

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

It is common to experience grief. Almost everyone will experience sadness at least once in their life. It might result from the passing of a loved one, losing your job, ending a relationship, or any other event that changes your life. The grief is a response to loss, encompassing a range of psychological conditions and physiological symptoms that develop over time (Shear in Ratnasari and Oriza 2022). However, it is different from the case if someone who mourns the death of a loved one leaves the deepest wounds and grief. According to Ross and Kessler (2014), grief is a reaction that occurs due to death with an undetermined time and is not based on personal desire. Therefore, if someone is grieving, it takes a long time to let go and make peace with oneself for someone's death and loss. However, not everyone can share their experiences when experiencing grief to the stage of acceptance, so the way they express their experiences in experiencing the stages of grief is usually through literary works. Therefore, literary psychology research plays an important role in understanding literature. The advantages of this literary psychology research are that it examines characterization and provides feedback to researchers about characterization problems developed. This research is very helpful for analyzing literary works related to psychological problems (Endraswara in Minderop, 2018, p. 2). Nowadays, movies with psychological themes are always crowded among lovers of the psychological genre. In one of the psychological movies, there is usually a scene that tells about a character who feels the loss of a loved one, such as family, friends, or lovers, either left behind or dead. When someone experiences a period of loss, there are various stages of grief, including Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, and Acceptance. One of the movies that depicts someone who experiences something like this is a movie called *Midsommar*, which was released in 2019.

Midsommar (2019) is a psychological horror genre movie by Studio A24 directed by Ari Aster, the same director of the movie *Hereditary* which was released in 2018. This movie tells the story of a girl named Dani who has just grieved and experienced deep sadness. The sadness starts from losing her parents and her sister, her relationship with her boyfriend Christian is not good, making Dani feel more depressed. Christian tries to repair his relationship with Dani and wants to make her feel better. Therefore, the two of them, along with Christian's friends, travel to Northern Europe to visit a famous midsummer festival in their hometown in rural Sweden. The countryside was originally a beautiful retreat, but it slowly turned into a place of increasingly violent and bizarre competition at the hands of a pagan sect. (IMDb, n.d.)

In this study, the researcher will focus on analyzing the stages of loss experienced by the character Dani in the movie script *Midsommar* (2019) where Dani's character experiences loss and grief for her family, who died, she experiences five stages of grief. Based on the description above, this research is titled: “*The Stages Of Grief In The Character Dani In Midsommar Movie Script (2019).*”

1.2 Identification of the Problem

In the background of this problem, researchers identified the problem of Dani's character, who experienced the stages of grief due to the loss of her beloved family and lost her relationship with Christian. There are five stages of grief experienced by Dani: Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, and Acceptance.

The researcher assumes that the theme of this *Midsommar* movie is “*The Stages Of Grief in The Character Dani in Midsommar Movie Script (2019).*”

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, it is necessary to limit the problem so that the discussion of this research is not too broad. The

problem limitations in this research are: The stages of grief experienced by Dani's character in *Midsommar* are Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Depression, and Acceptance. The theories and concepts used in this research are in literature use Petrie and Boggs theory. Through a literary psychology approach, researchers use Kubler-Ross's five stages of grief theory.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitations of the problems described above, the problem formulations that exist in the nature of this research are as follows:

1. How the characterization of the main character in the movie script *Midsommar* is portrayed ?
2. How do the plot and setting function to support the stages of grief in the movie script *Midsommar* (2019) ?
3. How is the concept of the stages of grief theory as an approach to intrinsic and extrinsic elements in *Midsommar's* (2019) movie script?

1.5 Objective of the Research

In this research, the research objectives are written based on the problem formulation above. The research objective is to show that the theme of this movie is "*The Stages Of Grief in The Character Dani in Midsommar Movie Script (2019)*". To achieve the research objectives, the research process is carried out as follows :

1. This final research analyzes the character and characterization of Dani using characterization through dialogue and characterization through the internal action method in the *Midsommar* (2019) movie script.
2. This research analyzes the elements of the plot and setting and the stages of grief experienced by Dani's character, which are reflected in the *Midsommar* (2019) movie script.
3. This research shows that the theme "*The Stages of Grief in the Character Dani in Midsommar Movie Script (2019)*" can be

developed by analyzing Kubler-Ross's theory of the five stages of grief.

1.6 Benefits of the Research

Based on the research objectives above, the expected benefits of the research are as follows :

1. This research is expected to be useful for people who are interested in deepening their knowledge in the field of literary psychology.
2. As information material for further research in the field of literary psychology on the concept of stages of grief from Kubler-Ross.

1.7 Systematic Organization of the Research

The framework of the term paper writing titled "*The Stages Of Grief In The Character Dani In Midsommar Movie Script (2019)*" is as follows :

CHAPTER I

: INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the Background, Problem Identification, Problem Limitation, Problem Formulation, Research Objective, Research Benefits, and Systematic Organization of the Research.

CHAPTER II

: THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter contains a review of the intrinsic approach, such as characterization, plot, and setting, and also the extrinsic approach, such as the literary psychology, five stages of grief, and previous related studies.

CHAPTER III

: RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter contains time and location, research approaches and methods, research objects, and data, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques.

CHAPTER IV

: THE STAGES OF GRIEF IN THE CHARACTER DANI IN *MIDSOMMAR* MOVIE SCRIPT (2019)

This chapter consists of an analysis of the research object entitled "*The Stages Of Grief In The Character Dani In Midsommar Movie Script*".

CHAPTER V ★

: CONCLUSION

This chapter consists of the findings and conclusion of the research.

