

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses about background of study, statement of problem, research objectives, research significance, definition of key terms, reviewing previous studies related to the problem of this research and organization of writing.

1.1 Background of Study

By forcing us into dramatic linguistic awareness, literature invigorates these habitual responses and makes objects more 'visible'. The world that language contains is renewed by wrestling with language in a heavier and more self-conscious way than usual (Eagleton, 1996: 3). Literature can also be used to measure the values and norms that apply in a society. Literary work is art with a human element; art here is a human expression that refers to objects with aesthetic values. There is a human element because literary works that contain human problems and human life with all their views, thoughts, and feelings use language.

According to Miller (2002: 1), literature, despite its approaching end, is nevertheless perennial and universal. It will survive all historical and technological changes. Literature is a feature of any human culture at any time and place. From the following statement, literature is universal where words exist in several forms of human culture wherever and whenever. Wellek dan Warren (1948) state that literature is one, as art and humanity are one. Therefore, literature is an expression of the human person in feelings, thoughts, and experiences using language and is made in written or oral form.

Literary works are created to convey the imagination of the author. Literary works can also provide benefits in the form of specific values that are indirectly contained in the storyline. According to Rivkin and Ryan (2004: 25), a literary work is a document and as a document can be analyzed in terms of the forces that have produced it, or it may be manipulated as a force in its own right. Although literary

works are imaginative works, they can cause feelings such as hatred, anxiety, happiness through their writing and language.

The first time a literary work imagines is poetry, novels, and dramas because it shows a written language that makes readers imagine. Unlike literature, a film is a concrete form of human experiences, hopes, and imaginations in the form of visual media. This film itself has come a long way from its appearance until now, which is able to present a three-dimensional sensation. Film is an audio-visual medium to convey a text to the public. Katz (2012) explain that film is a work of art, and since a work of art is stamped with the personality of its creator, it is the director, more than anyone else, who gives the film its distinctive quality.

The film shows the story in a not too long time. According to researchers, a film can be said to be a technology update in this digital era to convey a text. When reading a literary work, we can identify it with character. Likewise, with films, films have various characters in the story, this is intended so that the story has a solid object to describe. Psychology can explore literary works through the character of the characters by using psychological approaches, such as psychoanalysis proposed by Sigmund Freud. Psychological research has an important role because there are several advantages such as the importance of studying more deeply aspects of character and very helpful for analyzing literary works that are thick with psychological problems (Minderop, 2011: 2).

For Sigmund Freud, psychological problems experienced are rooted in childhood experiences which are also related to sexual problems, these childhood experiences can affect personality into adulthood (Minderop, 2011: 10-11). Bad experiences experienced by children in the past can cause trauma that can threaten the child's life (Skuse; Bruce; et al., 2011: 109). If left unchecked will experience psychological disorders, one of the psychological disorders is multiple personality disorder. According to the article "Dissociative Disorders" on the American Psychiatric Association's website, multiple personality disorder is a disorder that is associated with traumatic experiences and/or severe abuse that occurred in childhood.

The phenomenon of multiple personality disorder has recently been brought up into the world of cinema and literature. One of them is the *Split* film. *Split* film which is a physiological thriller genre, directed by M. Night Shyamalan and first released on January 20, 2017, in the United States. *Split* is the 12th work of M. Night Shyamalan, produced by Blumhouse Productions and distributed by Universal Pictures. *Split* films have an advantage over other films. The *split* film contains elements of mental illness where the main character has twenty-four personalities, each of which interacts with the other. This thriller is called *glace* because it starts from a twist, and a mystery or puzzle is contained in it. Because this film is a thriller genre, there is an element of surprise in the film so that the audience is curious about the tense storyline.

The following is the reason why the researcher chose the *Split* film by M. Night Shyamalan as the object of research. First, *Split* is the twelfth work of M. Night Shyamalan, which is able to attract audiences back after several years ago, most film lovers thought that M. Night Shyamalan's films were considered underperforming at the Box Office. *Split* is an exciting film to research as many critics have rated it as Shyamalan's biggest hit in fifteen years with a score of 7.3 on IMDb. *Split* managed to stay at the top of the US Box Office for three weeks after beating *Rings* film by F. Javier Gutiérrez's and grossing \$278 million on a low production cost of \$9 million.

Second, the *Split* film displays aspects related to psychology and psychological problems faced by Kevin Wendell Crumb's character. Where it is inspired by the true story of Billy Milligan in the 90s, who has 24 personalities. The main character's personality is also related to the id, ego, and superego. The traumatic experience is the cause of the emergence of psychological problems in him so that it becomes something interesting to analyze more deeply.

Third, there are psychological problems that stand out in the *Split* film, so that it makes researchers interested in making the film as an object of research. The psychological problem lies in the main character. Kevin Wendell Crumb, a man

who has to face the fact that he suffers from multiple personality disorder due to the traumatic experience of violence by his mother that he had as a child.

According to Wiyatmi (2011), literary psychology is a literary study that can understand and study literature by using various concepts in psychology. The theory of literary psychology can be continued with psychoanalytic theory. Therefore, with multiple personality disorder as the main problem, Split Film is more appropriate to be studied using psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud.

According to Eagleton (1996: 165), Psychoanalytical criticism, in other words, can do more than hunt for phallic symbols: it can tell us something about how literary texts are actually formed and reveal something of the meaning of that formation. Eagleton explains that Psychoanalytical literary criticism can be broadly divided into four kinds, depending on what it takes as its object of attention. It can attend to the *author* of the work, to the work's *contents*, to its *formal construction*, or to the *reader*. Researchers assume from the above opinion that research using psychoanalysis will lead to several approaches such as author, content, and readers.

Eagleton (2005: 165) state that The psychoanalysis of 'content' - commenting on the unconscious motivations of characters or on the psychoanalytical significance of objects or events in the text - has a limited value, but, in the manner of the notorious hunt for the phallic symbol, is too often reductive. From the above statement, the researcher assumes that there is an unconsciousness to the signs, characters, and events when analyzing, which can be seen in the text. According to Tyson (2006: 35) explain that

“Some critics have objected to the use of psychoanalysis to understand the behaviour of literary characters because literary characters are not real people and, therefore, do not have psyches that can be analyzed. However, psychoanalyzing the behaviour of literary characters is probably the best way to learn how to use the theory. Furthermore, this practice has been defended by many psychoanalytic critics on two important grounds: (1) when we psychoanalyze literary characters, and we are not suggesting that they are real people but that they represent the psychological experience of human beings in general; and (2) it is just as legitimate to psychoanalyze the behaviour represented by literary characters as it is to analyze their behaviour from a feminist,

Marxist, or African American critical perspective, or from the perspective of any critical theory that analyzes literary representations as illustrations of real-life issues.”

From the statement above, it can be assumed that psychoanalysis can be considered as a study that views literary works as a psychological activity because it can understand characters in literary works written by authors based on imagination or experience. The experience is obtained from human psychological experience. Thus, from this psychological experience, the author can carry out a creative process that turns into a literary work and is projected through his imaginary character.

In Freud's psychoanalysis, he described the personality structures that makeup humans. Then Freud introduced three basic structures in personality: the id, ego, and superego. According to Schultz (2016: 45), it is in accordance with Freud's idea that the id is a strong personality structure because the id is a storage place for instincts, is very important, and is directly related to meeting physical needs. The id strives to meet his needs immediately and does not tolerate procrastination, and it prompts us to want what we want when we want it, regardless of what other people want. Then the ego aims not at blocking the impulse of the id but to help get what it needs. Freud argued that we must protect ourselves from being controlled by the id and proposed various subconscious mechanisms by which to defend the ego. Then there is the idea of right or wrong; in everyday language, we can call it conscience. Freud called it the superego. Its purpose is not only to postpone the pleasures of the id, as the ego does, but to block it completely. The superego does not strive for pleasure (as the id does) or for the realistic achievement of goals (as the ego does). It is only for moral perfection. The id presses for gratification, the ego tries to procrastinate, and the superego encourages morality above all else. From the explanation above, the researcher assumed that the psychoanalytic approach could be used in the *Split* film.

Egri (1960: 46) explain that if it is true that every man is influenced by his environment, health, and economic background, as we have tried to prove, then it

is evident that, since everything is in the process of constant change (environment, health, and economic background, naturally, being part of everything), the man too will change. As a matter of fact, he is the centre of his constant movement. From this explanation, a person can change because of economic background, a disorder or disease, or an event that has been experienced in the past.

Researchers assume that the *Split* film consists of plot, narrative, dialogue, and characters that can unite the whole story, and the researcher concludes that the psychoanalytic theory used to analyze the *Split* film can describe problems related to personality discourses.

This theory is suitable for this research because there is a link between film and psychoanalysis. The film is a medium to describe psychological problems that contain personality. Then psychoanalysis becomes an approach to determine the characters that appear in the film. Based on the research background above, this research has been conducted under the title “*Multiple Personality Disorder Of The Main Characters In Split Film By M. Night Shyamalan.*”

1.2 Statement of Problem

Researchers have seen how the *Split* film consists of many aspects of psychoanalysis. The research problem is decisive characterization and multiple personality disorders of the main character in the *Split* film.

To make this research specific, the researcher formulates the problem into three questions, as follows:

1. What are the intrinsic elements in the *Split* film?
2. What are the symptoms experienced by the main character depicted in the *Split* film and its cause?
3. How is the personality structure of Kevin and his alter-ego as MPD sufferers in the *Split* film according to Sigmund Freud?

1.3 Research Objective

Based on the problem statement above, the researcher intends:

1. To describe the intrinsic elements in the *Split* film.
2. To describe the symptoms experienced by the main character in the *Split* film and the cause.
3. To describe the personality structure of Kevin and his alter-ego as a sufferer of MPD in the *Split* film by Sigmund Freud.

1.4 Research Significance

Regarding the background and research objectives, researchers hope to provide meaning through this research. There are two types of signs that appear in a study, namely Theoretical Significance, and Practical Significance.

1. Theoretically

This study focuses on mental health disorders, namely multiple personality disorders, according to Sigmund Freud's theory. Not only to acknowledge the expressions of people with personality disorders, but this research also provides insight into what sufferers are feeling and experiencing. By reading this research, readers are expected to know how multiple personality disorders are and what causes them to occur. In addition, this research can help develop literary psychology theory regarding multiple personalities contained in literature, enrich literary research in examining literary works with psychoanalytic theory, and as a reference in literary research using psychoanalytic theory.

2. Practically

The results of this research are expected to be of benefit to researchers, especially readers or students of literature, to enrich their knowledge. This research also introduces literary students that film is a literary work. Readers of the results of this study can get more knowledge about what personality disorders are in the film. This research is also expected to provide benefits and inspiration for fellow researchers or for people who are interested in the literature in analyzing other films in terms of analyzing multiple personality disorders. This research is expected to provide useful knowledge about

multiple personality disorders to readers. In addition, it can be used as a motivation for literature students to increase their appreciation of literary works in examining literary works through psychoanalytic theory. This research can also be an afterthought and an inspiration for parents to always protect and care for their children, not to make childhood trauma for their children to make children grow well.

1.5 Previous Study

To support research, researchers must take the next step. This step is by reviewing various literature and previous research that is relevant to the problem and the object of current research. Moreover, it is an absolute prerequisite that scientific research completely rejects plagiarism by the work of others. Therefore, to comply with the code of ethics in scientific research, it is necessary to conduct studies related to previous research. The aim is to emphasize research and supporting theories in order to develop the concept of thinking in research. Several studies related to reader-response theory also enrich the research process. This study will be demonstrated as follows:

First, the research is taken from a thesis written by Nurul Hikmah Maulanie(2011), a bachelor from State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah, with the title "*An Analysis of Esther's Psychopath Problem in Orphan Film Viewed From Psychoanalysis Theory by Sigmund Freud.*" The focus of this thesis is an analysis of the main character and his problems with psychopaths. This thesis applies the theory of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud and uses a qualitative descriptive analysis method. This research tells of a mysterious girl aged nine years, but the girl does not show her childish side where the nine-year-old child prefers to play outside while the girl prefers painting all the time. This girl has a very mature ego that the girl could kill her stepsister and also try to kill her stepmother.

Pipit Pitria (2013), a bachelor from the State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung, in his study entitled "*Development Phases of Nina Sayer's Personality in Black Swan's Movie Script,*" discusses the elements of personality in

the Black Swan film script. This method uses qualitative methods. Further, this research uses the Lacanian psychoanalytic theory.

Adeline Yunita Suprpto (2018), also a bachelor from the State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung, her study is entitled “*Multiple Personality Disorder of The Main Character in Daniel Keyes' Novel The Mind of Billy Milligan.*” In his research, she discusses the problem of multiple personality disorders and the factors that cause Billy to have multiple personalities. This study used Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory with descriptive qualitative methods.

Arif Hidayat (2019), a bachelor from State Islamic University of Sulthan Thaha Saifuddin Jambi, with the title “*Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) in Split's Film by M. Night Shyamalan.*” This research focuses on finding the causes of the main characters. This research also discusses the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud, but it is not explained in the discussion. Therefore, this study will add a further explanation about the id, ego, and superego in personality.

The last one is Rizky Disa Putra (2018), a bachelor from Darma Persada University. In his research entitled “*Reflections on Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs in the Changes of Kevin Wendell Crumb's Personality Character in the Split Film by M. Night Shyamalan.*” In this study, he discusses the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches related to multiple personality disorder research, and he uses Maslow's Hierarchy theory and qualitative methods as data analysis methods.

The previous studies above were taken by researchers because they have little in common with this research. For the previous study, the participants were film viewers. However, the things that need to be underlined here are several things that differentiate this research from the previous studies above. The first gap that researchers found in previous studies was a different research topic, where previous research only discussed character. The second gap is the difference in theoretical explanation, which researchers found in previous studies only focused on explaining theory without applying it to character research. For this study, the researcher analyzed the symptoms of multiple personalities and id, ego, and

superego on his character and alter-ego, so that the researcher took important points to answer the research question based on the analysis in chapter four.

This gap is the basis for researchers to discuss this topic and make it research. Therefore, according to researchers, this research is interesting to discuss.

1. 6 Definition of Key Terms

It can be seen that many terms appear in human life. Each term will have a different meaning. This condition will depend on the context and in what field the term will be used. Therefore, in order to avoid misunderstanding, the researcher tries to explain some of the key terms used in this study. And the definition is put forward:

1. Literature

Literature is a discipline that has knowledge that can be studied systematically. Literature is a human written expression that is valued in language and society. The criteria of what counted as literature, in other words, were frankly ideological: writing which embodied the values and 'tastes' of a particular social class (Eagleton, 1996: 15).

2. Film

The film is a medium of images, and a movie close-up of you having an emotional experience is a wordless image even though you may be speaking dialogue at the same time. If you do not experience an emotion stimulated in you by the other actor and the circumstances, the scene dies. Your emotion, not your words, communicates to the audience what is really going on (Comey, 2002: 14).

3. Character

A character is a mere construction of words meant to express an idea or view of experience and must be considered in relation to other features of the composition, such as action and setting before its full significance can be appreciated (Taylor, 1981: 62).

4. Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalytic criticism is a form of literary criticism which uses some of the techniques of psychoanalysis in the interpretation of literature. Psychoanalysis itself is a form of therapy that aims to cure mental disorders 'by investigating the interaction of conscious and unconscious elements in mind (Barry, 2009: 92).

5. Multiple Personality Disorder

Dissociative Identity Disorder (or Multiple Personality Disorder) is characterized by the presence of two or more distinct identities or personality states that recurrently take control of the individual's behaviour, accompanied by an inability to recall important personal information that is too extensive to be explained by ordinary forgetfulness. It is a disorder characterized by identity fragmentation rather than the proliferation of separate personalities (American Psychiatric Association, 2000: 519).

1.7 Organization of Writing

This research is divided into five chapters as follows:

Chapter I: This introductory chapter contains the background of the study, statements of problems, research objectives, research significance, previous study, the definition of key terms, and definition of writing.

Chapter II: This chapter contains a theoretical framework consisting of an explanation of the film, intrinsic elements, psychology, literary psychology, relations between psychology and literature, Sigmund Freud's theory of psychoanalysis, and personality disorders.

Chapter III: This chapter describes the research method, which contains research design, data, and source of data, techniques of collecting data, techniques of data analysis, and a sample of data.

Chapter IV: This chapter clearly presents the results of the discussion and explanation of the research. It consists of a research explanation about the analysis of the research question.

Chapter V: This chapter describes the conclusions and discusses the final results that have been analyzed in Chapter IV, and makes conclusions about them.