

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Problem

Psychological criticism is one of the critical approaches to literature. Kennedy and Gioia (1995) state that psychological criticism is a diverse category, but it often employs three approaches. First, it investigates the creative process of the artist, second is the psychological study of a particular artist, and the third is the analysis of fictional characters. Through literature and psychology, we could see the soul of the writer or representation of someone else's soul and understand more about the writer or the characters in literary work psychologically.

"The Midnight Library" by Matt Haig tells about Nora Seed who suffered guilty feeling. Nora Seed has a lot of regrets and it is all coming back when her life suddenly fell apart. There are no one by her side at the times she thought death would be better, as the world would be better without her. At midnight when she commits suicide, it is not death who greets her in the afterlife but a librarian in between life and death, the midnight library. She is given the chance to live another life as Nora from a different universe who chooses the choices she did not make in her root life. In this journey of traveling through a parallel universe, Nora Seed realizes that no life is perfect, there will always be some outcome that is not as she expected and she is gradually free from her regrets and guilty feeling. So, what kind of guilty feeling which reflected through Nora Seed in *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig?

To find out the answer on the story about Nora Seed, I will analyze *"The Midnight Library"* using psychological criticism, thus this research entitle: *THE REFLECTION OF GUILTY FEELING THROUGH NORA SEED CHARACTER IN "THE MIDNIGHT LIBRARY" NOVEL BY MATT HAIG.*

1.2. Identification of the Problem

I identified the problem: the character, Nora Seed is having regrets over past life choices and the regrets grow into guilty feeling that affect her choice to end

her life, which ended up taking her to a parallel universe and giving her a chance to live a life where she chooses the unchosen choices in her root life.

Hence, the assumption of the theme of this novel is “The Reflection of Guilty Feeling through Nora Seed Character in *The Midnight Library* Novel by Matt Haig” which is researched through literary approach and psychological criticism, guilty feeling.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

I limit the problem to the guilty feeling which reflected through Nora Seed character in *The Midnight Library* novel by Matt Haig. Thus the theory will apply as follows: the intrinsic approach consists of the analysis of characterization, plot, setting, and the extrinsic approach consists of guilty feeling.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

The formulation of the problem will be as follows:

1. What is the characterization of Nora Seed which is reflected in *The Midnight Library* novel by Matt Haig?
2. What are the setting and plot in *The Midnight Library* novel by Matt Haig?
3. What kind of guilty feeling which reflected through Nora Seed in *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig?

1.5. Objective of the Research

The objective of the research will be as follows:

1. To analyze the characterization of Nora Seed which is reflected in *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.
2. To analyze the setting and plot in *The Midnight Library* novel by Matt Haig.
3. To analyze what kind of guilty feeling is reflected through Nora Seed in *The Midnight Library*.

1.6. Method of the Research

The method that will be used for this research will be qualitative approach. Qualitative approach value depth of meaning and people's subjective experiences and their meaning-making processes. These approaches allow us to build a robust understanding of a topic, unpacking the meanings people ascribe to their lives—to activities, situations, circumstances, people, and objects (Leavy, 2017). As for the theory, there will be intrinsic and extrinsic analysis. The intrinsic analysis will describe the characterization, plot, and setting, then the extrinsic analysis will discuss the guilty feeling in psychological criticism as one of literary criticism approaches.

1.7. Benefit of the Research

The benefit of the research will be as follows:

1. Theoretical:

The final result of this research is expected to contribute knowledge and strengthen psychological criticism as one of the literary criticism approaches.

2. Practical:

The final result of this research is expected to help whether student who wants to use or to know more about psychological criticism, or lecturer who wants to teach literary criticism, or anyone who wants to increase their knowledge regarding literary criticism especially psychological criticism.

1.8. Systematic Organization of the Research

The systematic organization of the research will be as follows:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

Introduction describes the background of the problem, identification of the problem, formulation of the problem, limitation of the problem, objectives of the problem,

benefits of the research, and systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : FRAMEWORK OF THE THEORIES

This framework of the theories includes:

- a. Literature review which contains the results of previous research related to the research carried out.
- b. Theoretical basis which contains the theory that is used as the basis for research.

CHAPTER 3 : INTRINSIC ANALYSIS

The intrinsic analysis will explain about:

- a. *Characterization*
- b. *Plot*
- c. *Setting*

CHAPTER 4 : EXTRINSIC ANALYSIS

The extrinsic analysis will explain the psychological criticism, analysis about what kind of guilty feeling which reflected through Nora Seed.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

This chapter will include conclusions and suggestions from the research that has been done. The conclusion can contain the problems that exist in the research as well as the results of the completion of the research based on objective analysis. Meanwhile, the suggestion contains a way out to overcome the existing problems and weaknesses.