

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

This study analyzes the novel entitled *A Pretty Little Liars, Flawless* by Sara Shepard. The novel is the second series of four book novels by Sara Shepard, *Pretty Little Liars* based on her experience in Philadelphia. Sara Shepard graduated from New York University and earned an MFA from Brooklyn College. She currently lives in Tucson, Arizona, with her husband. Sara's *Pretty Little Liars* novels were inspired by her experience in Philadelphia's Main Line. It is sort of a hyperbolic version of them. Sara Shepard wrote many stories that are *girls that hide under tables, Elvis impersonators, houses flooding, people who are obsessed with running, doppelgangers, kids who lose their shoes while waiting for the L train and sniper attacks*. It is retrieved from as following:

[http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/30521/Sara\\_Shepard/index.aspx](http://www.harpercollins.com/authors/30521/Sara_Shepard/index.aspx)

She now lives in Tucson, Arizona and spends a lot of time eating chips and cereal straight out of the bag. *Flawless* is book two of four books in the *Pretty Little Liars* series. The story is about four girls from privileged backgrounds are united at the funeral of Ali, a former friend who disappeared a few years ago and has now shown up dead. The girls are all off living their individual lives and playing with fire in different ways.

Spencer is stealing her sister's boyfriend, Aria is in love with a teacher, Emily is possibly gay and Hanna is definitely bulimic. But, they are brought back together when they start receiving anonymous messages from someone who is threatening to expose their deepest secrets. Whoever this mysterious 'A' is who's

threatening to expose their deepest secrets. Whoever this mysterious 'A' is who's sending the notes, it's someone who is close to all four girls, knows everything about them as it happens.

The writer will analyze the main characters through figurative languages in *A Pretty Little Liars: Flawless* by Sara Shepard. Figurative languages are important because we can find the implicit meaning from its languages. There is of course a reason why the author uses figurative languages in her novel. Not all people know what figurative language is and why the author uses figurative languages in her works.

Therefore, the main issue for the writer to be raised is an analysis of main characters through figurative languages in this novel. In analyzing main characters through figurative languages, the writer uses one "tool" to analyze the main problem. The "tool" is figurative languages.

The writer chooses this novel because she is interested in the characters that are portrayed by the author. The author portrays characters in many ways. While in this novel, the writer found that the author portrays these main characters through the application of figurative languages. The author of this novel is the one who tells about the story. It could be found throughout the story in the novel. Most of them are told by the author herself. Therefore, the writer is quite curious to look deep down inside the characters in this novel. It becomes an interesting one for the writer to analyze the main characters through the application of figurative languages.

## **1.2 Problem Formulation**

The problem to be discussed in this study is how are the use of figurative languages to reveal the traits of the main characters in *A Pretty Little Liars: Flawless* by Sara Shepard.

## **1.3 Scope and limitation**

The scope of this thesis is the second novel, title *Flawless (A Pretty Little Liars)* by Sara Shepard.

The writer also limits this study by analyzing figurative languages that refer to the main characters in this novel.

## **1.4 Goal and function**

The goals of this thesis are to analyze the figurative languages that refer to the main characters, to reveal the traits of the main characters by using the application of figurative languages, and to help readers in understanding the main characters from the perspective of the figurative language in this novel.

The functions of this thesis are to give a deep understanding in reading *Flawless* by Sara Shepard, to enlighten our understanding in the main characters through figurative languages, to give another way of understanding the novel not only from the story itself but also from the application of figurative languages, to give the benefit of study for those who are interested in the same field, and to enrich our further understanding in how the narrator reveals the main characters through figurative languages in the novel.

### **1.5 Research Methods**

Qualitative method is used to gather the information and data in accomplishing the thesis. The writer uses qualitative method because this study deals with description analysis and library research.

The writer went to some bookstores in Jakarta shopping center to find the right novel for the thesis. The writer starts to do this thesis on 10<sup>th</sup> of march 2008 until 22<sup>nd</sup> of July 2008 which takes 4 months and 12 days to accomplish the thesis.

The writer went to some libraries to collect the theories and other references that were related to the thesis like in *Kajian Wilayah Amerika* in University of Indonesia, PKBB in Atmajaya University and SALLC in Bina Nusantara University. While writing the thesis, the writer also finds out the theories that were related to the thesis by online research or reading regularly in [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) and [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

The steps taken in doing the thesis are firstly, the writer reads carefully the whole story in the novel. Secondly, the writer has to find out which sentences contained of figurative languages. Thirdly, since the writer only focuses on the analysis of the main characters, the writer has to select the figurative languages that refer to the main characters. Finally yet importantly, the writer has to explore or explain a deep analysis of the collected figurative languages to reveal the characteristics of the main characters in the novel through the application of figurative languages.