

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of five subchapters. This chapter discuss the background of the study, statements of the research problem, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background

Basically, all humans want to live as calm, safe and secure life. It is undeniable that human life is inseparable from problems. These problems can be caused by the closest people, the environment and even work. No wonder that the problem makes human life worry, frustrated, hopeless and frightened, which can be called as anxiety. The anxiety is found not only in real life but also in literary works, like a novel.

Literary works become a medium for expressing ideas, emotions, and human experiences. It also can be said that literary work is the reflection of human life. Literary work is a portrayal of real-life and human experiences. In other words, human life, human behavior, and human experiences are portrayed in literary work which is expressed through language as the media. This argument is supported by J.K. Khuman, as follow:

“Literature, generally speaking, is an expression that is achieved through language. As the word is used in different ways, in a sense it simply means anything that is written, or considering the abovementioned concept; any expression achieved through language” (J.K. Khuman, 2018:251).

Through literary work, the readers will be able to understand the aspect of life and get many experiences and knowledge about life. Literary works contain stories that are able to make the readers feel what the character of the stories feels. The presence of literary works that narrate about human life becomes the evidence that literary works and human cannot be separated.

Psychology and literature have a close relationship. Literature is a reflection of human life; how the way they dealing with their environment, and the way they solve their problem. Human is drawn as one of an object in literary work. Therefore, human as an object and literary work cannot be separated from life functions and the manner in which human acts. Human acts have a close relationship with the psychological aspect. Besides, human make a connection between literature and psychology.

The writer chooses *Wonder* novel by R.J. Palacio as a source of data. The novel tells about Auggie who is suffering Mandibulofacial Dysostotic, a genetic disorder that makes Auggie's face messy. When he was born, doctors declared that Auggie's life would not last long. However, it turned out that Auggie remained. At the age of 10, he had undergone various operations to keep him alive. Auggie's parents think that it is time for Auggie to go to school because it is impossible to continue studying at home. Now Auggie is the fifth grade at Beecher Prep, which is near his home. He scared that with the face he had, he would have no friend.

Auggie's fear happened. Nobody wanted to sit next to him, expect for Jack Will. In various classes, Jack Will remains to sit near Auggie and they often chat and makes a joke together. Auggie sees Jack Will as her best friend. Until Halloween time comes. Auggie is very happy when Halloween arrives. On that day, people around him did not need to be considered strange because he was wearing a costume that did not show his face. They did not know it was Auggie when Auggie wore the Bleeding Scream

costume. It is because before Halloween Auggie tells his friend that he will wear Boba Fett Costume. Unfortunately, Auggie's good time end tragically when he saw his close friend, Jack Will was chatting with Julian. The point of the conversation is that Jack Will was actually just feeling sorry for Auggie and scared of Auggie's face. Auggie feels disappointed and resentful, thus he does not wish to go to school anymore.

From the explanation above, it can be said that *Wonder* novel is a reflection of the real phenomena such as psychological disorder that is experienced by the main character. In other words, *Wonder* novel has a big issue that is anxiety. The writer is interested to analyze *Wonder* novel using the psychological approach. Auggie as the main character of the novel shows many psychological problems in the form of anxiety. Auggie shows worry, panic, fear under the circumstance of the life that has to be continue. Auggie does not want to live as an extraordinary child. He needs to be loved, respected and treated normally by people around him.

Human has many problems that relate to psychology. It cannot be denied that psychology has become a part of our life. There are several ways to express problems through some feelings such as fear, anxiety, sadness and scare. Everything that has been mentioned is closely related to psychology. The movement of psychoanalysis was initially begun by Sigmund Freud. Psychological analysis is about analyzing person's behavior by their psychological point of view. Here the writer will analyze the psychological aspect of anxiety that is suffered by August Pullman in *Wonder* novel, the cause of anxiety and the defence mechanism he uses in ways to against his anxiety. Anxiety is something that make someone having mental disorder. The cause of anxiety such as threat, environment, desire conflict, age, fear, etc. While someone's way to overcome anxiety is called defence mechanism. There are some kinds of defence

mechanism such as denial, projection, rationalization, intellectualization, aggression, suppression, and displacement.

There are some previous studies that have the similarities with this study; First, (Ardiyansyah, 2019) entitled “The Major Character Anxiety Reflected in Coetzee’s *Disgrace*”, from State University of Semarang. He analyzed anxiety, the cause of anxiety and self-defence mechanism that has experienced by the main character. Second, (Nuraini, 2009) entitled “A Main Character Analysis on Anxiety and Defence Mechanism in Bridge to *Terabithia* Novel”, from State Islamic University of Jakarta. She analyzed the cause of anxiety and self-defence mechanism that has experienced of two main character. Third, (Farkhatun, 2017) entitled “Anxiety and Defence Mechanism of Rachel Watson on Paula Hawkins’ Novel *The Girl on The Train*”, from State Islamic University Sunan Kalijaga. She analyzed anxiety, factors of anxiety, defence mechanism, and the significant of the main character’s defence mechanism. Fourth, (Farokhah, 2015) entitled “Anxiety suffered by Elizabeth Holland in Anna Godbersen’s *Splendor*”, from Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang. She analyzed anxiety, factors of anxiety and defence mechanism that has experienced by Elizabeth Holland as the main character.

The writer is interested to analyze *Wonder* Novel, August Pullman shows many psychological problems in the form of anxiety. It is used to understand and to explain the behavioral of the main character in the novel.

1.2 Statements of Research Questions

Based on the background above, these are some research questions:

1. What are the anxieties that the main character experiences?
2. What are the causes of the main character’s anxieties?
3. How does the main character overcome his anxieties?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the studies are as follows:

4. To describe the anxieties which are experienced by the main character in *Wonder* novel.
5. To find the cause of the main character anxieties.
6. To discover the defence mechanism taken by the main character towards his anxieties in *Wonder* novel.

1.4 The Significances of the Study

The significance of this study will be differentiated into two significances.

Those are;

A. Theoretically

This study is expected to give various advantages in the development of science especially in the literary research field and to support the definition about psychology, anxiety, and self defence mechanism. This study also gives a better understanding about anxiety in R.J Palacio' *Wonder*.

B. Practically

This study is supposed to give a small contribution for literary research and being a good reference to the reader who wants takes a similar theory and novel.

The result of this study is expected to give contribution for all people, especially students of University of Trunojoyo Madura. It is expected to make people understand and aware with psychological disorder, especially anxiety and how to treat other people. It is because even that people who have psychological disorders are the same as human as others. This study will also help people to be able to understand each other. Today, so many people do not care about others' behavior or others' mental illness. So, it is important to know, understand, and aware about mental illness and how to treat them.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is the use of Psychology theory by Sigmund Freud to analyze August Pullman's anxiety that shows his feeling fear, worry, scare, and insecurity about her psychological problem. The writer focuses on identifying the kinds and the causes of August Pullman's anxiety and his ways to overcome his anxiety that are found in the novel. Theory of psychology can help people to be able to understand human behavior, and it must certainly be able to help us understand literary text which is about human behavior.

In this study, the limitation is important in order to make the analysis does not go far from the topic and stay focused to what is being discussed. The limitation of this study is on the utterances of the character of August Pullman which is answering the research question.