty of Adab and Humanities
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Strata One Degree

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ABSTRACT


The writer studies about friendship analysis between Alison and Veronica as the main characters in novel “Veronica”. It aims to know the factors underlying friendship and understand it using J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley’s social exchange theory. The method of this research is descriptive qualitative, which tries to analyze the main characters’ friendship of the novel using psychological approach.

At first, the research focuses on the factors underlying friendship using Robert S. Fieldman’s theory. Then it focuses on the friendship analysis by applying J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley’s social exchange theory. By referring to the discussions, the writer concludes that the friendship need perpetuity factors such as similarity, reciprocity of liking, positive qualities, physical attractiveness and physical appearance. Then the writer also finds out that Alison and Veronica’s friendship is satisfactory, stable and interdependence.
APPROVEMENT

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LEGALIZATION

The thesis entitled *A Psychological Analysis on Two Main Characters Friendship in Novel “Veronica* has been defended before the Letters and Humanities Faculty’s Examination Committee on April 8, 2009. The thesis has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the strata one degree.

Jakarta, April 8, 2009

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgment has been made in the text.

Jakarta, April 2009

Fadhilatul Muharam
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Fadhilatul Muharam
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABSTRACT</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APPROVEMENT</td>
<td>ii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEGALIZATION</td>
<td>iii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DECLARATION</td>
<td>iv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>vii</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHAPTER I. INTRODUCTION</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Background of the Study</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Focus of the Study</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Research Questions</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Benefit of the Study</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Research Methodology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHAPTER II. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Psychology of Literature</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Interpersonal Relationship</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. The Factors Influencing Friendship</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Social Exchange Theory</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHAPTER III. RESEARCH FINDINGS</strong></td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. Data Description</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. The Influencing Factors of Two Main Characters’ Friendship</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Similarity</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Reciprocity of Liking</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Positive Qualities</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Physical Attractiveness and Liking</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Physical Appearance and Social Behavior</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Alison and Veronica’s Friendship Analysis by Applying Social Exchange Theory by J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Rewards</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Costs</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. Outcomes ........................................................................................................ 34
4. Comparison Level ............................................................................................ 35
5. Evaluation of Alison and Veronica’s Friendship ............................................. 42

CHAPTER IV. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION ............................................. 44

A. Conclusion ........................................................................................................ 44
B. Suggestion ........................................................................................................ 45

BIBLIOGRAPHY ..................................................................................................... 47

APPENDICES .......................................................................................................... 49

Appendix 1: Summary of Novel “Veronica” ....................................................... 49
Appendix 2: The Author’s Background ................................................................. 50
Appendix 3: Scheme of the Research ................................................................. 52
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Novel is a kind of literary works besides play and poem. As the others, it is produced by human mind and soul. It depicts all about human life whether it is about intrapersonal or interpersonal relationship. “The novel is a picture of real life and manners and of the time in which it was written” (Clara Reeve, 1785). In the imagination process of making novel, the author never leaves his/her background of life as the important element. Therefore, actually novel is one of the ways for human revealing his/her story of life, whether it’s about love, hate, sadness, loneliness, and friendship.

“Veronica” is a novel which is created by Mary Gaitksill. This novel becomes a finalist in 2005 of The National Book Awards in USA.1 “Veronica” is her fourth book and second novel. This novel tells about a former model reflecting on her youth through conversations with an older friend who ultimately died of

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1 The National Book Awards are among the most eminent literary prizes in the United States. Started in 1950, the awards are presented annually to American authors for literature published in the prior year, as well as lifetime achievement awards including the “Medal of Distinguished Contribution to American Letters” and the “Literarian Award”. The purpose of the awards is “to raise the cultural appreciation of great writing in America.” In 1988 the National Book Foundation was established which now overseas and manages the National Book Awards. Awards are given in each of four categories: fiction, nonfiction, poetry, and young people’s literature. Awards have been given in various other categories, which have since been retired or subsumed into the remaining categories. (National Book Awards, Wikipedia the free encyclopedia, Accessed on November 11, 2007. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Book_Award, p.1)
AIDS. In many ways the nomination signals the sort of mainstream sanctioning that has eluded her.

“Veronica” is about flesh and spirit, vanity, mortality, and mortal affection. Set mostly in Paris and Manhattan in the desperately glittering 1980s, it has the timeless depth and moral power of a fairy tale. Gaitskill depicts all of them through Alison, as the first main character and Veronica, her best friend, as the second main character.

*As a teenager on the streets of San Francisco, Alison is discovered by a photographer and swept into the world of fashion-modeling in Paris and Rome. When her career crashes and a love affair ends disastrously, she moves to New York City to build a new life. There she meets Veronica — an older wisecracking eccentric with her own ideas about style, a proofreader who comes to work with a personal "office kit" and a plaque that reads "Still Anal After All These Years." Improbably, the two women become friends. Their friendship will survive not only Alison's reentry into the seductive nocturnal realm of fashion, but also Veronica's terrible descent into the then-uncharted realm of AIDS. The memory of their friendship will continue to haunt Alison years later, when she, too, is aging and ill and is questioning the meaning of what she experienced and who she became during that time.*

Masterfully layering time and space, thought and sensation, Mary Gaitskill dazzles the reader with psychological insight and a mystical sense of the soul's hurtling passage through the world. A novel is unlike any other, “Veronica” is a tour de force about the fragility and mystery of human relationships, the failure of love, and love's abiding power. It shines on every page with depth of feeling and formal beauty.

---

From all what “Veronica” is about, the friendship between Alison and Veronica takes big part of this novel plot. Friendship is the familiar thing that we can see everywhere, even in ourselves. It is a human nature. Frank Crane\(^3\), in a Definition of Friendship, said ‘What is a friend? I will tell you. It is a person with whom you dare to be your self.’

Few questions about this human nature arouse greater interest. Why do people need a friend in this world? Why do people need love and a word ‘relationship’ to legalize their interaction one another? Because there is no body who wants to be lonely. Human cannot stand alone in this world. They need helps to complement each other.

Human relationship always becomes a mystery. Many experts take part of the human relationship researches because there are many factors that lead and nurture human relationship. Besides, personal character as the instrument of the relationship also should be analyzed. Then we will find what factors two personals can build a friendship and how they nurture their friendship. For the factors, the writer will use Robert S. Fieldman’s theory about interpersonal attraction.

The friendship between Alison and Veronica is one of human relationship mystery. It is a complicated relationship. They complement one another with their

\(^3\) Dr. Frank Crane (1861–1928) was a Presbyterian minister, speaker, and columnist who wrote a set of ten volumes of “Four Minute Essays” which were published in 1919. (Frank Crane, Wikiquote, Accessed on May 23, 2008, [www.wikiquote.com](http://www.wikiquote.com))
lack and superiority until one of them dies. Actually there are some similarities they have in building their friendship. Those are similarity of their family background, hobbies and preferences. For these similarities and other factors of underlying friendship, the writer will analyze it on chapter III using the theory of Robert S. Fieldman.

Actually as other friendships they also have some differences one another. But amazing, these differences strengthen their friendship. First, they have difference on age. Actually Alison is younger (21 years old) than Veronica (37 years old). Second, they have different way to express their love and care. Alison is more expressive than Veronica. She often call on Veronica especially when she come down because HIV. The other way, Veronica seems avoid Alison and refuse her visit whereas she also care to her. But these differences never affect their friendship. Then this case becomes one of reason why the writer is interested in analyzing the two main characters friendship in novel “Veronica” viewed from interpersonal relationship, especially in social-exchange theory by J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley.

B. Focus of the Study

The writer would like to focus the research on analyzing Alison and Veronica as the main characters of novel “Veronica” and their friendship by applying interpersonal relationship, especially in J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley’s social-exchange theory.
C. Research Questions

The questions in this research are:

1. What factors encourage Alison and Veronica to build their friendship?

2. What does their friendship look like seen from J.W. Thibaut and H.H. Kelley’s social exchange theory?

D. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes this research can be useful for the readers, especially for those who want to know about interpersonal relationship, especially between two persons of friend. It is one of some tools that can be used to analyze the interpersonal relationship or in groups. Specifically, the writer wants to introduce the J.W. Thibaut and H.H. Kelley’s social exchange theory; the signification; it is about J.W. Thibaut and H.H. Kelley’s conceptualization of the dyad, a two-person relationship, begins with an analysis of interaction and of its consequences for the two individuals concerned.

E. Research Methodology

1. The Objective of the Study

The objective of the study is to explain the social exchange theory of friendship between Alison and Veronica in novel “Veronica”, then also to know the factors of supporting the friendship.
2. The Method of the Research

The method that is used in this research is qualitative method, specifically, descriptive analysis. Descriptive analysis focuses on the information gathered in relation to how it was gathered, where, and by whom. So the writer describes the two main characters in novel, and then analyzes friendship of them, based the relevant theory.

3. The Technique of Data Analysis

In this research, the writer uses psychology of literature approach. First, the writer chooses the object or novel that will be analyzed. Then, the writer takes friendship case between the two main characters. After that, the writer reads some theory of interpersonal relationship, especially, J.W. Thibaut and H.H. Kelley’s social exchange theory. Finally, the friendship will be analyzed through descriptive analysis technique.

4. The Unit of Analysis

CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

Chapter II consists of psychology of literature and the concept of factors underlying friendship by Robert S. Fieldman and social exchange theory by J.W. Thibaut and H.H. Kelley. Psychology of literature is written to strengthen the writer’s reason to analyze the novel by psychological approach. The concept of factors underlying friendship is used to know how Alison and Veronica build their friendship and the concept of social exchange theory is used to analyze their friendship.

A. Psychology of Literature

Psychology of literature is the study of literature using literary work as the object of psyche action. Author will use anything in his/her inner side in creating literary works. The author will seize his/her psyche indication and processing it into the text. And the projection of the author experience will be projected imaginarily into the text.

Literary work is seen as psychology phenomenon. It will show psyche aspects through characters in the story. According to Jatman:

“Karya sastra dan psikologi memang memiliki pertautan yang erat, secara tak langsung dan fungsional. Pertautan tak langsung, karena baik psikologi dan sastra memiliki objek yang sama yaitu kehidupan manusia. Psikologi dan sastra memiliki hubungan fungsional karena sama-sama
There are some assumptions of psychology of literature; first, there is a judgment of literary work as the product of author mind and psyche in subconscious situation and revealing it into the text (in conscious situation). Conscious and subconscious always affect the author imagination processing. Strength of literary work can be seen by how the author could reveal his/her unconscious psyche expression into the text.

Second, psychology of literature also analyzes the author aspects of mind and feeling. It is about how the author able to depict characters of his/her novel.

B. Interpersonal Relationship

The writer chooses Interpersonal Relationship from many theories in Psychology as the extrinsic theory to analyze the friendship between Alison and Veronica as the main characters in novel “Veronica”. And she will use Interpersonal Relationship as instrument of the main characters friendship analysis.

Interpersonal Relationship includes Social Psychology theme. According to Myers, “Social Psychology is a science that studies the influences of our situations, with special attention to how we view and affect one another. More
precisely said, it is the scientific studies of how people think about, influence, and relate to one another.”  

In Social Psychology stated “social psychologists try to see beneath the great variation in human relationships to discover general principles that apply to many relationships. An essential feature of any relationship is that two people influence each other or, in more technical terms, that they are interdependent.”

1. The Factors Influencing Friendship

According to Robert S. Fieldman in his book, Social Psychology: Theories, Research, and Application, there are five things underlying interpersonal attraction they are similarity, reciprocity of liking, positive qualities, physical attractiveness and liking, and physical appearance and social behavior.

a. Similarity

Similarity is the first thing that influences the friendship. Almost dyads are based on similarity. It is because first, similarity may be directly reinforcing. Second, the fact that someone else has attitude or qualities similar to our own may lead to a sense of confirmation of our views of the world.

---


In experiment, Donn Byrne (1971) and his colleagues captured the essence of Laura’s experience. Over and over again, they found that the more similar someone’s attitudes are to your own, the more likable you will find the person. Likeness produces liking not only for college students but also for children and the elderly, for people of various occupations, and for those in various cultures. This is especially so for those who are satisfy with themselves. If you like yourself, you are likely to have partner with someone like you.

b. Reciprocity of Liking

As the writer mentioned earlier, there is robust general finding regarding reciprocity of liking: someone tends to like those who like him or her. Given information that another individual likes him or her, someone tends to be attracted to that person. The converse process seems to hold true as well: when someone like other persons, he or she tends to assume that they like him or her in return. But the feeling of liking someone is not always shown by the words directly. It can be show indirectly through behavior.

c. Positive Qualities

It is hardly surprising that people with meritorious qualities should be liked more than those with disagreeable qualities. For example, we like intelligent, warm, sincere, and competent people more than people who do not have those attributes.
Otherwise sheer positivity is not the whole story. Sometimes he or she prefer people who display positive qualities that are a bit tarnished by negative ones over people who seem to be without flaw. An example of this was provided in a study by Aronson, Willerman, & Floyd (1966), who had either a very competent or an average individual commit or not commit a pratfall, which consisted of clumsily spilling a cup of coffee. The results showed that liking for the competent person increased after a pratfall, while liking tended to decrease for the average person. The explanation is straightforward: very competent people who commit a blunder become more human and approachable and, thus, more attractive. On the other hand, the average person gains little from a blunder, since he or she is already seen as human enough.

Although later research has shown that relationship between competence and attraction is also related to the self-esteem of the person doing the rating, the basic fact remains: we tend to prefer competent people to incompetent ones.

d. Physical Attractiveness and Liking

In an egalitarian and democratic society, most people would agree that people ought to be judged for what they are and what they do, rather than what they look like. Yet, despite general agreement with the old saying, “Beauty is only skin deep.” It turns out that most people act as if physical attractiveness were a good indicant of how likable a person is. The physical appearance of an individual can be an important aspect of
how that person is viewed by others—however unwarranted such a bias may be.

People who are physically attractive are regarded more highly than unattractive ones with startling consistency, starting with nursery-school-age children and continuing into old age. Indeed, not only are they liked more, but people make more positive interpretations of the behavior of the physically attractive.

e. Physical Appearance and Social Behavior

While the data regarding the relationship between attraction and physical appearance are clearly positive, the question of how appearance is related to subsequent behavior is more ambiguous. We might expect that since people tend to form more ambiguous impressions about the physically attractive, they will act more positive self-images and interpersonal styles, which lead them to become more effective during social interactions than less people. Following this reasoning, we could expect physically attractive people to have a greater number of and more rewarding social encounters.

Most of the evidence that has been collected regarding the social encounters of the physically attractive, and the results have been in the context of dating behavior, and the results have been fairly consistent, showing that attractive people are chosen as dating partners more
frequently than less attractive people. Moreover, self-reports of popularity are correlated with attractiveness.

2. Social Exchange Theory

The most influential perspective on social relationships is provided by various interpersonal relationships theories. According to Coleman and Hammen there are four theories: (1) social exchange theory; (2) role theory; (3) the ‘games people play’ theory; and (4) interactional theory.

Social exchange theory is firstly introduced by two social psychologists, John W. Thibaut and Harold H. Kelley in 1959. This theory is also called interdependence theory. In Social Psychology, Taylor et al, states “this perspective analyzes the patterns of interaction between partners. One way to conceptualize these interactions is in terms of the outcomes—rewards and cost—that partners give and receive.”

According to Thibaut and Kelley in their book The Social Psychology of Groups:

“Our conceptualization of the dyad, a two-person relationship, begins with an analysis of interaction and of its consequences for the two individuals concerned. The major analytic technique used throughout the book is a matrix formed by taking account of all the behaviors the two individuals might enact together. Each cell in this matrix represents one of the possible parts of the interaction between the two and summarizes the consequences for each person of that possible event. Although consequences can be analyzed and measured in many ways, we have found it desirable to distinguish positive components (rewards) from negative components (cost). The many factors affecting the rewards and costs associated with each portion of the matrix are described and

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7 Ibid.
note is taken of certain sequential effects that are not handled systematically in the present scheme.” 8

The four important elements of this theory are rewards, cost, outcomes, and comparison level.

a. Rewards

According to Thibaut and Kelley about rewards,

“By rewards, we refer to pleasures, satisfaction, and gratifications the person enjoys. The provision of a means whereby a drive is reduced or a need fulfilled constitutes a reward. We assume that the amount of reward provided by any such experience can be measured and that the reward values of different modalities of gratification are reducible to a single psychological scale.” 9

A reward is anything a person gains from an interaction, such as feeling loved or receiving financial assistance. It is positive component in dyad.

b. Costs


“By costs, we refer to any factors that operate to inhibit or deter the performance of a sequence of behavior. The greater the deterrence to performing a given act—the greater the inhibition the individual has to overcome—the greater the cost of the act. Thus cost is high when great physical or mental effort is required, when embarrassment or anxiety accompany the action, or when there are conflicting forces or competing response tendencies of any sort. Costs derived from these different factors are also

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9 Ibid. p. 12
assumed to be measurable on a common psychological scale, and costs of different sorts, to be additive in their effect.”

Cost is negative consequence that is occurred in an interaction or relationship. Taylor et al state “an interaction may be costly because it requires a great deal of time and energy, because it entails much conflict, or because other people disapprove of the relationship and criticize us for being involved in it.”

**c. Outcomes**

Thibaut and Kelley state about outcome in the book *The Social Psychology of Groups*;

“The consequences or outcomes for an individual participant of any interaction or series can be stated, then, in terms of the rewards received and the cost separately; for other purposes it is assumed that they can be combined into a single scale of “goodness” of outcome, with states of reward and low cost being given high-scale values and states of low reward and high cost, low-scale values. Admittedly, such a scaling operation would be a very ambitious enterprise and would present a number of technical difficulties. However, the present interest is in the theoretical consequences of such an operation (real or imaginary) rather than in its technical properties or even its feasibility.”

So, it’s what we get from the relationship, whether it’s satisfying or suffering. If we get more rewards than cost, it is good outcomes for us. The other way, if the costs are paid more than the reward we would feel it’s losing out.

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d. Comparison Level

Comparison level (CL) is a standard that someone uses to value his/her relationship with other in present time. The experience of former relationship is usually used as this standard. In addition to determining whether a relationship is profitable, we make comparative judgments, assessing how one relationship compares to another. Two comparison standards are especially important (Thibaut and Kelley, 1959).

Thibaut and Kelley state on their book:

“\textit{In evaluating the adequacy of the sampled and anticipated outcomes of a relationship, the members of a dyad will have need for some kind of standard or criterion of the acceptability of outcomes. At least two important kind of standard for such an evaluation can be identified. To try to make the distinction between these two standards as intuitively clear as possible, we may begin by saying that the first of these, called the comparison level (or CL), is the standard against which the member evaluates the \textit{attractiveness} of the relationship or how satisfactory it is. The second, called the comparison level for alternative (or CL} \textsubscript{ALT}), is the standard the member uses in deciding whether to remain in or to leave the relationship.}^{13}"

The first standard is \textbf{Comparison Level} (CL). It reflects the quality outcomes a person believes he/ she deserved. The comparison level reflects past experiences in relationship.

The second major standard is the \textbf{Comparison Level for Alternatives} (CL\textsubscript{ALT}). This involves assessing how one relationship compares to other relationships that are currently available to us. If your relationship is the best you think possible, you may stay in it, even if the actual benefits you receive are low. In contrast, even if a relationship is

\footnote{\textit{Ibid.} p.21}
profitable in absolute terms, you may leave it if a better alternative becomes available.

Furthermore, we can see the six typologies of relationship in the following table.

**Six Typologies of Relationship**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relative Value of Outcome, CL, and CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt;</th>
<th>State of the relationship</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Outcome &gt; CL &gt; CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>Satisfactory, stable, and interdependence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcome &gt; CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt; &gt; CL</td>
<td>Satisfactory, stable, and independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt; &gt; CL &gt; Outcome</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory, broken, and love to stay in other relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt; &gt; Outcome &gt; CL</td>
<td>Satisfactory, unstable, and feel better to stay in other relationship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL &gt; CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt; &gt; Outcome</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory, broken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CL &gt; Outcome &gt; CL&lt;sub&gt;ALT&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>More unsatisfactory but gratify, interdependence, and cannot broken</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*CL<sub>ALT</sub>* : Comparison Level for Alternatives

*CL* : Comparison Level

From the table above we can analyze what kind of the relationship is. If outcomes fall above CL, and CL<sub>ALT</sub> drops below CL (Outcome > CL > CL<sub>ALT</sub>) means the relationship in good condition and tend to be continued. The height of outcomes here determines the relationship. The members of dyad are satisfied with the relationship. And alternative relationship never affects the present relationship.

If outcomes still stay in the first place of CL<sub>ALT</sub> and CL, but CL<sub>ALT</sub> drops above CL (Outcome > CL<sub>ALT</sub> > CL), means the relationship is good and has stable condition. But the dependence each other has no role here.
It is caused the alternative relationship gives better effect for the member of dyad.

If $CL_{ALT}$ drops above $CL$ and outcome ($CL_{ALT} > CL > Outcome$) means the relationship has the lowest outcome. This relationship does not satisfy its members. The members of dyad are more comfortable to stay in their alternative relationship. So it has tendency to leave the relationship.

If $CL_{ALT}$ still stays in the first place and outcome drop above $CL$ ($CL_{ALT} > Outcome > CL$) means the relationship in good condition and satisfactory but not stable. Although it is good, the members of dyad are more comfortable to stay in their alternative relationship.

If $CL$ drops above $CL_{ALT}$ and outcomes ($CL > CL_{ALT} > Outcome$) means the outcomes of the relationship is not much as $CL$. Despite in the alternative relationship is more attractive but never gives a good hope. So it has tendency a broken relationship.

If $CL$ still stays in the first place of outcome and $CL_{ALT}$ ($CL > Outcome > CL_{ALT}$) means the relationship has low outcomes. But the alternative relationship is also not taking good condition. So the relationship is not attractive and satisfying but the members of dyad cannot separate each other and still hope this relationship.

Besides, in the social exchange theory, Thibaut and Kelley also analyze about three control formats. They are reflexive control, fate control, and behavior control.
CHAPTER III

RESEARCH FINDING

A. Data Description

In chapter III, after reading the novel, the writer finds some statements as the corpus of the research. They are classified into three groups: characters, factors underlying friendship, and social exchange theory. They are presented in the following tables.

Table 1. The List of Characters in Mary Gaitskil’s “Veronica”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Characters</th>
<th>Corpus</th>
<th>Remark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>“I was sixteen when this happened. I had run away from home, partly because I was unhappy there…”</td>
<td>Comes from an inharmonious family Unstable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“I lived from apartment to apartment, sometimes with friends, sometimes strangers.”</td>
<td>Be autonomous Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“I worked for a florist, selling flowers in the bars and outside go-go clubs in North Beach.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“He said, “Alison, you are a beautiful girl. And now you are in a country that understands beauty. Enjoy it.””</td>
<td>Beautiful Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“When Alain locked me out and stole my money, I went back home…”</td>
<td>Unsuccessful in her love story Unstable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“The poetry teacher was a”</td>
<td>Good at poetry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
little an with sparse hair on his dry head and spotted, trembling hands. But I loved him because he wrote “very good” on my poems.”

“Veronica,” I said, “I love you.”

“I was ignorant. I came from a psychotic family.”

“But she was like that. She could be unbelievably obnoxious.”

“Duncan died. A year later, Veronica tested positive for HIV.”

“Veronica was alone because her friends left her. She said they left her because she was sick, but I don’t know what they would’ve said.”

“I’ve done things that looked self-destructive all my life. But I wasn’t really being self-destructive. I always knew where the door was. Until now.”

Table 2. The List of Factors Underlying Friendship in Mary Gaitskil’s “Veronica”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Corpus</th>
<th>Factors Underlying Friendship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>“Veronica and I went once to see an exhibit of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe.”</td>
<td>Similarity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“You’re probably the only person I could tell.”

“…Maybe I was able to feel the comfort because I half-despised it. I don’t know. But it helped me to forgive Alain.”

“When I knew Veronica, I was healthy and beautiful, and I thought I was so great for being with somebody who was ugly and sick. I told stories about her to anybody who would listen.”

“She wore tailored suits in mannish plaids with matching bow ties, bright red lipstick, false red fingernails,…”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Corpus</th>
<th>Social Exchange Theory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>“Sometimes I loved how she would make cracks like that. Other times it was just embarrassing.”</td>
<td>Cost</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3. The List of Social Exchange Theory

B. The Influencing Factors of Two Main Characters’ Friendships

To know the factors that underlying friendship, the writer use Robert S. Fieldman’s theory about interpersonal attraction in his book *Social Psychology: Theories, Research, and Application.*
1. Similarity

The writer has analyzed the similarities between Alison and Veronica. There are three things: family background, liking, and complex problem that they have.

a. Family background

Alison and Veronica come from inharmonious family. Problem always arouses in their house.

As the writer analyzed before, in the youth Alison does not feel warm and comfortable in her home. So she tries to flee from house.

“The first time I left, I was fifteen. My parents had fought and refused to speak to each other for three days; I slipped out through the silence and hitchhiked to a concert in upstate New York.” (Gaitskill 2006, 18)

Her mother is gone with a guy and lives with him. It cracks new problem in her family. His father feels so sad and meaningless.

“I was going to call my family and tell them I was coming home, but before I could, Daphne called and said our mother had just moved out and gone to live with a guy from the car repair place. “Daddy feels like everyone’s leaving him,” she said. “He cries at night, Alison. It’s horrible.”” (Gaitskill 2006, 47)

On the quotation above it is described that Daphne, Alison’s sister, tells her their mother had just gone with a guy leaving their father. Then their father gets frustrated, so Daphne feels that she should call Alison to ask her home.

And also Veronica, she does not feel warm love from her parents.
“”I think love is overrated. My parents loved me. And it didn’t do any good.”” (Gaitskill 2006, 9)

“”I was twenty-three years old. I was ignorant. I came from a psychotic family. That’s why it was like….”” (Gaitskill 2006, 151)

On the quotation above it is stated that Veronica also comes from an inharmonious family. She is ignored by her family. So she needs love to fill her lost care.

Her parents always fight each other. And it makes uncomfortable situation for Veronica.

"They would fight about who would go, until we were down to two frankfurters and a can of peas. Then they’d send me and my sister out across this huge intersection with our little red wagon. They’d be watching us from the window, waving.” (Gaitskill 2006, 194)

On the quotation above it is shown the situation on Veronica’s parents that always fights each other and it makes uncomfortable for Veronica and her sister.

b. Preferences

Alison and Veronica have the same hobbies and preferences. They like party and art. They get used to going to movie, exhibition of photographs, and museum.

Alison loves the same thing with what Veronica likes. She loves to write poems and to go to movie.

“I wrote poems. The poetry teacher was a little man with square hair on his dry head and spotted, trembling hands. But I loved him because he wrote “very good” on my poems.” (Gaitskill 2006, 102)

“I went to movies by myself. I went to museums by myself.” (Gaitskill 2006, 170)
On two quotations above, it is shown that Alison loves anything about arts and literatures. On the first quotation, stating Alison is good at poetry subject. And on the second quotation, stating she often goes to movies and museums by herself.

Veronica loves all about art and literature. She likes to watch movie and write and go to art exhibition.

“...and it reminds me of Veronica Ross.... She loved anything precious and proper: small intricate toys, photographs in tiny decorated frames, quotes from Oscar Wilde. She loved MoMA and she loved New York.” (Gaitskill 2006, 7)

“In the middle of answering a question from Joan, I heard him ask Veronica what she did.
“I write. I paint. I've done some acting.”” (Gaitskill 2006, 202)

On the quotation above it is shown that Veronica also loves anything about arts and literatures. She gets used to going to museums especially Museum of Modern Art in New York. She loves writing, painting and doing acting sometime.

Because of they have the same preferences; they get used to going to movies and exhibition together.

“Veronica and I went once to see an exhibit of photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe.” (Gaitskill 2006, 52)

On quotation above we know that Alison and Veronica often go to art exhibition and movie together.

c. Having complicated problem

Each of Alison and Veronica has complicated problem in their life. And it is hard for them. So they need friend to share and comfort them.
Alison has a problem with her life as a model. In Paris, she is a mistress from the biggest agent of Paris named Alain. But it does not take long time, she is thrown out later. And it makes her hopeless and desperate.

“When Alain locked me out and stole my money, I went back home. Eventually, I moved to New York; eventually, I returned to modeling. Eventually, I lived in a big apartment, too. I remember returning home to my big apartment alone and drunk.” (Gaitskill 2006, 97)

Based on the quotation, it is told that Alain has stole Alison’s money and left her alone. So Alison got frustrated and sad.

Veronica has problem with her HIV. It’s contaminated by his bisexual boyfriend, Duncan. Her boyfriend loves to make love with either woman or man. And it causes HIV for him.

When she knows she has HIV, she lose her confident. She quits working as proofreader and move to other job. But it’s not fixing the problem. She always feels rejected by people around her.

“Veronica said she hated the people at the office and that they hated her. She said she was forces to work with men who said filthy misogynistic things and that no one would listen to her complaints. She was terrified they would discover her illness, fire her, and cancel her insurance. Yet she worked double shifts putting in sixty-hour workweeks because she was behind in her taxes.” (Gaitskill 2006, 214)

On the quotation above, it is shown that Veronica has bad thinking and feeling. She thinks that people hate her and this is very affect to her works and relationship with people.
2. Reciprocity of Liking

There is little bit different between Alison to Veronica. Alison can express easily the feeling of her liking to Veronica.

“Veronica,” I said. “I want to see you. I want to help. I can get a flight tomorrow.”
“You don’t have to do that, hon.”
“Please,” I said. “Let me come. If you really don’t want me to, I won’t. But I want to.”
She didn’t answer for a long moment.

....

“No, I really don’t. I’m a very private person. You know that. But if you stay in your own place, I’d love to see you. If it doesn’t put you out too much.”
“Veronica,” I said, “I love you.”
She didn’t answer.” (Gaitskill 2006, 225)

On quotation above, it is shown how Alison loves Veronica as her mate. She tries to call Veronica to show her care to her.

On the contrary, Veronica never says ‘like’ to Alison but her behavior shows care that she loves Alison as her best friend. She always helps Alison with her advice for Alison’s problem.

“Well, hon, if I were you, I’d try again. This is New York, not Paris.” She lighted another cigarette. “But this time, don’t let anybody grab your crotch.” And she smiled. (Gaitskill 2006, 140)

"I knew you’d understand.” She sounded genuinely relieved. “You’re probably the only person I could tell.” (Gaitskill 2006, 228)

Based on the quotation above, we know that Veronica also has good feeling to Alison. But she never shows her feeling to Alison directly. She just shows it through the way she listen Alison’s story and gives her some advice.
Then on the second quotation, there is a sentence that Veronica say to Alison, “You’re probably the only person I could tell”. And this is such a gratification for Alison. So it is proven that Veronica trusts Alison as her best friend.

3. Positive Qualities

In this novel, Alison and Veronica like each other. Alison loves Veronica as what she is. All the bad and good she has made sense for Alison.

“Sometimes I loved how she would make cracks like that. Other times it was just embarrassing.” (Gaitskill 2006, 11)

The positive qualities of Veronica are warm, cheerful, sincere, and competent enough helping Alison to fix her problem. She has gentleness and calmness. And it makes Alison feels comfort with her.

“She was a fool to talk that way—“you know.” Like she could know anything about Alain or where most people would go. One side of her lips curved up in a repulsive know-it-all style, sensual and tight. But her eyes were gentle and calm. I knew how trite and smug she was being, and I felt superior to it. But I didn’t know the gentleness of her eyes. They were like windows in a prison cell—you look out and the sky comforts you without your knowing why. Unknowing, I took comfort and went back to feeling superior. Maybe I was able to feel the comfort because I half-despised it. I don’t know. But it helped me to forgive Alain.” (Gaitskil 2006, 115)

On quotation above, we know that Alison feels comfortable with Veronica. She believes Veronica can help her to overcome her problem with her boyfriend.

And Alison also has positive qualities as Veronica need and love. She is sincere and warm for her. She is Veronica’s true friend.
4. Physical Attractiveness and Liking

This thing could be the main factor of what underlying relationship. But it does not mean this thing could be everything to maintain the relationship. If the physic is not really attractive, the attractive characteristic can interest people. Woman is different from man. Man tends to look someone with the physical appearance, but woman does not. Woman tends to look someone by the behavior qualities. And this statement is the reference for Alison and Veronica in making and nurturing their friendship.

“When I knew Veronica, I was healthy and beautiful, and I thought I was so great for being with somebody who was ugly and sick. I told stories about her to anybody who would listen. I can just hear my high, clear voice describing her antics, her kooky remarks. I can hear the voices of people congratulating me for being good. For being brave.” (Gaitskill 2006, 26-27)

5. Physical Appearance and Social Behavior

This physical appearance is one of things making the friendship of Alison and Veronica. Veronica is a woman with unique performance.

“She was a plump thirty-seven-year-old with bleached-blonde hair. She wore tailored suits in mannish plaids with matching bow ties, bright red lipstick, false red fingernails, and mascara that gathered in intense beads on the ends of her eyelashes.” (Gaitskill 2006, 12)

Then, Alison is a beautiful model with highlight style.

“When I knew Veronica, I was healthy and beautiful....” (Gaitskill 2006, 26)

So this is one of the same things they have. They are same in performance and style thought. Besides, they have attractive behavior. That is why they regard each other.
C. Alison and Veronica’s friendship analysis by applying J.W Thibaut and H.H Kelley’s social-exchange theory

Thibaut and Kelley state in their book of ‘The Social Psychology of Groups’ that the essence of any interpersonal relationship is interaction. Two individuals may be said to have formed a relationship when on repeated occasions to meet they are observed to interact. By interaction it means that they emit behavior in each other’s presence, they create products for each other, or they communicate with each other. In every case we would identify as an instance of interaction there is at least the possibility that the actions of each person affect the other.

According to Thibaut and Kelley’s theory, the writer wants to analyze the main characters’ friendship. In social exchange theory by Thibaut and Kelley, there are four important things in analyzing the dyad; rewards, costs, outcomes, and comparison level.

Alison and Veronica are the main characters who run the friendship. Their friendship has good condition to reciprocate each other. First, the writer would like to analyze rewards which have a function to increase good outcome in relationship.

1. Rewards

Rewards include feeling of pleasures, satisfaction, and gratification that the person enjoys in a relationship. It is positive component to increase good outcome in the relationship.
The writer has analyzed the main characters relationship. And there are rewards they had done to maintain good outcome in their friendship. For example when they meet for the first time, Veronica greets Alison so friendliness. She asks her whether she has lived in Paris. Alison is so surprise to hear that question. So she answers the question spontaneously.

“Excuse me,” said Veronica. “Have you spent time in Paris, Hon?” I was surprised, but I just said, “Yeah” “I thought so. You have a Parisian aura.” She turned her head sideways and worked her throat, head back, cigarette angled rakishly up and out. “I haven’t been there for ages, but I do so well remember the Jardin du Luxembourg in autumn, with the yellow horse chestnuts in bloom.” (Gaitskil 2006, 127)

In here, Alison is so surprise and a little bit happy for the fact there is someone who cares her in detail. And they commit for friendship since that time.

Then rewards also decorate their friendship when they are starting to be opened up for their background of life. They tell their stories and problem one another. Above all, in that time Alison is in her stressing point because her boyfriend has just left her. Then Veronica tries to help Alison with hearing and giving opinion about her problem.

“This incident was so peculiar to me that I didn’t tell anyone about it for a long time. Veronica was the first person I told. We were working in a conference room, wrapped in a membrane of office noise, the clicking and whirring of machines soothing and uniting like the rumbling bus. “I understand now why you loved him,” she said. “You do?” “Yes. He was willing to go places most people won’t go. He was looking at himself, you know. Most people won’t do that.” She was a fool to talk that way—“you know.” Like she could know anything about Alain or where most people would go. One side of her
lips curved up in a repulsive know-it-all style, sensual and tight. But her eyes were gentle and calm. I knew how trite and smug she was being, and I felt superior to it. But I didn’t know the gentleness of her eyes. They were like windows in a prison cell—you look out and the sky comforts you without your knowing why. Unknowing, I took comfort and went back to feeling superior. Maybe I was able to feel the comfort because I half-despised it. I don’t know. But it helped me to forgive Alain.” (Gaitskil 2006, 114-115)

Here is a phenomenon when someone feels gratified by others. He would give a reward in a return for the gratification.

About rewards, in their book, Thibaut and Kelley state;

“The magnitude of rewards to be gained by the two members from the various elements will depend upon their individual needs and values and the congruency of the behaviors or behavioral products with these needs and values. Each person’s rewards may be derived (1) directly from his own behavior and/or (2) from the other’s behavior. The former consists of rewards the individual could produce for himself if he were alone. Any rewards he receives that depend in any way upon the other individual, even if only upon the presence of the other, will be considered as depending upon the other’s behavior. For example, A obtains satisfaction from doing things for B. we can interpret this to mean that B can produce rewards for A (probably at very low cost) by simply assuming a passive set in which he receives A’s contributions and, perhaps, acknowledges receipt in some way.”

And this is happened to Alison. Once she dislikes Veronica. But after all what Veronica has done for her, Alison changes her feeling and attitude. She gratifies and loves Veronica as her true friend now.

“I did not fix Veronica in my mind, or turn her this way and that, because I didn’t care about her. But I was tolerant enough to take her in at the regular low decibel of work-time conversation. I was not interested in her, but I was curious about her, like I might be curious about an elaborate object. The cuckoo clock sounded the hour; the bird popped out. I listened to her talk about her movies, her six seal-point Siamese cats, and her bisexual boyfriend, Duncan. On either side of the clock face, tiny wooden doors sprang open and figures with

blind eyes and puckered lips came whirring out to kiss.” (Gaitskil, 2006: 136)

Then a big chance comes for Alison rewarding Veronica. It is happen when Veronica feels the ruin of her life. Her bisexual boyfriend, Duncan, dies because of AIDS. And she is infected AIDS too a year later after Duncan’s death. Alison realizes that Veronica has lost her confidence and spirit. Alison cares Veronica very much. She gives her spirit to keep on running this life. For example, she gives advice Veronica to see a doctor although she refuses to obey what Alison said for the first time. But it’s not taken for a long time, because she feels it’s useless.

“Veronica began to cough. She ran a low fever. She fell during an aerobics class and began to pour cold sweat. I yelled at her about seeing a doctor.

“My main problems are yeast, perpetual herpes, and hemorrhoids,” she said. “The first I can take care of at the drugstore, the second they can’t do anything about, and the third I’m not going to some swinish doctor about.”

“Why not if you can get them removed?”

“Hon, don’t be naïve. I’m not going to some clinic on Broadway with a red neon arrow that reads ‘Hemorrhoid Removal—Strictly Confidential,’ where they’ll core me like an apple and I’ll be expelling bloody rags for a week. I know I’m going to die soon, but I’d rather it not be like that.”

“Then get your lungs looked at,” I said sulkily. “Or get something for the fever.”

Eventually, she did see a doctor, but she pronounced him a bastard and wouldn’t go back.” (Gaitskill 2006, 205)

Veronica also feels be ostracized by her family and friends. Above all, that is just Veronica negative suggestion.
Above all, Alison is never hopeless to help Veronica. She never leaves her. Even Alison’s position is so far from where Veronica is, she keeps visiting her to make sure that she is in good condition.

“I flew back to L.A. just before New Year’s Eve. I had dinner with John. I said I felt bad about not seeing Veronica but that it was painful to be around her.” (Gaitskil 2006, 224)

2. Costs

In a relationship, there are needed costs to maintain it. The costs include mental effort (embarrassment and anxiety), expenses, and distance. The nature of costs tends to negative, because it causes the low outcomes in relationship.

In Alison and Veronica friendship, there are also costs. Those are got by either from Alison or Veronica. For example, Alison had ever felt shame for Veronica’s attitude. Veronica is a unique woman with unique performance and attitude too. Below is Alison’s testimony about how unique Veronica is.

“Sometimes I loved how she would make cracks like that. Other times it was just embarrassing. Once we were leaving a movie theater after seeing a pretentious movie. As we walked past a line of people waiting to see the other movie, Veronica said loudly, “They don’t want to see anything challenging. They’d rather see flashdance. Now me, if it’s bizarre, I’m interested.” There was a little strut to her walk and her voice was like a huge feather in a hat. She’s not like that, I’d wanted to say the ticket holders. If you knew her, you’d see. But she was like that. She could be unbelievably obnoxious. In the locker room of the gym we both went to, she was always snapping at somebody for getting too close to her or brushing against her. “If you want me to move, just tell me, but please stop poking me in the bottom,” she’d say to some openmouthed Suzy in a leotard. “Fist fucking went out years ago. Didn’t you know that?” (Gaitskill 2006, 11)
Then when Veronica is tested for HIV and Alison is far from her. She sacrifices her time and job to visit Veronica. The things such as distance, expenses, time, and mental and physic effort are the factors that can be caused the high cost.

So, the cost should be paid with the high rewards as compensation. But Alison never feels suffer when she must pay the high costs for maintaining their friendship with Veronica. Because she is satisfied enough for what she has done for Veronica.

About this, Thibaut and Kelley reveal their opinion in their book;

“If the physical distance separating the members of a dyad is greatly increased and if this adds to their cost of maintaining their relationship, then it would follow that a relationship voluntarily maintained over great distances would be higher, as compared with relationships maintained over short distances.”¹⁵

3. Outcomes

According to analysis of rewards and costs above, the writer concludes Alison and Veronica friendship is a relationship with high value. Because they have high rewards and low costs.

As Thibaut and Kelley state:

“The consequences or outcomes for an individual participant of any interaction or series can be stated, then, in terms of the rewards received and the cost separately; for other purposes it is assumed that they can be combined into a single scale of “goodness” of outcome, with states of reward and low cost being given high-scale values and states of low reward and high cost, low-scale values.”¹⁶

¹⁵*Ibid.* p.44
4. Comparison Level

a. CL (Comparison Level)

Thibaut and Kelley state:

“CL is a standard by which the person evaluates the rewards and costs of a given relationship in terms of what he feels he “deserves.” Relationships the outcomes of which fall above CL would be relatively “satisfying” and attractive to the member; those entailing outcomes that fall below CL would be relatively “unsatisfying” and unattractive. The location of CL on the person’s scale of outcomes will be influenced by all the outcomes known to the member, either but the direct experience or symbolically.”

The standard used of CL by the members of dyad is to evaluate the present relationship is their past relationship.

For Alison, she has many relationships before she makes a relationship with Veronica. First, she has a relationship with Lilet, her roommate is also working for a florist. The friendship with Lilet is depicted stable. There is no conflict and dependence each other, because Lilet is too busy with her boyfriends.

Then, linking to Alison’s past in Paris, she had ever made relationship with Alain. Actually their relationship is more than just a friendship, but it is a love relationship. Alison is Alain’s mistress in Paris. She loves him so much, but she doesn’t get happiness for long time. Then Alain betrays Alison and steals her money, and their relationship is broken. It hurts Alison.

17 Ibid.
Based on the analysis above, the writer concludes there is no good relationship for her satisfaction. So, her CL to evaluate her present relationship with Veronica is not too high.

While for Veronica, it is depicted that she also has many relationship with everybody she met before her relationship with Alison. She is a supple woman who likes to be attractive people. Yet, her relationship with Duncan, her bisexual boyfriend is the special one. Veronica loves Duncan for anything of him. Although she knows Duncan is bisexual and often leaves her for making love with others.

Duncan is the one who holds responsible for HIV that Veronica suffers. And because this disease, their relationship are broken up. But Veronica still loves him until his death.

“Veronica had come back to work after being gone for an entire week. She and Duncan had broken up, too. He had promised, because of the new disease, that he wouldn’t sleep with anyone but her. Two weeks later, he confessed to an affair with a minor soap opera actor and Veronica walked out.

“Are you worried?” I asked.
“I’m worried for him, not me. They say it’s not a woman’s disease.”
“They don’t know that for sure.”
“Hon, it’s been ten years. If I have it, I have it. There’s nothing I can do.”

I thought, Most men who call themselves bisexual are really gay. Duncan had probably had sex with Veronica infrequently and it was true: Everyone acted like women couldn’t get it. But why would Veronica have been involved with a gay man who could not desire her? How had she coded that humiliation so that it looked like something else? Perhaps to her, it had actually been something else. I pictured Veronica and Duncan side by side in a stifling pocket of refinement, dressed up to their necks in stiff Victorian clothing, their lips pursed, their pinkie fingers linked, viewing the world through tiny lorgnettes as they discussed Oscar Wilde and Jean-Paul Belmondo’s dogs. Meanwhile, dirty anal sex
happening somewhere else, between someone else and a Duncan she never had to know.” (Gaitskill 2006, 162)

Veronica’s relationship with Duncan is needed so much costs. We can see this when their relationship is broken up. It means the outcome is not high. So, her CL to evaluate her present relationship with Alison is not too high also.

b. CL \text{ALT} (Comparison Level for Alternative)

Thibaut and Kelley state:

“The alternative relationships with which the present one is compared in evolving the \text{CL ALT} may include other dyads, more complex relationships, or even the alternative of joining no group, of working or being alone.”\textsuperscript{18}

Each of the dyad members are should have alternative relationship outside the main relationship. And this relationship is used as another standard to evaluate the main relationship.

When Alison makes relationship with Veronica, she has many alternative relationships with others. First, she has a relationship with Candy in New York for a six-month.

“When I felt I was skilled enough to get a job, I quit. I moved to Manhattan when a friend of a friend told me about a friend (named Candy) who needed a roommate for a six-month sublet.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 122)

The relationship of Alison and Candy is good enough. But there is no high reward or cost. It is stable and no dependence one another.

\textsuperscript{18} Ibid. p.22
Because their relationship only based on business, Candy is a sublet who shares her room with Alison and she must pay it.

Then Alison meets Jamie in a party and she makes a relationship with him.

“He was very handsome himself. “Hello,” he said, holding the toy dog up to his face. “Would you like to meet Skipper?”
His name was Jamie. His soft voice was desiccated and voluptuous at once. He said he was in his room because it was his roommate’s party and he didn’t expected to be interested in anyone there, and besides, he was shy.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 141-142)

Her relationship with Jamie is not only as friend but sex. This relationship is not special for Alison, because it’s not taken for a long time. Besides, it’s ended caused Alison is jealous when she sees Jamie with a fourteen-year-old girl in his room.

“After Christmas, I went to see Jamie and making found him making model airplanes with a fourteen-year-old girl. She had full deep-colored lips with no set to them yet, dark, snapping eyes, and gold skin intensely refrained in the fiery gold aura around her pupils. Her laughing eyes lightly touched mine on their way up and down my body; she was not as pretty as I was, but it didn’t matter—she giggled behind her hand as Jamie giddily explained that she was his roommate’s friend’s daughter. I looked at him. The black and gold of her pupils saturated his eyes and shone from them, and in their light I was a mortal in someone else’s heaven. I turned and walked away, while Jamie followed me to the door; protesting that he would call me, until I shut the door on his hand and ran down the stairs.

“…What’s really sickening about it is, I’ll bet she really was his roommate’s friend’s daughter. I don’t think he went out to find her. she just appeared and he was charmed. That seems worse to me.”
“It’s awfully blithe,” agreed Veronica. “Do you think he had sex with her?”
Her tone took me aback. I hadn’t even asked myself that question. “Well, yeah. His eyes—yeah, of course. Don’t you think?”
“Not necessarily. The way you describe him, he’d be enchanted just to kiss and cuddle with her.”
“That’s the same thing.”
“Not in my book, hon.” (Gaitskill 2006, 161-162)

Then she meets a man named Patrick, a photographer. Alison also makes relationship with him. Even she becomes his girlfriend.

“He just looked at me a long moment. He had intense eyebrows and hazel eyes with bright changeable steaks glowing emberlike through the solid color. His name was Patrick. He gave the impression of a fast current that you might ride on, laughing.” (Gaitskill 2006, 173-174)

Alison loves Patrick. But their relationship is broken up. Patrick leaves her for another woman.

“A month later, he left me for the black-haired actress, whose shoulder had apparently apologized ahead of time. He told me after a torpid dinner, while I was trying to pull him down onto the bed with me. Frowning, he refused to come.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 188)

Later, Patrick turns back to Alison. But it is just for sex. It is caused Patrick cannot give reward for Alison actually. For example, when Alison talks about Veronica with him, he shows his dislike for Veronica. And it makes Alison sad.

“Once, I arranged for Patrick to come to my apartment rights after a visit with Veronica; he arrived a few minutes early and so the two met.
“That’s the woman who has AIDS?” he asked incredulously.
“That’s outrageous!”
“Why do you say that?”
“Because she looks like somebody’s maiden aunt! How on earth did this happen to her?”
“She is somebody’s maiden aunt, you idiot. Not technically a maiden maybe, but … it doesn’t matter anyway.”
“I know it doesn’t matter. I’m not an idiot. But you know what I mean. She doesn’t look like somebody who’d get AIDS from sleeping with a bisexual guy.” He took my hand. “Alison, you’re so sweet and human and you don’t even know. You weren’t friends with this person before she got sick, were you?”
“She’s not sick now. We were friends. We were good work buddies.”
“But you know, most people, when something like that happens, unless it’s a really tight relationship, they run. That’s when you became her friend.”
“So what? I don’t think I should get a medal for acting decent,” I said.
Later that night, Patrick said, “That woman’s face was so bizarre. Veronica, I mean. She was just vibrating with bizarreness.” (Gaitskill 2006, 198-199)

So, their relationship is broken up once again because of that problem. This alternative relationship is not satisfaction for Alison.

Then she meets John, a photographer she has known for a long time. In the second meeting here, John invites her to work as a model in Los Angeles. Before, John is a photographer from Carson Models who registers Alison to follow model competition to be a professional model in Paris.

“In the fall, I got a job with a photographer named John. He had a small, tense body and a large head that craned around like something on a turret. He asked me if I was from San Francisco. Because I was wary, I said no. Halfway through the shoot, I recognized him.
A night or two later, we meet for coffee in a large café. It was raining; the shadow of a dripping little branch shivered happily on the lit pane. John hunched forward over his thick white cup, warming it with his hands. He said I should go to L.A. There was more joy there, he said, and he had connections to music video work. I said, “I’m not one of those idiots who thinks she can be an actress.” He said, “This isn’t acting.” I said, “I don’t know anybody there.” He smiled and raised a hand off his coffee cup. He had a fleshly, emotional hand. He said, “You know me.” (Gaitskil, 2006, 220)
John loves Alison, but she does not. She just uses their friendship just for working connection. So this relationship is not special enough for Alison.

“I love you, said John’s eyes. I love you, said the set of his lips. I love you for a little street girl who’d take off her clothes if you gave her a glass of wine and told her she could be a model. But that not what I was. Thrilled and trembling, the phantom web filled with surges of traveling light. Yes, he could help me. Of course he could.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 220-221)

All the alternative relationships that Alison has are just ordinary relationships. Those are not special if it is compared to her relationship with Veronica. For Alison, her friendship with Veronica is so special and deep. It is a true friendship that she will not forget in her life.

“There were several others. I lay awake thinking of them, too. I leapt into their arms, laughing, and covered their necks with kisses. I told them secrets and stories from my childhood. I told them I loved them. Now I can’t think why. Perhaps it was simple that, in each case, I was the woman and he was the man. And that was enough.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 219)

“I went home in a taxi that cost one hundred dollars and walked the peopled gray beach behind El Sereno, feeling my aloneness. It did not feel bad. It felt like something hidden was slowly becoming visible. I thought of Joy, Cecilia, Candy, Jamie, Selina, Chris. They fell away from me like empty potato chip bags thrown from a car. Even Patrick. He was good, I thought, but now he’s finished. And I pictured throwing away an empty milk shake container. These thoughts and images scared me. I could not believe I was really like that. I thought of Veronica. Here there was a change. Veronica did not fall away or seem finished. She seemed to go on forever, all the way down into the ground. I asked myself why and was answered immediately. Her pain was so deep that she had become deep, whether she liked it or not. Maybe deeper than any human being can bear to be.” (Gaitskill, 2006: 222)
And not only Alison, but also Veronica has the alternative relationship besides her relationship with Alison. She makes friend for everybody she meets either in parties or office. But they are just a party friend. They cannot be as Alison’s deed for her for being a true friend.

Someone has a positive opinion for Alison and Veronica relationship;

“I’m so glad Veronica finally found a good girlfriend,” said George, a fatherly fellow who walked me home one night. “She really needs some female companionship—especially since the Travesty is finally over. Hopefully for good this time.” (Gaitskill 2006, 168)

5. Evaluation of Alison and Veronica’s Friendship

Based on analysis above the writer reviews that Alison and Veronica has high rewards for their friendship. They give gratification one another to maintain better friendship.

Then for the costs, Alison and Veronica’s friendship has low costs. Sometimes they do something which is embarrassed their partner, but they can stabilize their friendship with understanding each other.

Based on rewards and costs value, Alison and Veronica’s friendship has good outcome. Because it comes from the high rewards and the low costs.

The result of Comparison Level (CL) and Comparison Level for Alternative (CL$_{ALT}$) in Alison and Veronica’s friendship is not higher than outcomes. It means their relationship is the best than other relationships they ever had.
So, finally, the writer concludes the value of Alison and Veronica’s friendship is the tied and interdependence relationship. It is represented by the formula: $\text{Outcome} > CL > CL_{ALT}$. It means satisfactory, stable, and interdependence relationship.
A. Conclusion

“Veronica”, a novel by Mary Gaitskill, tells about friendship between Alison and Veronica as the two main characters in this novel. This research discusses about the friendship analysis. By the referring to discussion, the writer uses Robert Fieldman’s theory to see underlying factors of Alison and Veronica’s friendship; those factors are similarity, reciprocity of liking, positive qualities, physical attractiveness and liking, and physical appearance and social behavior.

Actually, similarity is the first important factor in friendship development. Similarity can be directly reinforcing. For instance, we may have learned through prior experience that people with attitudes similar to our own are associated with rewarding circumstances or situations. If two personal have many similar things, they may be directly building a relationship. Then similarity will be followed by the remaining factors.

There is not only similarity, Alison and Veronica also have some differences. As the writer revealed on the background of study, their differences strengthen their friendship. Then it makes this friendship so special to be analyzed. Wondering how could they stay in their friendship for long time, even until Veronica dies. The answer is because they have high-scale rewards and outcome.
To know the detail, the writer has analyzed Alison and Veronica’s friendship by applying Thibaut and Kelley’s social exchange theory. This theory tells relationship is similar with trade transaction. There are four elements to evaluate friendship in this social exchange theory; rewards, costs, outcomes, and comparison level.

To have a good relationship, we should have high rewards and low costs. The writer proves the more rewards produced is tighter relationship we have. On the contrary, the more costs produced is the more estranged relationship we have. As Alison and Veronica’s friendship, this relationship has good outcomes. The gratification they have done makes high value for rewards. But they have understanding to hold the costs down. So their friendship can always be stabilized.

Comparison level also has important role to evaluate the relationship. If comparison level includes CL and CL_{ALT} lower than outcomes in relationship, the relationship would be more stable, satisfactory and interdependence.

Finally, the writer concludes that some factors such as similarity and reciprocity are needed to build good friendship. Similarity is the fundamental factor that should be owned by the members of dyad. They cannot build friendship without having similar attitude and thinking. They also cannot maintain their friendship without doing reciprocity. It is because similarity and reciprocity can increase the rewards value in relationship.
B. Suggestion

This novel is a psychological story. It is interesting if this novel is analyzed using theories of psychology. The writer suggests the reader and to those who want to analyze this novel by psychological approach, they can use psychoanalysis as the theory. But it is better by applying others theory besides psychology. They can use feminism to analyze the main character. Or they can use structuralism to analyze all intrinsic in this novel. Finally, hope this work can be useful for the readers.


Websites


APPENDICES

Appendix 1

Summary of Novel “Veronica”

As a teenager on the streets of San Francisco, Alison is discovered by a photographer and swept into the world of fashion-modeling in Paris and Rome. When her career crashes and a love affair ends disastrously, she moves to New York City to build a new life. There she meets Veronica — an older wisecracking eccentric with her own ideas about style, a proofreader who comes to work with a personal "office kit" and a plaque that reads "Still Anal After All These Years." Improbably, the two women become friends. Their friendship will survive not only Alison's reentry into the seductive nocturnal realm of fashion, but also Veronica's terrible descent into the then-uncharted realm of AIDS. The memory of their friendship will continue to haunt Alison years later, when she, too, is aging and ill and is questioning the meaning of what she experienced and who she became during that time.
Appendix 2

The Author’s Background

Mary Gaitskill (born November 11, 1954, in Lexington, Kentucky) is an American author of essays, short stories and novels. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker, Harper's Magazine, Esquire, The Best American Short Stories* (1993 and 2006), and *The O. Henry Prize Stories* (1998). She married writer Peter Trachtenberg in 2001. As of 2005, she lived in New York City; Gaitskill has previously lived in Toronto, San Francisco, and Marin County, CA, as well as attending the *University of Michigan* where she earned her B.A. and won a Hopwood Award. Gaitskill has recounted (in her essay "Revelation") becoming a born-again Christian at age 21 but lapsing after six months.

Gaitskill made her book debut in 1988 with the short-story collection *Bad Behavior*, having been trying to publish her work since the age of 23. Her fiction typically is about female characters dealing with their own inner conflicts, and her subject matter matter-of-factly includes many "taboo" subjects such as *prostitution, addiction,* and *sado-masochism*. Gaitskill says that she herself had worked as a stripper and call girl. She showed similar candor discussing her being raped in her essay "On Not Being a Victim" for *Harper's*.

The *film Secretary* (2002) is based on the short story of the same name in *Bad Behavior*, although the two have little in common. She characterized the film as "the *Pretty Woman* version, heavy on the charm (and a little too nice)," but
observed that the "bottom line is that if [a film adaptation is] made you get some money and exposure, and people can make up their minds from there."

The novel *Two Girls, Fat and Thin* follows the childhood and adult lives of Justine Shade (thin) and Dorothy Never (fat). Justine works through her sadomasochistic issues while Dorothy works through her up-and-down commitment to the philosophy of "Definitism" and its founder "Anna Granite" (thinly-veiled satires of *Objectivism* and *Ayn Rand*). When journalist Justine interviews Dorothy for an exposé of Definitism, an unusual relationship begins between the two women.19

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