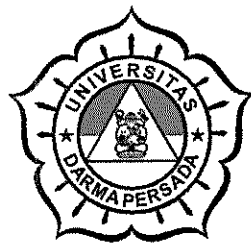


**THE LIFE OF TEENAGERS IN A FIGHT AGAINST TRAUMA
CAUSED BY SEXUAL ABUSE
IN NOVEL *THE PERKS OF BEING WALLFLOWER*
BY STEPHEN CHBOSKY**

TERM PAPER

Submitted as Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for Obtaining Strata One (S-1) Degree



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**STARTA ONE (S-1) OF ENGLISH
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JAKARTA
2015**

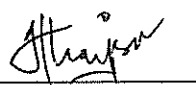
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY STATEMENT PAGE

THE LIFE OF TEENAGERS IN A FIGHT AGAINST TRAUMA
CAUSED BY SEXUAL ABUSE
IN NOVEL THE PERKS OF BEING WALLFLOWER
BY STEPHEN CHBOSKY

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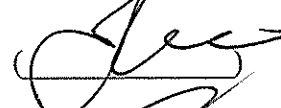
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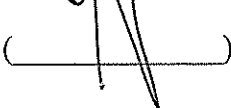
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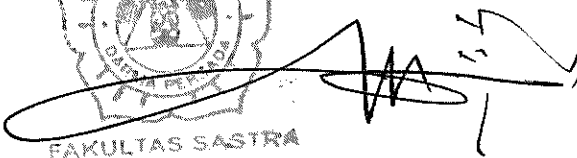
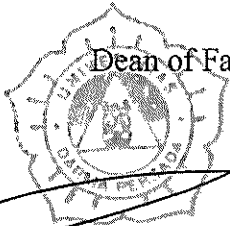
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PREFACE

Praise is merely to the Almighty Allah SWT for the gracious mercy and tremendous blessing that enables me to accomplish this bachelor Term paper entitled: *The Life of Teenager in A Fight Against Trauma Caused by Sexual Abuse in Novel *The Perks of Being Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky*. This bachelor Term Paper is a partial fulfillment of requirements for obtaining strata one degree of literature in Undergraduate Program of English, Faculty of Letters, University of Darma Persada.

On this occasion with great humility, I would like to thank you to all of those who have given me help and guidance so that this Term Paper can be finished. Completion of writing of this Term Paper, the author would like to thank to:

1. To the Dean of Faculty of Letters, Mr. Syamsul Bahri, S.S, M.Si, thank you for his approval to this term paper. To the Head of English Department, Mr. Tommy Andrian, S.S, M.Hum, thank you for his permission to me by accomplishing this paper.
2. I am very thankful to Mr. Tommy Andrian, S.S, M.Hum as the first supervisor for his time, his patience, his guidance and his revision for the contents of the paper so I feel the perfection by making this research. I am also thankful to Mr. Agustinus Hariyana, S.S, M.Si as the second supervisor or the reader for his time, his guidance, his advices, his comments, and any revision of errors that I have made in writing.
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7. Thanks to my beloved cat Uwik that could be able to break my stress while I was doing Term paper.
8. Thanks to all my friends in University of Darma Persada that I could not mention it one by one.

Final words, I would say thank you so much indeed for all for those who I can not mentions the names. Hopefully this Term paper can be useful for us and become the input for the parties in need.

Jakarta, February 25th, 2015



Khairunnisa

ABSTRAK

Nama : Khairunnisa
Program Studi : Sastra Inggris S1
Judul : *The Life of Teenagers in a Fight Against Trauma
Caused by Sexual Abuse
In Novel The Perks of Being Wallflower by Stephen
Chbosky*

*Penelitian ini adalah suatu penelitian yang membahas tentang bagaimana mengatasi trauma dalam kasus pelecehan seksual pada anak. Maraknya kasus pelecehan pada anak menjadi alasan utama dalam hal ini. Penelitian ini bersifat kepustakaan dan kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan sumber-sumber berupa teks sastra dari novel *The Perks of Being Wallflower* karya Stephen Chbosky dan buku-buku metode yang terkait dengan penelitian ini. Sedangkan untuk alat penelitiannya adalah Saya sebagai peneliti. Metode yang digunakan dalam analisis ini melalui dua unsur, yaitu unsure intrinsik yang meliputi karakterisasi, latar dan alur cerita, serta unsure ekstrinsik melalui pendekatan *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder* dari Sigmund Freud. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah tentang perjuangan para remaja melawan trauma yang disebabkan oleh pelecehan seksual. Adapun tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk memahami dan menganalisis kondisi psikologi seorang remaja yang mempunyai trauma karena pelecehan seksual seperti yang terjadi pada tokoh utama, sehingga menjadi referensi pembaca untuk mengetahui cara menangani korban pelecehan seksual.*

Kata Kunci: *Trauma, Psikologi, Remaja, PelecehanSeksual*

ABSTRACT

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Study Program : Sastra Inggris S1
Tittle : *The Life of Teenagers in a Fight Against Trauma
Caused by Sexual Abuse
In Novel The Perks of Being Wallflower by Stephen
Chbosky*

This research is a study about how to cope with the trauma of child sexual abuse cases. The rise in child abuse case was the main reason in this case. This study is a literature and qualitative. This study uses the resources in the form of literary texts from the novel The Perks of Being Wallflower by Stephen Chbosky and books related to the method of this study. As for the research tool is I as a researcher. The method used in this analysis through two elements, they are elements intrinsic which includes characterization, setting and plot, as well as extrinsic elements through the approach of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder from Sigmund Freud. The result of this research is the life of teenagers in a fight against trauma caused by sexual abuse. The purpose of this study is to understand and analyze the psychological condition of a teenager who has been traumatized by sexual abuse as happened to the main character, so that it becomes a reference for the reader to know how to deal with victims of sexual abuse.

Keyword : *Trauma, Psychology, Youth, Sexual Abuses*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Sexual abuse cases that occurred in Indonesia recently bring us to know more about PTSD for victims with that case. For example, a child who became a victim of sexual abuse in his school, Jakarta International School (JIS), might be got PTSD of his life (Bachelard, 2014). According to his mother's explanation about what happened in her son before the tragedy found, the child had many nightmares and felt terrify many times. It showed that someone with PTSD needs more attention from people surrounds.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a health mental that occurred by terrifying events. It will make some symptoms like got nightmare, severe anxiety and uncontrollable thoughts about the event (Briere, 2015). Many people who got traumatic have difficulty to get adjustment in their new environment. People who got PTSD would get better if they got good self-care along the time and support from people surrounds them. PTSD could make big impact for victim in their future live. The one of American author who was born in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, on January 25, 1972, brought this situation to his work which made him popular, *The perks of being Wallflower*.

Chbosky is a screenwriter, television writer, and stage writer. His first film, *The Four Corners of Nowhere*, which he wrote the screenplay for and also directed, premiered at the 1995 Sundance Film Festival, the largest independent cinema festival in the United States. The film won Narrative Feature honors at the Chicago Underground Film Festival. According to an *All Movie Guide* plot description written by Sandra Brennan, *The Four Corners of Nowhere* is a "humorous film [that] attempts to explain the nihilistic attitudes and terminal ennui of the X-generation." The film follows the lives, relationships, and opinions of a group of twenty something living in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In addition to his honors for *The Four Corners of Nowhere*, Chbosky has been recognized for other films to which he contributed. (litlovers)

Chbosky is most well-known in the literary world for his popular, coming-of-age novel, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, published by MTV/Pocket Books in February 1999. The book, which is Chbosky's first novel, follows the life of 15-year-old Charlie who prefers to observe the world around him instead of participating; this changes when he becomes friends with Patrick, a senior suffering because of his secret relationship with the high school football star, and Patrick's step-sister, Sam, for whom Charlie has an unrequited love interest. The novel, told through Charlie's notes to an unnamed stranger, follows the lives of Charlie's group of high school friends through first relationships, parties, and performances of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

Chbosky never intended *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* to be a novel for adolescents; however, its focus on adolescents has caused critics to view it as such. In Sally Estes' February 15, 1999 review of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* in Booklist she says, "First novelist Chbosky captures adolescent angst, confusion, and joy as Charlie reveals his innermost thoughts while trying to discover who he is and whom he is to become." On March 15, 2000, Booklist chose *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* as one of the Quick Picks for Reluctant Young Readers, and on June 1, 2001, Booklist chose the novel as one of the Top 10 Gay and Lesbian Books for Youth. Chbosky is working on a screenplay for a film version of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

The Perks of Being Wallflower talked about a fifteen-year-old Charlie was facing with the suicide of his friend, Michael. To less the fear and discomfort of starting high school alone, Charlie started writing letters to a stranger, someone he heard was nice but has never met in person. At school, Charlie found a friend and mentor in his English teacher, Bill. He also overcame his shyness and approached a classmate, Patrick, who was along with his step-sister Sam, became two of Charlie's BFFs.

During the course of the school year, Charlie had his first date and his first kiss, he dealt with bullies, he experimented with drugs and drinking, and he made friends, lost them, and gained them back. He created his own

soundtrack through a series of mix tapes full of iconic songs, read a huge stack of classic books, and got involved in the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* audience-participation culture.

Charlie had a relatively stable home life, though with supportive, if distant, parents to fall back on. Unfortunately, a disturbing family secret that Charlie has repressed for his entire life surfaced at the end of the school year. Charlie had a heavy mental breakdown and ended up hospitalized.

Charlie's final letter closed with feelings of hope: he was getting released from the hospital, forgiving his aunt Helen for what she did to him, finding new friends during sophomore year, and trying his best not to be a wallflower. Charlie hopes to get out of his head and into the real world, participating in life instead of just watching it fly by.

The problem when Charlie was facing his teenage life was affected by his traumatic life in the past. Charlie was the one sample of someone who got traumatic involved to his life in the future. This made me interested to know more about someone who got traumatic to continue their life. This also could be referenced for people who have their relatives or they are with PTSD. Sexual abuse for kids occurred recently, enable for victims to have PTSD in their lives. (Chbosky)

Trauma that occurred in novel of *The Perks Being Wallflower* related to sexual abuse cases in reality. This was the reason why I chose this case to analyze. I would like to know more about how psychoanalytic can help to heal trauma through psychoanalytic therapy. This treatment was also could prevent the victim to repeat trauma as a reason them into a suspect in the future. This analysis also could be a referenced for people who have same problem to fix their problem and could be normalize them.

B. Identification of the Problems

In this novel, there are many problems came out, such as horrible environment, family's problem, sexual disoriented, drugs, and drinking. For this research I would like to focus on traumatic cases that it belonged to the main Character. The traumatic occurred to the main character caused by sexual abuse he got in past. I would like to know more about the aspects that

traumatic could involve his future life when he became as a teenager. Furthermore, I would like to use an extrinsic which is the concept of psychoanalysis from Sigmund Freud to analyze it. The other source I would like to choose is concern with intrinsic such as characterization, setting and plot.

C. Limitation of the Problems

In this case, the main problem concerned for adolescence problems which Charlie was involved by his past life. Charlie who became a teenager should against his fear to his feeling and behavior. His memories about sexual abused by his aunt when he was child courage him to involve his behavior in his teenage life. His feeling to Sam was not as same as his feeling to his aunt. But he cannot deny to forget his traumatic of losing his beloved one, and his feeling to Sam reopen his traumatic that reminds him about what his aunt did same like he did with Sam. So, my assumption is the life of a teenager in a fight against trauma caused by sexual abuse.

D. Formulation of the Problem

The problem in this research would concern only with the elements that influenced the theme, as follows:

1. How does Character of Charlie have disorder behavior when he became a teenager?
2. Why did Charlie's feeling to Sam change his fear?
3. How did the traumatic involve Charlie's life to future?

E. Objective of the Research

The objective of the research would be as follows;

1. To analyze through characterization to know the reason why Charlie has disorder behavior when he became a teenager
2. To analyze through setting to overcome his haunted from his traumatic moment losing beloved one
3. To analyze and figure out the main problem of that case to understand the teenage problem through Charlie's experience

F. Methods of the Research

This research was as qualitative research which the samples were novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky and other books related to this research. Then, I am as a tool. In this research, I used Library research as a research approaches that concern with books, journals and reviews from the other. The first thing I should do is to choose the problem first, which there are so many problems in this novel appeared. The problems are not only appeared from the character of Charlie itself but also appeared from his environment. After that, I could formulate the problem into some main problems. In this case, I pointed to adolescence problem of character of Charlie that involved to his teenage life. I assumed this problem comes from his bad experience with his beloved aunt who made sexual abused to him when he was child.

According to the assumption I made, I try to analyze this research with Post-Traumatic Stress Syndrome (PTSD) approaches. These approaches could help me to dig down the psychology of the character. Then, after all I could start to make analysis of this research.

G. Benefit of the Research

I made this research for taking a part in knowledge and getting more knowledge about psychology. It is also to contribute some institutions where concerned with this case. Therefore, this research can useful for people who have common experience with his case to overcome and to understand about teenage problem through characteristic of Charlie. It is also to get value of moral behavior for people particularly adolescent. The other benefits are to see this case through many point of views.

H. ORGANIZATION OF THE RESEARCH

CHAPTER I : It will consist of introduction sections which are the Background, Identification of the Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Formulation of the Problem, Objectives of the Research, Methods of the Research, Benefits of the Research and Systematic Organization of the Research.

- CHAPTER II : It will consist of Framework of the Theories which I took Intrinsic Approach and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder by Sigmund Freud as extrinsic approach
- CHAPTER III : It will consist of analysis through intrinsic approaches which are characterization, setting and plot
- CHAPTER IV : It will consist of the analysis and elaborate The Life of Teenager in a Fight Against Trauma Caused by Sexual Abuse in novel *The Perks Being of Flower* by Stephen Chbosky. This part is going to elaborate between the intrinsic elements with the theme and elaborate the extrinsic elements with the theme.
- CHAPTER V : It will consist of conclusion which explained how the result of this research and about the next research could be able to do.