# **CHAPTER I**

# **INTRODUCTION**

* 1. **Background of the Problems**

Self-actualization represents a concept derived from [Humanistic](https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/therapy-types/humanistic-therapy) Psychological theory created by Abraham Maslow. In psychology, **self-actualization** is a concept regarding the process by which an individual reaches his or her full potential. Self-actualizing individuals are able to resolve common conflicts such as that reflected in the ultimate contrary of free-will and determinism due to their enhanced creativity and psychological robustness. So that self-actualization is one of the least studied and understood needs, because of its relative rarity. The main character in the novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much* named Irene Glasson has experienced the process of achieving self-actualization. In a different way, she has reached the peak of life.

Literature has a major impact on the development of society, it gives us a detailed preview of human experiences and allowing us to connect on basic levels of desire and emotion. Literature also provides insight into the minds of other human beings, into the mind of the author and the minds of the character he or she brings to life. Pickering and Hoeper says that the creation of literature is a uniquely human activity, born of human’s timeless desire to understand, express and finally share their experience. Literature is a form of translation of human consciousness and imagination by using language as a medium (Pickering and Hoeper, 1981, p. 1). In short, the literature contains parts of human’s mind and ideas about things people experience. The explanation of literature above has a good relation to the novel that I will analyze in this term paper, about human experiences. It gives a life lesson especially how to reach the highest needs of life in difficult and challenging situations. The character Irene Glasson in the novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much* tries to give a deep impression to the readers. The reason I am interested in analyzing this novel is the principle persistence that is possessed by the main character of this novel. During the difficult and dangerous situations she experiences, she can find a way that leads her to a better life quality. Irene Glasson has experienced a process of reaching self-actualization. Before reaching self-actualization, (Maslow, 1954, p. 46) states that a person should fulfill the other needs such as physiological needs, safety needs, love and belonging needs, and esteem needs. In this analysis, it will be shown that the character of Irene Glasson is successful to fulfill all of those needs.

The problem of the story in this novel begins when Irene Glasson gets a message from her employer before she gets killed that she has to escape from New York and look for a new life because it is dangerous if she stays in New York. After running away from New York, she starts a new life and gets a new job in California as a reporter. But unfortunately, her new job brings a new problem in her life, she has to be involved again in murder case that threatens her own life. Throughout the story, I find the reflection of self-actualization in Irene Glasson’s character. Based on the problem of this novel’s story, I identify the problem is the main character of this novel named Irene Glasson is involved in some mysterious murder cases and should do a dangerous investigation to find the killer. Irene Glasson shows the process of achieving self-actualization during its dangerous investigation.

Relating to the problem of this novel and the problems of this research, I am interested in analyzing the novel to get deeper understanding about self-actualization and I choose Abraham Maslow’s Humanistic Psychology: Hierarchy of Needs that will be used to analyze the main character to reach her self-actualization. Those psychological aspects related to Irene Glasson’s character attract me to conduct a research about this and gain deeper knowledge of it. Therefore, this study will present deeper analysis about the theory of Hierarchy of Needs by Abraham Maslow.

* 1. **Identification of the Problems**

Based on the background of the problems above, the problem of this research is identified. The main character of this novel named Irene Glasson is involved in some mysterious murder cases and should do a dangerous investigation to find the killer. Irene Glasson shows the process of achieving self-actualization during its dangerous investigation. Therefore, I assume that the theme of this novel is: the reflection of self-actualization in Amanda Quick’s Novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much*.

* 1. **Limitation of the Problems**

According to the identification of the problems above, the problem of this research is limited to self-actualization based on Abraham Maslow’s theory. The applied concepts are through intrinsic approaches, such as telling and showing methods, characterization, plot, and setting. Through extrinsic approach, I use the theory of self-actualization from the theory of Hierarchy of Needs by Abraham Maslow.

* 1. **Formulation of the Problems**

Based on the limitation of the problems above, the problems in this research can be formulated accordingly to prove the reflection of self-actualization in Amanda Quick’s Novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much*, which become the assumption of this research. Therefore, the problems in this research are formulated as follows.

What are the characterizations through telling and showing method of this novel?

What are the plot and setting of this novel?

What is the reflection of self-actualization through characterization, plot, and setting of this novel?

What is the theme that can be developed through the result of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches of this novel?

* 1. **Objectives of the Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objective of this research is to prove the assumption the reflection of self-actualization in Amanda Quick’s novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much*. In order to achieve that objective, the steps which are supposed to be done in this research are as follows:

To analyze the characterizations through telling and showing methods of this novel.

To analyze the plot and setting of this novel.

To analyze the reflection of self-actualization through characterization, plot, and setting of this novel.

To develop the theme through the result of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches of this novel.

* 1. **Method of the Research**

This research is conducted by using qualitative method, the kind of the literature research, the feature of interpretative research and analysis by using collecting datum which is in the form of novel entitled *The Girl Who Knew Too Much* as the primary resource and other related and supportive literatures as the secondary resources.

**G.** **Benefit of the Research**

This research is expected to provide benefits for those who are interested in learning and obtaining a deep understanding about Amanda Quick’s Novel *The Girl Who Knew Too Much*, because it is done using psychology as the extrinsic approach, particularly based on the theories about self-actualization.

## **H. Systematic Organization of the Research**

In accordance to the title of the research above, the order of the presentation is written as follows:

**CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION**

It consists of: background of the problems, identification of the problems, limitation of the problems, formulation of the problems, objectives of the research, method of the research, systematic organization of the research.

**CHAPTER II : FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES**

It consists of theoretical frameworks, there are several approaches, intrinsic approach, and extrinsic approach.

**CHAPTER III : THE NOVEL *THE* *GIRL WHO KNEW TOO MUCH***

**THROUGH INTRINSIC APPROACH**

It consists of: characterization of the characters, plot, and settings of the novel. The concepts above must appear in the number of sub-chapters.

**CHAPTER IV : THE REFLECTION OF SELF-ACTUALIZATION IN**

**THE NOVEL *THE GIRL WHO KNEW TOO MUCH***

It consists of: a brief explanation of this chapter’s content, analysis of the reflection of self-actualization in Irene Glasson, other characters, setting and plot. The concepts above must appear in the number of sub-chapters.

**CHAPTER V : CONCLUSION**

It consists of: an evaluation from the previous chapters and the

implication of the evaluated result.

**ENCLOSURES : ATTACHMENTS**

The chapters above are followed by references, scheme of the

research, research poster, curriculum vitae, and other required

attachments.