

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Northanger Abbey is one Jane Austen's first and last complete novel. This novel was written in latter 1790s but not published until 1817. "*Susan*" was published as *Northanger Abbey* with *persuasion* and a "*Biographical Notice*" of Austen by her brother Henry, at the end of 1817, though it is dated 1818. By the late nineteenth century, in response to Austen's emergent status as a "popular classic," edition was appearing with introduction by leading men of letters and illustrations by fashionable artist. In 1906 Austen's novel began to be published in the Everyman Library; in 1907 they began to appear in the Oxford World's Classic's series; and in 1938 Penguin books began publishing them. In addition to these various popular editions, R. W. Chapman's critical edition was published by the Clarendon Press of Oxford University Press in 1923; in the 1970s Oxford University Press had this edition reedited for the Oxford English Novels series and later republished theme in the new Oxford World's Classics series. Other edition is legion, and there are numerous film and adaptation. Studied in English classes around the world, yet still read by thousand just for pleasure, Austen is now one of the world's most widely read authors. This novel consists of 241 pages, two volumes; the first consist of 15 chapters from the first pages until the page 116, at while the second volume consists of 16 chapters from page 117 until page 241.

Jane Austen was born on December 16, 1775 at Steventon, Hampshire, England. She was the seventh child and the daughter of the Rev. George Austen, 1731-1805 (the local rector, or Church of England clergyman), and his wife Cassandra, 1739-1827. In 1783, Jane and old sister (Cassandra Elizabeth was Jane's only sister, and her closest confidante) went briefly to be taught by Mrs. Cawley, who lived first in Oxford and then moved to Southampton. They were brought home after an infectious disease broke out in Southampton.

Jane Austen was very familiar with 18th century novels, such as those of Fielding and Richardson, which were much less inhibited than those of the later Victorian era. In 1782 and 1784, the Austen family at Steventon rectory staged novels, and in 1787 – 1788, more productions that are elaborate were put on there under the influence of Jane's sophisticated grown-up Cousin Eliza. Jane Austen is one of the few novelists whose fictional world – seen as an idyllic bygone time and place unlike and preferable to the present – has entered into popular literary culture.

Northanger Abbey overview starts from Catherine Morland, who comes from a comfortable family of a village clergyman, is invited to Bath for the season by her wealthy friends, Mr. and Mrs. Allen. There, she meets Isabella Thorpe, a sophisticated young woman whose brother John is a friend of Catherine Morland's brother, James Morland. Isabella encourages Catherine's interest in romantic fantasies and horrid fictions. After Isabella is engaged to James Morland, she tries to promote a romance between Catherine

and her brother, John Thorpe, but Catherine is more interested in a young clergyman, Henry Tilney, the son of General Tilney of Northanger Abbey. Under the illusion fostered by John Thorpe, that Catherine is wealthy, General Tilney invites her to stay at Northanger Abbey. There Catherine's imagination runs wild; she becomes convinced that Northanger Abbey is like the setting of a gothic novel and that General Tilney has murdered his late wife. She is humiliated when General Tilney returns suddenly from London and orders her to leave the abbey. This action is based on another false report from John Thorpe, who claims that Catherine is totally without wealth and deceived the general. She returns home and is followed by Henry. He explains that the general mistakenly believing her to be penniless had been anxious to keep her away from his son.

Meanwhile, Henry's brother, Captain Tilney, has flirted with Isabella Thorpe and caused her to break off her engagement to James Morland. However, the captain is too shrewd to be taken in by scheming Isabella, and she is left without a husband. Elanor Tinley's fortunate marriage to a viscount and the discovery that Catherine will have a substantial income allay the general's anger, and after Henry has explained the misunderstanding to Catherine's family, the general finally gives his blessing to Henry's marriage to Catherine. The marriage both have desired finally takes place. (<http://www.pemberley.com/janeinfo/janeart.html>).

According to John Meeks in <http://www.librarything.com> he says:

“Northanger Abbey is both a nice love story and literary parody. Throughout the whole book I was cheering young Catherine on to get the man she deserved. The storyteller in the novel is quite visible, and fills the reader with satirical observations and comments. I would say that satire and irony are more used and easy to spot in *Northanger Abbey* than other novels I have read of this author, though one can easily detect both in most of her work”.

According to Laura Ashlee in <http://www.librarything.com>, she titles:

“I have to admit that I was a little disappointed by this one. It seemed kind of short. I was expecting more out of it. I think I expected too much out of this book. I thought there would be more of Catherine in *Northanger Abbey* and less of Catherine in *Bath*. I expected there to be some sort of conflict with the relationship of Henry and Catherine. Honestly, this felt like the bones of a book, missing all the muscle. On top of that, we all know Jane Austen wrote happy endings”.

I wish there had been just a little more dialogue between Henry and Catherine. I felt like I barely knew Henry. In all the Austen books I've read so far, there's a great deal of dialogue between the two characters who fall in love. The reader understands both characters and how they feel about each other. In this book, I wasn't totally convinced. They met, they had a few nice and funny conversations, suddenly they're in love. I feel like I missed some part of their relationship. For a good portion of the book, she's not quite sure that Henry is in love with her. Then he's on her doorstep asking her to marry him and the book is over”.

Another opinion of the novel is come from Renz0808 and also in <http://www.librarything.com>; he explains:

“I knew that it is considered by most critics to be Jane Austen's most satirical novel so I was very excited to dive into this book and see for myself. I was not disappointed, I loved our heroine Catherine Morland, I thought she had just the right amount of girlish charm mixed in with some moments of good sense. I found myself rooting for her throughout the book. I also have to say that Henry Tilney found his way right into my heart from almost the first meeting, especially when he exclaims, "The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel, must be intolerably stupid", a opinion I agree with entirely”.

There is no data explaining that Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* is given a reward. But it is taken as a popular classic novel.

Northanger Abbey is a novel that concerns about women. Jane Austen presents a woman as the main character in this novel. However, Jane Austen also provides other characters, both men and women that have significant role in the development of the main character. In *Northanger Abbey*, the main character faces so many problems related to her environment and the other characters. That is why the characters and characterization of this novel is interesting. The main character of this novel is Catherine Morland and there are eight minor characters that have influence to the Catherine's personality.

In this novel, there are three principal locations. They are Fullerton, Bath and Northanger Abbey as setting of place. According to the writer, the setting of place of this novel is not really interesting because the most of the story's scenes took the Abbey as the background. The setting of time of this novel is in earlier of nineteenth century.

The plot of novel "*Northanger Abbey*" is interesting although the plot is traditional form. The exposition of this plot is divided into two sections: the background of Catherine's infancy and the condition when she arrives in Bath for the first time. The complication of this story comes when Catherine Morland, the main character, tries to adaptate with her new environment, Bath. The climax of this story is the moment when Catherine is kicked out from Northanger Abbey: and the resolution comes when General Tilney permits Catherine to marry with his son, Henry Tilney.

The grammatical structure used in narration is quite in a good order formal languages, Jane Austen involves old-fashioned language. The sentences of the story are combination of the long and the short sentences. Austen uses totally with English language, mostly in modern ones. The author also performs figurative language such as personification and metaphor.

The theme of the novel “*Northanger Abbey*” is the initiation of a young woman into the complexities of adult social life, the heroine’s transition from girlhood to womanhood. It is a part of personality growth of the main character of the novel.

Anxiety is one of the most important concepts in the theory of psychoanalysis. In psychoanalysis theory, anxiety is a painful emotional experience representing a threat or danger to the person. Anxiety is such a painful state that we are incapable of tolerating it for very long. Anxiety is a conscious condition which may be known by an individual based on the experiences of painful, downhearted, melancholy and tension as a result of hunger, thirstiness, sex, etc.

The function of anxiety is to make an act as a dangerous sign to ego, so that if the sign appear on the consciousness, the ego may take any action to face the danger. Anxiety is very important because it can give warning to an individual about the existence of danger from the internal or external of the individual, so that the individual can anticipate it.

According to Freud, anxiety is divided into three kinds: reality or objective anxiety, neurotic anxiety, and moral anxiety. Between the third

anxieties, there are not any differences about the kind. The different is about the source of the anxiety. However, the third has similarity that is felt unpleased.

Stimulated by the fact clarified above, the researcher is intended to conduct a study on a psychological aspect of a character in a novel. The researcher focuses on the anxiety of Catherine Morland, the main character in *Northanger Abbey*, a novel written by Jane Austen. Meanwhile, the theory of the psychology that is employed in this research is Freud's psychoanalysis.

B. Literature Review

According to the writer, Jane Austen's novel, *Northanger abbey* is an interesting novel to be discussed. The writer finds other researchers who studied this novel. He is Farid Ma'ruf (2004) who conducted his study entitled "Personality Change of Catherine Morland, the main Character of Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*": Individual Psychological Approach, Sebelas Maret University of Surakarta. This research stresses on the process of the main character's personality change, Catherine Morland and the factors which affect the change. He explores the personality change of Catherine Morland from initiation young woman to the complexities of adult social life in difference social background.

Another researcher is Dewi setyowati (2009) who studied this novel entitled "Tension between Love and Wealth in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*": Sociological Approach, Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. She concludes in her study that the purposes of Austen writing *Northanger Abbey*

are: a). Austen wants to convey message that sincere love is that which not distorted by wealth and physical performance. b). Austen wants to describe the social condition of upper class and middle class in England in early nineteenth century. At the time, wealth causes a tension for getting love.

The differences of this study from the previous one are that this study is to analyze the anxieties of the main character of the novel, Catherine Morland.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of the study is how Catherine Morland's anxieties are reflected in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*.

D. Limitation of Problem

The study limitation itself is on the structural elements and Catherine Morland's anxieties in *Northanger Abbey*.

E. Objectives of the Study

Dealing with the problem statement above the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the *Northanger Abbey*.
2. To analyze Catherine Morland's anxieties in Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey* based on psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer hopes that the thesis will give a benefit for the reader, as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The research is expected:

- a. To be useful for those who want to make a further analysis on the novel.
- b. To give additional knowledge about anxiety on the novel.

2. Practical Benefit

- a. To fulfill of the requirement for getting bachelor degree of education in English Department.
- b. It is hoped that readers will have a better understanding about the novel, especially about anxiety in the novel.

G. Method of the Study

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Northanger Abbey*, novel by Jane Austen which has been published by Everyman Library in 1992.

2. Type of the Study

The writer uses qualitative method to study the research.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

a. Type of the Data

The type of data of this study is text.

b. The Data Source

- 1) The primary source of data is taken from *Northanger Abbey*, novel by Jane Austen which has been published by Everyman Library in 1992.

- 2) The secondary source of data is taken from other sources, which are related to primary source of data that support the analysis. They are books and virtual references.

4. Technique of Data Collection

The technique of data collection is the library research. The writer is doing some steps to complete the data, as follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly and find the data to analyze.
- b. Reading other resources especially that relate to anxiety.
- c. Taking note on the important data both in primarily and secondary sources.
- d. Classifying the data into some categories.

5. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive.

H. Paper Organization

This research paper consists of five chapters. It begins with chapter I that comprises of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II deals with the underlying theory that is psychoanalytic theory. Chapter III is structural analysis which includes the character and characteristics, plot, setting, point of view, style and theme. Chapter IV performs psychological analysis which deals with the major character's anxieties based on psychoanalytic theory. Chapter V deals with conclusion and suggestion.