

CHAPTER I

Introduction

This chapter presents the introduction of the study. It contains Background, Identification of the problem, Research Questions, Limitation, Objectives, and Significances of the Study.

1.1 The Background of Study

Literature is a creative activity to express feelings, thoughts and imagination of someone, it can be a story or novel, poem, poetry and drama. Risdianto (2011:6) stated that literature is generally divided into three groups, they are: prose, drama and poetry. We can express our feeling as free as we want without the limit. So many inspirations that comes to our mind when we sad, happy or mad. When we make a literary work we can communicate with other people that we have not met before. In this modern era, so many people in this country created an English literary work. According to Wicaksono (2014:03) literature was born out of the basic human impulse to express itself with an interesting in human problem, humanity and interest in the reality that lasting throughout the ages.

There are two kinds of literary works: fiction and non-fiction. Many kinds of fiction in literary works, there are: prose, drama and poetry. Prose divided into several kinds, such as: short story, novel, etc. In this paper, the writer wants to analyze about the novel. According to Wijaya (2001:39) novel is an inner experience. Describing the real and unreal life. Novel is attempting to uncover the hidden meaning in life.

Novel is a long story that has many characters inside. According to the statement above, the writer found an English novel called *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. This novel is a young-adult novel, which is considered to be in an age of 12 until 20 develop faster physically. There is a high school student, he has a self-problem and he is always consumption an anti-depressant to control his self-problem.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is a coming-of-age novel, published in February 1999. This novel is a best-selling novel and set in the early 1990s, the novel was written by Stephen Chbosky in 1999. Stephen Chbosky is an American Novelist and he is also a film director for the best-selling novel and movie *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

This novel has a unique character and the writer wants to know how the author shows the main character in the novel to make a literary research with a characterization theory in literature. This object is very important to be analyze because it is an interesting object, especially in the main character of the novel. This novel has a good story to be analyzed as kind of a young adult novel.

This novel is very important for everyday life because the story in the novel is very close to the everyday life, such as the situation, atmosphere, etc. The writer also wants to show to the reader how an introvert boy can survive in his life and how he can change his personal development to be better than before. The character portrays of a self-problem character illustrated in a novel “*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*” by Stephen Chbosky.

The main character of this novel is Charlie, he is an introvert (anti-social) boy he has no friends and bullying victim. He also has an ignorant family. His family do not care of his problem and do not take care of him, but he has an aunt that really care of him. Charlie afraid to show off to the public, and he never talk to anybody.

The characterization is an important thing in literary works because, with the characterization, the literary works will be more alive and the characterization can represent of what someone's feeling about.

1.2 Identification of the Problems

The author of the novel shows so many characters in the novel that can make the novel more dynamic. There are so many interactions of the characters in the novel. From the characters in the novel, there is a main character who will influence Charlie's personality in his growth. Furthermore, the writer has to identify the influence of Charlie's personality growth in the novel. The author uses supporting character to make a main character being strong or being weak in the novel. The author or whoever who makes a literary works, they have their own style to present or to describe a main character in their novel. Based on the background of the study, the problems in this research can be identified as follows:

The main character is lack of socialization, he is afraid to have a social interactions with new friends in school and also people around him. He has difficulties to describe his feeling to other people, he can just write a letter to anonymous friend to explain his problems and his feeling. He is a very quite boy

and he cannot fight for his own way. He cannot show off about himself in public. He likes being alone, reading a book in his room or do something that he likes.

1.3 Limitation of the Study

Based on the identification of the problems, this research is centered on analyzing how the main character's personality growth in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* from an introverted boy to be a good one. In this study, the writer only focuses on the main character's personality that has a self-problem. His character can be analyzed by recognizing how he is surviving in his life with people around him in his age. The writer will make a study of the dialogue in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* only be viewed from the points above.

1.4 Research Problems

Based on the statement above, this research has some research problem that the writer has to find out. The research questions are mainly based on the writer's own interest and curiosity to find. The questions are as follows:

1. How does the author describe the main character in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?
2. What are the factors that influence the main character's personality growth in the *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?

1.5 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To find out how are the author described the main character in “*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*” by Stephen Chbosky.
2. To find out what are the factors that influence the main character’s personality growth in “*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*” by Stephen Chbosky.

1.6 Significances of the Study

This research is expected to describe what are the factors the influence the main character as a young adult’s personality growth as shown in the novel, and the writer hopes that with this research paper can give meaningful contributions and positive impacts to the writer and the readers generally. The writer hopes that the readers can appreciate and get interested in literary works. Here are the details:

- **Theoretically**

This paper gives some addition of knowledge and comprehension about literary work and main character, especially about how the author describes the main character in his literary work. Furthermore it can also be a reference for the readers who need information about self-problem as well as provided personality growth, human development and also self-confidence.

By reading this research, the reader will know how the main character survives and changes his life from an introverted boy to be a good one, and it becomes an example of how the literary worker delivers his literary work.

- **Practically**

This paper can be useful for them who wants to study about the same research and it can be referenced and example for the English Department in Pasundan University. This paper can be used to add collection and information for the English Department in Pasundan University Students. And this paper can give contribution to students in English Department in Pasundan University.

According the problem of the research, the writer will analyze the character in the selected novel of Chbosky's "*The Perks of Being a Wallflower*". In this research, the writer will use the qualitative-descriptive method, because the writer will analyze in the text form.