

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five chapters. Those are the background of the study, statements of the problem, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study. Those items are explained below.

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word (Klarer 2004 : 1). It means that literature is an image of life in the real world or the image of human being. It can make the readers relived to enjoy reading the literary works. We know that literary works have a close relationship with the life of human being, and the problems of life actually become an initial source of any work of art. Literature reflecting the author's feeling or idea is often recognized as being lived to live.

Novel is narrative text informing of prose with a long shape that including some figures and fiction event. The intrinsic elements of novel are theme, plot, setting, characterization, point of view, etc (Nurgiyantoro, 2007:10). Having a long story and more chance to describe the ides, it will be easier to tell the idea though writing. It is also stated that the more actions and events in the story there will be more chance to analyze. It can be concluded that novel gives opportunities to the author to express the idea and one of the function of the novel is portraying

the human life because there are many events can be seen in the novel, so that the reader can take the solution from the story.

Psychoanalysis is used to analyze the symptoms of trauma experienced by the main character. The definition of trauma is “an even in subject’s life defined by its intensity, by the subject’s incapacity to respond adequately to it, and by the upheaval and long-lasting effects that it brings about in the psychical organization” (La Planche and Pontalis, 1974: 465). There are several things that cause a person to get a psychological trauma. It can be from the human error or natural disaster. The psychological trauma caused by human error such: sexual abuse, bullying, domestic violence, indoctrination, and mechanized accidents (car, train, or plane crashes, etc.). While the psychological trauma is caused by a natural disaster such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslide, flash floods and etc.

This psychological analysis refers to *The Way I Used To Be*. One of the novels written by Amber Smith. She is a writer and artist who grew up in Buffalo, New York and now lives in Charlotte, New York. She has also been the New York Times, which is the best and most comprehensive novel for women and contemporary art. *The way I used to be* published was March 7, 2017, by Margaret K. McElderry Books. This novel is chosen as a source of data because the novel was very interesting. This novel tells about trauma, sexual abuse, bullying and the effects of trauma on the character. This novel has 384 pages and begins with the story of a 14-year-old girl in high school who was sexually abused by her brother's friend, which had an impact on the changes in her life. Eden who get a sexual abuse that happened when she was a child. The incident happen at the night when her brother who had just returned from his first semester brought his friend named Kevin to stay at his house. At the night when the incident was happened, there is no one know that Kevin enter into Eden’s room and rape her, after Kevin rape

her, he is threatening her not to tell her parents and brother that she gets a rape. If she tell other people about it he will harm her family and friend. Eden stunned by her condition because she couldn't share her feeling to anyone. The incident happened to Eden made her become depression. After the incident Eden changed, she likes alcohol, drugs and sex.

As a result of the many traumatic stresses, also the absence of affection and attention from her family, Eden's character experiences a psychological disorder known as a traumatic experience. The novel clearly illustrates that persecution experienced by a person in childhood can cause deep trauma. According to (Lacan, 2007) psychological trauma is type of damage to the psyche that occurs as a result of severely distressing event. It means that in choosing the novel *The Way I Used To Be* by Amber Smith as the object of study because the story contained in it is a reality that has been widely known by the public. The sexual abuse which experienced by underage children can cause deep trauma. Deep trauma will leave a severe wound, which is a mental injury, and have an impact on the psychological state. A child will change their behavior and personality because the effect of psychological disorders. The theory used in this study is psychoanalysis. The theory is used to extract data contained in the novel *The Way I Used To Be* by Amber Smith. According to Barry states about psychoanalysis that the critique of psychoanalysis is a form of criticism that uses psychoanalytic techniques in interpreting literary works (2009: 92). This analysis used psychoanalysis by Lacan . According to Lacan's statement in his XVII book (Lacan, 2006: 39), trauma is an event that cannot be forgotten in the life of a human who wants to be forgotten and stored away in an unconscious mind. That trauma can be a thing that triggers repetition in what someone does.

The study of this novel focused on the psychological side especially the traumatic experience of the Eden character who suffered from disruption due to sexual abuse by her brother's friends.

This study was carried out through a psychological perspective aimed at revealing how badly Eden suffered from a traumatic experience.

1.2 Statements of the Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, this study analyzes Eden's traumatic experience in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*. There are two questions of the research problem that can be presented, these are:

1. What are the causes of Eden's traumatic that experienced in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*?
2. How does the character cope with her trauma in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The purpose of this study is divided into two answers, those are: to elaborate what the causes and how she copes her traumatic experiences in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*.

1. To describe the causes of Eden's traumatic experience in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*
2. To explain how the character copes with her trauma by Eden in Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*

1.4 The Significances of the Study

These studies are focuses on two prominent objectives. The first objective is the theoretical objective and the second is practical objective.

1. Theoretically, this study gives a contribution to other studies in analyzing the same literary work or the same theory and the study is expected to give a various advantages in the development of science especially in literary research field. Through this analysis under the umbrella of psychoanalysis theory which proposed by Jaquese Lacan.

2. Practically, the results of the study give the reader the understanding of psychology and literature and traumatic as a literary work to the student of literature at Trunojoyo University.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is the theory of psychoanalysis which focuses on the traumatic experience that happens to the main character. Moreover, this study focuses on the causes and how Eden cope the trauma experience in the novel. Meanwhile the limitation of this study is the characters utterances and the author' narration which reflects the causes and how Eden cope the trauma in the Amber Smith's *The Way I Used To Be*.