

COCO AS A DOMINATING WOMAN IN WEI HUI'S *SHANGHAI BABY*

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Abstract

Shanghai Baby is one of well known literary works in written by Zhou Wei Hui. The story in the novel told about a woman named Coco who fought against some problems concerning her love life. This research focused on Coco's domination and the relationship between her and her two men, TianTian and Mark by using Carl Jung's libido and Anthony Giddens' transformation of intimacy.

This study proposes two statements of the problem: 1. How is Coco as a dominating woman depicted in *Shanghai Baby*? 2. How does Coco's domination influence the male characters in the novel? The purposes of this study are to explain how Coco as a dominating woman is depicted in *Shanghai Baby* and to explain how her domination influences the male characters in the novel.

The data source of this study was the novel written by Wei Hui titled *Shanghai Baby*. The main data was taken from the data source which depicts Coco's domination and its influence to the male characters. The main data was analyzed by using theoretical framework.

This research is a qualitative study. Researchers use psychological approach to analyze the psychological issues in the novel and use a sociological approach to analyze the relations between the main character and the male characters.

The results of this study showed that Coco was a strong and independent woman who owned two men, TianTian and Mark. TianTian was the man who fulfilled Coco's love desire and Mark was the man who fulfilled Coco's sexual desire. Coco's domination gave TianTian an anxiety of losing her and gave Mark an advantage to explore the Asian beauty of Coco's.

Keywords: libido, love, sex, passionate, romantic

Abstrak

Shanghai Baby merupakan salah satu karya sastra populer karangan Zou Wei Hui. Novel tersebut menceritakan tentang seorang wanita bernama Coco yang berjuang dalam kisah cintanya sendiri. Penelitian ini berfokus pada dominasi Coco dan hubungannya dengan dua pria dalam hidupnya, yaitu TianTian dan Mark dengan menggunakan teori libido oleh Carl Jung dan buku yang berjudul *The Transformation of Intimacy* karangan Anthony Giddens.

Terdapat dua rumusan masalah dalam studi ini: 1. Bagaimana dominasi Coco digambarkan dalam *Shanghai Baby*? 2. Bagaimana pengaruh dominasi Coco terhadap tokoh pria di dalam novel? Tujuan dari studi ini adalah untuk menggambarkan dominasi Coco dan bagaimana pengaruhnya terhadap tokoh pria di dalam novel.

Sumber data studi ini adalah novel karya Wei Hui yang berjudul *Shanghai Baby*. Data inti diambil dari sumber data yang menggambarkan dominasi Cocodan pengaruhnya terhadap tokoh pria. Data inti dianalisis dengan menggunakan teori yang sudah disebut sebelumnya.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif. Peneliti menggunakan pendekatan psikologi untuk menganalisis masalah psikologi dalam *Shanghai Baby* dan pendekatan sosiologi untuk menganalisis hubungan tokoh utama dengan tokoh pria dalam novel.

Hasil dari studi ini menunjukkan bahwa Coco adalah seorang wanita yang kuat dan mandiri yang memiliki dua pria, TianTian dan Mark. TianTian merupakan cinta romantiknya, sedangkan Mark adalah cinta birahinya. TianTian adalah pria yang memberi Coco keindahan cinta, sedangkan Mark adalah pria yang memberi Coco kepuasan seksual. Dominasi Coco membuat TianTian takut kehilangan Coco, sedangkan pengaruh dominasinya terhadap Mark yaitu Mark berkesempatan untuk menikmati kecantikan Asia yang dimiliki Coco.

Kata kunci: libido, cinta, birahi, romantik

INTRODUCTION

Zou Wei Hui, which is the complete name of Wei Hui, was born in Ningbo, China, in 1973. She is a daughter of a military officer in China. Wei Hui spent three years of her childhood living in a military-occupied temple from which monks had been expelled during the chaos of the Cultural

Revolution. *Shanghai Baby*, one of her famous novels, was banned in China in April 2000 and 40,000 of copies were burned, in case it contains too many sexual contents (Humes, 2001.).

Shanghai Baby tells about a young woman

named Nikki, also known as Coco, who has a complicated love story. Her desire of love is fulfilled by her dear TianTian. Their first meeting is in the Green Stalk Café, a place where Coco works as a waitress. Unfortunately, TianTian cannot satisfy her sexual desire since he is impotent. In case of fulfilling her sexual desire, Coco finds another man to do it, a tall German man named Mark, whom Coco meets at a retro theme party called

Return to Avenue Joffre on the top floor of the high-rise at the corner of Huaihai and Yandang Roads. For a woman, Coco has a big sexual desire like men do. She tends to dominate in sexual activities. These two desires, love and sexual desire, which both of them need to be fulfilled, create a conflict in Coco's heart and mind.

In an article titled "Shanghai Baby as a Chinese Chick-Lit: Female Empowerment and Neoliberal Consumerist Agency" from a journal titled "Asian Journal of Women's Studies", Eva Yin-I Chen stated that *Shanghai Baby* represents celebration of an active, empowering form of female sexual and economic independence, voiced in neo-liberal market terms of active choice and individual freedom, signals an important departure from earlier representations of Chinese women and points to affinities both in narrative, thematic and ideological dimension with the contemporary Anglo-American chick lit. The deliberate alienation from feminism as a social movement is also stressed in this novel. Eva Yin-I Chen also stated that empowerment and agency are to be sought in individual consumerist power and via full participation in an increasingly globalized commodity culture that addresses these women as active consumers with unconstrained choice. Chen argued that *Shanghai Baby* contains complex and contradictory messages which help to cast a critical light on the twin discourses of post-feminism and consumerism of the chick lit genre. It reveals a level of anxiety, frustration, and constant pressure of self-discipline by appropriating feminist terms of empowerment and also stressing that women should embrace and adjust to mainstream patriarchal culture and its conventional discourses of erotic beauty.

Ian Weber stated in an article titled "Shanghai Baby: Negotiating Youth Self-Identity in Urban China" from a journal titled "Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture" that *Shanghai Baby* has been dismissed as another example of the grunge and shock literature genre rising from modern Chinese writers (Weber, 2010.). He stated that detractors have described the novel as 'decadent', 'debauched', and 'pornographic' with the author labeled as a 'Slave to Western Culture' since it confronts traditional views of sex, women, family, and youth development by using the sexual license found in Western and European literature. However, a closer examination of Wei Hui's novel reveals an adroit social commentary on youth's ongoing negotiations of self-identity in China's complex and rapidly changing social structure. The novel emphasizes a peculiar form of impotence associated with a 'one country two systems' policy with youth willingness to push the parameters of 'acceptable' behavior and the accompanying guilt when

they do. It emerges a result that youth do not have any clear model to follow the Government's encouragement to be individualistic in some aspects (entrepreneurial and competitive) but no others (self-expression and empowerment).

In a book titled *Shanghai Baby: Beyond China - A Chinese Novel Banished to the West* that *Shanghai Baby* is a novel which has caused too much controversy in China and beyond China in the millennium's early years. The ongoing controversy over the novel and its author made her decide to write her thesis in Literary Studies about it in 2008. However, a friend of hers who is a Chinese young man seemed disagree with her idea to write a thesis about the novel. According to the man, the novel was a disgrace to Chinese culture and a shame to Chinese men, not to mention the novel was banned in China. Then he said that continuing her project about the novel only showed her lack of intelligence. Nevertheless, his reaction precisely heightened her interest about the novel. Such emotional reaction evoked by the novel made her thought that it should get the attention it deserves. She stated that since the novel was banned in China and the controversy surrounding the novel kept increasing, the author of the novel, Zhou Wei Hui finally decided to leave China for United States, yet underground literacy circles kept spreading copies of the novel and made it better known. As a result, the novel had been translated and sold in many different countries. These days, *Shanghai Baby* has been determined as chick-lit in Western countries, since it meets the requirements of a chick-lit novel, which are: the young (single) heroine, a love-centered plot, the importance of sex, working and career-making, talent or love for writing, focus on beauty, prevalence of consumer goods and referrals to classic literary works. *Shanghai Baby* is also included to world literature, because as Koetse stated in her book, 'according to Damrosch, 'world literature' is not an established canon of worldly classics, but a body of works that continually flow through the process of circulation. The 'process' of world literature demands that works are being read outside their cultural context and that they are being read as literature (Koetse, 2012.).

The novel will be analyzed by using Carl Gustav Jung's theory of libido and Anthony Giddens' transformation of intimacy. The writer uses Jung's libido to analyze the psychological issues of the characters in the novel, while Giddens' transformation of intimacy is used to analyze the relations of the characters and each other. In other words, Jung's libido analyzes from the inside, while Giddens' transformation of intimacy analyzes from the outside.

Carl Gustav Jung was a Swiss psychologist who founded psychoanalysis which was based on his response to Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis in some aspects. He was a close collaborator to Freud, yet in 1912 the collaboration ended because Jung and Freud had a different point of view. The main developments of Jung in psychoanalysis were introverted and extroverted personality, archetypes, and the collective unconscious. Jung had written some books and some of them are *The Red Book* (2009), *Psychological Types* (1921), *Man and*

His Symbols (1964), *Archetypes and the Collective Unconscious* (1969), and *Memories, Dreams, Reflections* (1962).

Anthony Giddens is a British sociologist and a social theorist who was born in January 18, 1938 in London, England. In 1992, he wrote a book titled *The Transformation of Intimacy*. In that book, Giddens mainly discussed about the relationship between men and women and changes within it throughout time. The book is suitable with *Shanghai Baby*, since the novel is about a woman who had two men and she could be considered as a dominating woman. Also, the novel stressed that men no longer dominate women yet otherwise, therefore this study is using Anthony Giddens' transformation of intimacy to analyze the novel.

This study proposes two statements of the problem: 1. How is Coco as a dominating woman depicted in *Shanghai Baby*? 2. How does Coco's domination influence the male characters in the novel? The objectives of the study are to explain how Coco's domination depicted in *Shanghai Baby* and how Coco's domination influences the male characters in the novel. Based on the objectives of the study, this research has two significances. First, this research can help the readers to understand more about the main character Coco. Second, this research can be a reference for further researches about *Shanghai Baby* or Carl Jung's psychoanalysis on other literary works.

In order to make the readers easy to understand this research and avoid an analysis which can be out of topic, the study is limited on Carl Jung's libido and Anthony Giddens' transformation of intimacy. The method of this research is qualitative. The data are collected qualitatively (through close reading) and the approach used is objective or textual approach. The source of the data is *Shanghai Baby* by Zou Wei Hui, translated to English by Bruce Humer and published by Robinson in 2001. The data are taken from the quotations from the novel both direct and indirect speech.

This research consists of 4 chapters. Chapter 1 is introduction. It contains background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, limitation of the study, research method, and organization of the study. Chapter 2 is review of related literature. It consists of previous studies and the theoretical framework. Chapter 3 is data analysis. It includes description and explanation of the problem of the research. Chapter 4 is conclusion. It contains the summary of the result of the research.

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Jung's Libido

In his book titled *Memories, Dream, Reflections* which was published in 1956, Jung defined the libido as a psychic analogue of physical energy, not the instincts of hunger, aggression, and sex (Jung, 1956). He believed that if people conceive the libido as energy, they can take

a comprehensive and unified view.

According to Sonu Shamsadani, the concept of libido initiated by Jung was derived from Schopenhauer's concept of the will. In this case, Jung did not agree with Freud's concept of the libido. Shamsadani stated that Jung's concept of the libido means psychic energy and a strong complex has the effect of sapping the individual's energy, while Freud's concept of the libido means sexual desire.

Walter Avory Shelburne stated in his book titled *C.G. Jung's Theory of the Collective Unconscious: A Rational Reconstruction* that Jung used the term "libido" to designate the psychic energy. He also believed that the libido seems to be a vital position in human mind. According to him, Jung also uses the term libido in a way which does not imply its equivalence with instinctual energy.

In a book titled *Jung Lexicon: A Primer Terms & Concepts* by Daryl Sharp, it is stated that Jung specifically distanced his concept of libido from Freud's for its predominantly sexual meaning. Sharp defines the term "libido" as psychic energy in general, as Jung does. Also, the libido affects an individual's progression and adaptation, since it is a psychic energy within the individual.

According to Henrique Guilherme Scatolin, Carl Jung removes the sexual concept by Sigmund Freud in the term "libido". It is not only about sexuality, but also about the energy within the self which drives an individual to do something.

Giddens' Transformation of Intimacy

Anthony Giddens has stated in his book that women and men are sexually equal. Unlike the previous generations, where men tended to dominate women, these days' women can also dominate men, and there are consequences of it. It is based on Anthony Giddens' statement in his book, *The Transformation of Intimacy*. The issue in *Shanghai Baby* is relatable to the statement above. The main character, Coco, who was one of the twentieth century women, was not dominated by her boyfriend, TianTian, since he had a certain incapability to do so. In consequence, it was Coco who dominated TianTian, not otherwise.

Anthony Giddens divided love into two, the passionate and the romantic. The passionate love tends to emphasize love with lust at the same time, while the romantic love emphasizes in caring and loving each other. Also, it can be said that the passionate love is only a break from daily routines. On the other hand, the romantic love is more described as a bigger commitment in life. In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco had both romantic love and passionate love relationships. Her romantic love was TianTian, for she and TianTian had a serious relationship which had a commitment. It was different from her relationship with Mark, since she only sought the pleasure of sex from Mark and their relationship had no commitment. Therefore, Coco and Mark's relationship should be defined as passionate love.

In Giddens' transformation of intimacy, men are

obviously involved in love too, yet it is not the same with how women are. Giddens stated that for most men, romantic love stands in tension with the imperatives of seduction (Giddens, 1992, pp. 59-60). The question is, what do men actually want from a relationship with women? According to Giddens, men's objective in the relationship is status among other men (Giddens, 1992), which can mean something to be proud of. This is relatable to what Mark did in *Shanghai Baby*. Mark got into a relationship with Coco to get status among other men, for he was a leader of a big company in Shanghai, he often became the center of attention in the office.

In the past, there was a stereotype which said 'women want love, men want sex'. Is it still applied nowadays? According to Giddens, that stereotype could be turned around (Giddens, 1992). In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco was the woman in the novel and she wanted sex. Based on Giddens' statement in his book, before the 20th century, sex for women is a price which should be paid as a reward of loving and being loved (Giddens, 1992). However, sex for Coco was not a reward for loving and being loved, yet sex was also her primary need in a relationship.

ANALYSIS

This part discusses the two questions in the 1st chapter, they are "how is Coco as a dominating woman depicted in *Shanghai Baby*" and "how does Coco's domination influence the male characters in the novel". The first part of this chapter discusses the first question and it focuses more on the main character, Coco. Meanwhile, the second part of this chapter focuses more on the relationship between Coco and the two main male characters in the novel.

Coco as a Dominating Woman

Coco is known as an extraordinary female since she was a child. By the age of 5, she had learned how to stomp out and haughtily clutch her lollipop. Her parents were known to be straight. Her father was a history professor and her mother was a housewife, both of them always sought the right path for the happiness of their lovely daughter, unlike Coco who could be described as a wild and liberated woman. To most men, she looked at herself as a little beauty with a pair of Japanese cartoons eyes, because Japanese cartoons usually made the eyes of the characters quite big and Coco had that kind of eyes, and a beautiful long neck.

The superiority which Coco had possibly came from her grandmother. Many people believed that her grandmother had a second sight, because she correctly predicted the event of Shanghai earthquake and she knew that her death was coming soon then eventually she died three days later. However, Coco's superiority was not like what her grandmother had, yet Coco's superiority was the power to attract men, like a flower attracting bees.

When Coco was still in the college, she often wrote letters to boys she was secretly in love with, until one day she met a boy who became her boyfriend later

but not for long. He could not be included to the boys whom most girls idolized in the campus because this boy was short and not good looking. Coco fell for him only because of his intelligence. He also was a sex maniac and often trying out sex positions from the porn he watched using Coco's body. Instead of giving satisfaction, this strange sex activity gave Coco sadness and pain. When Coco found out that he was a liar, she turned her affection for him into hatred and finally she left him. But it was not over yet. This boy still chased Coco persistently. He tracked Coco wherever she went, call her, whatsoever. This boy's struggle to get Coco back happened for quite long until Coco ended up involving a government department to stop him and then he eventually stopped what he was doing. This gave Coco a trauma of short men and made her admiration only for tall men, which is why she fell for TianTian and Mark who were tall.

The traumatic event of Coco's ex-boyfriend changed her life quite significantly. Before she met him, her ex-boyfriend, whom Coco did not tell his name to the readers, she tent to be dependant. By the time she met him and then got all his treatments, her dependence turned into masochism, because she often felt much pain with him but somehow she was fine about it. After they split up, her masochism turned into narcissism, for at that time she did not to want to have a relationship with any man until she found the right man for her who would not hurt her as her ex did.

However, her masochism came back to her when she first had sex with Mark. Even though she felt a little pain because of Mark's huge sexual organ penetrating through her vulva, she was okay with it and she even enjoyed it, for she never felt the pleasure of making love since she was with TianTian. Shortly after Mark's presence, her old way of thinking about sex, which said that sex was a primary need for her, came back to her and it was like that the old Coco was back. This made her sexual desire increased quite significantly and so with her libido. She even was like addicted to have sex with Mark, for whenever and wherever they were together, they would have sex if there was a chance. This was possibly a way of her revenge for her disappointment towards the incapability of the other men in her life.

First, she got her sexual desire fulfilled from her ex-boyfriend, but she was not really happy then. Second, she was very happy with TianTian, yet he could not give her the satisfaction of sex. On the other hand, Coco could get something from Mark which she could not get from the other men. Mark could give her happiness she did not get from her ex-boyfriend and the satisfaction of sex she could not get from TianTian.

In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco is one of the women who have a strong libido. Even though she had many problems in her life, which include an impotent drug-using boyfriend; a German lover who already had a family; a divorced cousin who had a relationship with her friend's ex; and an unfinished novel, she still managed to deal with them with the best effort she could do. This big libido was also something which allowed her to dominate the two men in her life, TianTian and Mark. For, she could

handle many problems in her life, then of course she could also handle two men.

The big libido which Coco had possibly came from her close friend Madonna. In Coco's point of view, Madonna was a strong woman who did not easily give up to obstacles in life. Madonna was TianTian's friend in elementary school. When Coco first met her at The Cotton Club, they started to like and trust each other for they both were close to TianTian and they had a lot in common. What Madonna had gone through was similar to what Coco had. She got out of an unhappy relationship and had a new happy relationship, just like Coco breaking up with her ex-boyfriend in the college and then having a happy relationship with TianTian. On the top of that, Coco would have never known Mark if Madonna did not introduce him to Coco, which really mattered to Coco since that moment was where Coco's new adventure and increase of libido began.

According to Daryl Sharp, libido can increase and decrease according to the problems each individual faces. When there is a problem, the libido can increase in order to overcome the problem. However, if the problem is too hard to deal with, the libido will decrease back to its normal quantity (Sharp, 1991). In this case, Coco had strong enough libido to overcome her obstacles. She had her own way to overcome her obstacles.

Wei Hui had shown to the readers through her novel the power of a woman when they needed to be strong. Women in the past used to be dominated by men, but in *Shanghai Baby*, the main woman character, Coco, seemed to be in the dominating side. In the 24th chapter of the novel, Coco's domination over the two men in her life, TianTian and Mark, started to appear. A woman with two lovers, each of them had their own role, could be described as a powerful woman. Coco described TianTian and Mark as her key men. It could mean Coco had other men in her life aside from Mark and TianTian, for it was not a surprise that a woman with a big sexual desire had more than two men in her life. Also, Coco stated that TianTian and Mark had returned into her orbit. It is like a planet with two satellites, where those two satellites always orbit the planet as the planet orbits the sun. In this case, Coco was the planet, while TianTian and Mark were the satellites, for they were always there for Coco like satellites orbiting a planet. The comparison between a planet and its satellites was a picture of the dominant and the submissive. Coco was absolutely the dominant one, while TianTian and Mark were the submissive one. She was like the female version of an alpha male of a lion pride, the one holding the power, while TianTian and Mark were the male version of lionesses, the ones who were submissive to the alpha.

The moment Coco got into a relationship with TianTian was the beginning of her domination upon him. Not long after their relationship began, Coco decided to move in to TianTian's apartment after all this time she stayed with her parents and then left her job as a waitress. She left her job because TianTian had enough money for both of them to live. Even though TianTian was a jobless man, he had a rich mother running a Chinese restaurant in Spain who sent him a lot of money

every year. Whenever he needed money, TianTian just needed to go to the post office to send letters to his mother to ask for money. It shows that Coco did not need to work for her living. She already had someone who earned money for her and gave her a shelter so she did not need to work hard or find a place to live by herself and so she could focus on writing her novel. As a matter of fact, indirectly, Coco had dominated TianTian's wealth. However, that was not all. In the 21st chapter of the novel, when TianTian was away from Shanghai and Coco, he wrote a letter to Coco which said that the only reason TianTian lived was Coco. It means that before he met Coco, he was just living a pointless life with nowhere to go, for he had a broken family which caused such trauma to him, and by the time he met Coco at the Green Stalk café, he finally found a purpose for his life again, which was to love a woman and to dedicate all his life to her. In consequence, that fact said that Coco had dominated both his love and life.

In the 2nd chapter of the thesis, it is stated that these days, women want sex and men want love. However, it does not mean that women want sex only and men want love only. Women still want love and men still want sex. The difference is that before these days, women mostly want love and men mostly want sex, and these days, women want sex as they want love and men want love as they want sex.

In *Shanghai Baby*, such transformation of intimacy is depicted in the 13th chapter of the novel. In this chapter, there is a Coco's monologue which shows that women started to dominate from time to time. It is stated that women in 1999 (the year when the novel was written) had more freedom than women of 1949, better looks than those of 1969, and a greater variety of orgasms than women of 1989. It shows that in the past, women showed more of their powers in every 20 years, and in 1999, they have more variety of orgasms, which means they did not tend to want love only in a relationship and started to want sex instead. Coco, who was also the part of 1999's women, surely wanted sex in her relationship. Since she could not get it from TianTian, Coco managed to get it by having an affair with Mark.

Anthony Giddens also stated in his book that in the past, sex for women was a reward for loving and being loved. In other words, women never wanted sex in a relationship, but they had sex with their men anyway since the men were the ones who wanted sex. If women could get love from men, men should get the sex pleasure from women. As stated above, Coco was one of 20th century women who wanted sex in a relationship.

Coco wanted sex in a relationship because it was a basic necessity. She did not have sex with the men she was in love with as a reward for loving and being loved, yet she did want sex. TianTian's impotence made her feel disappointed and wanted to leave him. However, Mark's presence had changed her disappointment towards TianTian's impotence. She could have sex with Mark without leaving TianTian. It can be said that Mark was the one who made Coco stayed with TianTian.

The statement Giddens wrote in *The Transformation of Intimacy* which said "women want sex,

men want love" does not apply only for Coco, but also for Mark. In this case, Mark was the man in the relationship who wanted love. Mark wanted to get into a serious relationship with Coco after TianTian's death, for that was a good opportunity for him. It shows that Mark did not only want sex from Coco, but he also wanted love. In other words, Coco had indirectly dominated Mark's sexual organ and heart.

The Influence of Coco's Domination to the Male Characters in the Novel

There are two men in the novel who are emotionally and sexually involved with Coco, they are TianTian and Mark. As stated before in the first part of the chapter, TianTian and Mark are the key men in Coco's life. Each of them has their own role, which fill the void in Coco's life.

Anthony Giddens divided love into two, romantic love and passionate love. In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco also had those two kinds of love, which also means that she had two lovers, TianTian and Mark. TianTian was Coco's romantic love, while Mark was Coco's passionate love.

In his book, Anthony Giddens mentioned that romantic love can be described as "love at first sight" (Giddens, 1992). The novel shows that when Coco first met TianTian, both of them started to love each other. Both Coco and TianTian was having the so-called "love at first sight". Coco and TianTian drew each other's attention in the very place where they first met. On one hand, Coco had been fascinated by TianTian's look, since he was tall, handsome, and loveable. Also, she was not in a relationship with any man at that moment. On the other hand, TianTian also seemed to like Coco, since he would stay for hours in the café where Coco worked only for drinking coffee and reading a book, which can be considered as a boring activity for most men in his age. Most men in the age of 20s generally love to earn money by working, not to drink coffee and read a book for hours in a certain place, unless reading a book will help them to earn money. Meanwhile, TianTian did not work involving reading books, in fact he did not work at all, so there must have been a reason for him to do that activity, and the reason was Coco. Also, he was lonely at that time and he needed someone to love, since he had a broken family. Eventually, these two characters fell in love to fulfill a certain absence in their lives.

According to Giddens, romantic love is where reason has no place for emotion, but in fact emotional life became reordered in the changing conditions of daily activities (Giddens, 1992.). It means that romantic love tends to fulfill the emotional feeling of the couple, not the biological need, which is why Coco never wanted to leave TianTian even he was impotent. In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco's need was only fulfilled emotionally by TianTian, due to his impotence. Even so, both Coco and TianTian still loved each other and they were emotionally bound. At first, Coco was very disappointed when she found out that TianTian was impotent, for she had a big sexual desire since college. However, the big libido she had allowed her to solve that problem. She could manage to enjoy her time with TianTian while they were on a bed together

even though he was impotent, by kissing and caressing each other. On the top of that, she also learned from TianTian that there was another joy in kissing apart from making love itself. That is the power of romantic love. As Giddens stated, in romantic love, love tends to predominate the sexual desire (Giddens, 1992). It means that Coco loved TianTian just the way he was, not because he was good at sex, in fact he could not do sex at all. However, TianTian's incapability to satisfy Coco's sexual desire could not stop her from loving TianTian madly and full-heartedly.

Due to Coco's domination upon him, TianTian often had an anxiety that she would leave him, for she was an attractive and independent young woman who had successfully dominated TianTian's heart and life, and was possible to leave him at any time. One day when he was away from Shanghai, Coco called him, and when they talked, there was a dialogue which showed TianTian's fear of being left by Coco. In that dialogue, Coco said that he was powerless while begging Coco not to leave him. It was because that TianTian was about to confess that he was taking morphine, therefore he was very afraid that Coco would leave him after she heard about it. In this situation, Coco was in a very dominant position. She could just leave TianTian whenever she wanted to. As Giddens stated in *The Transformation of Intimacy*, women no longer get under men's dominance (Giddens, 1991). In this case, it is very clear that Coco was in the dominant side. Aside from his fear of abandonment, he would not be ready to face the fact that Coco would leave him. As Daryl Sharp mentioned in his book titled *Lexicon: A Primer Terms & Concepts*, when the libido meets an unsolvable problem, the libido will regress to its earlier state (Sharp, 1991). In this case, the term "unsolvable problem" is relative, depending on who faces it. The problem here is that TianTian did not have a big libido as Coco did, making him more pessimist and tend to give up easily to certain obstacles, which also means unsolvable problems would still remain unsolvable for TianTian. Realizing that Coco was a lovely woman who could attract many men, he was haunted by fear of losing her for what he had done. He would not be able to bear that Coco would leave him forever, for he did not have somebody to live for, knowing his family had been torn apart since the death of his father.

The thing behind TianTian's lack of libido was his broken family. It was his father's death and his mother's abandonment of the family. According to Julian David, Jung's concept of Oedipus was concerned with man's troubled relationship with the unconscious source (David, 2004.). His relationship with his mother was not good; it seemed that he hated his mother for his father's death, since his grandmother was convinced that it was his mother who killed his father, and her mother left him in China to work in Spain when he was still a kid, the time when he needed the love from his mother very much.

Meanwhile, the relationship between Coco and Mark is what Giddens called "passionate love". Giddens described passionate love in his book as a generic connection between love and sexual attachment. According to him, passionate love came from an urgency

to set apart from daily routines (Giddens, 1992.).

In *Shanghai Baby*, Coco got into an affair with Mark in order to break from her daily routines as a waitress and a writer. Besides, she needed to get the satisfaction which TianTian could not give, the satisfaction of sex. Moreover, Mark could give Coco the satisfaction more than she expected.

A fact in the novel said that Coco fell into Mark because of his body. Unlike TianTian, a drug user whose body of course was not shaped well, Mark was a picture of athletic men who always took a great care about his body and health, and that body was what turned Coco on. Mark called his photos of his body as Orangutan series. It makes sense because Mark had long arms like orangutans did, yet his were better and sexier. On the other hand, Coco saw Mark in those photos as a modern version of Tarzan. In Tarzan's story, monkey was the closest animal to Tarzan, and orangutan is one of many species of monkey. Also, Tarzan was the only human living in an African jungle and he had bested many beasts there, making him the conqueror of the jungle. Coco saw Mark as a modern version of Tarzan because Mark had successfully conquered Coco.

According to Giddens, the emotional involvement between the man and the woman in a passionate love is pervasive and strong, and it may lead the man or the woman or even both of them to ignore their ordinary obligations (Giddens, 1992.). It may mean that an individual who is in a relationship with someone in the passionate love boundary, they will soon forget their problematic things happening in their life as they meet each other, for it has been stated before that passionate love is a break from daily routines. It also explains that a passionate love is a relationship with no commitment.

The relationship between Coco and Mark described the passionate love well. Their relationship has no commitment. They only feel to each other only for the quest of their joy and happiness. As Giddens stated in his book, the passionate love feels like everything in the world seems suddenly fresh (Giddens, 2002.), but it is only temporary rather than permanent. Coco said that she did not know what she meant to Mark. It means that Coco did not have any plan to be with Mark forever, for she knew that Mark had had a wife and a child, so she just took something from Mark and it was what TianTian could not give to her, the satisfaction of sex, and that was all she intended to do. It is also based on what Giddens stated in his book, passionate love is not a necessary or sufficient basis for marriage (Giddens, 1992.). Even though she was a bit jealous of Mark's wife, Mark could not replace TianTian in Coco's heart. No matter how long she was away from TianTian or close to Mark, her heart was only for TianTian, not Mark, because Mark here was her passionate love who had a role only to satisfy her sexual desire. If there was someone whom Coco would want to marry and live with, it was TianTian, not Mark.

The domination which Coco had upon Mark gave an advantage to Mark. Western men see Asian women as an exotic beauty for their gold colored skin. Due to that exoticism, Western men always seek to explore the beauty of Asian women which Caucasian women do not

have. In an article titled "Asian Women + Western Men", Henry Johnson LR stated that Western men seek a relationship with Asian women because Asian women tend to traditionally serve men, which make Western men feel re-masculated (Johnson, 2018.). In this case, Mark, who was the Western man in the novel, would not miss the chance to explore the Asian beauty in Coco. He always looked for a chance to have sex with Coco whenever they could, therefore Coco could not restrain the passion she held back this whole time when she was with TianTian and she started to love what Mark did to her. In the 13th chapter of the novel, Coco even said that Mark had entered the weak point of Coco and TianTian's relationship, and that weak point was sex pleasure. Although Mark did not know that TianTian was impotent, Coco considered Mark had broken through the vulnerability within Coco, and it worked for both of them. It worked for Coco because she finally could get the satisfaction of sex and it worked for Mark because he could explore the beauty in Coco.

In addition, Mark got into a relationship with Coco to seek pride. It is based on Anthony Giddens' statement in his book, *The Transformation of Intimacy*. In this case, Mark was known in the novel as a charismatic man who owned a big company. For a big boss like him, it was important to have the pride about women among other men. He needed someone to be proud of. For him, Coco was a woman who could be someone to be very proud of, since she was an attractive, lovely, and extraordinary woman whom was difficult to find.

CONCLUSION

The analysis of this study has found the answers for the two questions in Chapter 1, and those questions are; how is Coco's domination depicted in the novel and how does Coco's domination influence the male characters in the novel. The first question was answered in sub-chapter 1 of Chapter 3 and the second question was answered in sub-chapter 2 of Chapter 3. The analysis answered those two questions by using Carl Gustav Jung's libido and Anthony Giddens' transformation of intimacy.

Coco's domination is depicted in the novel by showing Coco having two men in her life and having problems which she could manage to solve with the best she could do. The big libido she had helped her face the problems she met in her life, including the problematic boyfriend of hers, TianTian. Even though the problems were too hard to handle, which caused her libido decreased sometimes, she still managed to deal with them and finally solved them, which caused her libido increased, making her a strong and independent woman. Also, Coco's big libido gave her a big sexual desire, and that desire needed to be fulfilled. TianTian's impotence had made her to find another man who could satisfy her big sexual desire, and that man was Mark. It can be concluded that TianTian was her romantic love; a love with a commitment, and Mark was her passionate love; a love with no commitment.

The story of Coco's life could not be separated from her two key men, TianTian and Mark. TianTian was

the man who fulfilled her desire for love; meanwhile Mark was the man who fulfilled her desire for sex. Therefore, her domination had different influences for each of them.

For TianTian, Coco's domination was something like a threat for him. He knew that he was not that good for her, for he was only an impotent young man who had no job. He was always afraid that someday Coco would leave him for a better man. Moreover, when TianTian finally found out that Coco was having affair with Mark, he was really devastated. However, he did not blame Coco for that, yet he blamed himself instead, for he realized that he could not give Coco the pleasure of having sex. However, their love bound was so strong, no matter what came to them, because they were bond in romantic love, a love with a commitment which does not only seek pleasures from each other, but also face any problem the couple faces in their life full-heartedly. Their love was so strong like there was nothing in the world able to separate them. Even TianTian death was not strong enough to separate them, because Coco would always remember him and keep him in her heart.

Meanwhile, Coco's domination was an advantage for Mark. These two seem to dominate each other in bed, for they only sought the pleasure of sex from each other. Coco had something which Mark's wife did not have and Mark had something which TianTian did not have. That kind of condition gave advantages for both Coco and Mark, Coco could get the sex pleasure she could not get from TianTian and Mark could explore more the exotic beauty of an Asian woman he could not get from his wife. In other words, it was a win-win condition for both of them. Therefore, their love was just temporary. They did not last long because they just sought sex pleasure within each other. Thus, when Mark finally went back to German for good, their relationship just ended like there was nothing. Their relationship seemed just ended as Mark left, for Coco and Mark could no longer have sex, because that was the reason of their relationship. Even though in the end of the novel wanted to get into a serious relationship with Coco, their relationship was still a passionate love, since the serious relationship had never happened for Coco did not seem to respond to it seriously.

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