



**BOOK REVIEW OF “A Whole New Light” by Sandra Brown**

**A FINAL PROJECT**

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## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The writer clarifies squarely that this project is composed by him without copying from other research in any university, in S-1, S-2, S-3 degree and diploma. Furthermore, the writer ascertains that he does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned in bibliography. All content of this project belonged the writer's responsibility.

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## **Motto and Dedication**

“ Learning to be patient is a continuously learning in life”

-Najwa Shihab

“It is okey to cry today, but you must smile and be happy  
tomorrow”.

-Muhammad Zainuri

*This final project is dedicated to my beloved mother.*

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## **Abstract**

This book review has been created to find the strength and the weakness in *A Whole New Life* written by Sandra Brown.. The strengths are located on the theme and the main characters, named Cyn and Worth. The weakness appears from the epilog. The theme is found through the dialogues delivered by Worth and Cyn.. The main characters have function to be the object where the problem lies in.

Key Words : *Sandra Brown, A Whole New Light, Book Review, Romance Strength, Weakness, ,*

# Chapter I

## Introduction

A Whole New Light is a very good novel to be read. It belongs to a very good novel because the novel was written by an American famous novelist, Sandra Brown, who has been appreciated by *New York Times* as bestseller-novel author. In 1990, a year after being published, the novel was sold in 8 billion copies. It has also been translated into several languages, such as German, Spanish, and French.

It is interesting for me to know why the novel can be sold out to 8 billion copies. It is sure that not only the writer of the novel but also the content of the novel become the reason behind it. Here, I would like to reveal the content as the reason mentioned, with strengths and the weakness.

Theme that is implied in this novel is strong, so is the characters. I like this novel because All the pages of the novel can relate to the theme of the novel. On the other side, I love to read this novel because the characters that belong to the main characters can dominate most of the pages. I enjoy the novel because It has little weakness on the epilogue.

The author herself is a prominent figure in America. She was born in Texas on March, 12, 1948 and grew up in Fort Worth. She studied at Texas Christian University, took English as her major. In 1968, She did not finish her

collegial study and she chose to marry his phenomenal husband, Michel Brown who was known as a former television news anchor.

After having marriage with Michel, Sandra Brown started working as weathercaster at KL-TV. Not long after that, she went back to Fort Worth to become a reporter for PM Magazine. To be reporter is likely not enjoyable for her career. Her husband asks her to resign from the magazine. Her husband motivates her to be a novel writer. In 1981, She started writing her first novel.

Recently, she has written 70 novels. 50 of her novels have been listed by *New York Times* as bestseller novels in America. Her novels are read not only by Americans but also by all people around the world.

## Chapter II

### Summary of A “*Whole New Light*”

Mrs. Cyn McCall is a widow living with her only son, Brandon and her mother named Ladonia. Before the death of her husband, Mr. Tom, Cyn made a entrepreneurship together with his husband. After his husband died, She continued on managing the entrepreneurship with Worth Lansing. Mr. Worth lanning was the friend of Tom and Cyn. They three were working together in the office of the entrepreneurship

After her husband was dead in car crash in New York, Cyn changed her life so much. She became a very hard worker without taking care so much of Brandon. She worked from morning until night. She commended her son to Ladonia to be taken care. Everyday, Cyn prepared the breakfast for her son in morning and soon leaves him to work. Ladonia was always accompanying him to play at home.

That day, as usual, Cyn prepared the meal for Brandon’s breakfast. She looked like a hurried girl at that morning. Ladonia reminded Cyn of being a very good mother for Brandon. Cyn and Ladonia did argumenting to each other very emotional. Cyn did not take the argumenting so long with Ladonia. She was affraid that the street heading to the office would be so traffic. She left a message that at break, she wanted to call Ladonia on phone asking brandon and his lunch.

Cyn met Worth while she was walking to the exit of the office. Worth invited her to join with him to gym. Worth often did gyming after leaving the office for home. At the gym, Cyn discussed with Worth how boring she lives her life. While discussing, Worth told Cyn that He got 2 tour tickets from His girlfriend, Greta to Acapulco, Mexico. The reason why He told it to Cyn is that Greta could not go with Worth to Acapulco because she had business in her office at the time departing to Acapulco. At the beginning, Cyn refused Worth's invitation because she had to take care of Brandon and her work. Worth kept forcing her to be able to join with him. Finally, Cyn gave up to refuse it. Worth told Ladonia on phone that He with her went to Acapulco for vacation for 3 days.

At the airport of Dallas, Worth and Cyn said goodbye to Ladonia and Brandon who took them to airport. Actually, Cyn was sad to leave both Ladonia and Brandon for vacation, but She did not show her sadness in front of them. In Acapulco, Worth and Cyn stayed at hotel with medium price. The first day, They spent their time by sleeping, talking much, and bathing in bath up. They talked about Cyn experience visiting Acapulco for the first time with Tom when Cyn and Tom were in High school. While they were talking, they viewed the beautiful scenery from the window. The second day, Worth and Cyn headed to the beach. They enjoyed the day by sunbathing and being in romance. While she was in romance with Worth, She took her time to go to the nearest market around the beach. She did not forget to buy some handgifts (buffalowhip and toygun) for her son. Worth took Cyn together to the night club to enjoy the night in Acapulco.

Cyn got jealous about how Worth was acting to two bartender girls. The next morning, They flied back to Dallas.

Back to Dallas. Cyn was asked by Ladonia and Worth was asked by his secretary, Mrs. Hardiman. Cyn answered Ladonia's question with her dissapointing answer and so Worth did. Worth never respected Greta anymore since He had experience in dating with Cyn on vacation. Cyn is still annoyed with what is done by Worth. On the other side, Mr. John masters, a doctor who assisted cyn working, was always inviting Cyn to dine and date all at once.

Ladonia has neighbour who was a widower. He is Mr. Charlie Tanton. Unexpectedly, Ladonia loved him because of Charlie's intensive meeting with Ladonia. Finally, Mr. Tanton married Ladonia and moves to a new house. Cyn lived alone with Brandon. Worth always visited Cyn to talk with her and play with Brandon. Day by day. Cyn's annoyance faded away and turns into love. Finally, They decided to marry. Cyn gave birth 3 sons.

## CHAPTER III

### Review of The Novel

#### I. The Strength

##### I.I Theme and Characters

The strengths are found on theme and the characters. According to Meyer in the *Bedford Introduction to Literature*, “theme is the center idea or meaning of a story. It provides a unifying point around which all elements of literature are organized” (1990:96). While, according to Kennedy in *Literature: An Introduction to Fiction Poetry and Drama*, “a character is presumably an imagine person who inhabits a story” (1991:47).

One of the strengths that the novel has is located on theme. Theme which of the novel can be creating chapters related to the the theme itself. I find *romance* as the theme through dialogues existing in the novel. Here are the dialogues of Worth and Cyn

“You are beautiful, Cyn. You, too. I want you. I want you too. Tremendously. .... .” (Brown, 1989:Chapter 12, page 205)

The dialogue above is revealed when Worth visited Cyn’s home. As usual, Brandon played with Worth. Brandon played so long that Brandon was tired and slept. After Worth brought him onto bedroom and let him slept soundfully, Worth started to chat with Cyn. They had intimate chat at the lounge.

Worth was flattering Cyn that he loves her because she is beautiful. The situation when they chated is like no one except them.

The word “beautiful” in the conversation above is a flattering word used by Worth to start expressing how he loves her. That word is clearly usual to be heard, but Worth says that to Cyn when they are glancing at each other deeperly. On the other side, the word tremendously said by Worth is the choosen word to make the situation more romantic. Worth can say “so much” but he change it.

“ I love you. I know. Really.I know. I love you too, Cyn.“ (Brown, 1989:Chapter 13, page 222)

The dialogue above is what finally Cyn said to Worth when Cyn would go home after attending the marriage of her mother. Worth and Cyn got into Worth’s car. They talked about how the marriage was. While they were talking, Worth paid attention to how Cyn dressed up and her make-up. They were starring each other at that time. Cyn, then, said that she loves him . Worth has known that and directly kissed Cyn’s lips.

The second dialogue is also a dialogue that is usually heard when two people are in love. The situation that Worth and Cyn chat it, makes difference. They get themselves into romantic situation. No one is in the car except them. They look at each other with smile. Then, They get into the conversation.

From the explanation above we find that theme contained in the novel is romance. We know the words used by Worth and the situations when the dialogues is delivered, are the obvious evidence to reveal the theme of the novel.



## 1.II Characters

The other strength is on the characters. It is sure that character is one of intrinsic aspects in a novel. Character is always important for a novel. Without character, novel is not interesting to be read. Imagine that there is no character, there will be no problem in the novel. As we know, the base of the novel locates on the problem that the character has. It is reasonable that character plays an important role on the novel.

The reason why characters become the strength in Sandra Brown's *A New Whole Light* is that those characters are getting involved in the most of chapters in the novel. Most chapters are filled with the events experienced by those characters. The story of the novel is focused on them because they are the people who create the problem and the resolution. I confidently believe that if those characters do not exist in the novel, the novel is considered meaningless.

There are two characters in this novel. They are Cyn McCall and Worth Lansing. The first is Cyn McCall. She is considered a workaholic widow. She prioritizes her life to work in her office since her husband died caused in an accident in New York. She is also a character who takes care so much about her only son. She is a kind worker to her office's friends.

“Worth, are you crazy? I can not go to Acapulco this weekend. Why?”. “Hundred of reasons. Tell me one. Work (Brown, 1989:Chapter 3, page 25)

From the quotes above, it is clear that Cyn is the character who is workaholic. The quote exists to strengthen Cyn loves to keep working, even the

day she is working is weekend. This quote also makes clear that Cyn wants to make herself so busy with her work, not with relaxing activities. This is the cause Cyn does not want to seek for her new life soulmate for the first time.

“I never leave him to stay since Tim died” Cyn’s expression with guilty and worry, An universal motherhood. ((Brown, 1989:Chapter 3, page 31)

The second quote comes to make sure that Cyn loves her son so much. She feels sad if she has to go to a place and leaves her son alone with Ladonia at home. She thinks that the existence of her son will change the absence of her died husband for the rest of her life. It goes little wrong that she expresses her boredom to Worth even she does not know what to do.

. The second character is Worth Lansing. Worth Lansing is a friend of Cyn’s husband, Tim. He is who is very kind man to Cyn, her mother and son. He is good at seducing Cyn to join with him to Acapulco. He also likes to play with her son, Brandon.

“.....because the man are playing with Brandon on the lounge’s floor .....” ((Brown, 1989:Chapter 9, page 115)

The quote above reveals that Worth is a good care-taker of Cyn’s son. However this is how Worth does approaching to Cyn because he loves her. Before going back to New Jersey, Cyn feels annoyed to Worth about his attitude at drinking bar in Acapulco. Worth makes it better after they arrive in New Jersey. Worth always goes to Cyn’s house to play with her son.

Worth was a playboy. He liked to have a date with many girls and to do gyming after working. He built relationship with girls many times. He is the man who is capable of changing Cyn's Life to come out from remembering her husband's death. As I quoted below

"I'm sure You have listed many beautiful girls you really want to date on this weekend to Acapulco "Of course" replied Worth firmly (Brown, 1989:Chapter 2, page 21)

It is good for Sandra brown making Cyn McCall and Worth Lansing as the main characaters in this novel. Most of chapters are designed to reveal the intimste conversation between Worth and Cyn at office, Cyn's home and when in Acapulco.. Sandra Brown really wants to focus on the love gained by Cyn after Her husband's death through the main characters..

## II. Weakness

In my point of view, The weakness of the novel is on the story. The story itself is little bit less focused. The whole story of the novel tells about Cyn with her son seeking a new husband after her old husband, Mr. Tom, died because of the car crash in New York. After having vacation for 3 days with Worth (Tom and Cyn's office mate), Cyn's thought to not have a new husband is changed. Cyn and worth finally get married. But in the middle of the story, It is less focused that the story tells the Cyn's mother similiar problem with Cyn. The mother of Cyn seeks for a new hsband too. Finally, Cyn's mother marries with her neighbor. I think that this is the weakness of the novel

## Chapter IV

### Conclusion

The very important things appear in this novel such as the theme and the main characters. Those very important things are created to make readers get attracted much more.

The strengths get on the main characters, named Cyn and Worth. The weakness appears in the story. The theme conveys about What idea or topic the writer of a novel want in her or his novel to create the story . The main characters have function to be the object where the problem lies in. The weakness is on the existance of Cyn's Mother same problem.She also wants to have a new husband. This makes the story little bit less-focused

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