

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature and psychology are two things that are very closely related, in which psychology and literature have the purpose that is life of human as the object and have the functional correlations where both of them learn about the psychological condition of people. The difference is that psychology discusses something real but the literature discusses imaginative things of the author. The author presents a problem based on his experience and observation of his life or the result of the author's thoughts or imagination. An author represents life according to his/her objectives, perceptions, ideologies, and value judgments and opens the doors of the unknown and invisible worlds to readers not only by arousing feelings and emotions but also by helping them to discover the meaning of life and existence (Aras, 2015, p. 251). However, it is done selectively and is formed according to its purpose, which also includes elements of entertainment and information about human life experiences. Psychology understands the creation of literature and the principles of psychology writers taken from literary works, and the impact of literary works on readers. Psychology is the scientific study of mind (mental processes) and behavior (Stangor et al., 2011). It means that the mental and the behavior of a person can be used as a reference to help doing a research.

Literary works produced by the author always display characters. Character is a reflection of human being created through the author's imagination and experience. Therefore, analyzing character is like analyzing human nature. With this fact literary works are always involved in all aspects of human life, including psychological aspects. This is inseparable from the dualist view which states that humans basically consist of body and soul. Psychology aspect in literary work can be identified by the character.

Literary are divide in some kind there are novel, poetry, fiction, drama, and movie, in this research researcher choose the character in one of the literary work that is a novel. The author of the novel is Louisa May Alcott with the title "Little Women". The "Little Women" novel is story about life of four sisters there are Margaret or Meg, Josephine or Jo, Elizabeth or Beth and Amy March who live with a mother called Marmee and their life are full of love although they not a rich family. This novel first published at 1868 and the novel tells the author life. The story start with the grumble of the girls who cannot get present and buy what they want like the others people around them, which is the first time for them celebrates Christmas without their father. Meg and Jo March as the two oldest children must work to help the family. Mega works as a private tutor and Jo work in the house of aunt March to help her wealthy who lives in a mansion. Beth is a girl who not interesting to going to school and she choose to stay at home and work to do the homework. Amy is the ones who still in school in the family. Margaret who called Meg is beautiful and traditional, Josephine or called Jo as the main character is a tomboys girls and she like reading and writing. Elizabeth or

Beth is a calm girl and she loves peace and she like playing a piano she is a pianist, while Amy the youngest girl of the family she like drawing or art and have interesting in good society.

In “Little Women” novel there are some psychological phenomena that the researcher found especially those are related to Hierarchy of Needs based on Abraham Maslow theory. Researcher found the psychological need that the Josephine have fulfilled in the novel as this quote “Hurry and get done! Don’t stop to quirk your little finger and simper over your plate, Amy,’ cried Jo, choking on her tea and dropping her bread, butter side down, on the carpet in her haste to get at the treat” (Alcott, 1868, p. 14). The conversation shows that Josephine has food to eat (bread, butter, tea) that is mean the main character has fulfilled her basic needs or one of her psychological needs and the needs also happened as long the story where the main character can fulfill her basic needs. The first needs based on Maslow is psychological needs, “The most basic needs of any person are psychological needs, including food, water, oxygen, maintenance of body temperature and so on” (Feist and Feist, 2009, p.287).

The second is safety needs, according to Maslow (1970) safety needs is what human being needs is a sense of security, being protected and being healthy, feeling safe and not included in war, terrorism, disease, accident and free to do what human are rationality (Feist and Feist, 2009, p.287) . On “Little Women” the safety needs that fulfilled by Josephine March is on this state “We’ve got Father and Mother, and each other,’ said Beth contentedly from her corner” (Alcott, 1868, p.2) the text shows that the Josephine has place or home that make her

safety needs being fulfilled where she get feel happy and enjoy with her family especially her mother and her sisters. The next need is self esteem which in this needs the people need is for get the self respect, confidence, competence, and the knowledge that others hold them in high esteem (Feist and Feist, 2009, p.289). “Mr. Laurance came hurrying back with Beth, bringing every comfort the kind old gentlemen could bring of the invalid and friendliest promises of protection for the girls during the mother’s absence, which comforted her very much. There was nothing he didn’t offer, from his own dressing gown to himself as escort” (Alcott, 1868, p.285). The state above show that the Josephine families get a respect from their neighbor until the end of the story although their family is not a rich people but their neighbor so cares and appreciates them.

Based on the some stated above shows that four needs of the character have fulfilled and last is self actualization. According to Maslow the people will fulfilled their self actualization if they have fulfilled the four needs that is why researcher do this research to analyze about the self actualization of the main character. In Maslow theory of Human Motivation, that people will be motivated to achieve something or a need. Maslow said that people achieving a longing will indirectly be motivated, especially in the fulfillment of their needs, Maslow arrange the needs in hierarchical consisting of five stages. The first is physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, esteem needs, and finally is self actualization needs. In the concept of hierarchy, Maslow (1970) said the highest level of needs is the lowest needs because after fulfilled the lowest the higher need will be the motivator. Beside the aspect of psychology needs the

“Little Women” is a famous novel that contains a feminist aspect is a familiar at the time.

Some of researchers have made “Little Women” by Louisa May Alcott novel as their object, researcher knows that this novel has been analyzed by some researchers before. The first is Agustina Dwi Ratnaningrum of Muhammadiyah University Pamulang student (2016). She conducted the researcher entitled “Analyis of the Main Character in “Little Women” Novel Using Performativity Theory” the researcher explain about gender trouble of the female main character in the novel based on the main character’s performance of performativity.

The second was conducted by Liza Novita Ningrum (2017) from University of Muria Kudus, with the title “Flouting Maxim of Relation in “Little Women” Novel by Louisa May Alcott”. The main aim of the research is to find out flouting maxim of relation which employed by the characters and to find out the speakers meaning of flouting maxim of relation in the “Little Women Novel”. The third is conducted by Herliawati Erlis in University of Mercu Buana Yogyakarta (2018). She entitled she entitled the research “The Influence of Josephine’s Emotion Toward Her Relationship with Family Members in Louisa May Alcott’s Little Women”. She used descriptive analyze method to write the research. The purpose of the research is to find out Josephine’s emotion in the novel and to analyze the effects of Josephine’s emotion with her family members in the novel. All of the research using the “Little Women” as their object but the different with this researcher is the purpose of the research, this research focus in analyzing the self actualization of the main character.

Based on the explanation above there are some reasons make researcher is interesting to conduct this research and use the “Little Women” novel. First is because the literature has a close relation. Second is because in “Little Women” novel there are some values that people can get because that is a true story of the writer and the novel shows how the main character against her life in her simple family and can fulfilled her need according to Maslow theory. The last reason is because not yet people whose doing a research about the psychological especially self actualization needs analysis in the novel. Based on the reason research make title of this research “Analysis Self Actualization of Josephine March in “Little Women” novel by Louisa May Alcott.”

1.2 Identification of the Problem

From the background of the study above, the researcher make the identification the problem of the study as follows:

1. Josephine March character in the “Little Women”novel.
2. Josephine March is fulfilled her hierarchy of need in the “Little Women”novel.
3. Josephine March represent her self-actualization in the “Little Women” novel.
4. The self-actualization criteria that Josephine March has in the “Little Women” novel.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, researcher is going to make the limitation of the problem as below:

1. Josephine March is fulfilled her hierarchy of need in the “Little Women” novel.
2. The self-actualization criteria that Josephine March has in the “Little Women” novel.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, researcher is going to make the formulation of the problem as below:

1. Does Josephine March is fulfilled her hierarchy of need in the “Little Women” novel?
2. What are the self actualization criteria that Josephine has in the “Little Women” novel?

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, researcher is going to make the objective of the problem as below:

1. To describe the needs have been fulfilled by Josephine March before she achieves herself actualization in the “Little Women” novel
2. To describe the criteria of self-actualization has of Josephine March in the “Little Women” novel.

1.6 Significance of the Research

Researcher hope the concluding from this research can provide benefits to increase the knowledge to be require to both of researcher and the reader, the benefits are as follows:

1. Theoretically; as theoretically this research hopegives some contribution in studying writing knowing about literary study, especially in understanding psychology in literature.
2. Practically; as practically this research conducted to give benefit and expected to useful for further researcher and by this analysis the result can implement in real life.

1.7 Definition of the Key Terms

Based on the background of the research, researcher finding out the meaning of the terms based from the expert that the researcher used before, such as:

Novel	Novel is a story with the prose form in long shape, this long shape means the story including the complex plot, many character and various setting. (Sumardjo, 1998: 29)
Psychological	Psychology is the scientific study of behavior and mental processes. Behavior includes all of our outward or overt actions and reactions, such as

verbal and facial expressions and movements.

(Resma. S)

Self-actualization Represents growth of an individual toward fulfillment of the highest needs—those for meaning in life, in particular