

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

In general, types of literature are fiction, poetry, and drama. Fiction and drama have almost similar characteristics in their elements since both works are written prose and in certain time-sequence. Poetry has different characteristic in the elements.

People who love reading usually spend their time to reading especially that of a novel. Besides a movie, novel is a fascinating form of entertainment because everything which is written on the text appears to be lifelike as our imagination imagines it. The novel's characters walk and talk just as people actually do.

A novel is a long narrative in literary prose. The genre has historical roots both in the fields of the medieval and early modern romance and in the tradition of the novella. The latter supplied the present generic term in the late 18th century. Novel can present several kinds of meaning at once. A novel as a literary work can be used as a source for studying literature. Generally, the novel is exciting because it reflects human life in general. Moreover, it deals with human characters in particular social situations. The novel places more emphasis on character, especially one well-rounded character, than on plot.

According to Taormina, Agatha (2005), another initial major characteristic of the novel is realism a full and authentic report of human life.

The traditional novel has:

- a unified and plausible plot structure
- a sharply individualized and believable characters
- a pervasive illusion of reality

The writer chooses novel because through learning literature, especially novel, students get more knowledge about life, attitude, behavior and struggle by giving life imitation and it will enable us to get something which is similar to our real life.

Literature has a tight relationship to psychology since it is the exposition of man's mental life. Moreover, literary work is a way for people to express their feeling and to show situations that happen whether they are fictional or not. It is because literature and psychology have the same object of research that is human being. Earl George (1965) stated that "literature is a permanent writing that expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings and attitudes toward life and the world". Meanwhile, Passer and Smith (2004, p.3) show that "psychology is the scientific study of behavior and the mind"

The psychological aspect is very interesting for the writer to create the literary works. They depict the psychic condition of human being through the literary works. The story tells about a situation that a mother, who really loves

her son, will do anything for her son even if she has to try hard to cure her son. The boy is psychologically ill so he cannot concentrate on what his mother says. The boy is too busy with his own world by what he looks through the windows. The writer is interested in analyzing the character of the Mother in *The Boy who Love Windows* written by Patricia. The major character is Patricia Stacey in her own novel entitled *The Boy who Love Windows*. Patricia Stacey is an educated person. Patricia Stacey is the author of *The Boy Who Loved Windows* (2003). She is a writer, college teacher, and former editorial staff member of the Atlantic Monthly. She lives with her husband, Cliff, and their children, Elizabeth and Walker, in Northampton, Massachusetts. Patricia Stacey has guts. She lived through a life-changing and potentially devastating experience, but because she could write about it passionately and spare no details, even those that reflected negatively on her. She had a lovely normal daughter, and then a son who even as a newborn gave her cause to worry. Though Stacey was not poor, she had to struggle financially to get Walker's treatment. Her husband kept insisting they needed to move to a cheaper house. So, she kept waiting for the next miracle to cure her Son, Walker. One of the autism cures is found from her autism guru Dr. Stanley Greenspan. Greenspan said that Walker cannot concentrate very long in doing an activity. He would often show his boredom by looking at the window ( *The Boy who Love Window*, Patricia Stacey, 2003). From this

biography, the writer can conclude that the novel may be inspired from the condition of Stacey's own child. This makes it interesting to write as a thesis.

As the approach to be used, Psychological approach comes as the first place. The writer sees Sigmund Freud's id, ego, and superego theory is suitable to use. By using ego, for example, the writer can try to find out why Stacey has a strong will to cure Walker. In using superego, the writer assumes that he can find out why Stacey has an obsession to find as many doctors as she can to heal walker. The analysis of id is the writer hoped to find out why Stacey always asks for a miracle. Having Considering the fact above, the writer then chooses the title "The Struggle of an Autistic Boy's Mother In *The Boy Who Loves Windows: A Psychological Approach*"

## **1.2 SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

The scope of the study is the mother who is the protagonist of the story especially on her human psyche, that is **id**, **ego** and **superego**. It is then related to the process in curing her son who is an autistic boy.

## **1.3 PROBLEM FORMULATION**

The problem in the discussion can be formulated as follows:

1. How is the mothers struggle to cure her autistic son analyzed with defense mechanism of Freud's structural elements?
2. How is Freudian Psychoanalysis applied on the mother in Patricia Stacey's novel?

#### 1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- a. To find out the struggle of the mother to cure her autistic son named Walker using the defense mechanism of Freud's structural elements
- b. To analyze how Freudian Psychoanalysis is applied on the mother in Patricia Stacey's novel.

#### 1.5 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This study is significant for the readers, especially those reading Patricia Stacey's *The Boy who Love Window*, to understand the application of Freudian Psychoanalysis **id**, **ego** and **superego** on a work of literature especially novel. Therefore, it will be easier For the readers to logically see the process of curing an autistic son. Moreover, readers will find a new interesting point of view of reading a literary work without abandoning the artistic values of the work.

#### 1.6 DEFINITION OF TERMS

A. Id:

**Id** is the representative of unconscious (Page, D.James, 1986, p.185).

B. Ego

The **ego** is the “I” that thinks, feels, decides and will (Page, D.James, 1986, p.185)

C. Superego

Superego is equivalent of what is more commonly known as “*conscious*” (Page, D.James, 1986, p.185)

D. Psychopathology:

A term which refers to either the study of mental illness or mental distress, or the manifestation of behaviors and experiences which may be indicative of mental illness or psychological impairment, such as abnormal, maladaptive behavior or mental activity (medicaldictionary.,n.d.¶1)

E. Autism:

A brain development disorder characterized by impaired social interaction and communication, and by restricted and repetitive behavior (Frith, Uta, 2003, pp.1-2)