

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some subchapters, namely background of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study. Those are important to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of The study

There are many reasons why people enjoy to read literary work. One of the reasons is because the readers may get not only an entertainment but also knowledge of human history in a certain period and can portray the author's life. Many kinds of literary work can be the media to express their imagination and idea; one of them is a novel.

According to Gill, novel is a world especially made in words by an author and one of the form of literary works which has been popular for centuries, even today (1995, p. 77). It shows that novel contains a lot of information particularly about history and social condition at that time. The authors usually write the story based on the social reality. However, nowadays, they do not only talk about the social themes but also create the work based on their imagination that is wonderful to be discussed. By using their mind, they are able to produce an expression of their feeling, emotion and also think to communicate with each character in the story. For example, *A great and terrible beauty* by Libba

Bray that tells about the adventure of the main character to the world of mysterious magical secrets in victorian era.

The characters in a novel usually are presented completely, because characters is the most important part of the novel. Abrams and Harpham (2009, p. 42) explain that characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work who are interpreted by the reader as possessing particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctiveways of saying it—the dialogue—and from what they do—the action. It shows that what the character says in the dialogue explains the moral of the character and also describes the action of character itself. This condition usually based on the characteristics of physical, the condition of social, behavior, and habit of the character. It also explains show the relation between the characters is directly or indirectly and gives the illustration more clearly and detail about the situation of the character in the novel.

In this study, the literary work of Libba Bray's *A Great and Terrible Beauty* is chosen as the source of data. Libba Bray is chosen because she is one of the famous American authors who in her first novel *A Great and Terrible Beauty* 2003 become a New York Times best seller. The huge success that came with her debut novel, *A Great and Terrible Beauty*, Bray then continued the saga the protagonist of Gemma Doyle into a second novel, *Rebel Angels* and then into a trilogy with the release of *The Sweet Far Thing*. The all series become extremely popular, especially within young adult girls. *Rebels Angels* won the 2006 ALA Best Book for Young Adults award and in 2007 was nominated for the Colorado

Blue Spruce Young Adult Book Award. Bray's latest novel was released in 2009, entitled *Going Bovine* and has gained popularity among its audience. Because of her wonderful imagination and her brilliant idea, her works always get some praises.

Libba Bray's *A Great and Terrible Beauty* introduces to the readers about the world of mysterious magical secrets in Victorian era. This novel tells about the one character named Gemma Doyle 16 year old, who has magical vision that make she is able to cross over into the realms of the world where wishes become reality. She should leave India to study at Spence Academy in London in order to obtain a good behavior. Related to her ability, she tries to reach the most exalt happiness to herself related to her magical gift. Gemma and her friends also wish that they can break up the magical secrets in Spence Academic and hope to meet her mother who has already died. All aspects of Gemma's environment, especially her school, family and her friends try to restrain her personality that effect her process to make decision. Furthermore, the consequences of her motive action creates a very crucial part of her life to show how her choices change her personality into the different character in the society related to her ability of magical visions.

In addition, the most interesting of Bray's work is the way that she uses to describe the personality of her main character, Gemma Doyle. The character is introduced through the representative of the real life, which deals with human life, passion or ambition, desire, joy, and sadness that related to her magical gift. Sometimes, Gemma experiences anxiety because of some reasons related to her

magical vision. Therefore, that experience gives influences to Gemma's personality in real life. From this study, the readers will find out how the author portrays the character's personality which is related to the behaviour.

Previously, this novel, *A Great and terrible beauty* had already been analyzed by Romauling Manurung (2011) by using intrinsic elements theory, focuses on moral values of the main character. Then, there are researchers who analyze different novels by using theory of personality, especially about structure personality. The first researcher is Deborah Pasaribu (2009) who analyzes Jodi Picoult's *My Sister Keeper*. The second researcher is Rifky Aris Sandy (2012) Andre Aciman's *Call Me By Your Name*. Those people use the same theory to analyze personality of main character in each novel. Whereas, this study is going to analyze the personality of main character, Gemma Doyle related to her magical gift in Libba Bray's *A Great and Terrible Beauty*.

Therefore, to analyze Gemma's personality, theory of personality by Sigmund Freud's is applied. It focuses more on the structure of personality and the dynamic personality of the character. Freud explains that theory of personality is referred to as psychoanalytic theory, focus on hidden forces and underlying mechanism, which he believed motivate a person's action (cited in Sacuzzo 1987, p. 413). It shows that personality is a part of psychoanalytic theory which focuses on a person's action such as emotion, passion or ambition, feeling and desire. In addition, personality can be conceptualized in term of three-part of structure—the id, ego, and super ego—which operate at any one more of three levels of awareness: conscious, preconscious, and unconscious (Freud, cited in

Saccuzo, 1987, p. 413). Shortly, since this study is focused on Gemma's personality, theory of personality is appropriate to be used in analyzing this novel. *Gemma's personality related to her magical gift in Libba Bray's A Great and Terrible* is chosen to be the title of this study.

1.2 Statement of Research Problems

Based on the background of the study, this study is going to discuss about Gemma's personality related to the magical gift in Libba Bray's *A great and terrible beauty*. Then, the problem are founded as following questions, they are:

1. How is Gemma's structure of personality (id, ego, superego) related to her magical gift ?
2. How is Gemma's anxiety seen from dynamic of personality related to her magical gift ?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

Related to the statement of research problem above, the objective of the study is:

1. To reveals how Gemma's structure personality is related to her magical gift
2. To describes Gemma's anxiety seen from the dynamic of personality.

1.4 Significances of The Study

The significances of the study are:

1. Helping the students of English Department who are interested in analyzing the same novel or the same theory to use the result of this study as a reference for the further study.

2. Giving a better understanding on the theory of psychoanalytic especially in Libba Bray's *A Great and Terrible Beauty*.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In this part, the writer emphasizes the scope of the study in using of the psychoanalytic theory especially groups of personality, such as structure of personality (id, ego, superego) and dynamic of personality (anxiety). Furthermore, this study focus on the utterances of the characters which relates to the Gemma Doyle and author's narration of Libba Bray's *A Great and Terrible Beauty* as its limitation.