

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 The Psychological in Literature**

In the literature, Sigmund Freud has been widely known for its influence, both in the theoretical field and in the field of clinical and behavioral science in general. One of Freud's famous publications published was psychoanalysis. This term was coined by Freud himself and first appeared in 1896. Psychoanalysis is a new view of humans where unconsciousness plays a central role. This view has practical relevance because it can be used in treating patients who experience psychological disorders. Psychoanalysis was found to cure hysteria patients using the method of Dr. Josef Breuer (1895), he is a doctor from Vienna. Hysteria is a patient who suffers from memories that result in trauma, this mysterious state has existed since Greek medicine.

According to Freud in Boothby (1991) state psychoanalysis is divided into three meanings, first, psychoanalysis is used to show a method of research on psychic (dream) processes that never been reached by scientific research. Second, psychoanalysis is used to show also a technique for treating neurotic patients due to psychological disorders that have been experienced. Third, this term is used to show all psychological knowledge obtained through the methods and techniques that have been carried out.

Psychoanalysis was originally only used by Freud in 1896, which later some of his students deviated from the teachings of his teacher and found their theories

such as the famous Carl Gustav Jung, Alfred Adler and Jacques Lacan. As one who sought to revisit the subjectivity of Freud's theory, Lacan read Freud's theory to clarify and revive a set of concepts specifically the concept of unconsciousness. The psychoanalytic concept of the impulse of death that forward by Freud which was later developed by Lacan which refers to the constant force at the intersection between life and death, which is not understood in the biological sense of bodily death of the body, nor does it contradict life.

Based on Freud, Boothby (1991) stated humans will be composed of three things where each element represents the stages of life, these elements are id, ego, superego. In the element of the id, humans only recognize needs that are happy for their bodies, this phase occurs in newborn humans in newborn humans into the world. In the formed of ego, human are more likely to limit the desire for pleasure, caused values and norms begin to enter. In the forms of superego, human contains of norms in society.

In Lacan's view humans experienced three stages in their life, namely the real phase that occurs in the real world, the second is the imaginary phase that occurs in the realm of imagination, and the last the gaze phase that when human know the world. In the real phase experienced by babies, in this phase the baby does not have the desire, feeding lost because the baby only needs for the baby such as breast milk. In the imaginary phase, the baby who has grown up knows the environment with the familiarity of the surrounding environment the values of values begins to enter as if humans in this phase are faced with a mirror and the image in the mirror is considered as him. The image in the mirror is a form of

value values that have been obtained by individuals from the surrounding environment and that value is considered an ideal. In the last phase is the gaze phase where a baby can say explicitly to ME, which is obtained from the mirror image.

In Freud's psychoanalysis, humans act not dominated by consciousness, but the role of their subconscious. In Freud's view, unconsciousness dominates human activity, but this unconscious is separate from consciousness. This phenomenon of unconsciousness is equated with Freud as an iceberg, where consciousness is at the top of the visible iceberg, and inequality lies beneath an invisible iceberg, but larger in size. In Lacan's view unconsciousness is not separate from unconsciousness, but unconsciousness is consciousness itself. Unconsciousness and consciousness are equated with two sides of a coin.

Freud is famous for his free association method, in this method the patient is invited to express all the things that cross his mind. From the patient's presentation, the psychoanalyst can draw a common thread from the problems faced by the patient. This method broadly wants to reconcile Id-dominated consciousness with the ego, superego. From this method, Lacan states that reconciliation between id and superego, this ego causes people to experience surprises because this id is spontaneous while the superego and ego are conscious. This shock is caused by Id which is dominated by instincts of animals that are forcibly linked both from religion, law and a set of norms that exist in society.

The theory of death drives in German or so called *Todestrieb*, the first time was introduced by Sigmund Freud in 1922 in his book entitled "Beyond the

Pleasure Principle”, which was published also wrote as reference to the term "opposition between the ego or death instincts and the sexual of life instincts". Based on Freud in Boothby (1991) stated that opposition between life drives (*eros*) which is believed to be a tendency towards harmony and unity, and death drives, which operate in the opposite direction, undoing connections and destroying things. Also, Freud in Boothby (1991) stated life and death has never been pure, yet they are fused in differing proportions. Freud argues that it is not for fusion with eroticism, the death drive would elude the perception since it is silent. Freud's death drive can be considered as the true-life goal of the organism, the only circuitous route to death.

Freud in Boothby (1991) stated the concept of death drive theory was rejected by his students and colleagues, one of them was Otto Rank. Rank has a refusal of Freud's death drive that every organism is destined to die for eternal reasons, that death and destruction are the goals of the basic principles, perhaps the most basic principles of all life, violating the canon of common sense and religion from those that allude to scientific rationality. Based on Rank in Boothby (1991) stated Freud was not only foolish but very deep and almost disgusting to claim that "the purpose of all life is death". Beside, Henri Ellenberger in Boothby (1991) argued the concept of death drive by Freud never be taken as a result of scientific research but must be interpreted as an expression of bitter personal experience.

Seeing the many rejections Freud received from the most controversial view of the death drive theory, there was one who supported him named Jacques Lacan.

Based on Lacan in Boothby (1991) reaffirmed the notion of death drive at the state's seminar "to ignore the death instinct in (Freud's) doctrine—is to misunderstand the doctrine completely". With this then Lacan developed Freud's existing theories known as "Lacan's return to Freud".

According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated death drive as the key to understands of the Freud's topography of id, ego, and superego. The purpose of Lacan to question and reformulation in relating the language, desire, and death that found the problem in psychoanalysis of death drive. In addition, Lacan in Boothby (1991) said the essential meaning of psychoanalytic discovery concerns the role of language in the functioning of the unconscious and he states this in his seminar and famously known as "the unconscious is structured like a language".

Based on Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated the impulse of death can only be understood against the background of a matrix of linguistic markers which he calls "the symbolic order" which consists of three the real, the imaginary, and the symbolic orders. He linked the urge of death to speech and language functions, and also to the nature and destiny of humans. According to Freud in Boothby (1991) stated idea of death drive was more directed at sexuality and biology, so, on the contrary, Lacan's notion of death drive was more directed at cultural matters than nature. Based on Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated emphasized that every human being has experience admitting of no exception that everything living dies from causes within itself, and returns to the inorganic, we can only say "the goal of all life is death".

Therefore Lacan in Boothby (1991) introduced four theoretical concepts that trigger someone to do a death drive. The four trigger are inseparable from Lacan's psychoanalysis concept in three theoretical schemes in the form of relations between the real, the imaginary, and the symbolic orders. These three schemes encourage Lacan to introduce the four death drives experienced by someone, especially when someone wants to die. The four concepts are: 1. Self-denial, 2. Repetition, 3. Sublimation, 4. Gaze.

## **2.2 The Concept of Self-denial**

The process of self-denial initially began with the introduction process as Lacan in Boothby (1991) said the erotic aggressive characters with speculative image could be the subject of self-destruction. It is intended that a subject identifies himself in reflection and sees himself as an attacker who experiences such deficiencies due to various factors, such as dissatisfaction with life, disillusionment with physical form, psychological distress from outside him, and other things that encourage someone to accept himself. It was during this mirroring phase that Lacan in Boothby (1991) added someone would seek perfection that he had felt like a baby metaphor in the womb of his mother's stomach. All needs and intake of the baby are enhanced in the mother's womb. This metaphor is what the Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated concept called the "stage of the real".

Regarding the death drive, death is a transformation of thought that is present as a form of desire to obtain perfection (the real) that someone wants to achieve. The desire to reach the pinnacle of death became an important point in

death drive. This encouragement then presents a person's way of thinking and view to avoid life because the life of the opponent is from perfection (the real), which is called Lacan as "The Dad Enemy". The Dad Enemy according to the concept of Lacan as a mother's puller of a baby who is metaphorically in baby's tidiness. This concept is called Lacan as Self-denial, where at first it starts from the process of recognition in the reflecting phase which created a state of deprivation as a result of separation or castration from the symbolic order.

### **2.3 The Concept of Repetition**

Freud's theory concepts of death drive regarding repetition was taken by Lacan as the second terminology after Self-denial. Based on Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated the work was entitled "Beyond the Pleasure Principle" known as repetition compulsion where he links it to the concept of the death drive. According to Freud in Evans (2006) stated the definition of repetition as the tendency for the subject to do the same thing again and again about repeating the situation.

According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) defined his interpretation of self-denial in his pre-work in 1950 where he linked repetition with the complex social structure and the subject repeatedly and compulsively re-enacts or simply by saying what cannot be consciously remembered, what is repressed, repeats itself in behavior. Lacan in Boothby (1991) continued development of repetition, in his seminar in the same year, as the incident of signifier or the incentive of signifying the chain, or the insistence of the letter. Certain signifiers insist on returning in the life of the subject, despite the resistances which block them. The repetition is the

general characteristic of the signifying chain, the manifestation of the unconscious in every subject. In 1960, Lacan developed repetition as the return of *jouissance*. It means an excess of enjoyment which returns again and again to the limit of pleasure principle and seek death.

From the explanation above it can be understood that a subject who feels that he does not have an ideal image of the mirroring process will continue to carry out self-destruction with the achievement of the pleasure principle and seek death. As Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated that it is this enjoyment which returns, again and again, to transgress the limit of the pleasure principle and seek death, a person continues to be triggered to seek death as a constitutional form of the symbolic order of the subject matter. The form of repetition by the symbolic order is not only formed psychically but also in the form of a way of thinking or point of view. Someone who is in the repetition phase will usually lead to situations of depression, self-destruction, failure to understand space and time, the desire to carry out self-destruction, and actions that oppose normalization and comfort of humans in general. These actions are present in the form of unconsciousness in the view of normal people, while for subjects who experience the repetition stage in death drives as a form of enjoyment and fantasy in the mirror stage, they reach death.

## **2.4 The Concept of Sublimation**

Lacan in Boothby (1991) created his definition of sublimation from Freud in his seminar in 1950-1960 where he argues that sublimation centers to the notion of *Das Ding* (object a petit) in psychoanalytic theory, Lacan stands for the



unattainable object of desire. This is sometimes referred to as an object that causes the presence of a desire. According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) sublimation is a fundamental formula "it raises an object to the dignity of the Thing". This means that when reaching the sublimation stage a subject will form *ex nihilo* (create nothing) where a subject will be connected to the emptiness of *Das Ding*. The emptiness of *Das Ding* is relevant to the sublimation phase which assumes that death is the highest peak in perfection without negotiation. This is in line with the explanation of Lacan in Boothby (1991) in which mentioned the ideal image and believes that his ideal image will continue to satisfy him forever. In this condition, a subject without a doubt will take a string of rope without finding itself to be a degree of the accomplice of the drive.

In this sublimation phase, a subject considers death to be the peak of fantasy without negotiation. Of course for normal humans this view is not at all equated with the viewpoint of a subject who has reached the sublimation phase is the most intense and dangerous activity for normal people, on the contrary, this stage is a form of ideals of happiness and perfection itself. As a critic of literature, one must be sharp and digestive in analyzing the phenomena that occur in literary work. A literary critic must put himself outside the norms of normality that exist in social society in general. A critic must plunge psychologically into the soul and thoughts and the point of view of the subject who experiences the death drive phases especially sublimation. Thus the neutrality of the perspective in analyzing will be achieved out of the constitution of the ideal norms of society.

## 2.5 The Concept of Gaze

The gaze is the final stage of the trigger for the death of Lacan. According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) stated the gaze is the main phase where a subject has surpassed the pleasure of death. He took the concept of the gaze also from Freudian thought. Based on Lacan in Boothby (1991) appropriated Merleau-Ponty's phenomenological model of vision that identifies a fundamental "reversibility" in vision; the body is both subject and object, seeing and the seen. He takes up this notion of reversibility but changes the emphasis of Merleau-Ponty's through insisting that, despite the reversibility of seeing and being seen, it is the possibility of being observed which is always primary.

Lacan in Boothby (1991) asserted the existence of the seen of a given-to-be seen in relation to an internalized or imagined gaze. His formulation of the gaze entails that the subject is subject to the subject under observation, which causes the subject to experience themselves as an object which is seen. The subject is and is, in identifying with this object, it becomes alienated from itself. The gaze becomes a foundation for the death drive that allows a fiction of fantasy that triggers to survive.

In other words, understanding the gaze phase is a form of the impression that is present in the subject who argues that the suffering situation that he experiences is a form of pleasure from the symbolic order which then directs the subject to the trigger of death. The subject has alienated himself from all kinds of desires at a point that ends in death. The form of the gaze is usually in the form of suicide in various constitutions. In Lacan's theory of death drive, gaze where

someone has alienated himself and placed the form of life in death. This phenomenon then becomes realistic from all phases of a person's death stage to dare to commit suicide.

## **2.6 The Impact of Death Drive**

Every stage that occurred as a result of the death drive that experienced by a subject in arousing his self-image emanates death itself. Lacan in Boothby (1991) developed the death drive into a more specific part of course contained as the impact of death drive toward the subject, they are anxiety, depression, impulsive attitude, and self-destruction.

The theory of anxiety initially originated from Freud's thought which, according to Lacan in Boothby (1991) defined anxiety as a result of the deposition of libido, which the initial occurrence of this due to trauma at birth. Anxiety is a form of a warning that there is danger from outside of wanting to threaten the ego. A subject will try to reduce or eliminate the threatening risk trying to find ways for a defense that aims to release a subject from pressure so that he can continue to live his life better.

According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) mentioned depression as a mental disorder that is caused by not being able to hold feelings and consider themselves worthless or consider themselves as useless people. This begins with the loss of love so that he feels angry at himself. Freud when someone has lost someone they love, which causes a decrease in affection. The first thing a subject does is to fuse himself with the person who left him; by identifying themselves or trying to see the perfect figure according to his views. Anger arises as a result of anger from

the person left behind by being always buried, developing into a process of self-blame, self-torture, and ongoing depression. People regard depression as hidden anger that turns to attack the subject's self-image.

According to Lacan in Boothby (1991) showed impulsive attitude of a person who led himself to do something spontaneously without thinking about it first, this happens reflection or unconsciously. A person with an impulsive attitude will find it very difficult to discuss even to his self or in private discussions. Impulsive attitude if it is too often shown it will have a negative impact so that the problem occurs due to his own doing. But if this is not done as usual, then the effect will be positive, which makes life certainly better.

Self-destruction as Lacan Boothby (1991) stated that is designed to endanger yourself and also with good intentions but ultimately wants to self-destruct. When someone behaves seems to be detrimental to him most likely what happens is caused by decreased brain function. This is considered to decrease a person's ability to distinguish between good and incorrect after experiencing a series of stages of anxiety, depression, impulsive attitude, and self-destruction.

## **2.7 Previous study**

The following are some researches that relate to this research about death drive in the novel *Me Before You* that also use as the references for the researcher through this analysis. These previous researcher finally show the originality of this research. So, the previous researcher describe as follow:

The first journal written by Garrigós (2015) entitled death drive and desire in cronenberg's adaptation of Delillo's *Cosmopolis*. The research focused on the

notion of the death drive as related to global capitalism in the story of *Cosmopolis*. This research analyzed the death drive, by focusing on the notion of the ego, subject hood, and desire, and the I of the spectator-subject. This research use theory of death drive by Freud. The result of this research is the researcher found that *Cosmopolis*'s novel is reflections on the death drive of capitalism. In Delillo's world, the longing for immortality and the desire to die are inextricably linked which confront the end (death) with its own destruction (immortality).

The second journal written by Kaur (2017) entitled *Ardour Psychology* in Ravinder Singh's "I too had a Love Story". The research focused on to explain *Ardour Psychology* in the character Ravin by finding the true love under three aspects of love psychology, psychology eagerness, psychology of intense behavior. This research use *Ardour* psychological approach. The result of this research is the researcher found that "Ardour Psychology" is all about what person thinks or wishes to be with his/her beloved ones, the eagerness, intense love and warmth of the relationship created the actions, events and moments in one's life that can't be changed ever, but these events help one to know about the importance of love in his/her life.

The third journal written by Hutami (2017) entitled *Death Instinct Manifested through Passive Aggressiveness and Its Social Effects* in Melville's "Bartleby the Scrivener". Her research focused on the death instinct manifest through passive aggressiveness by depicting the short story of "Bartleby the Scrivener". This research use Freud theory, death instinct. The result of this research is the researcher found that character Bartleby's death instinct which leads

him into death is caused by his stubborn that slowly affects his relationship and people around him. Because of this condition, people who interact with Barbley, show certain behaviors, which are anxiety, confusion and anger.

The fourth journal written by Kaprisma & Rusnalasari (2018) entitled Love-Death of Hanna Schmitz : A Narative History in Bernhard Schlink's *The Reader*. The research focused on the historical context in Benhard Schlink's *The Reader* about the tragic and dark history of Germany by ending the life of the major character. The research use sociological approach, to revealed the ups and downs of the lives of the people they know as clearly as possible. The result of this research as the researcher found that the author write this novel to show the dark history of the nation (Nazi and holocaust stories) as the moral message that forms the story. The love story of Hanna and Michael bring a moral awareness which Hanna suicide committed influenced by Michael's attitude.

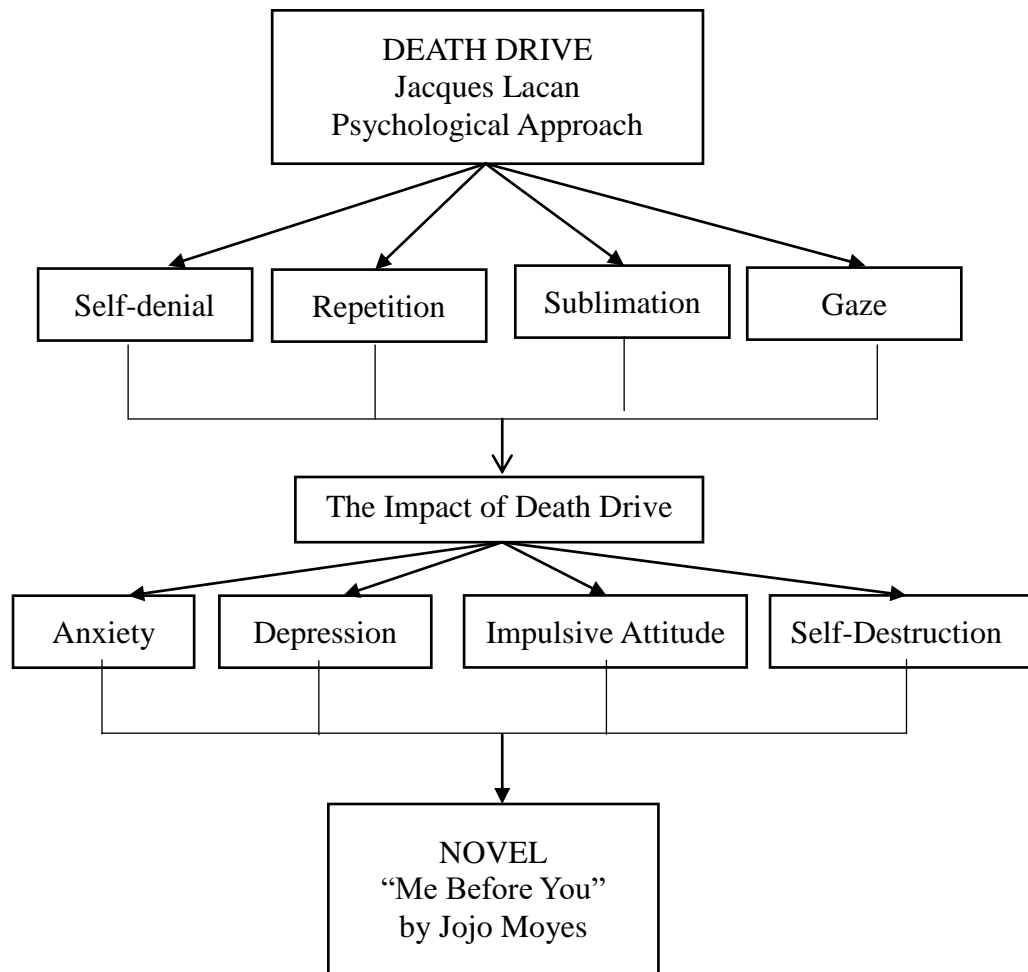
The fifth journal written by Shahanaz (2019) entitled *Lacanian Paradigm of Thread Memory: An attempt of paradigmatic approach in th Works of Salman Rushdie*. The research focused on analyze Lacanian notion of memory in the selected works of Sulman Rushdie. This research use psychoanalytic theory of Freud and Lacan. The result of this research is the researcher found out that memory is not biological but psychological as marked by Lacan in the theory of psychoanalysis, memory constant interaction between the conscious and unconscious mind.

The researches above are different from this study because the researcher focuses on the trigger of the main character that has to suffer from quadriplegic so

he decided to do euthanasia in Switzerland by helping his family. First, the research found that the character depression can be made people suffering because of a feeling of guilt by need help from other people. Second, research also found affected quadriplegic to the psychology of a person by using Lacan theory of death drive.

## **2.8 Theoretical Framework**

Theoretical framework in this research used the death drive theory from Jacques Lacan, the writer will use a psychological approach in analyzing four death drive terminology. There are consequences arising from the death drive phases that will be discussed in this research using a novel entitled *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes.



**Figure 2.1 Theoretical Framework**

Referring to the theory diagram drawings above, a theory explanation can be made. Psychoanalyst approach examines the spiritual or soul aspects of a subject. The theory used by researchers in this study is that there is a theory that triggers death by Jacques Lacan. The theory that triggers death has three orders consisting of real, imaginary and symbolic order. Death trigger theory can be applied to find the forms of death impulse in the psychology of the main character consisting of self-denial, repetition, sublimation, and gaze. This can be explained that self-denial is due to the desire to achieve perfection, namely death, repetition



that is done repeatedly to do the same thing, sublimation when the subject considers death as something he must achieve, and gaze as the end of the achievement that the subject wants. After conducting this research, the researcher found four impacts of death drives that occur on the main characters such as anxiety, depression, impulsivity, and self-destruction contained in Jojo Moyes's novel entitled *Me Before You*.