



---

## ANALYSIS OF LOVE IN “THE BROKEN WINGS” BY KAHLIL GIBRAN

Tira Nur Fitria

*Institut Teknologi Bisnis AAS Indonesia*

---

### ARTICLE INFO

*Article history:*

Received: 4 Mar 2021

Accepted: 9 May 2022

Published: 24 June 2022

*Keywords:* Movie,  
love, novel, The  
Broken Wings, Kahlil  
Gibran

---

### ABSTRACT

Love is a priceless gift and without it, life feels empty. Therefore, keep love with loyalty, and honesty, and be able to keep our hearts from being stained just for self-satisfaction which will regret in the end. This expression may as the basis for the writing of the novel "Broken Wings" by Khalil Gibran, a poet, philosopher, and painter from Lebanon. This work is considered very beautiful and tells the story of the fate that broke the wings of Gibran's love for a Lebanese girl named Selma Karamy. The objective of this research is to describe the meaning of love found in "The Broken Wings" by Kahlil Gibran. Love is the main theme in this story. The love in it is not only for Gibran to Selma Karamy, but also Selma Karamy's affection for his father is a form of love. Selma Karamy, who is starting to grow up, feels restless about her father. He realized that she was a woman. "Indeed, the tears of an old man are more meaningful than the tears of youth". Love is not only for lovers, a child can give love to his parents. But, in the novel Wings of Broken, the love of a couple is highlighted. With his extraordinary sensitivity, Kahlil Gibran weaves a love story about a beautiful and passionate couple. The strength of this novel lies in its poetic lyrics which are full of meaning and the criticism it conveys. Love is interpreted as an attempt to love, do not have to have a loved one. Because in the end all will be returned to God, the Owner of Love. In this case, Gibran sees Selma as a ray of light that leads him to understand the meaning of life. Selma led Gibran to enter willingly into the paradise of pure love and truth with her sweetness and love. In The Broken Wings, Gibran uses the story of Adam and Eve to illustrate his story. When the love has died (or forced to die), what remains is only a row of sorrow that resides on the tomb. Leaving sweet dreams and painful memories behind. Just like a broken wing, unable to flap anymore.

NNNNNJ

---

\* Corresponding Author.

E-Mail Address: [tiranurfitria@gmail.com](mailto:tiranurfitria@gmail.com) (Tira Nur Fitria)

ISSN: 2597-7385 (Online) - ISLLAC Journal Of Intensive Studies On Language, Literature, Art, And Culture Is Licensed Under Creative Commons Attribution-Sharealike 4.0 International License ([Http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)).

## Introduction

Love is a feeling of heart, love is wonderful art (Bradley, 2019). Everyone must have experienced what is called falling in love. Love is a natural phenomenon and also about feeling (Okorundu, 2008). Love is a person's deepest longing. The love that exists in humans is only a reflection of God's love that existed long before humans were created. Love is the most beautiful gift from God which is natural for humans. The attraction between the opposite sex with a sense of affection which eventually grows the seeds of love becomes something that is natural for everyone who is in love. The attraction between the opposite sex with a sense of affection which eventually grows the seeds of love becomes something that is natural for everyone who is in love. Feelings of sympathy for someone cannot be separated from the emotions or feelings, attention, and a deep sense of affection for the person he loves. The expression of love that shows sympathy brings the people involved in love to be lulled into it. However, love for someone will not necessarily be returned to the person who loves.

In the early stages of growth, humans tend to be passive and more accepting, namely love from their parents, for example, father or mother. Love for a family will encourage critical thinking, religious character, and a high sense of caring. Then in the next period, they begin to understand its meaning and value, although in a narrow sense, all of which are related to the opposite sex. After growing up and experiencing maturity, the meaning of love can be deeper and wider and can even tend to be spiritual. Therefore, many the people who do something to get their love e to captivate the hearts of those they love. Not all people who fall in love express their love to others, there are cases where they only pin their love by praying for the loved one.

Love is a problem that often fills the destiny of human life. That's why perhaps the conversation about love becomes a topic that is often tempting. Likewise in literary works, discussing the problem of love is a theme that never gets old. Both when reading works written in the past, as well as recent ones. This is certainly not surprising, because the issue of love is a very universal thing. Where every living being can feel it. Love has an important role in human life because love is very influential for those who only love. Love is extraordinary and can change everything. Love is an active activity that humans do to other objects, namely in the form of self-sacrifice, empathy, attention, giving love, help, obeying the word, following obediently, and wanting to do whatever the object wants. So from that, it can be concluded that love is something abstract, this is because love often becomes like shackles of every human being, where love can present to anyone, anytime and anywhere regardless of status as well as differences.

Literature is a form of creative and productive activity in producing a work that has value and taste. Literary works are other than works of art that are born from the creative process and convey messages, too as a work that shows a high sensitivity to life human. This human sensitivity is related to a feeling of love in humans so art is one of the media which can captivate hearts and feelings. Literature is a representation of the soul through language. Through the symbol then literature came into existence. The symbol embodies the soul so that literature is interesting (Pratama, 2018).

The theme of the elements that must exist in a literary work because the theme is the thought of an author, through the theme an author tells what is contained in a literary work. As the theme can also be a source and inspiration for literary works. Therefore, a love theme or even an expression of love can be found or shown in a literary work, such as a film, poetry, or novel. The theme is something that is the basis of the story, something that animates the story, or something that is the main problem in the story. The theme is the soul of all parts of the story. Therefore, the theme becomes the basis for the development of the whole story. Themes in many ways "bind" the presence or absence of certain events, conflicts, and situations, including various other intrinsic elements. The author will determine the theme first before writing a novel

and convey it directly in the story or indirectly so that it must be interpreted by the reader himself. It is this theme that then makes a novel story have its meaning.

One of the literary works that have the theme of love is *The Broken Wings* written by Kahlil Gibran. Kahlil Gibran is a famous poet from Lebanon (Gibran, 2018). He was raised in a Catholic family. He lives a social and economic life that is quite complicated. The environment around him has justice problems that made him grow up in America. After being a teenager, he wrote many works with nuances of reality, imagination, love, criticism, and his personal life. He wrote his works in Arabic and English.

*Broken Wings* was first published in Arabic entitled *Al-Ajnihah Al-Mutakassirah* in 1922. The English version is *The Broken Wings* (Allen et al., 2009; Bushrui & Jenkins, 2014; Gibran, 2021; Sollars & Jennings, 2008; Waterfield, 2015). *The Broken Wing* is a phenomenal novel. This novel tells the love story of a human. His love is so deep for the people he loves. This novel is a story from the reflection of life experienced by the poet himself. He wrote it in a unique and spontaneous style. *Broken Wings* is the third most popular poet of all time in the world. A simple love story of a couple that ends tragically. In addition to the very touching eulogy of love, Gibran also tucked away various problems related to the fate of women, oppression, injustice, and corruption that occurred in Lebanon. Gibran's agility to create metaphors in this simple story makes his work always read and appreciated throughout the ages.

*The Broken Wings* is Kahlil Gibran's bitter past, he loves a very perfect girl, his daughter, and his father's best friend (Nursida, 2018). But fate said otherwise, the girl, Selma, was married to a greedy, and cruel young man named Mansour Bey Ghalib. Selma is suffering greatly from her marriage but she is still in a secret relationship with her lover Gibran. Gibran also suffered greatly with Selma's marriage, after five years of marriage Selma died, giving birth to his first child. Since then, Gibran has lost his zest for life and has lived his life in sadness. In this novel, the author places himself as the main character. More interestingly, all the characters in it use real names and people from the past, including his girlfriend, Selma Karamy.

There are several previous studies related to the meaning of love. First, Chaidir (2007) states that love contained in the film "Love Actually" prioritizes the form of romantic love as the main theme of love where attention to the subject we love becomes very important when we have to face sacrifice as a consequence of the intimacy that occurs in a romantic love affair. In family love, there is no consequence in love. As the type of love that is considered the most sacred, understanding the subject we love is a must. Second, Sutrisno (2015) states that various signs and visual meanings related to love in the animated film *Frozen*. Love relationships are not only shown between male and female love partners but also with other love partners such as human brothers and sisters and animals and animals, humans and imaginative creatures and imaginative creatures and animals. Love in the eros category often appears in this animated film, but love in the philia category determines the solution to the problem. Through this research, it can be found the meaning of love is interpreted more broadly. Third, Setiawati & Rohanda (2020) reveal that the concepts of love in the novel *Al-Laun Al-Ākhar* by Ihsan Abdul Quds are about love and personality, love and knowing each other, and love and equality. Fourth, Abdiani & Ahmadi (2020) state that in Novel *Seumpama Matahari* shows the relationship between Asrul and Putri has components of intimacy, desire, decision, and commitment. From these three components, a concept of the type of love is generated, namely true love. Thus it can be concluded that the relationship between Asrul and Putri is a true love relationship. Fifth, Mustika & Isnaini (2021) state that the meaning of the concept of love in the poems by Sapardi Djoko Damono can be seen as a universal concept that refers to human existence as a form of existence in the world. The results of this study indicate that the concept of love in Sapardi Djoko Damono's poems is found at the level of diction, imagery, and language style. The concept of

love found at the structural level becomes an important part of understanding poetry as a whole and interpreting these poems.

Based on the previous studies above shows that all discussions about the concept of love from various literary works can be found in film/movie, novel, and poem (poet). This research wants to conduct the same research about love in literary works. This novel is chosen to be studied because it has a high literary value, namely, it has aesthetic value and deep meaning. The novel *The Broken Wings* or *al-Ajnihah al-Mutakassirah* is Kahlil Gibran's best-selling novel in the world. This novel was born because it was inspired by a thrilling, interesting, and impressive Gibran love story but ended tragically with a girl he loves, named Selma. Therefore, this analysis attempts to reveal the love contained in the novel *The Broken Wings* by Kahlil Gibran.

## Method

The research method used is a description of qualitative analysis. This method describes the semiotic form in the form of words, phrases, sentences, or paragraphs in the novel. A novel as an imaginative work that uses language, has differences from other linguistic works which are more concerned with language reference function in the form of message delivery. On the other hand, literary works in the form of a novel are concerned with the aesthetic function of language as a means of expression. The author tries to get the effect of using his language.

The method of collecting data uses documents. Document as part of a qualitative research method (Bretschneider et al., 2017). The document is taken from the novel entitled “*The Broken Wings*”. Kahlil Gibran's *Broken Wings* is a poetic novel of tragic love, set in turn-of-the-century Beirut (Gibran, 2012). The researcher also uses every relevant document such as books and articles are taken as sources and the data are taken from the novel itself. The object of the study was the whole events in Kahlil Gibran novel's “*The Broken Wings*”. The data of this study were dialogues, paragraphs, and quotations related to the statements of the study.

The method of analyzing data uses data reduction, data display, and conclusion as proposed by (Miles et al., 2014). In the reduction stage, the researcher understands the contents of the novel that has been being read. The researcher reduces data, summarizes, selects the main points, and focuses on the things that matter. After the data is reduced, then the steps. The next step is to display the data. Through the presentation of data, the data is organized, and arranged in tables/pictures so that it will be easier to understand. Then, the researcher draws conclusions related to the description of the data that has been obtained.

## Findings and Discussion

### Findings

The objective of this research is to describe the love found in “*The Broken Wings*” by Kahlil Gibran. In the novel “*The Broken Wings*”, there are several findings related to love found in the novel. T can be seen in the tables below:

#### 1. Love of Selma Karamy to Her Father

There are examples of proof related to the love of Selma Karamy for her father in “*The Broken Wings*” which can be seen below:

**Table 1. Love of Selma Karamy to His Father**

| No | Chapter     | Example  |
|----|-------------|--|
| 1. | The Tempest | In a choking voice, he said, "My beloved Selma, very soon you will be taken away from the arms of your father to the arms of another man. Very soon fate will carry you from this lonely home to the world's spacious court, and this garden will miss the pressure of your footsteps, and your father will become a |

|    |                  |  |
|----|------------------|--|
|    |                  | stranger to you. All is done; may God bless you."  |
| 2. | The Tempest      | Hearing these words, Selma's face clouded and her eyes froze as if she felt a premonition of death. Then she screamed, like a bird shot down, suffering, and trembling, and in a choked voice said, "What do you say? What do you mean? Where are you sending me?" In a moment she said, "I understand. I understand everything". The Bishop has demanded me from you and has prepared a cage for this bird with broken wings. Is this your will, Father?"   |
| 3. | The Lake of Fire | The main purpose for sending after Farris Effandi and bringing him in the Bishops' private carriage was the betrothal of Selma to the Bishop's nephew, Mansour Bey Galib. Selma was the only child of the wealthy Farris Effendi, and the Bishop's choice fell on Selma, not on account of her beauty and noble spirit, but on account of her father's money which would guarantee Mansour Bey a good and prosperous fortune and make him an important man.  |
| 4. | The Lake of Fire | Farris Effandi perforce granted the Bishop's request, obeying his will unwillingly, because of Farris Effendi. knew the Bishop's nephew very well, knew that he was dangerous, full of hate, wickedness, and corruption. In Lebanon, no Christian could oppose his bishop and remain in good standing. No man could disobey his religious head and keep his reputation. Suppose that Farris Effendi had resisted the Bishop and refused his wish; then Selma's reputation would have been ruined and her name would have been blemished by the dirt of lips and tongues. In the opinion of the fox, high bunches of grapes that can't be reached are sour. |
| 5. | The Lake of Fire | In some countries, the parent's wealth is a source of misery for the children. The wide strong box which the father and mother together have used for the safety of their wealth becomes a narrow, dark prison for the souls of their heirs. The Almighty Dinar which the people worship becomes a demon which punished the spirit and deadens the heart. Selma Karamy was one of those who were the victims of their parent's wealth and the bridegrooms' cupidity. Had it not been for her father's wealth, Selma would still be living happily.   |

Based on the data above show that Farris Efandi Karamy gave the news that the Bishop in the city where they lived had continued the arranged marriage plan between Selma Karamy (his son) and his niece, Mansour Bey Galib. From the very beginning, Farris Efandi had indeed betrothed his beloved daughter to the nephew of a prominent Bishop in the city of Beirut. With the hope that her daughter will get eternal happiness by living in a good environment and in the way of God. However, Selma was tormented and suffered. Because he knows that the Bishop's nephew is just a man who cannot live without many women. And, the purpose of the bishop to match his nephew is nothing but the possession of Farris Efandi's property. Supposedly, a father would not allow his daughter to be shrouded in mines that turn into luxury. Even if there is something to be sacrificed: lives are at stake. However, it was a time of slavery. The greed of the rulers is increasingly pinning the people. Strange times for rich girls. The fate of women is like a prisoner. Likewise Selma.

Selma Karamy and his father clearly could not refuse, at that time, marrying into a family of religious leaders was an honor, even though one party did not want it. And rejecting it is just a disaster. Selma has been forced to marry the nephew of a priest, Mansour Bey Galib. This Mansour Bey Galib is the nephew of a priest who has a great influence on where Selma's father lives. Farris Effendi had indeed been tightly bound by the priest who was described as full of cunning. This story not only tells about the love between my character and Selma Karamy. But it also talks about the plight of women, oppression, and injustice in Lebanon. It is said that Selma Karamy was proposed not because Mansour Ghalib loved him, but because of Selma's rich

father. The proof of the love of Selma Karamy to her father especially in the utterance “I understand. I understand everything”.

## 2. Love of Kahlil Gibran to Selma Karamy

There are examples of proofs related to the love of Kahlil Gibran to Selma Karamy in “The Broken Wings” which can be seen below:

**Table 2. Love of Kahlil Gibran to Selma Karamy**

| No | Chapter          | Example  |
|----|------------------|--|
| 1. | Foreword         | ... and Selma Karamy was the first woman who awakened my spirit with her beauty and led me into the garden of high affection,...   |
| 2. | Foreword         | Selma Karamy was the one who taught me to worship beauty by the example of her beauty and revealed to me the secret of love by her affection; she was the one who first sang to me the poetry of real life.  |
| 3. | Foreword         | ...when I heard LOVE whispered into my ears through Selma's lips. My life was a coma, empty like that of Adam's in Paradise, when I saw Selma standing before me like a column of light. She was the Eve of my heart who filled it with secrets and wonders and made me understand the meaning of life.  |
| 4. | The Lake of Fire | The love of Selma was my sole entertainer, singing songs of happiness for me at night and waking me at dawn to reveal the meaning of life and the secrets of nature. It is a heavenly love that is free from jealousy, rich and never harmful to the spirit.   |
| 5. | The Tempest      | I answered her, saying, " I will do all you have said and will make my soul an envelope for your soul, and my heart a residence for your beauty and my breast a grave for your sorrows. I shall love you, Selma, as the prairies love the spring, and I shall live in you in the life of a flower under the sun's rays.  |
| 6. | The Lake of Fire | "Come by beloved, let us discuss the horrible future before it comes, My father has just left the house to see the man who is going to be my companion until death. My father, whom God chose for my existence, will meet the man whom the world has selected to be my master for the rest of my life. In the heart of this city, the old man who accompanied me during my youth will meet the young man who will be my companion for the coming years. Tonight the two families will set the marriage date. |
| 7. | The Lake of Fire | As I took Selma's hand and put it to my lips, she came close to me and placed a kiss on my forehead, then dropped on the wooden bench. She shut her eyes and whispered, "Oh, Lord God, have mercy on me and mend my broken wings!"   |
| 8. | The Lake of Fire | I reached my room, and like a wounded bird shot down by a hunter, I fell on my bed, repeating the words of Selma: "Oh, Lord God, have mercy on me and mend my broken wings!"   |

Based on the data above show that the proof of the love of Kahlil Gibran to Selma Karamy can be seen in the utterances/statement “Selma Karamy, according to Kahlil Gibran, was the first lady to ignite his soul with her beauty and lofty devotion. Selma Karamy was the one who first taught him to adore beauty and sang to him the poetry of everyday life. When he heard LOVE shouted into his ears through Selma's lips, he was overcome with emotion. His life was a coma, like Adam's in Paradise, with no meaning. He believes Selma was his heart's Eve, who filled it with secrets and surprises and taught him the essence of life. Selma's love was his sole source of entertainment, singing happy melodies for me at night and rousing him up in the morning to unveil the meaning of life and nature's mysteries. It is a divine love that is jealousy-free, abundant, and never destructive to the spirit. He'll accomplish everything she's asked,

including turning his soul into an envelope for Selma's soul, his heart into a home for her beauty, and my breast into a cemetery for her sufferings. He will adore Selma as much as the plains adore spring, and he will live in her like a blossom beneath the sun's rays".

The Broken Wings tells the story of Kahlil Gibran who falls in love with a girl with Selma Karamy. The story can be said to be simple. About the turmoil of love for a teenager aged around eighteen, namely Kahlil Gibran himself. The character gets acquainted with a friendly rich man, Farris Effendi. The friendship between the two led to the introduction of Gibran and Farris' daughter, namely: Selma Karamy. The introduction was simple and sweet at first, but day by day it became like a flower and some fragrance.

From there, Kahlil Gibran befriended Selma Karamy. And, at one meeting, a spark of love appeared through the momentum of the two's eyes. Kahlil Gibran loves Selma Karamy, a simple girl, the daughter of his father's best friend, Farris Effendi. An extraordinary and sincere love with a rich man's son. Kahlil Gibran falls in love with a girl with Selma Karamy. Selma Karamy is the daughter of a rich man in Beirut, Farris Efandi Karamy, who is also a good friend of the character's father. From there, Kahlil Gibran befriended Selma Karamy. And, at one meeting, a spark of love appeared through the momentum of the two's eyes.

Selma and Mansour Bey had already set a date for their wedding. The days leading up to the wedding went by so fast that and kept eating away at Selma's zest for life. Selma felt that she was a bird with broken wings. Along with that, the Bishop seemed to have prepared a terrible cage for him. His wings because he collided with culture and greed clad in a turban for wealth and honor. Selma became a victim and had to give up her love incarnate in suffering. The pain was deep and long. Until he couldn't smile anymore. And, of course, the character "I" because of that. Before actually going into the cage of a loveless marriage, Selma divulges deeply into the eyes of the "I" character. Then, he whispered a prayer in a low tone, "Lord, please heal my broken wings". Then, Selma left and the "me" character returned to her house. Arriving at home, he immediately lay down and remember Selma's face was so red, and heavily and painfully he also prayed "Lord, please heal my broken wings".

## **Discussion**

The novel tells the personal experience of Khalil Gibran about the suffering of a pair of lovers who are forced to be separated by the hands of fate and is a story of a bitter first love (love does not arrive). Khalil Gibran is the main character in this story, he tells of his miserable life together with a lover whom he loves very much but cannot have (Sopyanti, 2021). This wonderful novel has the typical and unique characteristics of its author. It depicts the story of pure love between a man and a woman, which was cut short by materialism and ambition (Abraham & Gibran, 2020).

The Broken Wings tells the story of the bitterness of love he experienced. The beloved lover is forced to marry someone else who has a higher position than him. His lover, Selma Karamy, is the son of his father's best friend in his youth who grew up without a mother. This made his father rich, loved, and raised him well. Unfortunately, that love was forced to be hindered by the power of religiously motivated material. Gibran began to fall in love with his lover when he first came to visit Selma's house to meet his father, Farris Effendi. Because Gibran is the son of Farris' best friend, he is invited to reminisce listening to his stories with Gibran's father when he was young. Gibran then often visits Farris's house to chat and look at Selma, whom he loves. With a tit for tat, Selma turns out to also love him with all her heart. This is even more interesting when the father knows and approves of their relationship. So they often spend time together sharing feelings in the strand of love. The tempest came when a priest proposed to Selma for his niece. This proposal is not pure genuine love from the nephew. However, it is an attempt to take Selma's father's fortune. So the priesthood, which was a highly

regarded authority at the time, was used to carry out arbitrary acts. That's why Farris then accepted this proposal, although with a very deep sadness. Gibran and Selma's love doesn't end here. Although Selma is married to a priest's nephew who has a bad habit, they meet regularly at an ancient temple containing portraits of Ishtar and Christ, the Goddess of Love from the past and the Savior of the present. Until one day, Selma decided to part with Gibran. Selma made this tough decision to save Gibran from suffering, which Selma herself had been experiencing for a long time. Having time to ask Selma to run, Gibran finally complied with his lover's decision, because for Selma himself he was broken wings that could no longer fly. Selma then died shortly after she gave birth to her baby boy who was only from the end of the night until the rising of the sun. Gibran also accompanied his body to his final bed. Thus, Gibran's suffering was complete.

Love is the main theme in this story. In the book's "Initial Words" he wrote, among other things, "Oh, my friends of youth scattered in Beirut City, if you pass by the tomb near the pine forest, enter silently and walk slowly so that your steps will not disturb the sleep of the dead, and stop humbly at Selma's tomb and sweep away the earth covering her body and say my name with a deep breath and say to yourselves, 'Here, all the hopes of Gibran, who lived as a prisoner of love beyond the seas, are buried. Right here the man lost his happiness, dried up his tears, and couldn't remember his smile anymore.'" This passage is a kind of explanation that the main character, who in the following parts is not named, is Gibran. But everything must go according to the destiny that has been written, Selma must marry Mansour Bey. The tension side still occurs when Selma continues to meet her lover secretly. Even Bishop Bulos ordered all his servants and guards to pay attention to Selma's movements. Even though the love between them was very great, Selma still chose to end the secret meeting with the first and last passionate kiss, because she did not want her lover to feel the pain she was going through. Surviving the void of her lover's love, Selma tries to be a good wife. Because every day Mansour always asks when Selma can give him offspring, even though he is always busy with women who sell his body just for a piece of bread. Prayers that never stop always give good news. Selma was pregnant, although during childbirth she had to struggle between life and death. Birds with broken wings were not always able to survive and finally, Selma had to face the Creator after she gave birth to a baby boy whose age was only limited to the morning sun. For Gibran, love is standing in. That means love is more of an active act of giving than receiving. In addition to the elegy of love which is very moving, Gibran also inserts his views on various issues related to the fate of women, oppression, injustice, and corruption in Lebanon (Wahida et al., 2020).

Broken Wings, which is a story of simple physical elements, reveals the relationships between lovers and the father of a girl named Selma, and the family of a Bishop. The narrator has an unusually deep and sincere love for the son of a rich man, but the relationship is severed by the Bishop's desire to take the girl for his nephew. Unlike the case in West Asia, women can become a commodity or simply an asset that is issued when the time is deemed right. It is seen in Kahlil Gibran's work, *The Broken Wings* which figuratively the society in their environment. Selma Karamy became an icon depicting the role of women in that era and region. Selma Karamy, who came from a prominent family, was required to marry someone who was considered her equal. The reputation and existence of the Bishop in the local community that is so exalted can affect Selma as a woman who wants to choose her partner. Selma was unable to use her authority to unite with Gibran.

The next story can be easily imagined, namely the failure of young love which ended with misery and sorrow, even with the death of Selma though not because of love itself, but because of childbirth. Perhaps for us, such a story is too simple; the story of Romeo and Juliet, for example, is much more complex in structure. However, there is a very distinctive feature of Gibran in the way he expresses it, namely the use of very metaphorical language. The language

used to express all kinds of feelings uses so many different kinds of comparisons, some of which have to be admittedly amazing.

The *Broken Wings* was compiled by Kahlil Gibran, a Lebanese philosopher with his distinctive style. The language has a deep meaning because it reveals the deep love felt by a man for his lover. A love that is hindered by an arranged marriage carried out by the woman's parents makes their love story unable to unite and leaves pain and suffering for the writer. The love story in the poetry of *Broken Wings* is actually in Kahlil Gibran's book is a prose that has several chapters that tell the story of his love with his first love (Oktorio, 2009).

The power of love is a gift given by God to humans (Fitria, 2020). This cannot be changed or replaced if a man loves his woman. Even though he knows he can't have that woman, he always encourages the woman he loves with all his heart. The writing style and the narrative are so touching and full of emotional appreciation. This makes the reader feel the turmoil of his feelings when facing his love that cannot be owned because of the presence of a third person as a barrier to their love.

The *Broken Wings* also implied a message about the hope for love and the reality that is faced, it is very different. He wants to encourage his lover to follow his heart rather than just obeying his father and choosing him. But that was not possible, because his lover had married his father's choice. In this poem, there are many implied meanings about the hope of love and the commitment of a man to his lover, even though it is impossible but at least the hope is still there.

Interpreting love in *Broken Wings* is not difficult to do, but humans often fail to do it. When someone falls in love, it's not uncommon for the ambition to have the most important goal, compared to celebrating the feeling. Unrequited love, unrequited love, or any other form of the problem should make people appreciate that feeling more (Fitria, 2018). In the poetic prose of *Broken Wings*, Kahlil Gibran implicitly conveys the meaning of love, by creating Selma Karamy and Gibran. The problems faced by the two characters in this phenomenal literary work invite the readers into the flow of their love. A romance with ups and downs of taste, which makes the reading process filled with meaning for feelings that do not only see the beauty.

As a work of world literature, readers of *Broken Wings* certainly come from various parts of the world. The meaning is uniform. However, one opinion states that the story in *Broken Wings* is tragic, so it requires its readers to face the angst of Selma Karamy and Gibran's love ending. The form of the meaning of love overlaps with the separation presented by Kahlil Gibran for the relationship between the two unfortunate characters. Relationships that are terminated by social demands give meaning to the crash of their relationship. Farewell to being good friends with the cherished love.

The story of Selma Karamy and Gibran who are separated by something beyond their control makes the reader's heart even more stinging. Supported by a narrative form that is so rich in beautiful diction, pain, love, and all its components are so coherent. Reading this tragic love story provides space for the readers to pursue every word and its meaning. Readers can follow each implied message to better understand love and appreciate it. Kahlil Gibran tries to show that love requires us to believe in hope and to continue to interpret it even though it is in a bad position.

Perspectives or assumptions about love everyone has their opinion. The novel *Wings of Broken* gives different interpretations to each person. The love in it is not only for Gibran to Selma Karamy, but also Selma Karamy's affection for his father is a form of love. Selma Karamy, who is starting to grow up, feels restless about her father. He realized that she was a woman. "Indeed, the tears of an old man are more meaningful than the tears of youth. Because the tears of parents are the essence of life experiences and weak energy. Love is not only for lovers, a child can give love to his parents. Love is like the property of a man and a woman. In the novel *Wings of Broken*, the love of a couple is highlighted.

With his extraordinary sensitivity, Kahlil Gibran weaves a love story about a beautiful and passionate couple. However, their love is not without obstacles. Tradition, taboos, politics, and injustice are obstacles for the two to unite. Simple, but full of meaning. That's what makes Gibran's work so close to the hearts of its readers. Although almost the entire meaning of Kahlil Gibran's love for Selma Karamy in the novel *The Broken Wings* is almost the same, of course, some boundaries distinguish one reader from another. *Broken Wings* in the reading process certainly has its meaning. We as readers can have our way of interpreting love based on the world-famous story of Kahlil Gibran.

Love is an emotion that causes a sense of pleasure, every human being will be happy if his love can be conveyed. But not on Selma Karamy, his love for Gibran is not as easy as his feelings. Selma Karamy 's love for Gibran is defeated by his love for his father. Selma Karamy prefers to obey her father's orders, to marry Mansour Bey Galib. He is someone who has power. Selma Karamy 's father was indeed a respected man in the area, and Mansur wanted Selma Karamy as a wife. Power is a tool that can get everything, even love can be obtained. Love doesn't always run smoothly. Every love story has problems that get in the way. Selma Karamy and Gibran's love story was hindered by an arranged marriage due to power, and Mansour Bey Galib married Selma Karamy. Selma Karamy 's conflict is in her heart. Selma Karamy, who is married to Mansour Bey Galib, still has feelings for Gibran. She could not refuse, because at that time, marrying into a family of religious leaders was an honor, even though one party did not want it. And rejecting it only ends in disaster.

In this case, Gibran sees Selma as a ray of light that leads him to understand the meaning of life. Selma led Gibran to enter willingly into the paradise of pure love and truth with her sweetness and love. In *Broken Wings*, Gibran uses the story of Adam and Eve to illustrate his story. A smoldering sword chased Adam out of Heaven similar to what frightened Gibran and forced him to stay away from the paradise of love in the form of Selma. The difference is, that Gibran never ignores an order like Eve asked Adam to taste the fruit of the forbidden tree. As far as we understand at the beginning of this novel, Gibran did not immediately get carried away by the beauty of Selma's figure. However, it was Selma who brought love to Gibran. This is what makes love strong. The consequences are received, when the love has died (or forced to die), what remains is only a row of sorrow that resides on the tomb. Leaving sweet dreams and painful memories behind. Just like a broken wing, unable to flap anymore.

Marriage should make a couple happy because it is filled with love. But not with Selma Karamy, he did not get any affection at all. Marriage from the very beginning is faced with challenges, and pressures, and both partners must adapt to the circumstances, building the framework of their mutual relationship as strong as possible. Likewise with Selma Karamy, even though there is no love she still maintains her marriage to Mansour Bey Galib. Selma Karamy hopes that with the birth of her first child, her marriage to Mansour Bey Galib will give birth to happiness. But all was not destined for Selma Karamy, the first child who might bring happiness died. Selma Karamy 's chaotic and weak mind brought her to meet her son.

A true love story of a couple. Hope happiness will decorate their life. But it didn't happen, Selma Karamy and Gibran's love couldn't be conveyed. Everyone will give a different understanding of love. Love presents different perspectives. Love does not have to happen to lovers, love can also be applied to a family, from children to parents. Love doesn't always lead to happiness. True love can waver, with the presence of a life problem. However, love is necessary for humans, with love their life can be colorful and filled with happiness.

Love is very close to humans as well as the most mysterious and difficult to understand. One can speak, write love poems, and even advise people to fall in love. But if that person has never been in love, are you sure what they are talking about is love?. *The Broken Wings* or *Al-Ajnihah al-Mutakassirah* may give us the perspective that to understand falling in love it is

necessary to enter into the deepest recesses of love itself. Falling in love opens the mind and gives knowledge of what was previously unknown. But sometimes, even when we have fallen in love, the strange feeling of love itself is still there. In this novel, Gibran also explains with poetic diction to explain how difficult it is to understand love. Love can change the reality that exists in a short time, change one's perspective on something, from something very unfamiliar to more familiar, or vice versa. Love can drain and fill a person's heart with sorrow and joy. However, the dimension of taste will bring knowledge of love only to someone who experiences it.

From the novel *The Broken Wings* too, we have come to understand more that love is the meeting of two souls. Love can be present and grow when two souls are on the same frequency band. Like Gibran and Selma, their love grows because they are on the same frequency. The similarity makes two souls connect and makes them happier than souls who are at different levels and frequencies. Gibran who is gloomy and not cheerful because he has had many problems in his life meets Selma who is also gloomy. The gloom and sadness of Gibran's and Selma's souls met with the same frequency and resulted in their souls becoming easily intertwined. As Gibran wrote, "A sad soul finds peace when it is united with others. The souls are united in a sense of togetherness. Like a foreigner who rejoices when he meets other strangers in a foreign land. Just as hearts united by sorrow will never be separated by the triumph of joy."

It must be admitted too, love is not only about happiness and joy but also about pain and suffering. Circumstances that force us to accept bitterness are difficult in life, but again, it is a real consequence of falling in love. There are always people who say that love comes to part. Whether it's because of the destiny of death or separated from the existing reality. The love of Gibran and Selma opened our minds to learn to accept what has happened so far. Because no matter how far we refuse to accept, questioning why it can happen, when it has come, what can be done? Love comes to fill and drain one's heart with sorrow and happiness, that's what we might learn from this novel.

## **Conclusion**

The novel *Wings of Patah* tells the story of a marriage based on an arranged marriage tradition. It tells about how a man's life is when he has felt that love for a woman, a man who always keeps the trust that has been given by the father of the woman he loves, to always take care of the child his woman who lived a life full of solitude and solitude, a woman whose mother died when she was three years old. With time this man and woman both have feelings of love, but unfortunately, the love between them cannot unite.

This book of *Broken Wings* begins with the introduction of an old man who is very rich in this Lebanese land. From the stories and also the introduction of Gibran, it is known that the man's name was Faris Efendi, who turned out to be a close friend of Khalil Gibran's father during his youth. Their acquaintance didn't end here. Every time he had free time, Gibran often visited Faris's house. And at the start of all that, get to know him with Faris' child named Seima Karamy. Because they met and exchanged ideas between Gibran and Selma, finally a love interest grew between the two. But fate is more powerful, their love must be broken because a priest in Lebanon proposed to Seima for his nephew named Mansur Bey Galib. But the priest's choice of Seima was not because of her beauty and great soul, but solely because of her father's wealth. Marriage is the happiest time for the bride's family. But not for Faris and Selma, Selma and Mansour's marriage made Seima's pain deepen. Mansur is a man who likes to vent his sex with young women and there is no day without torturing and breaking Seima's heart. Because of the constant suffering, finally, all of Seima's sorrows were erased by the death that killed him.

## REFERENCES

- Abdiani, H. T., & Ahmadi, A. (2020). Konsep Cinta dalam Novel Seumpama Matahari Karya Arafat Nur: Kajian Psikologi Robert J. Sternberg. *Bapala*, 7(3). <https://ejournal.unesa.ac.id>
- Abraham, R., & Gibran, G. K. (2020). *Kahlil Gibran's Broken Wings: The Failure of a Pure Love Between a Man and a Woman, which was Cut Short by Materialism and Ambition*. Independently Published.
- Allen, R., Allen, R. M. A., DeYoung, T., Lowry, J. E., Germain, M. S. S., & Stewart, D. J. (2009). *Essays in Arabic Literary Biography: 1850-1950*. Otto Harrassowitz Verlag.
- Bradley, G. (2019). *With Love: As Love Is*. Balboa Press.
- Bretschneider, P. J., Cirilli, S., Jones, T., Lynch, S., & Wilson, N. A. (2017). *Document Review as a Qualitative Research Data Collection Method for Teacher Research*. Sage Publications Limited.
- Bushrui, S., & Jenkins, J. (2014). *Kahlil Gibran: Man and Poet*. Simon and Schuster.
- Chaidir, A. (2007). *Pesan Cinta Dalam Film (Analisis Isi Pada Film Love Actually Karya Richard Curtis)* [Undergraduate Paper, University of Muhammadiyah Malang]. <https://eprints.umm.ac.id/4713/>
- Fitria, T. N. (2018). Figurative Language Used in One Direction's Album Entitled Up All Night. *English and Literature Journal*, 5(1), 69–79. <https://doi.org/10.24252/elite.v5i1a7>
- Fitria, T. N. (2020). An Analysis of Moral Values Found in a Korean TV Series "The World of Married." *Acuity: Journal of English Language Pedagogy, Literature, and Culture*, 5(2), 137–147. <https://doi.org/10.35974/acuity.v5i2.2317>
- Gibran, K. (2012). *Broken Wings*. Bottom of the Hill Publishing.
- Gibran, K. (2018). *The Broken Wings: Special Edition*. CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.
- Gibran, K. (2021). *The Broken Wings: Kahlil Gibran Bestseller Book*. Beyond Books Hub.
- Miles, M. B., Huberman, A. M., & Saldana, J. (2014). *Qualitative Data Analysis*. SAGE Publication.
- Mustika, I., & Isnaini, H. (2021). Konsep Cinta Pada Puisi-Puisi Karya Sapardi Djoko Damono: Analisis Semiotika Carles Sanders Pierce. *Jurnal Al-Azhar Indonesia Seri Humaniora*, 6(1), 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.36722/sh.v6i1.436>
- Nursida, I. (2018). Majaz dalam Novel al-Ajnihah al-Mutakassirah (Sayap-sayap Patah) Karya Khalil Gibran. *Alfaz (Arabic Literatures for Academic Zealots)*, 6(02), 161–182. <https://doi.org/10.32678/alfaz.Vol6.Iss02.1320>
- Okorundu, C. C. (2008). *Discover the Secret of True Love*. iUniverse.
- Oktorio, S. A. (2009). *An Analysis of Kahlil Gibran's Love to Selma Karamyin His Novel "The Broken Wings"* [Other, University of Muhammadiyah Malang]. <https://eprints.umm.ac.id/10537/>
- Pratama, A. S. (2018). *Analisis Tokoh dalam Novel /Al-Ajnihah Al-Mutakassirah/ Karya Khalil Gibran* [Undergraduate Paper, Universitas Sumatera Utara]. <https://repositori.usu.ac.id/handle/123456789/3758>
- Setiawati, I. F., & Rohanda, R. (2020). Konsep Cinta Dalam Novel Al-Laun Al-Ākhar Karya Ihsan Abdul Quddūs (Kajian Strukturalisme Genetik Lucien Goldmann). *Hijai - Journal on Arabic Language and Literature*, 3(2), 31–51. <https://doi.org/10.15575/hijai.v3i2.6668>
- Sollars, M., & Jennings, A. L. (2008). *The Facts on File Companion to the World Novel: 1900 to the Present*. Infobase Publishing.
- Sopyanti, E. (2021). *Novel Al-Ajnihah Al-Mutakassirah karya Khalil Gibran: Kajian Strukturalisme* [Undergraduate Paper, UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung].

- <http://digilib.uinsgd.ac.id/44158/>
- Sutrisno, A. (2015). *Analisis tanda dan makna visual representasi cinta dalam Film Animasi Frozen* / Arif Sutrisno [Diploma, Universitas Negeri Malang]. <http://repository.um.ac.id/14327/>
- Wahida, M., Mashyur, & Sumarna, L. (2020). Kepribadian Tokoh Utama dalam Novel *The Broken Wings* Karya Kahlil Gibran. *Kitabina : Jurnal Bahasa & Sastra Arab*, 1(1), 1–15.
- Waterfield, R. (2015). *Prophet: The Life and Times of Kahlil Gibran*. St. Martin's Publishing Group.