



**THE FRENCH WOMEN'S RESISTANCE
DURING WORLD WAR II IN ANTHONY
DOERR'S *ALL THE LIGHT WE CANNOT SEE***

A FINAL PROJECT

**In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the S-1 Degree Majoring Literature in the English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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2019

PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer states that this project entitled “The French Women’s Resistance During World War II in Anthony Doerr’s *All the Light We Cannot See*” is compiled by herself and without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3, and in diploma degree of any university. The writer also ascertains that she does not take any material from other papers or works except from the list mentioned in the references.

Semarang, 11th July 2019

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MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“Bismillahirrahmanirrahim”

“In the name of Allah, the most gracious, the most merciful.”

(Al Quran)

*This final project is dedicated to
My self, my family, and everyone who has helped me much in accomplishing this
final project.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All praise be to Allah Swt, the most merciful and powerful who has given the strength to the writer to finish this final project entitled “The French Women’s Resistance during World War II in Anthony Doerr’s *All the Light We Cannot See*”. Peace and blessing be upon Rasulullah SAW. On this occasion, the writer would like to send her gratitude towards all people who have contributed to the completion of this research report.

The writer especially would like to extend her sincere gratitude and appreciation to the following:

1. Dr. Nurhayati, M.Hum., the Dean of Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University.
2. Dr. Agus Subiyanto, M.A., the Head of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.
3. Drs. Jumino, M.Lib. M.Hum, my final project advisor, who has given me his continuous guidance, helpful correction, support, advice and suggestion, without which it is doubtful that this final project came into completion.
4. All of the lecturers in English Department, especially in Literature Major Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University.
5. My beloved parents, Machmud and Tri Sulasih who always give me their best love and support in any way. My sister and my brother-in-law, Rizky Dewi Wulandari and Teguh Prayitno, for supporting me. And also my beloved niece, Anneysha Zahsy Ramadhani who always bring me joy and happiness.

6. My best of the best friend, Indah Wijayanti. Thank you for being my best friend for 8 years and still counting. Thank you for always supporting in my ups and down, listening to me, and being my shoulder to lay on.
7. My other best friend, Anissa Dyah Pertiwi who always supports and cares me, Annisa Rahmi Pratiwi who always becomes my partner in doing foolish stuff, Putri Lestari who always gives me her best wish sincerely, Deni Sanjaya who is my younger sister that I can tell all my stories, Elsanti Andalusia who is always super kind to me, Rendayu Lindung Bulan and Farah Disria for beautiful memories we have shared together.
8. LPM Manunggal batch 2014, Hamid Safrijal, M. Fajrin Ardhi, Sholihatun Nissa, Dwi Harti Pujiana, Lilis Sujianto, Faqih Sulthan, Suryaningrum Ayu, Jazaak Firdaus, Verawati Meidiana, Hayyina Hilal, and all of my family in LPM Manunggal Undip. Thank you for your best wishes and supports.
9. All members of English Department Batch 2014, thank you for the memories.
10. All crew and ex-crew in Inibaru.id, Mas Galih, Mbak Ida, Mbak Ike, Mbak Zummy, Pak Saroni, Dimas, Mayang, Umu. Thank you for all the great experiences and memories that I get for several months.

The writer realizes that this final project is still far from being perfect. Therefore, the writer will be glad to receive any constructive criticism and suggestions to make this final project better. Finally, the writer expects that this final project will be useful for the readers.

Semarang 16th July 2019

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ABSTRACT

The final project is focussed on the movement organization that formed from events depicted in a novel Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*. The final project is aimed at analyzing the success of resistance movements during World War II in the novel which will be analyzed. The writer will focus the study in resistance actions carried out by resistance movement's members. The writer used library research and internet research to get the appropriate data and information to make a valid final project. The writer also uses close reading method in analyzing *All the Light We Cannot See* to understand more about various actions of the resistance movement in the novel. With the light of Scott's Everyday Resistance theory, the writer finds that the resistance movement carried out by powerless people implied in the novel can cause a huge impact to end the war.

Keywords : *All the Light We Cannot See*; James C. Scott; Resistance Movement; Everyday Resistance; World War II

ABSTRAK

Proyek akhir ini difokuskan kepada organisasi pergerakan yang terbentuk dari kejadian-kejadian yang digambarkan dalam sebuah novel karya Anthony Doerr All the Light We Cannot See. Proyek akhir ini ditujukan untuk menganalisis kesuksesan gerakan perlawanan selama Perang Dunia II di dalam novel yang akan dianalisis. Penulis akan memfokuskan penelitiannya kepada aksi-aksi perlawanan yang dilakukan oleh para anggota gerakan perlawanan. Penulis menggunakan kajian pustaka dan kajian internet untuk mendapatkan data dan informasi yang sesuai untuk membuat proyek akhir yang valid. Penulis juga menggunakan metode close reading dalam menganalisis All the Light We Cannot See untuk lebih memahami tentang beragam aksi-aksi gerakan perlawanan di dalam novel. Dengan bantuan teori Everyday Resistance oleh Scott, penulis menemukan bahwa gerakan perlawanan yang dilakukan oleh masyarakat yang tak berdaya yang terimplikasi dalam novel dapat menimbulkan pengaruh yang besar untuk mengakhiri peperangan.

Kata kunci : All the Light We Cannot See; James C. Scott; Gerakan Perlawanan; Perlawanan Sehari-hari; Perang Dunia II

1. Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

World War II which happened in 1939-1945 was the biggest war in the world which involved countries in Europe, United States of America, and Asia. One of the causes that created war was a politic expansion of Germany and Italy which were allied that marked with the relation of Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini.

The writer sees the problem of German authority and its bad effect towards the people depicted in the novel contains history by Anthony Doerr entitled *All the Light We Cannot See*. The novel mainly talks about the young-orphan boy named Warner Pfennig and the blind girl named Marie-Laure who have to struggle during the German occupation in France. Werner as the Germany boy who has forced to be a soldier in his young age reflects the brutality of Hitler governance. Moreover, the German expansion in France cause many victims. Marie-Laure, with all of her limitation to see, has the desire to fight against the German. Furthermore, it is Marie-Laure's efforts who has an important role in freeing French from Germany.

All The Light We Cannot See depicts the people suffering during German expansion in France. The author wants the readers to learn that war has a deeper and wider impact than people have thought, that there are many victims in the middle of the war. The writer analyses the novel with regards understanding of the

resistance movement. Based on the explanation above, the study will be focused on the social aspect of the novel.

1.2 Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, this paper discusses the characters focusing on the sociological aspect of the story in the *All the Light We Cannot See*. The writer formulates the problem as follows.

1. Why does the resistance movement club hold an important part to free France from Germany occupation?
2. What does the resistance movement club do to drive away German?

1.3 Scope of the Study

This study is limited to characters, characterization, and setting as its intrinsic aspects. For the extrinsic aspect, the writer focuses on the French resistance movement during World War II in France.

1.4 Methods of the Study

The writer uses library research to arrange this study. According to George (2008: 6), library research is a data form search compiled with exact tools and rules which can link the original resource or expert explanation related to research and significant component of each research method at an important point. By using this method, the writer collects theories and information from books to support analysis. The writer also uses internet research as other sources to find some additional information that is not found in the library research. The writer sought

in form of journals or electronic books. Based on Wellek and Austin Warren “The majority of students could find the material sources in libraries and other reference books that have a similarity. That, undoubtedly, is the important things of almost every literature student. (1962: 58)”. Furthermore, the writer uses resistance movement theory and also uses a sociological approach to understand the success of resistance movement club in the novel.

2. Author and His Work

2.1 Biography

Anthony Doerr was born in 1973. He was born and grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. He graduated from Bowdoin College in Brunswick, Maine, majoring in history in 1995. He continued to study and obtained a degree of Master in Fine Arts (MFA) from Bowling Green University. Doerr with his three family member currently live in Boise, Idaho.

Doerr is also working as a professor at Boise State University’s MFA in creative writing. He became a writer in residence from 2007 to 2010. He is also a writer in a column of science books for *The Boston Globe* and an online publication, *The Morning News*.

Anthony Doerr has published two novels, one memoir, and two short story collections. His first published are a short story collection book, *The Shell Collector* (2003) and a novel, *About Grace* (2004). His memoir was published in

2007 about the time when he spent in Rome with his family. And also the novel *All the Light We Cannot See* (2014) which was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2015 and the 2015 Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Fiction.

For the inspiration of *All the Light We Cannot See*, Doerr puts elements of the story, such as the historical facts and the setting, as in the real story. He visited Saint-Malo several times during the course of writing, which is what made the place feel so alive in every page. Only the characters are come from Doerr's imagination.

2.2 Summary

Marie-Laure LeBlanc was lived with her father who works as a locksmith in the Museum of Natural History in Paris. She was a sixteen-year-old girl but she became blind when she was six. Her father, Daniel LeBlanc, made a wooden model of the Saint-Malo city in detail. He built the model to make Marie-Laure able to navigate herself whenever she went out.

When the German army occupied Paris in 1940, Marie-Laure and her father fled to her great-uncle's house in Saint-Malo, named Etienne. But then, Marie-Laure's father was arrested by Germans soldier. He was sent to a German prison camp and left her daughter with Etienne LeBlanc and Madame Manec, the housekeeper.

Madame Manec was also a member of Old Ladies' Resistance Club, the resistance group consists of old women that aims to free France with a small

action. She was invited Marie-Laure to join the club. After Madam Manec died, Etienne and Marie-Laure use the radio transmitter to broadcast Allied intelligence for the French's resistance.

While in another place, there was Werner who had eighteen years old sent to the Saint-Malo for a mission to locating and destroying anti-German radio broadcasts in Paris. In the end, Marie-Laure and her resistance club succeed to call Allies army and freed France, but Werner was captured by Allies army as a prisoner of war until he was died.

3. Theoretical Framework

3.1 Intrinsic Elements

The writer thinks that theories of intrinsic elements are noteworthy to understand the basic element for creating the storyline in the novel. There are some theories that will be discussed, those are characters, characterization, and settings.

3.1.1 Characters and Characterization

One of the intrinsic elements in literary fiction is the character. According to Bennet in *An Introduction to Literature, Criticism, and Theory*, characters are important parts to liven up a literary work. These parts, which Bennet stated, become “objects of our curiosity and attraction, affection and dislike, admiration and criticism (2004: 73)”. Of course, the relationship between the reader and the characters becomes so strong that the characters are not just objects.

Characters make the story feels real. Characters can create their own character from their social environment, psychological condition, and anything which can make the characters become the object of literary work itself.

In the fiction book, a good writer can give the illusion that the character is real. The character itself is not the actual person but instead has been created by the author. The author expresses the characters of imaginary persons. As cited from *A Handbook to Literature*, Holman explains the characterization is the

formation of imaginary characters so that their existence feels real to the reader but is limited by fiction (Holman, 1980: 75).

There are three ways to determine the characterization of the character that is the presentations of the character through direct exposition, in action, and the representation within the character (Holman, 1980: 75).

3.1.3 Setting

Setting is a situation where an event in a story happens. It is described by Abrams (1999: 284), that the setting is the general location, chronological time, and social situations in which events in the story occur.

Holman (1980: 413) states that setting may include the location, the occupation and daily behavior of the characters, and the time in which the action of the story happen. Setting also can highlight the religion, personality, moral, social, and emotion of the characters.

It is supported by Murphy (1972:41), setting is the background needed by the characters to live in the story. Based on Murphy's definition, there are three types to consider: time, place, and atmosphere.

3.2 Extrinsic Element

The writer thinks that theories of extrinsic elements are important to understand the additional element that connects the story in the novel with real life. The theory that will be discussed in the extrinsic elements is the resistance movement using social movement theory.

3.2.1 Resistance Movement

The word “resistance” has a diverse meaning. Resistance is commonly known in the sociology or political science because it can describe various actions and behaviors of human being and amounts of different things such as political system, entertainment, literature, and workplace (Hollandder and Einwohner, 2004: 534). Meanwhile, movement is “a critical term denoting action or incident” (Holman, 1980: 279). For the distinct meaning, movement can be defined by Merriam-Webster as a combination of strategic actions working to the purpose.

As mentioned above, “resistance” is related to the political and social term, so it can be understood that every resistance movement has an objective in those both interests. *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms* (2016: 204) describes resistance movement as a group of the civilian population of a country that has organized effort to resist the certain government or the occupying power that stir up trouble the stability of civil order. It is also convinced by Norman Jean Profitt that cited from Hollander and Einonhner (2004: 525), that resistance is a collective effort that actively opposes, opposes, and refuses to cooperate with governments that have abusive behavior and excessive control.

Discussing resistance is not only around the concept of the resistance, but the reader also can extrapolate implicit information from the author's use of the term. Two elements commonly used of the resistance's term are action and opposition. The first element is the action. Resistance is not only related to actors and circumstances but also involves active, verbal, cognitive, and physical

actions. As Hollander and Einwohner cite from Rubin (2004: 538), actions that are carried out consciously, collectively, and directly challenge the structure of power.

The second element that is almost always used in terms of resistance is opposition. Trethewey explains that any behavior or discourse that aims to oppose or disrupt the dominant bureaucratic system has a sense of opposition (1997: 288). The sense of opposition is obvious. The general elements are very clear because, in resistance, there is always an activity that is opposite to someone or something else.

The act of resistance can be carried out individually or collectively, extensive or limited to an area. The cooperation between resisters depends on the extent of their intention to act together. Resistance is different from a revolution. As Hollander and Einwohner cited from Prasad and Pushkala Prasad idea that Revolutions and common protest activities have clear coordination, while resistance has little or no coordination among doers (Hollander and Einwohner 2004: 536).

There are eight types of resistance defined by a combination of the actor's intent, target's recognition, and observer's recognition. (Hollander and Einwohner, 2004: 544). However, the writer only explains one of the resistance's types, that is, covert resistance which is in accordance with the novel analyzed.

Covert resistance can be interpreted as resistance by various parties in which their actions are intentional yet out of attention by their targets (Hollander

and Einwohner, 2004: 545). They take action silently without being known by their targets, but by other observers, they are recognized as resistance.

This covert resistance can also be referred to as “everyday resistance”, as said by a political scientist, Scott, in his book *Weapons of the Weak: Everyday Forms of Peasant Resistance*. According to Scott, people who do not have power often do not have open resources or opportunities to fight the authorities. Even so, these powerless people have their own ways to fight against the authorities, namely “foot-dragging, dissimulation, false compliance, pilfering, feigned ignorance, slander, arson, sabotage, and so forth (Scott, 1985:29).”

4. Discussion

4.1 Intrinsic Elements

4.1.1 Characters and Characterizations

There are many characters in *All the Light We Cannot See*, but the writer will only focus on analyzing the characterizations of the characters who are directly involved in the resistance movement process.

4.1.1.1 Marie-Laure LeBlanc

Marie-Laure is a sixteen-years-old girl who is blind since she is six-years-old. She only lives with her father, Daniel LeBlanc. Her mother has died in childbirth. Marie-Laure and her father live in Paris. But when German attacked Paris in 1940, they move to Saint-Malo.

Marie-Laure physical appearance is tall, slender, auburn hair, and has many freckles on her face (Doerr, 2014: 411). She is also smart and brave. Even though she is blind, she can quickly memorize the road. In just a few days, she is able to memorize the road to the beach. She can also buy loaves from Madame Ruelle's shop by herself. While carrying out the mission given by Madame Manec, Marie-Laure can run it well without getting lost (Doerr, 2014: 322). Even when

confronted by a German who claims to be a local resident, Marie-Laure can act decisively and hold back his fear.

4.1.1.2 Madame Manec

From Marie-Laure explanations, Madame Manec has a short body because Marie-Laure can hear she wears blocky shoes which are shoes that have a small size and heavy. Madame Manec has a low voice and fairy-tale drawl as the way she speaks. From Marie-Laure's perspective, Madame Manec seems has physically short and has a low voice like a sailor's or a smoker's voice. (Doerr, 2014: 120). She also has big and thick hands. (Doerr, 2014: 127)

Madame Manec is seventy-six years old woman and has dedicated herself to the Etienne family for six decades. She is like a family. She is very good at cooking. Besides, she also takes care of all the housework as well as caring for the people who live in Etienne's house. Marie-Laure says Madame Manec already becomes a housemaid, nurse, confederate, counselor, chef, and mother (Doerr, 2014: 320).

Madame Manec is a wise and courageous person. She is also the most eager person to fight the Germans. When Madame Manec telling about her idea to do resistance, Etienne doubts it and say that the idea is ridiculous. Then Madame Manec says, "It's better than not acting at all...Don't you want to be alive before you die?" (Doerr, 2014: 270).

Even in her 70s age, Madame Manec still has youth spirit inside her. She is the one who always cheers Etienne and Marie-Laure when they are lost of hope. She always has a positive mind even in the middle of the war. “and I can still feel like this? Like a little girl with stars in my eyes? (Doerr, 2014: 253).” It means that even though Madame Manec is not young anymore, she still has the spirit of a young girl and she can feel it. And also, Madame Manec becomes the originator of the establishment of the Old Ladies' Resistance Club.

4.1.1.3 Etienne

Etienne is Marie-Laure's great-uncle. Madame Manec tells to Marie-Laure that Etienne is scared of going outside the house. He has become like that since he was going to war with Marie-Laure's grandfather. Etienne had seen many people die behind the walls and many horrible things in every nook of the streets. That is why Etienne always in his home for years. Even so, Madam Manec also said to Marie-Laure that her great-uncle is a wonder. He is curious about anything so he knows many things than other people in the town (Doerr, 2014: 127).

Marie-Laure defines her great-uncle as a kind, smart, and not the kind of insane person as she is afraid of, but Etienne is a quiet person. He is kind of person who says a little but knows a lot. “Stillness: this is what he radiates more than anything else. The stillness of a tree. Of a mouse blinking in the dark (Doerr, 2014: 135).”

4.1.2 Setting

4.1.2.1 Setting of Time

The setting of time is an important part of the novel because it depicts the atmosphere during World War II that happened in France and its surrounding. The author also makes every important year become the title chapter of the novel. It is shown that the time of each event is important. There are thirteen chapters in the novel, but the placement of time is not coherent because the author intentionally uses back and forth plot.

The important years used as the chapter in the novel are 1934, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1974, and 2014, but there are some years that often appear in the novel that is 1941, 1942, and 1944. In the novel, the year 1944 mostly appears in the novel because this is the year where World War II happened and German was occupied Saint-Malo to make it as defense place from allied attack. Also in that year, Saint-Malo was collapsed and many people were dead because of the bomber or arrested by German. Especially, the author had marked the day in 7, 8, 9, and 12 of August 1944 because those days were the darkest days of Saint-Malo. That day, Saint-Malo was burned and destroyed because of the war between Germans and allies.

Another important year is 1941 because the resistance movement appeared in this year. The resistance movement becomes an important part of freeing Saint-Malo from the occupier. The resistance movement in the novel has the name Old Ladies' Resistance Club. Moreover, another year also cannot be missed is June 1940. This is the day when the Germans occupied Paris, France. Many people were hiding and trying to rescue themselves to another safe place.

4.1.2.2 Setting of Place

4.1.2.2.1 Saint-Malo

Saint-Malo is officially a seaport city in Brittany region, northwestern France. Saint-Malo is a city surrounded by waters. There are not many routes that connect Saint-Malo with France, only a causeway road, a bridge, and a formed sand road (Doerr, 2014: 11). Saint-Malo is also well-known as the walled city because of the city surrounded by the walls (Doerr, 2014: 118).

During the World War II, Saint-Malo became a crucial place to Germany's defense along the Atlantic coast after it successfully occupied France in June 1940. Then in August 1944, Hitler used Saint-Malo to defend Nazi-occupied France from the allies attack on the Atlantic coast.

Not only that, there is also Etienne's house in Saint-Malo which is an important place in the novel because many moments happen in this house. Especially, Etienne's house is the place where the Old Ladies' Resistance Club is formed, a place where radio transmitters are the key to the success of the resistance, and Marie-Laure's last refuge during the war.

4.1.2.2.3 Paris

Marie-Laure and his father lived in Paris since she was born until she was 12 years old when German begun occupied Paris in 1940. In the beginning, she thought that she could live in Paris with her father forever (Doerr, 2014: 72).

Paris was the first city occupied by Nazi Germany after they defeated France in World War II. Before German troops entered the Paris area, most Parisians had fled to other places.

4.1.2.3 Setting of Atmosphere

4.1.2.3.1 Panick and Worry

At the end of the year 1939 in the novel, there is an announcement that France lost in the war and Germans will occupy Paris. Many Parisian are panic. They pack clothes, valuables, and lock their homes. In a hurry, they leave Paris and flee to the west, looking for a safe place. The streets are chaos in deadlocked traffic because vehicles and humans scramble to get through the streets. However, all road access and the gate are closed, and no more trains are moving (Doerr, 2014: 87).

4.1.2.3.2 Tense and Terrified

August 1944, a war between Germans and allies occurred in Saint-Malo. The two sides dropped bombs. As a result, the city of Saint-Malo was destroyed, houses and most of the objects were burned. The silent road becomes a sea of fire. Only Marie-Laure lives in Etienne's house. She hears the sound of a bomb blast and smells smoke burning something. She remembers his father, Madame Manec, and Etienne. "Flames scamper up walls...The fires pool and strut; the flow up the sides of the ramparts like tides; the splash into alleys, over rooftops, through a carpark. Smoke chases dust; ash chases smoke. A newsstand floats, burning (Doerr, 2014:95)"

4.2 Extrinsic Element

4.2.1 Old Ladies' Resistance Club

One of the factors of the end of World War II is the resistance movements. Those movements become an important part of freeing Saint-Malo from the occupier openly or clandestinely ways. In the novel, the author delivers a resistance movement that followed by old women called Old Ladies' Resistance Club.

This resistance movement is initiated by Madame Manec, a housemaid from Saint-Malo who wants to free her own land of birth from German occupying. Madame Manec gathers her friends and suggests them to fight against German. Madame Manec's friends are not expert in war or expert in using guns. They are just a group of women at the age of no longer young but they have the same dream to free their land-living. The group of old women consists of Madame Ruelle, a baker's wife; Madame Carré, the florist; Madame Hébrard, the postmistress; Madame Blanchard, ancient widow; Madame Guiboux, mother of the shoemaker, and Madame Fontineau. Although those old women are just baker, housemaid, or shoemaker, they have a faith that they have an important role in the world, like Madame Manec said: "We're the ones who make their world run," (Doerr, 2014: 249).

Madame Manec and her friends know that they do not have the capability to resist on a massive scale because they have fewer resources and are not young anymore, but they have faith that the small things they did can make a big change. (Doerr, 2014: 249). They also have motivation “better to make something even a little rather than do nothing”. Like what Madame Manec says, she wants to fight until the end because she wants to feel alive. “Don’t you want to be alive before you die? (Doerr, 2014: 370)”.

The resistance carried out by Madam and his friends is referred to James Scott as “everyday resistance”. The members of the resistance movement are a group of people who do not have power. They are lack of resources, wealth, or weapons to fight authorities but, they resist in accordance with their ability or even their daily occupation (Scott, 1985: 29). Those small resistance movements tend to be unnoticed by the authorities. Although it is a small action but is done continuously, it will make a big result.

4.2.2 The Action of Resistance

The “everyday resistance” carried out by old women is indeed really close and relatable with the old women’s daily jobs. The evidence of the actions as contained in the novel, such as when Madame Carré, a florist, tucks a fistful of goldenrod flowers into goods arrangement headed for the chateau which is the garrison commander’s headquarter. She did that because Madame Fontineau hears that German garrison commander has an allergy to goldenrod flower, so it makes him sneezing all the time (Doerr, 2014: 252). Then, there is Madame Hebrard who

takes a small action through her work as a postmistress. She takes a letter that looks notable from Berlin addressed to German, then she hides it into her underpants, brings it to her home then burns it, so the letter will never be read by German. Her action makes German communication with other parties disturbed. (Doerr, 2014: 252).

Another action did by Madame Ruelle, the baker's wife. She secretly drives her husband's car at dusk with Madame Guiboux and randomly changes the direction of the road signs. Their action can make Germans who do not know Saint-Malo streets will get lost (Doerr. 2014:252). Not just that, the women also intentionally deliver shipments from the rayon to the wrong destination and deliberately misprint the train schedule. Those actions indirectly ruin German's communication and activity.

Besides doing actions that are unnoticed by the occupier, the old ladies also do a little action to show their existence. For the evidence, Madame Guiboux and her grandsons coloring a stray dog with the French flag's color. Then they take the dog running in front of Place Chateaubriand where Germans are there (Doerr, 2014: 252). That action is to show that the French people still has the spirit to fight the occupiers. Not only that, Madame Manec asks their friends to give Madame Blanchard, an ancient widow, some money and she says to her to write "Free France Now" on every five-franc. "No one can afford to destroy money, right? Once everyone has spent their bills, our little message will go out all over Brittany." (Doerr, 2014:253)

But, there is an important action that becomes the turning point of France victory towards Germany. The action key of the resistance is telling the location of the German soldier to the France alliance. Madame Manec is the brain behind the idea of resistance. She reveals her idea at a meeting of Old Ladies' Resistance Club, including Etienne and Marie-Laure. From the people present at the meeting, only Etienne who doubts the plan of resistance will not be succeed. Madame Manec convinces Etienne that he can do it. Madame Manec says that Etienne can use an old radio transmitter in the attic of his house, then Etienne only needs to read the number that showed the coordinate location of German presence on the radio (Doerr, 2014: 269).

Until Madame Manec is death, Etienne still doubts the idea. It takes several days for Etienne to realize and believe Madame Manec's idea. Then, he asks Marie-Laure about the secret mission of what they should do. Marie-Laure explains the plan to Etienne. She has memorized the direction of Saint-Malo streets and then she will go to Madame Ruelle's bakery and she says:

“...I am supposed to say, ‘One ordinary loaf,
and she supposed to say, ‘And how is your uncle?’”
“She will ask about me?”
“She is supposed to. That’s how she will know that you are willing to
help. It’s what Madame suggested. Part of the protocol.”
“And you will say?”
“I will say, ‘My uncle is well, thank you.’ And I will take the loaf and
put it in my knapsack and come home.” (Doerr, 2014:322)

After Marie-Laure takes the loaf containing the strips of paper, Etienne will do his next assignment. He will read the row of numbers written on the paper which is the position code of German soldiers. “The first three might be frequencies, I

can't be sure. The fourth—twenty-three hundred—might be an hour...567, 32,3011, 2300, 110, 90, 146, 7751,” (Doerr, 2014: 327-328). Etienne and Marie-Laure do that action continually, so the France allies can find out the position of their enemy.

All the resistances carried out by the old ladies cause a significant influence to end the war. They do everything they can to block and to prevent German from taking over their land. These small acts of resistance do not immediately drive German soldiers away from Saint-Malo, but the minor disturbances they have done can make the soldiers feel uncomfortable at staying in Saint-Malo. So with that action, Old Ladies' Resistance hopes that German soldiers can lift their feet from their land. Despite they have done resistance as best as they can, they still need help from allies through the radio which only Etienne has.

5. Conclusion

All the Light We Cannot See is a novel depicts that World War II had caused great chaos in the world. World War II took many lives and made the victims suffered for years. More than that, *All the Light We Cannot See* brings evidence that the great war could be stopped by actions carried out by resistance movements.

The resistance movements come from people who are victims of World War II. They do not want their land to be occupied by an authoritarian foreign government. They no longer want their families, friends, and neighbors to be victims of war. They do whatever they can to fight authority. They do small actions but are carried out continuously so they can expel the occupier out of their land. This is the reason why the resistance movement has an important role in World War II.

The resistance movement which can be called “everyday resistance” does not have human resources who have the skills to fight, has no wealth and power, nor sophisticated tools to win the battle. In *All the Light We Cannot See*, the resistance movement is represented by Old Ladies' Resistance initiated by Madame Manec. The movement consisting of old women is indeed unable to go to war, but they have a strong spirit. They unite their forces then make organized plans and use simple tools they have to fight.

All of their strengths are spirit and hope. Madame Manec's hopes for feeling life before death. The hopes of old women are not to see people die nor put in jail. Marie-Laure's hopes of meeting her father again and Etienne's hopes to be able to take care of family members he has. The spirit is what keeps them struggling, namely the spirit to defend their homeland, the enthusiasm to protect themselves, the love of every people to their loved ones, and the spirit to be free from the cruel authority.

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