

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The first chapter of this study is an introduction that includes a general overview. This chapter is divided into five sub chapters, including background of the study, limitation of the study, problem formulation, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and the outline of the study.

A. Background of The Study

Nowadays, people have many choices to entertain themselves, such as traveling, shopping online, exercising, watching movies, reading novels and much more. Now reading novels is an activity that is still carried out by a few people including the hobby of reading. Everyone has their own goals in reading novels, reading novels can provide a lot of additional knowledge and education about the location, place, material tools, the universe and other things related to the novel's story can also increase the reader's creativity. Nowadays romance novels are becoming a favorite for young people. For this time, novel is still an attractive choice as a medium of entertainment because the novel has a coherent, clear and detailed storyline. Novel studies can be done based on the building elements of the novel. One of the building elements of a novel that can be studied is the character. Figure is an important element in a novel. With the characters, the events that occur in the novel can be intertwined into a unified whole. Through the characters, the

author can convey his ideas to the reader. Each character is also displayed according to their respective capacities, moreover some novels are true stories in the personal experience of the author.

Me Before You is a story that portrays the main character, Will Traynor, who is undergoing a psychiatric transformation. A motorcycle accident has made Will suffer from a spinal cord injury called Quadriplegia, which carries the need for his hierarchy is incomplete and its effect is to lead William's thinking to the perspective of death. This novel is a fiction novel, the value contained in this novel is the value of life that is always dynamic, this is the thing that happens to all humans. Everyone in the world must have felt such ups and downs and incompleteness. They feel alone, which also has some sort of thought of death in their minds. Thus, from this study, the writer will analyze the incomplete needs that make this perspective of death occur in the main character after an accident and experience quadriplegia. The death perspective experienced by the main character in this novel is the effect of the incompleteness of needs.

The novel *Me Before You* was written by Jojo Moyes in 2012. This novel is a positive response from the readers. At www.nytimes.com/2013/01/06/books/review/me-before-you-by-jojo-moyes, by Liesl Schillinger on January 4, 2013, saying that I don't want to review it; I want to read it again. She also said that a novel that had floated high on the UK bestseller list, as confirmed by the British critical consensus. Cited from ALA (American Library Association), this novel was also awarded in 2014 The

Reading List category women fiction. In 2016 then adapted into a movie directed by Thea Sharrock. Taking a set in the UK, the film was shot at various historic locations throughout the country.

Despite the success this novel also received criticism, cited from www.goodreads.com from Ela on September 13,2013, that she strictly against any and every form of assisted suicide. Another critique comes from Emily on October 19,2012 about the message of this book is that a disabled life is not worth living and the moral implication.

This study to do research on *Me before You* novel because this is a good drama novel especially for the younger generation. The story offers details on how an incident can change a person's psychology, especially his personality, moral messages about life and how to actualize ourselves are some other strong points that deserve attention. There are various valuable life lessons such as dynamic life conditions ups and downs, how do we react to it. Trying to do good and be happy around when life is not what we want it to be that are often ignored in our busy lives. This romantic and touching story teaches us moral lessons on how to deal with tragedy. Some other reasons why the writer is interested in analyzing this novel is because the novel *Me Before You* contras its main theme, romance which is filled with hope, on the one hand, and despair on the other hand.

It is amusing to learn that the main characters in the novel are contradictory. The first character, William, is a perfect man, handsome, successful, doing

anything including extreme sports. After a bad incident occurred in this quadriplegia he felt his hierarchical needs were not fulfilled or incomplete because he was paralyzed and unable to do anything and made his emotions go up and down. Fortunately, William is surrounded with a good family environment that supports and cares about his condition by always trying to find him the right caretaker to care for him 24 hours so William not feeling left. The second character is Louisa, William's caretaker. She is an ordinary girl with a slightly unique appearance, cheerful and talkative. Louisa comes from a middle class family where she holds a big burden to support the family in order to survive. This study describe character William Traynor because William's complexity i.e. his battle, his esteem, and perspective of death because the incomplete needs of life, are well portrayed in the novel.

The last reason why the writer chooses this novel is because in the novel *Me Before You* reflects a common problem that is important to know; that internal conflict such as the needs are incomplete has occurred in many people in our society. Human thoughts and feelings about oneself fluctuate based on everyday experiences caused by the ups and downs of changing situations. From Cambridge dictionary incompleteness is a noun form of the word the fact or state of not having some parts, or of not being finished and lacking a part. According to Maslow and Carl Rogers the humanistic theory that humans are motivated by the desire to reach their highest innate potential level. This achievement is called "self-actualization," which is part of the theory of the need to find one's purpose in life. If the purpose of life is not achieved then it will form an opinion on his

thinking that one's life purpose is incomplete and this can guide the perspective of death. (R. David San Filippo).

There have been several previous studies related to the movie *Me Before You*, mainly about the psychoanalytic character of the main character in the film. The first study was Viny Alvian Dhani *Portrayal of Desperation Reflected in Jojo Moyes 'Me Before You' Novel (2012): An Existentialist Study* where he analyzed desperation from an existentialist perspective. The second study was conducted by Nur Qolbi Panulad (2019) entitled *The Happiness Expression of Will Traynor as Reflected in Jojo Moyes 'Me Before You'. A Psychological Approach*. where he observed happiness as a psychological need. The last study was conducted by Hantini Saribu (2018) where she focuses on the psychological aspect of life meaningfulness from the objective and cognitive theoretical perspective.

In this study tries to conduct research on William psychology as the main character in the novel *Me Before You* as an object of analysis. This study uses a different analytical study from the previous studies. Psychoanalytic in literature does not intend to solve psychological problems, but by definition, the purpose of psychoanalytic is to understand the psychological aspects contained in a literary work. Psychology was born to study human psychology, that is, the character in the movie are the objects of psychological research, literature is born from the community, the author lives in the midst of society and the author also creates literary works including the characters in it. The patterns of feelings, thoughts, and behavior of fictional characters can only be identified through dialogue and narration in the novel itself. This study discusses the hierarchy of William's

human needs, which originates from the first level of needs, psychological needs, safety needs, social needs, self-esteem needs and the peak is self-actualization. Using Maslow's hierarchy of needs theory. This is discussed in the title of this study: "The Human Needs Incompleteness as Presented by William in Novel *Me Before You*."

B. Limitation of the study.

Based on the background of the study above, this study focuses on incompleteness of human needs happened to the main character of the novel *Me Before You* along with its perspective of death because of impact incompleteness of the needs.

C. Problem Formulation.

1. What kinds of basic needs are not fulfilled as the main character are presented in the novel?
2. What are the effects of human needs incompleteness toward William in the novel?

D. Objectives of the study.

From the problem formulation above, this study will have some objectives as the following:

1. To describe what kind of incompleteness of human needs presented by William as the main character in the novel.

2. To explain the effects of the human needs incompleteness towards William in the novel.

E. Significance of the Study.

This study is expected to be useful in the following ways:

1. This study could help the students who are doing literary study.
2. This study will help the students of English Literature Program in Sultan Agung Islamic University to understand the concept of Human Needs.
3. The expectation of this research is as a referential source related to humanistic in writing their proposals or final assignments for future studies, especially for students of English Literature Program College of Language and Communication Science Sultan Agung Islamic University in Semarang who are competing in the study of literature.

F. Outline of the study.

This study is systematically decided into five chapters. Each chapter contains Each chapter discuss incompleteness of human needs matter: Chapter one contains the introduction that consists of a background of the study, limitation of the study, problem formulation, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and outline of the study. Chapter two focuses on the review of the related literature that consists of a synopsis of the novel, Psychology in literature, Maslow hierarchy of needs, the effects of incompleteness, low self esteem, and perspective of death. Chapter three contains research methodology that including types of

research, data collection method, types of the data, and data analysis. Chapter four contains the finding and discussion related to problem formulation and the fifth chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion.

