



## Infatuation In Spark's *The Notebook*: A Lacanian Reading

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### Abstract

This research is conducted to analyze the infatuation that occurs to the main character, Noah Calhoun in Nicholas Sparks *The Notebook*. The objective of this research is to describe the main character and the conflicts in Sparks's *The Notebook*. It also reveals the main character infatuation and desire based on the concept of psyche using Lacanian psychological approach. This research uses qualitative-descriptive research to answer the question about the infatuation that occurs to the main character and it explains in the form of words. The research results in several findings as follows: 1) the infatuation described in Spark's *The Notebook* can be seen through its intrinsic element especially the character and the conflict. The main character, Noah Calhoun is described as a patient, kind, and faithful man. The conflict and the struggle Noah faces through Allie and her family show how Noah cannot move on from Allie. 2) The infatuation occurs to Noah Calhoun show by the concept of psyche using the Lacanian Psychology approach. Based on Noah's concept of psyche analysis tell that the main character, Noah Calhoun is feeling lacks and always looking for Allie to complete his lacks. The main character's psychological development toward his first love brings out the desire to be loved and have his relationship back. The desire tells that Allie is the one Noah needed in his life.

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## INTRODUCTION

People have been talking about nothing else but love for a long time. This being the case should make one suspicious about the reality behind love. Love aims at being, namely at what slips most in language—being that, a moment later, was going to be, or being that, due precisely to having been, gave rise to surprise. Hence, love, being something which has its effect in the symbolic realm or the realm of language, cannot be confined within certain bounds because its object constantly slips. Love is an interesting object for everybody to be learned because they have ever felt in love. Love is an important feeling for everyone. No one thinks that love is not important. Everyone starved for it and they watched endless numbers of films about happy and unhappy love stories, they listened to hundreds of trashy songs about love and yet hardly anyone thinks that there was anything that needs to be learned about love. Love is an interesting object for everybody to be learned because they have ever felt in love. Love is an important feeling for everyone. Fromm (1956: 1) said that no one thinks that love is not important. Everyone starved for it and they watched endless numbers of films about happy and unhappy love stories, they listened to hundreds of trashy songs about love and yet hardly anyone thinks that there was anything that needs to be learned about love. That is why the researcher wants to makes research about love itself in this research through the work of literature

The researcher will analyze *The Notebook* novel. The main characters of the novel encounter problems and feelings with his first love. The novel tells about Noah who falling in love with Allie. He cannot move on from his first love. In the novel, Noah must struggle to make Allie know about his struggle. Even he knows that Allie already has a fiancé, he still tries to make Allie come back to him and choose him as her love.

*The Notebook* focused on the desire to be loved by someone. This novel tells about the

desire to be loved by someone we love in our life. The combination of ego and sacrifice between Noah and Allie who love each other but have different social status. The novel shows Noah's desire to Allie after he falls in love at first sig in the summer holiday.

this novel has a romantic story with used detail story about the experiences of love. The novel conveys how Noah the major character struggles to make his first love to accept him. Though there are many obstacles faces him, he constantly loyal to Allie. his infatuation of love makes him struggle for her love even though the is many from the first time when Noah and Allie met, Allie's mom did not agree with their relationship, then Allie was engaged to Lon, and the last Allie was suffering from Alzheimer's.

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulates the problem statement of the study is "How is the infatuation described in Spark's *The Notebook*? and "To what extent Infatuation occur to the main character in Spark's *The Notebook*?"

Dealing with this problem, the objectives of the study are to analyze *The Notebook* novel based on the main character and the conflicts using Lacanian Psychological approach.

To help the researcher arranges this paper, she uses some literature review as her references, Farideh (2019) stated the main character of the Nadien Glodimer has desperately retreated into his loneliness. His presence is that of an isolated subject, no more acting in the direction of the social norms, and is unwilling to reproduce the communicative patterns of the society he is at the same time a member of, and isolated from. The man has chosen a self-willed isolation. it can be concluded that the protagonist had been an outstanding figure during the apartheid dictatorship and run a busy life, with all the social entanglements associated with power. Alienation is what he seeks – to alienate himself from the tumult that had taken place in his life, and in short, form his own past. Applying the Lacanian psychoanalytic principles in regard with human unconscious, the three major structures of Imaginary, Symbolic and the Real as the

controlling forces of our lives and desires and finally the distinction between the “reality” and “the Real” can enhance the reader’s understanding of the reasons behind this self-willed change. Maleki, H., & Sadjati, B. (2017) mentioned the characters in the novel *Atonement* need the recognition of the others; their subjectivity is constructed through their social interaction with the others. Briony and Cecilia become the subjects by the views and the perspectives of the others especially of their parents. It should be kept in mind that, this Other is not a concrete individual, although it may be incarnated in one (father or mother, for instance), but stands for a larger social order. Mere subjection to the dominant regulation of the society turns the characters to lack of being entities. It means that it is the outside world that constructs their identity and therefore their subjectivity. Accordingly, the subjectivity of the characters of *Atonement* is in the process of ever changing and becoming.

Taherifard (2017) notes that *Marsha Norman, Night Mother* is a play written with a mindset to represent feminist mentality, and is considered prominent in the history of 20th century drama. The understanding of the play is enriched by a Lacanian concept of identity. Lacan’s psychoanalysis is useful in understanding the narrative of female characters and female voices. The controversy regarding the feminist aspects of Lacan’s philosophy is still going on, as mentioned in theories. While many feminists find the ideas of Lacan sexist and phallogocentric, it was mentioned in this paper that many other feminist thinkers such as Kristeva, Irigaray, and Cixous are influenced by Lacan, and they have presented their post-feminist ideas through an understanding of his psychoanalysis.

Niazi (2013) stated the novel *Lolita* novel combines the elements of ambiguity, uncertainty, and romance with its characters’ desires, repressive thoughts and expressed personalities. In other words, psychological rather than external forces are the prime movers in this world where individuals could be sure neither of others nor themselves. *Lolita* drowns into what Lacan

called the Imaginary Order, the world of unity, immediate possession, and absolute control, in order to evade the Symbolic Order, a predefined, highly meditated relations, since she wishes to control rather than to be controlled, which is the essence of the Symbolic Order. However, while indulging herself into the world of infinite possibilities and taking advantage of all its accompanying euphoria, *Lolita* perceives its pernicious effects on her views, not because of her unique personality or thinking but due to what Lacan called “Name-of-the-Father”, some sets of given principles, rules and regulations, and broadly speaking, ideologies foisted upon her to make her think, wish, look, and expect in a way that she is taught and required to be or to think.

Moosavinia (2017) discussed about the madness of the main character of the short story —*Diary of a Madman* written by Nikolai Gogol in which he meticulously illustrates how a Madman’s mind operates. A pivotal concept to be dealt with is the power of the unconscious, which according to Sigmund Freud has a considerable influence on the psychic system. Freud maintains that if the Ego is not able to keep a balance between its demands and the unconscious desires, Psychosis happens. In Madman’s case, it is Schizophrenia. The madman shows abnormalities like hallucinations, delusions, disorganized speech and disorganized behavior which are all symptoms of schizophrenia. Jacques Lacan depicts psyche’s development in three orders or phases: The Real, the Imaginary, and the Symbolic. the focus on the research is the imaginary order as the madman shows signs of being stuck in this phase without any positive movement toward the next, the symbolic. Madman shows symptoms of Schizophrenia. Delusions, Hallucinations, Disorganized Speech and Disorganized Behavior are four symptoms of this disorder that can be discerned in a madman.

Most of the previous studies above mainly discussed the same topic but there are also some differences found in their research. The differences can be seen in the literary works, the topic of the research, the subject of the research,

the methodology. In this study, the researcher will analyze the infatuation in Sparks *The Notebook: A Lacanian Reading*. Therefore, the researcher will use the Lacanian theory in this research.

## METHODS

The research design is the conceptual structure within which research is conducted; it constitutes the blueprint for the collection, measurement and analysis of data. As such the design includes an outline of what the researcher will do from writing the hypothesis and its operational implications to the final analysis of data (Kothari, 2004). In conducting the study, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive research design. Qualitative research is a situated activity that locates the observer in the world. It consists of an asset of interpretive, material practices that make the world visible. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of, or interpret, phenomena in terms of the meaning people bring to them. The type of study is library research. The data used on the research have been collected with the library research. It purposes to analyze the novel using Lacanian psychological approach. Then, the type of data and the data source are divided into two. Firstly, the Primary data source is called the main data obtained from all the words, phrases and sentences in the novel itself, Sparks' *The Notebook*. Secondly, secondary Data Source, it is the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism, essays, articles, and journal and also taken from the internet or the other sources related to the novel. And the technique of collecting data in this research are as follows: 1) reading the novel repeatedly and understanding the content, 2) reading some other resources related to the novel, 3) giving marks to particular parts in the novel, which are considered important for the analysis, 4) taking notes for essential parts both in primary and secondary data sources, 5) classifying the data into categories and developing them into a

good unity. The last is the technique of the data analysis is a descriptive analysis technique

Later on, Lacanian Theory would attempt to uncover how a text symbolically represents elements of the imaginary order, the symbolic order, and the real (Bressler, 1999). By identifying the symbolic representation of these orders within the text, the infatuation of the main character would be discovered. Afterward, the kinds of infatuation occurred to the main character as the second research problem was found after analyzing the main character infatuation in the novel using Lacanian theory.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

"The Notebook" is the novel written by Nicholas Sparks which tells about the main character's love for someone he can never get. The main character who is Noah Calhoun describes as a patient, faithful, and kind man. He believes in the miracle. He is very optimistic and loyal to Allie. As a poor man, Noah must face the conflict between their relationship and Allie's parents. The first conflicts are Noah against his feeling toward Allie which can never be forgotten. The second conflict that Noah faces is a kind of external conflict. The conflicts are that they are not allowed to be in a relationship with Allie's parents. Coming from a poor family, Noah has to accept the fact that he has to break up with Allie because they have different social status. Besides breaking up with Allie Noah, Allie also gets engaged with another man. The next conflict that Noah faces is Allie's disease which is Alzheimer's. Allie cannot remember Noah and all the memories about him. In facing the conflict, Noah tries to show his feelings to Allie by sending letters for three years even without reply. This is done by Noah to get Allie's love back. After meeting Allie and knowing that Allie has Alzheimer's, Noah tries to get Allie's memories back by reading the *Notebook* novel every day in the hope that Allie will remember it again.

### **Infatuation Described In Spark's *The Notebook***

### ***The General Description of Main Character***

Noah is described as a kind man. He is also a good person in this novel. It can be seen through his speech, and characters as seen by others. Noah is a man from a poor family that has good behavior. Although his mother passed away when he is a child, he grows like a good man because of a good education from his father. He is kind to every person he meets. Noah even lets Allie choose Lon or himself for being his husband. He never forces Allie to make any decision, even though he knows that Allie's decision can hurt him. Noah's kindness can be seen when he gives freedom to Allie to choose the man her family chooses for her or Noah, a man who loves her with all his heart. At the beginning of the story, the novel presents Noah's statement which shows that he is a patient person. Patient means the ability to wait something out or endure something tedious, without getting riled up. Even when he should be waiting forever or dealing with something painfully slow or trying to teach someone how to do something and they just do not get it, the patience of Noah can be seen from whenever he speaks and having a conversation with others. Noah is a patient man. He is never getting tired to take care of Allie. His affection never ends for Allie, the woman he loves. One day when Allie gets her disease, he reads the notebook all the time in order to recall Allie's memory, although Allie always makes him disappointed, he always there for Allie.

Noah Calhoun is also a faithful man who really loves and is loyal to Allie. Faithful itself is the concept of unfailingly remaining loyal to someone or something, and putting that loyalty into consistent practice regardless of extenuating circumstances. The faithfulness of Noah can be seen through conversation and speech by others. Noah falls in love with Allie at first sight. He never meets a girl like Allie. She has a good appearance and she is also a kind girl. Noah loves her very much, even though he knows that Allie's parents do not allow their relationship. He always sends so many letters for Allie when Allie goes back to her city. He never gives up to struggle for his love. He still waits for Allie. He never wants

to find another girlfriend as he does for Allie. He ever tries to find another girl, but he cannot.

### ***Conflict Experienced by Noah as the Main Character in The Notebook***

The major internal conflict of Noah is he against his feelings for Allie. His infatuation for Allie made him cannot forget her. It is more than ten years when he falling in love with Allie, but he cannot move on from Allie. Noah's passion for Allie makes him get a dilemma for more than ten years. His dilemma against his passion for Allie also appeared when Allie came to see him after ten years they separate. Noah knows that Allie is engaged and will marry soon, but he still loves her. He knows that telling his feeling to Allie is not a good choice, but he cannot get rid of his passion for Allie. The situation made Noah more dilemmas with his feeling. His love for Allie makes him save more hesitation for himself.

Noah's conflict against Allie's family happens at the beginning of the story in the novel when Noah Calhoun and Allie Nelson meet for the first in the summertime after their graduation. They fall in love at first sight. They try to get closer to each other. Finally, they decided to have a relationship. However, their relationship becomes a problem for Allie's parents. They get problems from Allie's family. Allie's parents do not allow their relationships. They do not like Noah because he comes from a poor family. It makes them different. They have different social status and it makes Allie's family do not allow their relationship. They have different social status. Noah must face disagreement with Allie's parents because of his family. It is difficult for Noah because he is an ordinary man and Allie from the high-class family.

Allie's family does not agree if their daughter has a relationship with Noah. They had a high social status, and Noah is too poor to compare with them. Allie has a great future because they are rich and their family wants her to obey what they want. Allie's father wants her to obey what he wants. Allie should marry a man with a high-class social status. Noah is not the one who has a high-class social status. He is from

a poor family. They are different and never be the same even Noah tries to persuade Allie's family. Allie's father reassures that Noah is just temporary love for Allie and she will forget Noah. The differentiation of their social status makes Noah face the reality that he must give up for his love and loss Allie.

The second conflict presents when Allie gets a disease, called Alzheimer's. It means Allie forget her memories about herself and also Noah. Here, Noah thinks that Allie's disease can make Allie and Noah separate. He does not know what to do, Noah always thinks that Allie will forget about him and also his love for her. Allie does not recognize him and it makes Noah worry to lose her again. Allie begins to forget her memory about her life and also the people surround her, especially Noah. Allie's memories about their love journey with Noah also forgotten by Allie. It makes Allie and Noah very shocked. Noah does not believe that Allie gets the early stages of Alzheimer's. Noah thinks that it can destroy everything that they build especially their love.

#### ***Noah's Action in Dealing with His Conflicts***

As mentioned in the previous explanation, Noah has many conflicts dealing with his infatuation to Allie. Even though he must face many conflicts, he still struggles to show his passion for Allie. Noah's action toward his infatuation will divide into two parts based on his conflict with Allie and Allie's disease.

Struggle for His Feeling is shows after Allie's parents do not allow Noah's relationship with their daughter, Allie. They do not like Noah because he is from a poor family, then Allie from a high-class family. Also, the fact that Allie left him without news and engaged with another man is hurt him. He still tries to get Allie back. Although it is difficult for Noah, he still tries to make Allie always beside him. Noah's action to struggle with his feeling shows since the day Allie left him. Noah comes to Allie's house, but Allie already moves. Then, he called her father firm even he knows he will be refused by her father, but he still did it. His bravery shows that he is struggling hard to show his passion for Allie.

Noah struggles hard to meet Allie and make Allie know about his real feeling. He comes from New Bern to Winston Salem just to meet Allie. All of the struggles Noah do are to shows his feeling and desire to Allie. Noah's big desire makes him do everything to meet and prove his feeling to Allie.

Noah's struggle toward his feeling to Allie also shows when he is buying an old house as they both dream to spend their life together. The house which makes Noah and Allie lost their virginity. An old house where Noah promise to fix it for Allie.

Read The Notebook to Recall Allie's memory. The day when Allie got Alzheimer's, Noah shocks and cannot says anything. He is scared if Allie will forget about him. What Noah worries really happens. Allie forget all of the memories about her life, also his memories about Noah. She does not recognize Noah and though he is a strange person. However, this problem does not make Noah give up to Allie. Noah takes action to make Allie remember him again. He read the story about their love journey which Noah write and it is called The Notebook. Noah read the story about their love journey for Allie every day. Even every day too Allie does not recognize him, but Noah never gives up. Noah still reads the notebook for Allie while waiting for a miracle comes and Allie recognizes him again. Even though many people against his struggle to make Allie remember him, Noah still does it every day. Noah has his own ways to make Allie recover her memories. Read the notebook every day give him spirit and hope that one day Allie will remember him.

#### **To What Extent Does Infatuation Occur to the Main Character in Spark's The Notebook**

Infatuation is the state of being carried away by an unreasoned desire, usually towards another person for whom one has developed strong romantic or platonic feelings. Lacan said that what drives human life is desire. Humans from birth to break away from existential unity in the real world always experience lacks, humans are considered forever lack. The feeling of forever lacks always haunting human life. Infatuation

experienced by Noah is based on his feeling after falling in love with Allie. Noah feels that Allie is the only person who can make him feel perfect without lacks. This assumption makes Noah have the desire to have Allie thoroughly. The infatuation that occurs to the main characters will reveal using Lacanian psychology in this subchapter.

### *The Main Character's Concept of Psyche*

Jacques Lacan's psychoanalytic theory is the development of Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory. If Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis explains how one's mental condition is, Lacan's psychoanalysis explains more about the process of one's psychiatric development. Jacques Lacan's psychoanalytic theory includes three pillars, including the real, the Imaginary, the Symbolic. In this discussion, the infatuation that occurs in the main character is explained through the concept of psychology which includes the three pillars of the Lacan theory. This point will discuss Noah Calhoun's concept of psyche. The concept of psyche that occurs in Noah Calhoun is based on his feelings for Allie that cannot be forgotten. Noah feels that Allie is the only person who can get rid of his lack. This is seen from Noah's desire to re-establish a relationship with Allie to eliminate his emptiness.

#### 1) The real phase

The real phase is a mental development experienced by humans in all stages that are sufficient without shortages because everything is fulfilled. Like what Lacan said that the real is the phase of need. Driven by Need, people need food, comfort/safety, love, or to be changed, etc. all of which can be satisfied by an object. Based on the real Noah feels complete when he in a relationship with Allie. The feeling of completeness experienced by Noah shows that he feels all his needs are being fulfilled. There are no shortcomings experienced by Noah as long as he is with Allie. The feeling of love Noah has for Allie shows that he is experiencing the real phase. The condition where there is no sense of lack or sadness feels. All the needs that Noah needs,

especially in terms of love and attention are received from Allie. Noah feels comfortable with Allie. When people get in a relationship and they feel comfortable, they tend to bring their couple to a place that is very close to him, such as home, favorite eating places, or places he dreams of. It is also done by Noah, he brings Allie to the house that Noah always visits and dreams of buying the house.

An ordinary beginning, something that would have been forgotten had it been anyone but her. But as he shook her hand and met those striking emerald eyes, he knew before he'd taken his next breath that she was the one he could spend the rest of his life looking for but never find again. She seemed that good, that perfect (Sparks, 1996: 7).

The shows that Noah falls in love with Allie when they meet for the first time. At that moment Noah feels Allie is the person he has been looking for to fill the emptiness of his life. Allie is a person whom Noah thinks can give the attention he wants. Noah feels complete and everything he needed is fulfilled when he is with Allie. Noah often meets with many women but only Allie could make him feel in love even at first sight. Allie is the perfect woman in Noah's perspective. Noah feels complete because he finds someone who can fulfill all his needs, especially in terms of love and comfort. Here Noah's shortcomings disappear because he finds someone who can fill his living space.

#### 2) The Imaginary

In this phase, the main character experiences separation from the real. Here Noah begins to experiences lacks due to separation from someone who met his needs. This is a state where Noah realizes his true self without Allie. the reason Noah breaks up with Allie because Allie's parents do not approve of their relationship. The reason Noah breaks up with Allie's parents because Noah comes from a poor family, making Allie and Noah have to break up. Soon Allie returns to his hometown and continues her life. After separating from Allie, Noah begins to experiences lacks in his life. Noah always thinks Allie is a mirror of him. For Noah Allie is himself. This situation makes Noah wants

to return to Allie because Allie is considered as part of the personality that fills Noah's life. Noah feels that he is not himself after separating from Allie.

Noah, too, was sifting through his thoughts. As he rocked, he remembered the thousands of empty nights he had spent since they'd last seen each other. Seeing her again brought all those feelings to the surface, and he found it impossible to press them back down. He knew then he wanted to make love to her again and to have her love in return. It was what he needed most in the world (Sparks, 1996: 45).

The quotation above shows that Noah lost Allie's figure as someone who fulfilled the real phase. Here Noah is portrayed as someone who feels lonely and lost after separating from Allie. Allie is someone Noah needed the most. Allie is portrayed as someone whom Noah loves very much. Allie is someone who gives Noah comfort so she does not feel deprived when with Allie. The fact that Noah has to break up with Allie makes him feel lacks in his life. Here Noah who feels lose cannot stop thinking and hopes to be back with Allie.

Noah is trying to forget Allie and trying to have other relationships with another woman. However, none of the women Noah dated are able to make him feel perfect like what Allie does. For Noah, only Allie could fill his whole life and make him perfect. This shows that Noah really feels lost after separating from Allie who fulfills all of his needs, especially in love.

### 3) The symbolic phase

The symbolic phase is a desire to return to the real phases in which there is no lack but all are fulfilled. Noah experienced the symbolic phase because his desire to back to the real phase in his life will never back again. There is a lack which makes Noah's desire to back to the real phase cannot be fulfilled again. Noah needs is to get a relationship with Allie again. However, his desire to get Allie back cannot be fulfilled because Allie already engaged with another man. Noah wants to get a relationship with Allie because of his feeling for Allie. Noah who feels complete with Allie feeling lacks after separates with Allie. Noah's desire is to get back to the time when he

feels complete but it cannot happen again because Allie already has her own life without Noah. However, Noah does not happy in his life because his love already moves on from him. Meanwhile, Noah's feeling toward Allie makes him want to get a relationship with Allie again.

He smiled, remembering the way she had been. Fiery, spontaneous, passionate—as he imagined most artists to be. And she was definitely that. Artistic talent like hers was a gift. He remembered seeing some paintings in the museums in New York and thinking that her work was just as good (Sparks, 1996: 33).

The Quotation describes the symbolic phase experienced by Noah who wants to go back in the time he and Allie still going together. Allie's paint makes Noah remember Allie again and makes his desire to get his complete life back again. The painting makes Noah remember the real phase when he still has a relationship with Allie. However, Noah cannot get a relationship with Allie again because Allie already engaged with another man. His desire to back to Allie again which cannot be fulfilled makes him experienced the symbolic phase. Even his desire to Allie never end, it does not mean he cannot get Allie back because she is engaged. Noah's desire to be back to the time when he feels Lacks makes him thinking about everything related to Allie. There is Allie's painting which Noah always sees to get the feeling of coming back to the phases when he and Allie going together.

From Noah's concept of psyche that occurs to Noah can bee see by his desire to Allie. Desire is a human desire that occurs continuously throughout his life that was never satisfied. Desire arises from dissatisfaction and encouragement someone to bring up another request. Although the forms of passion are very complex, based on Lacan's view, there are at least two main forms of desire, namely the desire to be and the desire to have.

### 4) The desire to be

The desire to be is the desire that manifests himself in the form of love and identification. In this case, desire becomes the object of love, admiration, idealization, worship, appreciation

by the other (Bracher, 2009). Desire to be is the desire to be the object of love, admiration, idealization, worship, appreciation from others. Noah's desire to be in love by Allie shows in all of his attitude and treatment towards Allie. Noah shows that he deserves to be loved by Allie again to give good treatments to Allie. Noah tries to be a kind and friendly person to show that he deserves to be loved by Allie. His desire to be loved by Allie made him do everything he can to make him look better than Allie's fiancé, Lon. Noah's desire to be loved by Allie is caused by his deep love and infatuation.

If you're happy, Allie, and you love him. I won't try to stop you from going back to him. But if there's a part of you that isn't sure, then don't do it. This isn't the kind of thing you go into halfway." (Sparks, 1996: 28).

The quotation shows that Noah's desire to be loved by Allie describes when he gives advice to Allie. He asks to think whether she really loves Lon. His desire to be loved by Allie is shown by making Allie think whether he should choose Noah or Lon. Noah said it with a good and mature attitude. In this case Noah's desire to be loved by Allie is he wants to be the one who Allie can spend her life together not Lon. In this condition, Noah tries to make Allie think twice about her decision. The way Noah does that is to make Allie choose him at the end of her decision. Meanwhile, Noah tries to give advice, it is implicit that Noah wants Allie to change his decision to choose Noah to be her love.

##### 5) Desire to have

Desire to have is a desire to have the object (matter, things, people, power, position) as a way to fulfill Self-satisfaction. It is a way to get pleasure which contradicts the subject and others. So, the desire to have is the desire to have object including material, things, people, power, position, etc. Noah's desire is to keep Allie beside him. However, Noah cannot force Allie to stay with him but his desire to have Allie is still in his mind. He will never forget Allie and all of their relationships. Noah's sincerity to face Allie's leaving is the symbol of Noah's desire to have Allie. The reality that he will never forget Allie

and his feeling toward Allie is the way Noah shows his desire to have Allie back with him. Noah expressed his desire to have Allie indirectly by his sincerity words. Noah has the desire to have Allie in his life. Allie must decide whether she must back to her fiancé and get married or she must stay with Noah and break what her parents want. In that condition.

"You can. Allie ... I can't live my life happily knowing you're with someone else. That would kill a part of me. What we have is rare. It's too beautiful to just throw it away" (Sparks, 1996: 80).

Here Noah's desire to have Allie shows in the quotation above when he forces Allie to choose him. Noah cannot live happily if he knows Allie marry with someone else. What Noah needs in his life is just Allie, it is because Noah just loves Allie. The desire to have Allie described by Noah's feelings to Allie. Losing Allie will make Noah suffer and he does not want it to happen. So, here Noah's desire to have Allie is described by all of what he said to Allie about his feeling. His life which feels comfortable and complete because of Allie.

#### **The Effect of the Main Character Infatuation as Described in Sparks' *The Notebook***

Infatuation occurs to Noah give him feeling depressed. His feeling to Allie which cannot be fulfill make him feeling down. The reality that he never gets Allie back in his life makes him suffer and feeling lack every day. Noah's passion toward Allie makes him must face nasty reality which brings him to depression life. Noah is always thinking about Allie every time he goes. It shows his depression because when he walks every time in front of Fort Totten Park he always remembers Allie. When he sits on the porch every night, he will see Allie beside him. All of the memory about Allie makes Noah experiences depression in his life. Depression marked with feeling sad and worried. This feeling is the feeling that Noah feels when he remembers Allie. Whenever Noah looks at the place, he always remembers Allie and it makes him feel depressed again and again. Everywhere he

walked Allie's memory will haunt him and it makes him suffer and depressed again.

The main character's loneliness, Infatuation occurs to Noah also give lonely effect to him. The effects as the result of his infatuation to Allie make him feel lonely every time. Noah can never forget Allie. It makes him feels lonely in is life. He cannot find another woman who makes him interest. Noah loves to Allie make him cannot move on from Allie. Allie's image as perfect love makes him being lonely. Noah is being lonely after he separates from Allie. Noah tries to move on from Allie but he never succeeded to forget Allie because he always remembers Allie every time and everywhere. The reality that Noah cannot accept another woman to change Alie's position in his heart makes him being lonely in a long time. However, Noah already knows that it is his fault for always remembering Allie moreover he knows Allie already engaged. He just remembers when he spends summertime with Allie in New Bern. When he tries to forget Allie, in the fact he can never do that and then he keeps a distance from a lot of women. He tries to close with other women, but he cannot. He never feels the same as when he with Allie. He never feels love again. He feels lonely because he never forgets Allie. The quotation above described that Noah feels lonely. Noah still feels lonely even after they separate for more than ten years. He sometimes cries when remembering about Allie. Emptiness became his friend since Allie moved and engaged. His heart always filled by emptiness and loneliness.

## CONCLUSION

Infatuation as described in Sparks' The Notebook, can be seen through its intrinsic elements especially the main character, and the conflicts. The main character who is Noah Calhoun describes as a patient, faithful, and kind man. He believes in the miracle. He is very optimistic and loyal to Allie. As a poor man, Noah must face the conflict between their relationship and Allie's parents. The first conflicts are Noah against his feeling toward Allie which

can never be forgotten. The second conflict that Noah faces is a kind of external conflict. The conflicts are that they are not allowed to be in a relationship with Allie's parents. Coming from a poor family, Noah has to accept the fact that he has to break up with Allie because they have different social status. besides breaking up with Allie Noah, Allie also gets engaged with another man. The next conflict that Noah faces is Allie's disease which is Alzheimer's. Allie cannot remember Noah and all the memories about him. in facing the conflict, Noah tries to show his feelings to Allie by sending letters for three years even without reply. This is done by Noah to get Allie's love back. After meeting Allie and knowing that Allie has Alzheimer's, Noah tries to get Allie's memories back by reading the Notebook novel every day in the hope that Allie will remember it again.

Infatuation occurs to the main character in Sparks the notebook can be seen by Noah's concept of psyche which includes the real, the imaginary, and the symbolic. Noah's concept of psyche shows that Noah has lacked in himself and wants to re-establish a love relationship with Allie as before. Noah who feels complete when he gets a relationship with Allie cannot accept the reality that they are already break up and Allie loves another man. This condition makes Noah feel lack and wants to get a relationship again with Allie to make him feel complete again, even it is impossible to get Allie back. The extent of infatuation occurs to Noah shows by his desire to be the one and only Allie loves and also the desire to have Allie back in his life. Noah shows his attention to Allie to shows his desire to be the one and only man who proper to love by Allie. the desire to have Allie's back also shows by his ways to influence Allie to choose him than her fiancé. Noah's big desire gives him some effects. The first effect is depression. Noah is depressed because she cannot forget Allie after breaking up. The desire to get Allie back that could not be fulfilled also makes Noah depressed. The second effect is loneliness, Noah's love for Allie which is irreplaceable makes Noah feels lonely all the

time. Noah who cannot forget Allie brings him to faces the loneliness in his life.

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