CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

_The Girl in the Park_ movie is a drama movie which is directed and written by David Auburn. This movie was released on November 13, 2006 in USA, and produced by Sean Furst, Bryan Furst, and Dale Rosenbloom with Furst Films as the company with total runtime around 109 minutes (1 hour 49 minutes), and distributed by Unanimous Pictures and Tiberius Film Gmbh & co. Kg Qed International. The music of _The Girl in the Park_ movie was arranged by Theodore Shapiro. The cinematography was made by Stuart Dryburgh. This movie uses English as the language and USA like Brooklyn and New York as the setting of place. The movie stars are Sigourney Weaver, Kate Bosworth, Elias Koteas, Alessandro Nivola, Keri Russel, and David Rasche.

The Girl in the Park story concerns lost kids that happen in the park. The story begins when Julia (Sigourney Weaver) invites her daughter (Maggie) to play in the park, she has just waited and looked her daughter to play. Suddenly, her daughter falls down and cries. Then, she looks at the injury in her daughter knees. She thinks that it is an injury but it is not. It is just her daughter birth mark. In the park, Maggie is playing hide and seek with her mom, then she is caught by her mom. When the park is quiet and everyone has gone home, Julia takes her things. After she finishes tiding her things up, she looks for her child. She looks for in the whole of the park, but she cannot find her. Since she lost her 3 years old daughter, sometimes her emotion is out of control. It made her divorce with her husband (David Rasche). Then, she decides to live alone and her first child is taken care by her husband.

After 16 years later, when Julia is in the restaurant, she sees Louise (Kate Bosworth), a girl that is quarrel with her boyfriend. When Julia is in a supermarket, she sees the girl again. She sees the girl taking sunglasses but she does not want to pay it and says that it is her own sunglasses. The shopkeeper does not believe her, Julia comes through the shopkeeper and tells him that it is really Louise’s sunglasses. Then, the shopkeeper believes it. Louise thanks to Julia for saving her from the shopkeeper. She introduces herself to Julia and tells about her life and also her pregnant. Then, they become friend. One day, Julia’s son, Chris (Alessandro Nivola) invites her to have dinner together with his prospective wife, Celeste (Keri Russel) in a restaurant. Chris does it to make Julia and Celeste’s relationship closer.
Celeste asks Julia about Chris’s childhood. It makes Julia’s emotion pent up because it reminds her with her lost daughter 16 years ago. She cannot focus to the topic of their conversation. Chris is so sad knowing her mother’s condition. Then, Julia asks permission to go to the rest room. When she is walking to the rest room, she sees Louise talking with a man. It surprised her, she comes close to Louise and says that Louise has lied to her, but Louise just says to the man that Julia is such a crazy woman.

At the first time, Julia met Louise, she thought that Louise told the truth about her condition. Now, Julia knows that Louise is a lier. Julia does not know that Louise is following her to her apartment. Louise knocks Julia’s room and asks forgiveness to Julia. Julia does not want to hear what Louise says. Then, she closes the door and suddenly Louise’s hand is hemmed and scraped. Louise just wants to return some money which is given by Julia at their first meeting and says to Julia that the rest of the money as her debt and she promises to Julia to pay her debt one day. It makes Julia feel pity to her and asks Louise to live with her in her apartment. Louise agrees to live with Julia. Their relationship becomes closer after they live together. Julia’s emotion gets better. It is out of control because Julia thanks that Louise is her lost daughter 16 years ago. Before Louise lives with Julia, she becomes a good girl. Julia tries to find out who is the real Louise. Finally, she knows that Louise has a family. It proves that Louise is not lost daughter. It makes her shocked, but she is still considering Louise as her daughter.
The Girl in the Park movie has many comments from the people who ever watched it. The first response came from The Times Newspaper in England “The actress in the movie plays with good acting, such as Weaver has an ability to become a mother whose emotion is out of control. It is because she lost her daughter in the park. Then, she meets Louise and thinks that Louise is her lost daughter. Louise is a bad girl, but then she becomes a good girl after she meets Julia. The end of the story is still floating whether Louise really lost her daughter or not, but it gives the actors plenty to work.

The second response comes from Toronto International Film Festival (2007) “Sigourney Weaver plays with a good performance as a career woman and mother. The movie is a little boring because the beginning of the story only tells about Julia’s life and there is no variation in this movie. The plot line is interesting. The movie contains little melodramatic scenes. The actresses and actors can play the characters in the movie very well”.

The last response comes from BBC News written by Stella Papamichael “Sigourney Weaver and Kate Bosworth become the stars in the movie because they are the main characters. The writer and director have many experiences and high quality in making some plays and movies. He wins an award in the category of script drama by Pulitzer Prize for Proof movie”.

From the responses above, it can be concluded that the story of the movie has no end. It is still floating. The beginning of the movie is boring, but in the middle of the movie it becomes interesting. The characters in the movie
always try to be better and get better life. That is why. The writer is curious to know more about the movie, especially the characters.

*The Girl in the Park* movie had been produced as the television show in first and twice for the cinema, CD and DVD version: first was distributed by Furst films and second by Weinstein Company. The movie gives an income about US $ 1.254.140, because this movie was popular whether in the review of viewer, movie market, and film industry.

*The Girl in the Park* had been third: in United States on November 13, 2006, in Toronto International Film Festival on Sunday, September 9, 2007 and in United Kingdom on December 5, 2008. This movie got a lot awards from some film industries and film appreciation. It won the award from Pulitzer to playwright. Besides that, *The Girl in the Park* movie is also nominated in Academy Awards (2007) and Toronto International Film Festival as the film presented (2007).

*The Girl in the Park* is an interesting movie. It can be looked from the character and characterization, plot, casting, and theme. The characters that mostly appear in this movie are Julia and Louise. They individually have different characterization. In the movie, Julia is a mother and business woman. She has a three years old daughter that lost when playing in the park with her. She spends her whole life to find her daughter. It makes her ignore her family, especially her husband and her son. Then, she and her husband divorce. She decides to live alone as career women and never give up to find lost daughter. The second of major character of this movie is Louise, a naughty girl and lies
by saying to Julia that she is her lost daughter. Also the other characters are supporting very well. The second interesting point is on the plot. The plot in this movie is the internal conflict of Julia in her condition after her daughter lost in the park then she meets Louise. Her emotion is out of control and it affects to her family. After she meets Louise, her emotion’s getting better. She considers Louise as her daughter.

The third interesting point is the casting which gets the best player to act like characters that are needed. Sigourney Weaver who plays the character for Julia has an obsession to return the old memories about her daughter and could be the best actress in this movie. Then, Kate Bosworth becomes a bad girl in this movie because she does not have family and money to support her life.

The last interesting point is on the theme. The theme of this movie is how hard to accept the reality of losing someone that people love so much. The main character is an independent women and she is able to solve her psychological problem. She thinks that she needs a change and transformation to get a better life. She solves the problem by erasing the memories about her daughter and becomes career woman and tries to be a good mom for her son.

From the brief explanation above the writer is interested to analyze the character of Julia who has an obsession to return her lost daughter into her life in a research and it is entitled “OBSESSION FOR THE RETURN OF THE LOST DAUGHTER IN DAVID AUBURN THE GIRL IN THE PARK MOVIE: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH”.
B. Literature Review

_The Girl in the Park_ movie presents a drama movie about family’s problem. It is interesting to be analyzed. As the writer knows, there is no other previous researchers who used the same movie for their research. The writer had visited to some universities in Indonesia such as the universities in Surakarta, Yogyakarta, and also in UIN Syarif Hidayatullah, Ciputat. The writer is interested in analyzing this movie by using Psychoanalytic approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of this research is how Julia’s obsession can return her lost daughter into her life.

An obsession is an involuntary, irrational thought that occurs repeatedly. An obsession may be mild, as in those instances when we cannot stop wondering whether we remembered to turn off a faucet or lock a door before leaving home. In some cases, an obsession becomes so persistent that it markedly interferes with daily life. Severe obsessions often have a violent or sexual quality to them, such as the desire to burn down the house or rape a neighbor, which makes the person feel guilty and horrified as much by the content of the thought as by its persistence (Bootzin, Bower, Zajong, and Hall, 1986: 545).

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focused on Julia’s obsession to return her lost daughter reflected in _The Girl in the Park_ movie.
E. **Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are as follow

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze obsession of Julia’s to return her lost daughter based on psychoanalytic approach.

F. **Benefit of the Study**

Two kinds of benefits which can be gained from the study are as follows:

1. **Theoretical Benefit**
   
   The study is expected to give additional information and contribute to the larger body of knowledge, particularly to the further studies of David Auburn *The Girl in the Park* by using psychoanalytic approach especially obsession of the person.

2. **Practical Benefit**

   The study is expected to give the writer understanding about obsession from Julia and this research can enrich the students’ knowledge about psychoanalytic in obsession of woman such as Julia.

G. **Research Method**

The research method of this paper is broken down into five aspects: (1) Type of the Study, (2) Object of the Study, (3) Type of the Data and the Data Source, (4) Technique of the Data Collection, and (5) Technique of the Data Analysis.
1. Type of the Study

In analyzing the data found in the movie, the researcher uses the qualitative method as the type of the study.

2. Object of the Study

The researcher takes David Auburn *The Girl in the Park* released on November 13, 2006 (USA). This movie consists of two discs, the duration is 109 minutes (1 hour 49 minutes) as the object of the study.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

Type of data of this study is the script of the movie and images of the scenes. Meanwhile, the data sources in this study are categorized into primary data sources and secondary data sources.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data are taken from the movie of *The Girl in the Park* which is directed by David Auburn. The main data involve the ideas, way of thinking, attitudes, the whole narration in the movie and the dialogues among the character that are relevant to the subject matter in this study.

b. Secondary Data Source

Secondary data sources are some references and material such as biography of the author’s, essay, comment, historical information, the script of the movie, and other information related to the study.
4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

The data collection technique used in the study is the library research, note taking from dialogues of the character, and images in scenes from the movie that is the writer seeks the data from printed media, the movie in this case, as the primary data and the other sources as the secondary data. These techniques are as follows:

a. Watching the movie and learning the script.

b. Taking note of the important parts in both primary and secondary data.

c. Identifying the topic of the movie.

d. Determining the major character.

e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.

f. Arranging, researching and developing the selected materials into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique of data analysis is descriptive. It describes the structural elements of the movie and also analyzes it by using psychoanalytic approach.

H. **Research Paper Organization**

This research paper consists of five chapters. *Chapter I* is introduction, it deals with background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. *Chapter II* contains theoretical
approach of psychoanalysis which will be used to analyze the movie. Chapter III presents the structural elements analysis and discussion of the movie. Chapter IV deals with the Psychoanalytic analysis of the movie, obsession, and the discussion. The last is Chapter V that contains conclusion and suggestion of the research.