

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This introductory chapter present a general description of the research. It consist of background of research, statement of problems, research objective, research significance, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Research

The subject of dream and the meaning of it might be an interesting subjects to discuss. Freud (Freud, 2010, p, 35) argues that there are more than just random images that the dream projects in the sleep. He claims that dreams do have meaning. And not only in the present days but also since a long time ago, some philosophers had been fascinated with dreams and the meaning behind those dreams for a long time. From philosophy to popular culture, from religion to science, the meaning of dreams has been discussed.

Freud revealed that there are two parts in dreams, namely manifest content and latent content. Manifest content of dreams are images in dreams that can be seen clearly. While the latent content of dreams is desires and thoughts that are hidden and not realized. However, it contains the conflict that is the cause of the dream (Freud,2010, p, 158). Manifest content is images that occur in dreams that can still remember when we wake up, while latent content is the original content of the dream which is primitive and we still have to rearrange it through images that are distorted by manifest content, latent content is also often called "dream mind".

The cause and the meaning of dreams has an acceptable explanation in the present day, but in the ancient times, dreams were always associated with superstitions. The meaning of dream sometimes associated with the wrath of God(s) or prophecies about events to come. As (Hughes, 2000, p,) points out that in the primal society, the meaning of dreams were always about foreshadowing or

messages from gods or powerful spirit. Unlike modern societies today in which logical reasoning and scientific evidence are two main tools in explaining almost everything, back in the ancient times those two were never existed.

In the ancient times, people talk about dream and relate to the phenomenon that happen around them. In that time, they do not know there was an acceptable explanation about the cause and the meaning of dream not only related to something mystical.

Several Philosophers or scientific figures from middle ages to today formulated their explanation about dreams and what might cause someone to have particular dream. One of the leading figures was Sigmund Freud. His monumental work on dreams when he published his book *Interpretation of Dream* in 1900 had added the study about dreams. As in the era of Freud lived where academia must rely on scientific evidence to their claims, Freud approached dreams and their meaning in an acceptable explanation.

Freud approached dreams by his own psychoanalysis theory in which in that time was popular among academia especially in the study of human behavior. An object in a dream may represent a deeper meaning of that individual whose having a dream. And as Freud claims some dreams by an individual may point to the mental being of that individual.

Freud, who was the founder of Psychoanalysis, used dream as a gate to human behavior. He often used dream to treat patient and to diagnose them. However, Freud's psychoanalysis had spread its field not only in psychology but also in literature. His psychoanalysis approach is often used to analyze the mental being of a character in literature. Freud himself had used his approach on analyzing fictional character in Shakespeare's *Hamlet*. This literary critique is often called Freudian criticism or psychoanalytic theory of literary critique.

The theory of psychoanalysis by Freud considered relevant to the research conducted by Nathania Astria Pangestu and F.X. Dono Sunardi, from Faculty of Language and Arts, Ma Chung University, Malang. Talking about psychoanalytical

in their research entitled *An Incomplete Psychological Novel: a Psychoanalytical Analysis of Hazel Lancaster in John Green's The Fault in Our Stars*. The finding of this research is that this novel does contain its main character's self-defense mechanisms and core issues evidence. The potential cause of the self-defense mechanisms can also be inferred from the character's development and childhood.

The theory of interpretation of dream by Freud use in a previous research discuss about that entitled *Freud's Dream Interpretation: A Different Perspective Based on the Self-Organization Theory of Dreaming*. Wei Zhang and Benyu Guo (2018). Research Institute of Moral Education/School of Psychology, Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing, China. *Frontiers in Psychology*. In this research, the theory of dream interpretation from Freud is used as a theory to determine the effect of self-organization theory in the emergence of dreams. Because in theory the interpretation of dreams from Freud has been explained about dream material and how this dream material works. The author of this research raises the influence of self-organizational theory in the emergence of dreams.

The mental being of a character in literature that approach by Freud, mostly talking about their sexual desire and thought. Sexual desire known as an interest about sexual objects of activities that gives a sexual pleasure. (Regan, 2006, p.) Sexual desire is a motivational state and an interest in sexual objects or activities, or as a desire, or drive to seek out sexual objects or to engage in sexual activities.

The theory of sexual desire have been discussed on a research entitled *Sexual desire, not hypersexuality, is related to neurophysiological responses elicited by sexual images*. By Vaughn R. Steele, Cameron Staley, Timothy Fong, Nicole Prause (2013). *Socioaffective Neuroscience & Psychology*. This research show that sexual desire has been an important part of human psychology and show that sexual desire has an interesting of object of pleasant sexual or sexual activities.

Yet, Freudian literary criticism can be used not only to analyze sexual desire or thoughts of the character, but also can be used to analyze the dream of character in the literary works (Wright, 2003, p, 211). The dream, as Freud argues, is the

unconscious mind of a character that reflects what a character acts and does in the day time.

Sexual desire is not only owned by adults, but also by children called oedipus complex. As (Rycroft, 1995, p, 95) argues that Oedipus Complex in the psychoanalytic school of Sigmund Freud refers to a stage of psychosexual development in childhood when a child's desire to sexually have parents of different sexes, for example, men are attracted to their mothers and consider their fathers as rivals, whereas women are attracted to their fathers and regards his mother as a rival.

The Oedipus Complex theory has been analyzed in research titled *Masalah Oedipus Complex Dalam Novel Umibe No Kafuka Karya Haruki Murakami* by Linda Unsriana (2011). This research show the problem of Oedipus Complex in the novel, the main character in this novel experiences the problem of Oedipus complicating, loving and relating to Miss Saeki, a middle-aged woman, who is much older than herself. Miss Saeki imagined as her biological mother who left her at a very young age, when she was 4 years old. In the novel *Umibe no Kafka*, there is an Oedipus problem experienced by the main character due to several things, namely an unfamiliar relationship with his mother who left him while he was a child, a bad relationship with his father that was felt by the main character, that his father never loved him as a child, and only consider it as a statue of one of his works.

Then the object of this research is the novel *A Game of Thrones* by George Martin where the novel tells about the struggle for power from several kingdoms. In this novel there are three main characters that are the focus of this research. These three characters have dreams that are full of meaning and very influential in the course of the story of this novel.

This novel has also been discussed in another research entitled *A Game of Genders: Comparing Depictions of Empowered Women between A Game of Thrones Novel and Television Series* by Rebecca Jonesa (2012). This research shows the different views of women in novels and television series from *A Game*

of Thrones. The difference in time and thought in novel series and television series with the development of the community in America in seeing the position of women in society is the main point in this research.

The other research which use *A Game of Thrones* novel as an object titled *Politics, Hidden Agendas and a Game of Thrones. An Intersectional Analysis of Women's Sexuality in George R.R. Martin's A Game of Thrones* by Elin Sandqvist (2012). This research explains the influence of female sexuality in *A Game of Thrones* where women must have relationships with powerful men in order to have a position in their kingdom. Women must also be able to provide satisfaction and offspring for men so that they are not underestimated, because in this story women are only regarded as wives or assets to carry offspring only. Then women do not have a vote and rights in matters of politics and authority in this story.

From some of the previous studies above, the theory of interpretation of dream is used in research with the object of self organization theory. While the object of game of thrones is discussed its gender form. Then from some of the previous studies above, there are not research that discusses the theory of interpretation of dreams in the novel *A Game of Thrones*. Therefore, this research focussed on discussing the interpretation of dreams in the novel *A Game of Thrones* then look for dream symbols of the three main characters that show the unfulfilled desires (sexual desire or Oedipus Complex) of the three main characters.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

According to Freud's dream interpretation theory, dreams are a fulfillment of the desires of human being. The human being revealed in this research are three major characters in the novel *A Game of Thrones* by George Martin they are Daenerys Targaryen, Jon Snow, and Bran Stark these three main characters become figures who have a relationship with the position of a king in the past and in the future who are guided through their dreams. The symbols of dreams of these characters are become the focus of this research. The research questions are, as follows:

1. What kind of desire symbols revealed in the characters' dream in the novel *A Game of Thrones*?
2. What are the meaning of the dream symbols relate to their desire fulfillment of the characters in the novel *A Game of Thrones*?

1.3 Research Objective

The objective of this research are the followings:

1. To find out the kind of desire symbols that revealed in the characters' dream in the novel *A Game of Thrones*.
2. To find out the correlation between their dream symbols and characters' desire fulfillment in the novel *A Game of Thrones*.

1.4 Research Significance

The researcher hopes that this research can be useful for students or anyone who wants to use this research or the theory of interpretation dream by Sigmund Freud. Even the object of this research which is the novel could be an interest object because the novel has many aspects that can be explored or analyzed using other theories that might be considered more appropriate.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misunderstanding about the terms that are used in this research, including: Interpretation of Dream, Psychoanalysis, Metadiegetic, Desire. The followings are the definition:

1. Interpretation of Dream is a way to find out the psychology of person by understanding the contents of his dreams. The act or the result of interpreting the contain of dream (Merriam-Webster Dictionary).
2. Psychoanalysis is a theory related to the condition of the unconscious mind to know mental health disorder. A method of analyzing psychic phenomena and treating emotional disorders that involves treatment sessions during which the

patient is encouraged to talk freely about personal experiences and especially about early childhood and dreams (Merriam-Webster Dictionary).

3. Metadiegetic is a writing technique to show the narration told by the narrator or dream form in a textual context. A metadiegetic narrative is essentially a story within a story within a story. A metadiegetic narrator is one who exists within a storyworld depicted by one of the characters of the primary narrative and who shares, with his or her fellow character(s), a narrative of his or her own. (Julia Bozyk-Wayne State University).
4. Desire is human nature that wants to find pleasure or satisfaction. one of satisfaction that is oriented to sexual desire for adults and for children is called oedipus complex. Conscious impulse toward something that promises enjoyment or satisfaction in its attainment (Merriam-Webster Dictionary).

