

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the background of The Research, statements of problem, the objectives of research, and the significances of research.

1.1. Background of The Research

Literature has been widely known by many people and experts. The word 'literature' is derived from the word 'littera' in Latin which means letter. It refers to the written or printed words, (Kenneth Rexroth, April 28 2017, Literature, <https://www.britannica.com/art/literature>). However, now, the term 'literature' is more focused and restricted to merely imaginative works, which comes up from the imaginative mind of the story writers. Klarer (2004:1) says that in most cases, literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word. According to Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacobs (1998:2) Literature has three general genres, they are Drama, Poetry, and Prose. The word 'drama' is derived from the Greek word 'dran' means 'to do' or 'to act'. Poetry is created in various forms and the classification is based either on technique of writing or content. The word 'prose' is derived from the Latin prose, which literally translates to 'straightforward'. Prose is the ordinary form of written language. Prose is adopted for the discussion of facts and topical reading, as it is often articulated in free form writing style.

Edgar V. Roberts and Henry E. Jacobs (1998:2) classify prose into two, fiction prose and nonfiction prose. Fiction originally meant anything made up or shaped, is prose stories based on the author's creation and imagination. It includes myths, parables, novels, romances, and short stories, and then nonfiction is literary works which describe or interpret facts, present judgments, and opinions. It consists of news reports, essays, magazines, newspapers, encyclopedias, broadcast media, films, letters, historical and biographical works and many other forms of communication.

Literature is usually known as human's imaginative and creative activities. As Luxemburg (1992: 5) says that literature is a creation of human thinking and it is not an imitation. Therefore, sometimes literature is made by the author through the phenomenon of society life, for example in terms of psychological. This problem has relation with human's behavior in their lives. One of the areas in the study of psychology is psychoanalysis. Psychoanalysis is one of the scientific discipline is developed by Sigmund Freud. It has relation with mental functioning and development in a man (Brenner in Minderop, 2010:11). Moreover, Psychoanalysis refers to conflicts of personality structure that appear from the combination of id, ego and superego. According to Clark as quoted by Minderop (2010:24), he explains that the id shows the true purposes of the individual organism's life to satisfy himself. Meanwhile, Ego takes the decisions to consider in fulfilling every expectation. And the last is the Super-ego refers to control human's desire or satisfaction. In this case, literature that contains a psychological phenomenon, the psychological aspects appear through the character that is

constructed in the story. There is some literature that refers to the theory psychoanalysis, such as poetry, drama, short stories, novels, etc. Wellek and Warren (2013: 255) states that the novel is considered as a document of historical case, a story of real events, and the history of a human's life. Minderop (2010: 78) states that the novel as a literary form is a reflection of the reality that happen and the actors is considered as the characters. So in this case, it can be concluded that the novel is a reflection of a society that is created by the author through the conflicts that is experienced by the actors.

Based on the novel *Flowers for Algernon* (Clark, Janet CliffsNotes on Flowers for Algernon. 12 Nov 2017, </literature/f/flowers-for-algernon/book-summary>) tells a character study of one man, Charlie Gordon. Charlie is a 32-year-old developmentally disabled man who has the opportunity to undergo a surgical procedure that will dramatically increase his mental capabilities. This procedure had already been performed on a laboratory mouse, Algernon, with remarkable results. Charlie will be the first human subject. In a series of progress reports, Charlie documents everything that happens to him. As Charlie's intelligence increases to a genius level, the reader not only reads about the changes from Charlie's viewpoint, but also sees the change evidenced in Charlie's writing ability. This jump in intelligence is not necessarily a good thing, however. Charlie is now able to recall past events that shaped his life and analyze past friendships for what they were, or weren't. He also has difficulty making new friendships and establishing new relationships due to a lack of social intelligence that the surgery could neither correct nor anticipate. And, finally, because of his

increased intelligence, Charlie is able to discover the experiment's "fatal flaw" and is reduced to watching the end for both Algernon and himself, hoping to salvage something for the future from his brief bout with genius.

The researcher find a message in *Flowers for Algernon*, a message of tolerance and understanding reflected the social and political struggles of the time. Both of these are also supported by aspects of the novel. All these aspects are discussed with the branch of psychology that is more specific, i.e., neurotic, which examines the characters that are affected by a traumatic past experiences. The reason of the researcher chooses this novel because it is one of the novels that contain the psychology through the characters, especially to the main characters. Therefore, the writer intends to analyze the psychology of the main character through her personality which is described by Daniel Keyes in *Flowers for Algernon*.

To prove the originality of this study, the writer wants to present previous researches which have relation with the variety of the research of psychoanalysis. For the first one related to this research was done by Fima Rahmanda (2014) entitled *Kebutuhan Neurotik Tokoh Utama dalam Novel Bonjour Tristesse karya Françoise Sagan: Kajian Psikoanalisis Sosial Karen Horney*. Her researches focused on some points of this type of neurotic are in sync on the analysis of the main character. The second previous study is written by Farid Fadhila (2011) entitled *Analisis Neurosis Tokoh John Wade dalam Novel in the Lake of The Woods Karya Tim O'Brien*. His research focused on describes the phenomenon of psychology that occurs in John Wade, the main character who gets a mental state

against shocks to make himself into a crazy, a very fitting if reviewed by using the theory of neurotic.

This study is similar to the previous research as to describe the psychological conflicts. However, this research is different from the data that is in *Flowers for Algernon* novel. Moreover, this research focuses on the main character's personality the factors influence his personality. Thus, based on the reason above the writer decided to choose the title *The Main Character Neurotic's Problem in Daniel Keyes Flowers for Algernon*.

1.2. Statement of Problem

Based on the background research above, the discourse of the study is about novel *Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes. In this paper, the researcher discusses neurotic's problem in the novel, and sub problems as follows:

1. What are Charlie's backgrounds of neurotic needs?
2. How does the neurotic needs influence the attitude of Charlie?

1.3. Research Objectives

The main purpose of this study was to get description and the result of the kind neurotic needed. Specifically, the research aims to reveal information to the following:

1. To find out the backgrounds of neurotic needs by Charlie
2. To find out how neurotic needs that Charlie affects his attitude

1.4. Research Significance

There are two significance of this research. Academically, this research is directed to the student of literary subjects or the reader generally, for further analysis. Furthermore, this research is a reference for those who are interested in enriching the critic knowledge of Neurotic's Problem.

Practically, this research aimed for the general public who are interested to this research and to understanding a literary work especially related to representation Neurotic's Problem.

