

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of The Research

A novel is a fitting vehicle to reflect the heavily curated worlds of social media, the feelings of inferiority that can stem from comparing ourselves to the fictionalised lives of others. *Kismet* is a love story about imperfect people in a world obsessed with perfect matches. *Kismet* is a wildly entertaining, whip-smart debut set in a world where traditional dating has been replaced by a matchmaking app called *Kismet*.

Luke Tredget is a writer in his early thirties and lives in London. He works in international development, primarily for the Red Cross. His journalism has been published in the *Guardian* and his first novel, *Elation*, was shortlisted for the 2013 Luke Bitmead Bursary. He completed the Birkbeck Creative Writing MA in 2015. For many years Luke's been working on humanitarian missions, travelling extensively to Asia, Africa and South America, experiencing natural and political calamities in the poorest countries. That is why his approach to writing feels so spontaneous and stress free.

In 2008 Luke Tredget entered the *Guardian* International Journalism competition, writing an article based on his experience in Tanzania. That was the first time he wrote about something, almost acting like a journalist and he really enjoyed it. Shortly after, Luke enrolled in a short course at City Lit beginning writing short stories. In 2012, he completed his first novel *Elation* which was shortlisted for the Luke Bitmead Bursary. Although *Elation* didn't get published, the whole experience helped Luke build up his confidence as a writer. Finally, he decided to enrol in a one-year Master at Birkbeck University with the idea for his second novel *Kismet* firmly in mind. As he confesses, *Kismet* was the reason why he started his Master degree.

As a writer, Luke Tredget wanted to set his novel in a world where social media had moved into this role of friend and advisor. One of the many achievements of social media is to show us that a better, more exciting life is not only desirable, but completely feasible. As well as encouraging people to aspire for idealised lives, in his book a utopian matchmaking app called Kismet offers a clear route to the relationship of their dreams. By harvesting personal data and using complex algorithms, romantic compatibility can be presented as a numerical score, and is so effective it has replaced traditional dating. When the protagonist, Anna, discovers that her long-term boyfriend is going to propose on her 30th birthday, she can't resist secretly using Kismet to see if she could do better with someone else. As you can imagine, things don't go smoothly.

Luke Tredget debut novel *Kismet* is sharp, witty and full of tension. In his debut novel, Luke Tredget has created a character which is be the heroine of the story, not the victim. The novel plays out in a series of awful decisions that shows what happens when imperfect people strive for perfection

*Kismet* novel is about a twenty-nine-year-old Anna is smart, vivacious, and in the midst of a complete existential meltdown. Sure, from the outside everything in her life seems to be going just fine: She has a decent job, a devoted BFF, and a lovely boyfriend named Pete with whom she is exactly 70% compatible, according to Kismet, the matchmaking app that everyone in Anna's world uses to find love. Still, isn't there supposed to be more to life than this? Should she settle for a secure and predictable existence with Pete, or risk everything for a life of passion and adventure? With true adulthood (the dreaded thirty) just weeks away, Anna secretly re-joins Kismet, and soon encounters Geoff, a dashing, forty-something journalist with whom she has a shockingly high compatibility score of 81. The love story of Anna, a young woman struggling to decide whether to embrace the life she has or risk everything for the life she imagines, and explores how romantic technology shapes our desires and what it means to 'settle'. *Kismet* is a love story about imperfect people in a world obsessed with perfect matches.

## B. Book Review

Based on the background above, I use a book review consisting of primary and secondary reviews, my primary reviews are the novel *Kismet* by Luke Tredget, and book of psychology of literature for references. The novel *Kismet* by Luke Tredget are interesting to be analyzed, reviewed, and studied because from Anna's point of view, we can see that if imperfect people in a world obsessed with perfect matches. Before that, it happens to Anna because there is a reason to make Anna justify her actions to feel better.

Albertine Minderop mendefinisikan bahwa situasi apapun yang mengancam kenyamanan suatu organisme diasumsikan melahirkan suatu kondisi yang disebut anxitas. Berbagai konflik dan bentuk frustrasi yang menghambat kemajuan individu untuk mencapai tujuan merupakan salah satu sumber anxitas. Ancaman dimaksud dapat berupa ancaman fisik, psikis, dan berbagai tekanan yang mengakibatkan timbulnya anxitas. Kondisi ini diikuti oleh perasaan tidak nyaman yang dicirikan dengan istilah khawatir, takut, tidak bahagia yang dapat kita rasakan melalui berbagai level.

Albertine Minderop defines that any situation that threatens the comfort of an organism is assumed to create a condition called Anxiety. Various conflicts and forms of frustration that hinder the progress of individuals to achieve goals is one source of anxiety. The threat referred to can be in the form of physical, psychological, and various pressures that cause anxiety. This condition is followed by an uncomfortable feeling characterized by worries, fears and unhappiness that we can feel through various levels. (Minderop, 2016 : 28)

Albertine Minderop mendefinisikan bahwa kita semua kerap menghadapi situasi atau hal-hal yang tidak diinginkan dan tidak dapat kita terima dengan melimpahkannya dengan alasan lain. Misalnya, kita harus bersikap kasar terhadap orang lain, kita menyadari bahwa sikap ini tidak pantas kita lakukan, namun sikap yang dilakukan tersebut diberi alasan bahwa orang tersebut memang layak menerimanya. Sikap ini kita lakukan agar kita tampak lebih baik. Mekanisme

yang tidak disadari yang melindungi kita dari pengakuan terhadap kondisi tersebut dinamakan proyeksi. Proyeksi terjadi bila individu menutupi kekurangannya dan masalah yang dihadapi atau pun kesalahannya dilimpahkan kepada orang lain.

Albertine Minderop, defines that we often face situations or things that we don't want and can't accept by bestowing them with other reasons. For example, we have to be rude to other people, we realize that this attitude is not appropriate for us to do, but the attitude that was done was given a reason that the person was indeed worthy to accept it. This attitude we do so that we look better. An unconscious mechanism that protects us from recognition of these conditions is called a projection. Projections occur when individuals cover up their shortcomings and the problems they face or mistakes are conveyed to others. (Minderop, 2016 : 34)

In research on the novel *Kismet* by Luke Tredget, I will use intrinsic elements in the form of characterization, plot, and setting. Then discussing the extrinsic element used are psychology of literature, namely Anxiety and Projection. Based on literature review above, I decide to dissect and find the root of the problem of this novel by using literary characters and psychology of literature.

### **C. Identification of the Problem**

Based on the book review above, I state that the problem begins when Anna knows that Pete will propose her at her 30th birthday party. Since then, she begins to question her next life with Pete because Anna feels she has many differences with Pete. Anna begins to worry whether she will be happy if she spends her whole life with Pete, plus there are many things that interfere her thoughts on the relationship between Pete and Anna's best friend, Zahra. Also, her match score and Pete only gets 70. Until finally, Anna decides to re-join *Kismet*. Anna meets with a very high match score, Geoff 81. Anna feels more suited to Geoff than Pete. Anna thinks that she is doing right because it is good for her, and Pete deserves all of this.

#### **D. Limitation of The Problem**

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limit research on my theme by applied concept are through intrinsic approach, such as showing and telling methods, characterization, plot and setting, as well as an extrinsic approach which are psychology of literature, and the psychological theory, anxiety and projection.

#### **E. Formulation of The Problem**

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the problem in this novel can be formulated to prove Anxiety Creates Projection Reflected on Anna's Character in *Kismet* by Luke Tredget become the assumption of this research. Therefore, the problems in this research are formulated as follows:

1. What method of characterization to be used in the Luke Tredget's Novel *Kismet*?
2. What are plot and setting in Luke Tredget's Novel *Kismet*?
3. What are reflection of the concepts of anxiety and projection through intrinsic approaches?
4. Can the theme of Luke Tredget novel *Kismet* be reinforced by using those elements mentioned above?

#### **F. Objective of The Research**

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the purpose of this research is to prove the existance of Anxiety Creates Projection Reflected on Anna's Character in *Kismet* by Luke Tredget. In order to reach this aim, I do several research stages as follows:

1. To analyze the characterization by using telling and showing can be used to study the characters.
2. To analyze the plot and setting that can support the theme.
3. To analyze the concepts of anxiety and projection through characerization, plot, and setting.

4. To prove the theme of the novel by using the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

### **G. Method of The Research**

In this research, I use a research method with a qualitative variety, type of library research, content analysis using hermeneutika technique, the nature of research in the form of analysis using data collection methods in the form of literary texts from *Kismet* novel by Luke Tredget as the main source, and supported by several references as a second source, associated with theory and concept.

### **H. Benefit of The Research**

Based on the methods of the research above, this study is expected to be beneficial for those who are interested in getting deeper knowledge of the novel *Kismet* by Luke Tredget. This research hopefully can be useful, because have done with new thoughts and perspectives by applying the field of psychology that is anxiety and projection concept. So that, this things can proving something new for further research and understood by the reader.

### **I. Systematic Organization of The Research**

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

#### **CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION**

It consist of Background of The Problem, Book Review, Identification of The Problem, Limitation of The Problem, Formulation of The Problem, Objectives of The Research, Benefit of The Research, and Systematic Organization of The Reseach.

## CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORKS OF THEORIES

It consist of intrinsic approaches, such as showing and telling methods, characterization, plot and setting. And extrinsic approach, which are psychological theory, anxiety and projection.

## CHAPTER 3 : ANXIETY CREATES PROJECTION REFLECTED ON ANNA'S CHARACTER IN LUKE TREDGET NOVEL *KISMET* THROUGH INTRINSIC APPROACHES

It consists of point of view, characterization of the characters, plot, and setting of the novel. The concepts above appear in the number of sub-chapters.

## CHAPTER 4 : ANXIETY CREATES PROJECTION REFLECTED ON ANNA'S CHARACTER IN LUKE TREDGET NOVEL *KISMET* THROUGH EXTRINSIC APPROACHES

It consists of a brief explanation of this chapter's content, analysis of the reflection of Anna's anxiety creates projection, setting, and plot. The concepts above must appear in the number of sub-chapters.

## CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

It consists of an evaluation from the previous chapters and the implication of the evaluated result. The chapters above are followed by references, scheme of the research, research poster, curriculum vitae, and other required attachment.