

CHAPTER THREE

CONCLUSION

After having analysed the elements of plot in *Abduction*, I can conclude that Rodman Philbrick and Lynn Harnett are skilful science fiction authors due to the fact that they succeed not only in producing a good story which makes the reader feel satisfied but also in creating the elements of suspense, surprise, and artistic unity so perfectly that these elements make the story become interesting to read. They succeed in producing a good story because they have put a right connection between the suspenses and surprises in the right places so that the reader can feel the tension when they are curious about how something can happen and they will also feel surprised when they know the answers.

Most of the elements of suspense in Philbrick and Harnett's *Abduction* are full of mysteries, which make the reader wonder and ask a question about the fate of the two main characters, Luke and Mandy. In the novel, the first suspense occurs when Luke and Mandy experience blackout and lose four hours twice. This makes the reader ask about what happens to Luke and Mandy during their losing

four hours. Not long after that, the second suspense happens when Mandy gets a bad dream so that she cannot sleep well at night. The next day, Quentin talks to her that he knows that Mandy cannot sleep well at night. This surprises her and makes her question herself how he can know that. Later, Luke finds that he cannot control his body. Then, another event occurs: Quentin appears in Luke's dream. This raises three questions: how Quentin can know that Mandy cannot sleep well at night, what happens to Luke's body and how Quentin can appear in Luke's dream. The third suspense happens when Luke and Mandy see the aliens for the first time when they wake up inside the spaceship. At the same time, they also see that the aliens make an agreement with Quentin and they wonder about what the aliens do with Quentin. Then, the fourth suspense appears when they find out that there are implants inside their head. This raises a question about how they can be free from the implant's influence. Finally, the fifth suspense occurs when Quentin explains to Mandy about his plan to invade Greenfield, which creates a question about whether Greenfield can be saved or not from the aliens' invasion. Not only does the suspense make the reader feel anxious about what will happen next, but it also raises tension in the readers' minds. They make the reader feel that they are brought into the story and experience the story as though they are the main characters in the story.

The second element is surprise. First of all, the first surprise answers the first suspense. The story tells that the aliens are behind Luke and Mandy's losing four hours. The second surprise is when the relationship between the aliens and Quentin is revealed. In return to Quentin's help of providing food for them, the aliens let

Quentin use their technology. The third surprise is answering the third suspense and it tells that they are abducted by the aliens in order that the two teenagers become their experimental objects. The fourth surprise answers the fourth suspense by telling that Luke and Mandy can be freed from the implant's influence. Finally, the fifth surprise answers the fifth suspense by telling that Greenfield is saved after Luke and Mandy struggle to fail the aliens' invasion.

Based on my analysis on suspense and surprise above, I can say that suspense and surprise are linked together to make artistic unity. Firstly, the first artistic unity has a connection with the first surprise and the first suspense. It tries to explain that the aliens have a connection with Luke and Mandy's losing hours. The second artistic unity has a connection with the second surprise and second suspense. Through it, the reader can realize that Luke's body movement is controlled by Quentin with the help of the aliens. This also answers how Quentin can control Luke's body. The third artistic unity shows a connection between the third surprise and the third suspense. From this connection, the reader can know that the aliens abduct Luke and Mandy to be the experimental objects by putting the silvery needle into their heads.

Further, the fourth artistic unity has a connection with the fourth suspense and the fourth surprise. It explains how Luke and Mandy can be free from the implant's influence. Finally, the fifth artistic unity has a connection with the fifth suspense and the fifth surprise. It explains how Luke and Mandy can save their town, Greenfield, from the aliens' invasion. Through this novel, Philbrick and Harnett have put suspense as well as surprise in the right order and interestingly give the reader unexpected events so that the reader will enjoy the novel and they

will not feel bored in reading to the end of the story. In other words, the three elements in *Abduction* are related to one another to make the story easier to be understood.

In a science fiction novel, suspense is the most important element because the purpose of this kind of novel is to make the reader feel the tension and curiosity in their minds. Then, when readers are trapped in the suspense, they unexpectedly get the results which make them feel surprised. As a result, the artistic unity appears due to the strong connection of suspense and surprise in the story, which makes the story successful. The connection of the two elements can be seen through the novel, *Abduction*. In the end, all the mysteries are answered, and the readers' tensions are over.

I feel satisfied and surprised when I read the novel. The mystery elements in the novel are good to make me or the reader to imagine about the two main characters that experience blackout problems. Moreover, I feel the suspense and surprise have created a good plot to make the story entertaining to be read. In my conclusion, *Abduction* is a good novel to be read by all readers who love science fiction.