

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with introduction that consist of background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, and significance of the study.

1.1 Background

Every environment has a unique atmosphere. The atmosphere of a place portrayed in literature is dependent upon how the author describes it and the characters in place there. *The Breathing Method* is about a strange club in New York where men tell each other stories. The writer found some problems to be analyzed. the writer wants to limit this research, especially the atmosphere.

In the first paragraph of the novel establish atmosphere. King is very good at depicting these kinds of horrors. And he is also good at despicing and evoking emotions. Though the atmosphere is usually established very quickly in a work of literature, it can change throughout the text depending on the scene or stage of character development. Not many writers can feel and describe this so well as Stephen King.

The Breathing Method has similiarity with Bronte's novel *Wuthering Height*, I feel dark atmosphere when I read the novel. From the beginning of the novel the atmosphere is one of darkness and hostility, which is portrayed through the description of the house, the character of Heathcliff and Joseph. For a better understanding of something one would ask for a description. The description of

Wuthering Heights leaves little to be doubted about its current state. The house is a cold, drafty place to live with an excessive wind blowing at all times.

The atmosphere is still one of darkness as Heathcliff's character is discovered. He is found not to have the greatest manners and his words often belie his actions. Heathcliff's character adds to the darkness in the atmosphere at Wuthering Heights, while Joseph's character adds to the hostility.

The Breathing Method is the last Novella in *Different Seasons* by Stephen King, it has elements of scary and yet feels so sweet. This is a story inside story. My opinion about this story is positive, because it is very interesting to read. I think all people who like horror romances stories will like this book.

Novel is an in-depth description of the theme which expressed through the story. As one of the literary works it certainly contains many aspects that depicted based on the human real life. This aspect commonly concerns with emotions, feelings, problems, conflicts, etc. Nowadays, a novel is often read for entertainment, although many can also be informative. Wellek & Warren says (1949:219) that the novel as an art.

Abrams (1999: 190) states that the term "novel" is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose. In fact, novels tend to tell the same few stories. There are six elements of novel and one of them is setting. The setting of a novel is the background on which the writer builds the plot and characters. It involves the entire environment; (1) time, (2) place, (3) experience, and (4) mood. Setting can

be revealed through narration and dialogue and illustrated by the character's actions, thoughts and speech patterns (Milhorn, 2006:6).

Atmosphere is the emotional feelings. It is the mood of the story. and the mood is reliant on the words and tone of description; a jingle can be light, full of life, and exciting, or, dark, foreboding, and full of evil. And it is create horrifying atmosphere. It means the prediction of four million unemployed new looks horrifying realistic. The *mood or atmosphere* of a story is the impression it creates and the emotions it arouses in readers. Filtering a scene through a character's feelings can profoundly influence what the reader experiences. For instance, the same setting may potray more than one mood depending on how the writer approaches it. A woman walking across a meadow may experience different feelings (happiness, sadness, anger, or fear) depending on the descriptive words the writer chooses to use (Milhorn, 2006:7).

According to Abrams (1999:14) atmosphere is the emotional tone pervading a section or the whole of a literary work, which fosters in the reader expectations as to the course of events, whether happy or (more commonly) terrifying or disastrous. Alternative terms frequently used for atmosphere are mood and ambience.

Setting and atmosphere are often essential elements in making the story meaningful. Think about a favourite suspense or horror movie you have seen. Most likely the setting made a real impact on your emotional response to the film. Setting and atmosphere help to shape the emotional aura of a story. Everytouch of

setting and action contributing artistically to the impression of illimitable frightfulness (Lovecraft, 2006:11).

Setting fixes the time and place of a story and can play a major role in developing the story's character and conflict. Sometimes setting supports or defines the values and concerns of the characters. The setting may be the actual source of the conflict. It may also be an instrument for revealing character. Often we learn how characters respond to the environment and that gives us insight into their personalities and views on life.

Setting is the most common and effective device used for creating atmosphere. There are four main elements that assist in creating a story's atmosphere according to Milhorn (2006):

1. Author choices of specific details
2. Images
3. Chosen word
4. Chosen phrases

Webster's Third New International Dictionary states, 'horror,' as an adjective, stands for: "calculated to inspire feelings of dread or horror" accordingly, the horror stories are stories that focus on terrifying the reader. The individual components which form that atmosphere are manifold and it is not always easy to pin point them precisely. However, the writer have come to the conclusion that there are two major means of creating the horror atmosphere: the theme and the setting. These devices, that the writer will explore more closely, are the most evident and effective means that one can discover in the horror tales.

Nevertheless, there are also other, not so conspicuous strategies which amplify the effect of the atmosphere like the description of the effects that fear has on the characters, on their psyche and body. And there can be found even less noticeable components that constitute the atmosphere, for careful reading reveals admirable (Fisher 356).

All of the explanations above are my essential for me to analyze novel. In this analyzes, uses the element of atmosphere that support horror story. The reason of the writers chooses this novel because it is one of the novels that contain the element atmosphere that support horror story in *The Breathing Method* novel.

To prove the original of this study, the writer wants to present previous researches which have relation with the variety of the research of atmosphere. For the first one related to this research was done by Andrea Sauchelli (2014). Sauchelli discussed about *Horror and Mood*. It is about horror and mood in literary works.

The second one was done by Samuel Glow (2014). Glow discussed Gothic *Elements in Bram Stoker's Dracula*. He analyze Gothic elements and one of them is setting and one of the one element of setting is atmosphere, so he also analyze the atmosphere in *Drakula*. A work by Bram Stoker.

The third one was done by Mgr. Viktória Prohászková (2012). Prohászková discussed about *The Genre of Horror* that is representants in Slovak and Czech literature. The journal is about the imagination of human and also about horror, such as; Horror as a genre, subgenre of horror, horror in literature, and the last is related to horror film.

The fourth one was done by Rebecka Fransson (2015). Fransson discussed about bloody horror especially in *The Symbolic Meaning of Blood in Stephen King's Carrie*. This essay discussed about the meaning of symbol of blood in Stephen King's novel *Carrie*. It focuses on the motif of blood in *Carrie*, its symbolic meaning and connection to the Gothic. The analysis in this essay indicates that blood symbolizes power.

1.2 Research Question

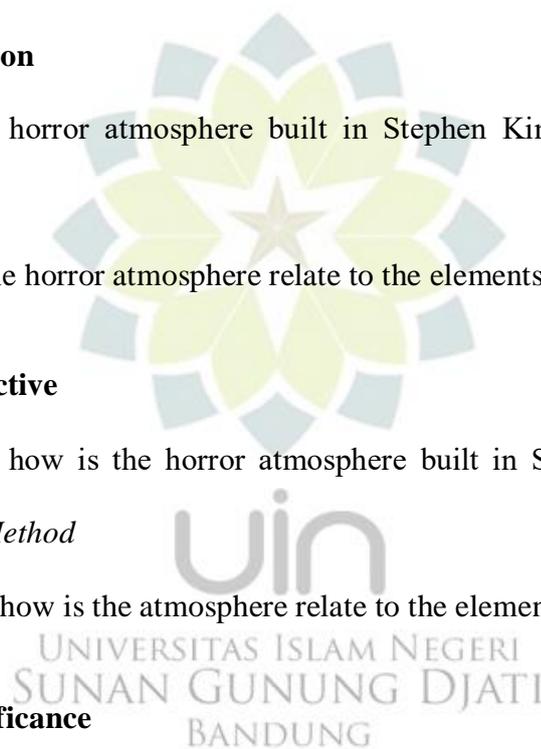
1. How is the horror atmosphere built in Stephen King's *The Breathing Method*?
2. How does the horror atmosphere relate to the elements of the novel?

1.3 Research Objective

1. To find out how the horror atmosphere is built in Stephen King's *The Breathing Method*
2. To find out how the atmosphere relates to the elements of the novel

1.4 Research Significance

Theoretically, the significance of this research is to find out the horror atmosphere built through the novel *The Breathing Method*. Practically, it has significance for the readers to understand the meaning of atmosphere and the elements, especially on the atmosphere related to the other functions.



1.5 The Elements of Novel

Abrams (1999: 190) states that the term “novel” is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose. In fact, novels tend to tell the same few stories. There are six elements of novel and one of them is setting. The setting of a novel is the background on which the writer builds the plot and characters. It involves the entire environment; (1) time, (2) place, (3) experience, and (4) mood. Setting can be revealed through narration and dialogue and illustrated by the character’s actions, thoughts and speech patterns (Milhorn, 2006:6).

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