

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **1.1 Background of the Research**

Literature is known as a term that describes written and also oral literary work, which commonly refers to works such as drama, poetry, fiction, and nonfiction. According to Greil Marcus and Werner Sollor 2009 (in Fruzińska, 2012), literary is a term that define not only what is written, but also what is voiced, invented, expressed, and form. According to Wellek and Warren (1954), literature is an art that is not science-related, as there are several elements of humanity involved in literature, and human aspiration is usually reflected in it.

Literary works that closely related or reflected to real life can be found in drama, novel, film, and poetry. One of common literary works is novel. Novel is a term used to describe fictional and non-fictional literary work (Oxford University Press, 2013). Novel also has various genres. Psychological is one of the novel genres that talks about mental illness that occurred in human life. Mental illness identified as a real disorder of psychological that may happen to anyone regardless of age or gender, and it is hardly to be detected or seen in someone. Psychology is a study that is used in analyzing psychology aspects in literary works (Freud, 1921). Among several psychology problems that existed, the psychology problem of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has been found in literary works. As defined by Davison and Neale

(1967), Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder is a mental illness that occurred in someone who has terrible, traumatic, and dangerous events that happened in the past.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder may happen to anyone without any exception. One of PTSD phenomenon that happened in real life is the effect after being positive with Covid-19. There is one of the researcher's friends named Ren that was diagnosed positive of Covid-19 alongside his two younger sisters and one younger brother (Corona, 2020). One of his sisters had passed away from the virus as she couldn't recover from it. He then had Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder following by being diagnosed positive and had to lose his little sister. He changed to being an introvert, overthinker, feeling insecure and anxious. He often stressed out and easily got invaded by panic attack as he lost sister. Once he realized that he felt anxious often and overthinking a lot, he visited ICEO hypnotherapy in Batam and realized that he was diagnosed with PTSD. Keyes et al. (2014) stated that the unexpected and sudden death of someone appeared to be one of several factors that caused some of mental disorders, including PTSD, panic disorder, major depressive disorder, and alcohol-used disorders.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder happened when someone had traumatic events in the past. It was because traumatic events have the biggest impacts to someone's life and someone's personality. As agreed by Freud (1921) that post-traumatic stress disorder also called as 'shell shock' during World War I and as 'combat fatigue' during World War II. It happened as the traumatic after world war that happened to

the veteran and the people that survived from the world war. In addition, the death of someone was also one of the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The researcher had discovered a Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder phenomenon in a novel with the title “Cherry”, which was written by Nico Walker. “Cherry” that was published in the year of 2018 was a novel that describes a man with the name Cherry who had Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder after he came out from military, as he had experienced many traumatic experiences when he was in there. He had medicine dependence and fell in love with a woman named Emily, who also was in medicine dependence. As they did not have much money to pay for the medicine, they eventually became robbers, and also had a problem with drugs mafia. The researcher then was interested to analyze the causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which happened to Cherry, the main character in the novel. The novel “Cherry” is used to be the data source by the researcher in this research is because it showed the main character who had Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that caused him to become a robbery and trapped in the troubles he caused.

“This is a story of a man who becomes **addicted** to heroin. The great things of heroin is that you can kill yourself really slow, but you felt really so great when you are doing it.” (Walker, 2018, p. 21)

From the quotation above, it is described that Cherry had an addiction on heroin. He was addicted to heroin after he finished the military. The heroin made him feel calmed and comforted because of his PTSD. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has causes and symptoms, same with other mental illnesses. The development of Post-

Traumatic Stress disorder is followed by traumatic and horrible events that happened in the past. According to Davison, there are four kinds of causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which are genetic cause, brain structure cause, environmental cause, and psychological cause. And there are three symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder which are avoidance symptom, arousal symptom, and re-experiencing symptom.

The researcher found some previous researches that had been analyzed about the causes and the symptoms of psychological problems or mental illness. First, there is a journal by Fathi & Ahmadi (2020) found out the main character's psychological conflicts in the novel entitled "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hussaini. The researcher used psychoanalysis theories by Freud (1921) and Maslow (1987) to analyze the psychological problems. The data were taken from the narrations and dialogues in the novel. The results of the research are the causes and the motives of psychological problems from the main character.

The second previous research was a journal that had been analyzed about the symptoms of psychological problems, a journal by Tiansyah et al. (2021), the researcher found the cause and the symptoms of psychological problems from main character named Eleanor Oliphant. The data source was from novel "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine." The researcher used psychoanalysis theory by Freud (1921) to analyze the psychological problems of the main character. The result of the research found that Eleanor terrible past life affected Eleanor personality and life.

As shown above, both researches can be concluded to be using psychological or psychoanalysis approach to analyze the main character's psychological problems, as well as the approach that is used in present research. The difference located in the choice of data source, as the researcher used the novel of "Cherry" by Nico Walker. The research is about the analysis of PTSD's causes and the symptoms using the theory by Davison and Neale (1967). In analyzing the causes and the symptoms of mental illness in the literary works, the researcher does not analyze characters nor the story based on the real person or story, but the researcher will analyze about the causes and the symptoms of the mental illness that happen to the character represent the psychological experience of human beings in real life.

### **1.2 Identification of the Problem**

1. The existence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in real life.
2. Traumatic event resulted to Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.
3. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder reflected in the novel "Cherry" by Nico Walker.
4. Causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry" novel.
5. Symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry" novel.

### **1.3 Limitation of the Problem**

1. The causes of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry" novel.

2. The symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that happened to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry" novel.

#### **1.4 Formulation of the Problem**

1. What are the reasons of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that occurs to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry"?
2. What are the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that occurs in Nico Walker's "Cherry"?

#### **1.5 Objectives of the Research**

1. To describe reasons of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that occurs to the main character in Nico Walker's "Cherry".
2. To describe the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder that occurs in Nico Walker's "Cherry".

#### **1.6 Significance of the Research**

##### **1. Theoretical Significance**

This researcher has some purpose. First, this research is made to give information for the readers about the reasons of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder on the fiction and non-fiction. Second, this research is made to give information for the readers about the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. And the last, hopefully, this research increases writer and readers' experience to understand about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

## 2. Practical Significance

As practically, this research can be useful for some reasons for the readers. This research may increase reader knowledge about the causes and the symptoms of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. This research also increases reader knowledge in Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. In other ways, this research also gives the way to reduce PTSD due to traumatic events for the readers. This research also can help the reader to recognize their PTSD.

### 1.7 Definition of the Key Terms

1. **Literature:** a term not only define as what is written but what is voiced, what is expressed, what is invented, in whatever form (Greil Marcus and Werner Sollor, 2009 as cited in Fruzińska (2012)).
2. **Psychological:** a study used to analyze the psychology in literary works (Freud, 1921).
3. **Post-traumatic stress disorder:** a mental illness for someone that have experienced with traumatic event in the past (Freud, 1923).
4. **Novel:** is a term used to describe fictional and non-fictional work (Oxford University Press, 2013).