

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter focus in present the general description. There are six parts discuss in this research those are background of the research, statement of the problem, research objective, research purpose, and sub definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of the Research

Literary works are creations of human inventions. They not only provide entertainment, but also provide value. They have both the value of beauty and the value of life doctrine or morals. Literature is also a form and result of creative art that takes people and their lives as the object and language as the medium. Literature is a fictitious world structure, which means that the reality in the work is a fictitious reality, which is different from the reality of the real world. Although the literature of the work is fictitious, it still refers to the reality in the real world (I. Nurhamidah, 2019)

One types of literary work that bridges between reality in the fictional world and reality in the real world is the novel. Novel is a type of prose that is a form of one long story, involving many characters, with the character of each of these characters and also arranged in events related to human life. In general, a novel tells about the characters and their behavior in everyday life. The novel's language tends to be everyday, the language most commonly used in society. Therefore, the novel is said to be the most sociological and responsive genre because it is susceptible to sociohistorical fluctuations (Ratna, 2004). The novel contains a various event carried out by the fictional characters. Remembering the novel throughout the literary work reflects the author's imagination in creating plots, stories, exciting themes, characterization, etc. It is also believed that the novel has the characters' complexity of the problem. These literary works, viewed as psychological tapestries, offer insights into the human psyche through the portrayal of their characters. This psychological dimension is particularly scrutinized through the lens of psychoanalytic literary criticism. Fictional characters become real objects in

literary works. Fictional characters have moods, feelings, mental conditions, names, though like human in real life.

Psychology and literature are two sciences that have a close relationship with humans. Psychology of literature is one of the interdisciplinary literary studies because literature using various concepts and theoretical frameworks that exist in psychology (Wiyatmi, 2011). The researcher sees some advantages with using psychoanalysis theory. Psychoanalysis can be used to do deeply investigate the characteristic of the main character and the meaning behind the story in literary work. The analysis can see through the character's thoughts, behavior, and the way they settle the conflict. This theory helps the reader to understand the characters and implications in the literary work itself. Aras (2014), explained that literature and psychology are closely related, indirect and functional. The word "indirect" refers to the same thing in literary works and psychology, that is, human life. And "functionality" is in the research of psychiatry. The relationship between literary works and psychology is also handled in different ways. If psychology is true, it can be seen from the perspective of behavior, while literary works are done through imagination. Suwardi (2011) added, the relationship between psychological and literary works is essential to analyze works that give intensity to the psychological novel. The main character also displayed characterizations and attitudes related to psychic and psychological experiences, such as real life.

According to Bennet and Royle (2004), characters are the real life of literature: they are the objects of our curiosity and fascination, affection and dislike, admiration and condemnation. A character always uses the tools of communication to interact with other characters. His/her dialogue between characters forms as a medium between their actions and thoughts. How they communicate with other characters can establish how they feel and describes such as where they come from and their relationship with the character to whose they are speaking. In addition, the character can be defined as someone in a literary work that has an identity made up by appearance, conversation, action, name, and thoughts in the head.

The purpose of psychology of literature is to understand the psychological aspects contained in a literary work. Literary works provide an understanding of

society indirectly. Through understanding the characters, for example, people can understand changes, contradictions, and other deviations that occur in society, especially about the psyche. Three ways can be done to understand the relationship between psychology and literature, understanding the psychological elements of the author as a writer, understanding the psychological elements of fictional characters in literary works, and, understanding the psychological elements of the reader.

Fictional characters have various problems which can attack them both in physic and psychology. One of the problems that attack phyche is inner conflict.

As social beings, humans are innately entwined in relationships, often giving rise to conflicts. These conflicts stem from interactions between individuals or the surrounding environment, ensuring that a variety of conflicts remains an ever-present part of human existence. Conflicts and disputes between characters in novel literary stories can cause conflict. This is in line with Nurgiyantoro (2015) explaining that conflict is essentially something unpleasant that is experienced or felt by the character. Conflict is often used as an object for writers to express in the form of literary works in the form of novels. The conflicts experienced by humans in real life inspire writers to express them in the form of novels, short stories, or other literary works.

While conflicts typically manifest between individuals or groups, they can also manifest within a single individual. This internal strife is referred to as inner conflict. Bruno (2022) elucidates that inner conflict materializes when individuals are compelled to make challenging decisions in the course of their lives. This underscores that inner conflict surfaces when individuals grapple with demanding choices that necessitate resolution.

Also known as intrapersonal turmoil, inner conflict encapsulates the discord that brews within an individual. This conflict emerges because of at least two intentions or objectives to be accomplished at a time (Sharma, 2015). It emerges from the presence of conflicting ideas or desires, entailing an internal struggle for self-regulation that inevitably reverberates in one's actions. The complexities of human conflicts act as a compelling muse for writers, driving them to infuse these intricacies into their literary creations. Inner conflict has a relationship with the

human psychological aspects. Therefore, the researcher will use psychoanalytic theory to examine inner conflicts. Kurt Lewin (1947) remarked that the subject matter of psychoanalysis is human behavior from the point of view of the conflict. A conflict is a turning point during which individual struggles to attain some psychological quality. Endraswara (2008) states that inner conflict is the main aspect to be analysed. As we know that humans are always looking for pleasure and comfort. Considerations of morality are also important in estimating the balance of pleasure and displeasure because the possibility of having negative influences such as guilt, shame, or humiliation may be part of the cost of fulfilling desires (Eagleton, 2010)

Humans are the target object, not the human soul directly, but the embodiment of the existence of the soul in the form of behavior and other things related to behavior. Several types of conflict can occur in novel literary stories. Kurt Lewin in Alwisol (2016) argues that conflict has several types, including: approach-approach conflict, avoidance-avoidance conflict, and approach-avoidance conflict.

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn was chosen as an object of this research. This novel is categorized as a psychological thriller novel (Reilly, 2012). In this study, the researcher will conduct inner conflict research with the main object character in Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, namely Amy. Amy is the main character in the novel *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn who become a center. Some characteristics of inner conflicts are experienced by Amy in this novel. That is why this novel was chosen as an object of this research. Because of the researcher interest with the mental aspect of the main character, Amy. Amy Elliott Dunne, a central figure in Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*, emerges as a complex character grappling with profound inner conflict. As the story unravels, it becomes apparent that Amy's outward facade belies a tumultuous psychological landscape. Her inner turmoil is multifaceted, stemming from her contrasting personas and the dissonance between her public image and private desires. Amy's manipulation skills, strategic thinking, and emotional suppression further contribute to her intricate conflict. With an enigmatic blend of vulnerability and calculation, Amy navigates a series of crises that

illuminate the depths of her psychological struggles, captivating readers with the intricate layers of her character.

Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn presents a gripping narrative that revolves around the mysterious disappearance of Amy Elliott Dunne on her fifth wedding anniversary. The story delves into the intricate web of Amy and Nick Dunne's marriage, shifting between their past and present perspectives. Amy Elliott Dunne's marriage becomes the crucible for the intricate tangle of inner conflict that defines her. Her relationship with Nick Dunne, once infused with romance, gradually transforms into a battleground of unmet expectations, simmering resentments, and manipulative power dynamics. The surface of their marriage hides a profound wellspring of emotional discord that stirs a profound struggle within Amy. As the investigation of the missing Amy unfolds, layers of deception, manipulation, and hidden motives are revealed, challenging perceptions of truth and reality. The novel's masterful storytelling guides readers through a labyrinth of suspenseful twists and psychological intricacies, culminating in a shocking climax that exposes the depths of human behavior and the blurred boundaries between love and betrayal. As the narrative delves into the complexities of their relationship, Amy's calculated actions and her artful manipulation come to the forefront, shedding light on how the dynamics of their union exacerbate and perpetuate the turmoil churning within her.

The novel *Gone Girl* made its debut in 2012 and swiftly secured a prominent place on the New York Times' list of bestsellers. Embedded within the intricate tapestry of Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* lies a narrative landscape that unfurls through a prism of techniques, masterfully crafting the inner conflict of Amy Elliott Dunne. At the heart of this narrative realm resides the enigma of unreliable narrators, Amy and Nick, whose divergent accounts seamlessly entwine with readers' perceptions, leading them through a labyrinth of intrigue and duplicity. Woven into these parallel narratives are the threads of foreshadowing and unexpected twists, meticulously unraveling the layers of Amy's internal turmoil.

A study needs some relevant research to support the implementation of further research. Some data can be obtained from the relevant research or nearing

research conducted previously. In writing this thesis, the researcher collected information from previous research as a comparison material, both regarding the disadvantages or advantages that already exist. The researcher also digs up information from journals and thesis to obtain pre-existing information about theories and topics related to the titles.

Pertiwi (2016) in journal article under the title *Amy's Personality Disorder in Flynn's Gone Girl: A Psychological Approach*, identify the characteristics of antisocial personality disorder found in Amy's actions and behaviors, and to reveal the cause of her personality disorder. This article sees the characteristics of antisocial personality disorder found in Amy Elliot Dunne, caused by her peers, who are her parents and husband.

Nur Hidayah (2018) under the title *Internal Conflict Faced by The Main Character of My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Piccoul*, discusses the type of internal conflict and how the main character resolves the inner conflict. This research using psychoanalysis as the grand theory and use conflict theory from Kurt Lewin to analyse the internal conflict. As the result of the study, the researcher found three types of internal conflict experienced by the main character. This study also shows that there are five styles that the main character used to resolve the internal conflict.

Sisillia Yossy Nour (2017) under the title *Analysis of Ega's Inner Conflict as The Main Character in The Angie M*, discuss inner conflict of the main character. In this study the researcher using psychological approach. This study using descriptive qualitative method to analyse intrinsic element. The inner conflict arises because of the lack of fulfilment aspect based on the theory proposed by Abraham Maslow, namely psychological needs, the lack of love and existence. The impact of the inner conflict is sadness, fear, insecurity, and anger.

After seeing the results of the research above, the previous research similarity talks about inner conflict using psychoanalysis with the various objects. In this study, the researcher will analyse what types of inner conflict that Amy Elliot Dunne faced. In addition, the researcher also complemented the research by analyzing the causes of inner conflict and how Amy Elliot Dunne resolved her inner conflicts.

1.2 Statement of The Problem

The writer conducted this research to explore again the inner conflicts experienced by the main character, as well as how she respond to or face conflicts in Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl*. The writer does not focus on all the characters but only focuses on Amy Elliot Dunne who face inner conflict. This novel was also chosen because it has compatibility with the theme raised and wanted to be researched.

Based on the background and problem formulations above, this research is formulated into the following questions

1. What types of inner conflicts are faced by Amy Elliott Dunne in *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn?
2. What are the causes of the inner conflicts faced by Amy Elliott Dunne in *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn?
3. How are the inner conflicts resolved by Amy Elliot Dunne ?

1.3 Reseachr Objectives

1. Analyzing the inner conflicts faced by Amy Elliot Dunne in *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn
2. Discovering the causes of inner conflicts faced by Amy Elliot Dunne in *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn
3. Discovering how do Amy Elliot Dunne resolves the inner conflicts

1.4 Research Purposes

1. Theoretically : This research is expected to increase the reader's wealth of knowledge about literature research, especially on inner conflict analysis. In addition, it can be used as material for further research to increase the ability to appreciate literary works.
2. Practically : The results of this study can add benefits for readers to appreciate a literary work as well as provide new experiences about various things around and how to react to them.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

In this research, there are some terms that often appear to prevent misunderstanding. The researcher explains each term's meaning:

1. **Literature:** according to Eagleton in Nurrachman (2017), is a discipline that has similar qualifications with any other discipline; it has its own body of knowledge which can be studied systematically—derived from Latin *littera*, meaning a letter of the alphabet, literature referred for the first time to all the body of human written expression which highly regarded in a given language and society. It included philosophy, history, essays, and letters, as well as poems and plays. The criteria of what can be regarded as literature, then, were honestly ideological; the values and 'tasted' of a particular social class
2. **Psychology:** Psychology is the science of behavior and not only the scientific study of expression but also the mind. Psychology is the science that seeks answers to the problems of the soul and seeks a picture of how the human mind can influence human responses (Kendler, 1963). According to Kagan and Havemann (2014: 1), psychology can be described as the science that systematically studies and attempts to explain observable behavior and its relationship to the unseen mental processes that go on inside the organism and to external events in the environment.
3. **Psychoanalysis:** Psychoanalysis according to Freud (2002), is both a theory of the human mind and a therapeutic practice. Psychoanalysis was founded by Freud, which has four major areas of application: the first as a theory of how the mind works. The second is a treatment method for psychic problems. The third is a method of research. The fourth is as a way of viewing cultural and social phenomena like literature, art, movies, performance, politics, and groups.
4. **Conflict:** Pruitt and Rubin define conflict as a perception regarding the perceived divergence of interest or a belief that the aspirations of the conflicting parties cannot find common ground (Jeffrey, 2009)

5. **Inner Conflict:** a conflict that happened between the actor and her/herself. (Nurgiyantoro, 2015)
6. **Valence:** The strength which is influencing movement towards a goal or away from it. (Lewin, 1936)
7. **Vector:** The subjective worth of an occurrence, item, individual or other being in the life space of the person. One can distinguish positive and negative valence. (Lewin, 1936)

