

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Personality is the particular combination of emotional, attitudinal, and behavioral response patterns of an individual (<http://www.wikipedia.org/personality1.htm>). Personality has connections with sense of human beings to do something. Everybody has a different personality because human beings have also different characters. Many personalities of human beings can be studied by looking at what they do, what they speak, and so on. Usually, personality of human being is reflected in movies. Movies include many different characters which have different personality. For example in movie of *My Sister's Keeper*, many characters which have different personality which can be studied. For example, character of Sara Fitzgerald. Sara Fitzgerald has a heavy personality to realize his purpose.

The writer uses a psychoanalytic approach to study the personality of human beings in a movie, because personality has connections with psychology of human beings. A psychoanalytic approach is a theory that is proposed by Sigmund Freud. This theory is applied to different aspects of psychology the approach basically provides an explanation of a specific topic from a certain point of view. Freud in Newman (1983: 385) described three components of personality; the *id*, the *ego*, and the *superego*. The *Id* is the most basic system of personality, totally unconscious, the *ego* is authorized by

reality principles and connects with real world, and the *superego* as the principle of morality consists of some values and evaluated norms.

In this case, the writer concerns with *My Sister's Keeper* movie. *My Sister's Keeper* movie is a movie adaptation of a novel which has a title *My Sister's Keeper* written by Jodi Picoult (2004). *My Sister's Keeper* movie is directed by Nick Cassavetes. Nick Cassavetes was born May 21, 1959 in New York City, USA. His birth name is Nicholas David Rowland Cassavetes. Cassavetes was born in New York City, the son of actress Gena Rowlands and Greek-American actor and film director John Cassavetes. As a child, he appeared in two of his father's films: *Husbands* (1970) and *A Woman under the Influence* (1974). After spending so much of his youth surrounded by the film industry, Cassavetes originally decided he did not want to go into the field. He instead attended Syracuse University on a basketball scholarship. His athletic career was effectively ended by an injury, and he decided to rethink his aspirations, ultimately deciding to attend his parents' alma mater, the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York.

*My Sister's Keeper* was released in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and the United Kingdom on June 26, 2009. *My Sister's Keeper* movie includes a drama movie. The story of this movie is very interesting, the story is begun by conceived by means of in vitro fertilization, Anna Fitzgerald was brought into the world to be a genetic match for her older sister, Kate, who suffers from acute promyelocytic leukemia, in order to keep her alive. Her family members are introduced one by one and each tells about how Kate's illness has

affected them personally and the family. When Kate turns 15, she goes into renal failure. Eleven-year-old Anna knows that she will be forced by her parents to donate one of her kidneys. She also realizes that she may not be able to live the life she will want to lead - she may be unable to cheer-lead, play soccer, or be a mother. Anna tells her parents that she does not want any of this, and proceeds to sue them for medical emancipation and the rights to her own body. Her overprotective mother, Sara, who leads an obsessive campaign to keep Kate alive, is indignant at Anna's decision and even strikes her across the face when she receives the notice of intended prosecution. Attorney Campbell Alexander agrees to work for Anna as her guardian ad item, suing for partial termination of parental rights. It is later learned he agreed to take the case not for the notoriety, but because he has epilepsy and understands her predicament of not having control over her own body.

The film is interlaced with flashbacks that detail Kate and Anna's closeness, as well as how Kate's illness has affected her siblings' lives and their relationships. In a flashback, Kate also meets a fellow cancer patient, Taylor Ambrose, whom she begins dating. After a date, they share their first kiss outside Kate's house, with Sara and Brian watching from their bedroom window. After this, he becomes her boyfriend in and out of hospital and supports her as she undergoes treatment. He then asks her to the hospital's "prom" for teen patients; there, they slow-dance, then proceed to a vacant hospital room to make love. A few days later, Kate is crying because Taylor hasn't called her for several days. Her mother Sara is furious when Kate

mentions they did "stuff" after the prom and storms out to ask the nurse where Taylor evidently believes that he had dated her daughter merely to sleep with her, and learns that he has died.

Kate makes a request to go to the beach one last time, and Brian, her father, obtains permission from her doctor and removes her from the hospital to take her and the kids. Overprotective as ever, Sara is furious when Brian shows up at the house with Kate and demands that she be returned to the hospital. Brian angrily refuses and drives off, threatening Sara with a divorce if she does not join them. Sara later shows up at the beach, where they enjoy one final family outing. To Sara's dismay, the judge refuses to grant summary dismissal, and the case goes to a hearing. During the hearing, Anna and Kate's older brother, Jesse reveal that Anna's actions are actually under Kate's instruction; Kate, not wanting to live any longer, and knowing Sara refuses to hear any option other than her desired one, had gently persuaded Anna to refuse to donate her kidney. Sara is indignant at this discovery, but is finally forced by both Jesse and Brian to realize that Kate had been trying to tell her this for some time. Before the case is decided, Kate dies in her sleep at the hospital with her mother by her side. After Kate's death, Campbell brings the court decision: Anna won the case. The family moves on with their lives, but every year on Kate's birthday they go to Montana, which was her "most favorite place in the world." At the end, Anna says that their relationship continues because she will see Kate again.

The writer is interested to study *My Sister's Keeper* Movie because several reasons. This movie has an interesting story which uses modern settings. The story can give real effect for watchers. The watchers can take lessons from this movie. Second, this movie uses a good combination plot which makes watchers enjoy every section of the movie. Third, this movie is a famous dramatic movie where it tells conflicts of a family.

The last, this movie shows some characters which have an interesting personality, for example *Sara Fitzgerald* who shows an interesting personality to be analyzed. Based on the above reasons and statements, the writer will do a research entitled *Personality of Sara Fitzgerald in My Sister's Keeper Movie Directed by Nick Cassavetes (2009): A Psychoanalytic Approach*.

## **B. Literature Review**

The previous research was conducted by Septingtyas graduated from Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta (2011). The title of the research is *Moral Conflicts of Organ Donation in Nick Cassavetes My Sister's Keeper Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach*. In this study researcher presents Conflicts of Organ Donation in the movie of *My Sister's Keeper* directed by Nick Cassavetes. The researcher used the descriptive qualitative method and a psychoanalytic approach.

There are several similarities from the previous research above with the research of the writer. The first is the data sources and the objects of the research. Second is in using descriptive qualitative method to analyze the

research and the last is in using a psychoanalytic approach of the research. And there is the difference is seen from the study. Here, the writer analyzes the personality of Sara Fitzgerald.

### **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the study, the writer proposes the problem statement of the study is how the personality of Sara Fitzgerald is reflected in *My Sister's Keeper* Movie (2009).

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The writer will focus in analyzing the personality of Sara Fitzgerald in *My Sister's Keeper* Movie based on a psychoanalytic approach.

### **E. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of this research are as follows:

1. To analyze *My Sister's Keeper* Movie based on the structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze the personality of Sara Fitzgerald in *My Sister's Keeper* movie based on a psychoanalytic approach.

### **F. Benefit of the Study**

In conducting the research paper, the researcher hopes that the study will have benefits as follow:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This study is expected to become a reference to literary study, especially analysis of movie using psychoanalytic approach.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

This study is expected to enrich the knowledge of the researchers and readers who have interest with literary study on the movie especially using a psychoanalytic approach.

## **G. Research Method**

This research is divided into four aspects: (1) Type of the Study, (2) Object of the Study, (3) Type of the Data and the Data Source, (4) Technique of Data Collection, and (5) Technique of the Data Analysis.

### **1. Type of the Study**

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative research. It is a library research while data sources are using literary data. It purposes to analyze the movie using a psychoanalytic approach.

### **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the research is *My Sister's Keeper* movie. The movie was published in 2009 and the movie was directed by Nick Cassavetes.

### **3. Type of the Data and the Data Sources**

Type of the data source used in the research can be categorized into two sources of data. They are primary data and secondary data sources:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source is taken from *My Sister's Keeper* movie (2009) directed by Nick Cassavetes.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data source is other source related to the primary data source. Data sources are information about the author biography, the movie, and other sources supporting the analysis.

#### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

The data collection technique is library research. The steps are:

- a. Watching *My Sister's Keeper* movie.
- b. Taking notes to find the important data.
- c. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- d. Collecting some supporting data from other references which are related to the topic.

#### **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique of analyzing data in this study is descriptive analysis. It concerns with a psychoanalytic approach to show how personality is reflected in the story and the characters of Sara Fitzgerald *My Sister's Keeper* movie (2009).

## **H. Paper Organization**

The researcher organizes her research into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction which presents background of study, literature reviews, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research of organization. The second chapter is underlying theory. It includes the notion of psychological approach, system of personality, structure elements of movie, and technical elements. Third chapter is the analysis of the movie. It includes structural elements of the movie, while in the fourth chapter consists analysis which uses a psychological approach deals with the problem in the movie and in the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.