

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Individual personality development is influenced by various factors, including heredity and environmental factors. A heredity factor which is influencing the personality includes body shape, body liquid, and the character that is reduced from parents. Whereas environmental factors include family, school and the community. Family is seen as a major determinant of the child's personality formation. The reason are; family is the first social group that become the center of the identification of children, the children spend more time in the family, family members are a "significant people" for the formation of the child's personality (Yusuf and Nurihsan, 2007:19).

Changes in the family can cause huge influence o child's personality. The existence of both father and mother is very crucial as a child always looking at and imitate his parents. The lost of either father or mother can shake the balance of the family, thus a child's personality is also affected. One of the most common causes of in incomplete family members is divorce.

Nowadays, divorce phenomenon in the world is becoming a trend, a couple will make a decision to divorce if they do not find a match anymore. They are not aware that their decisions are not good for the children. Divorce gives many negative effects on children. Children who become victims of divorce will not feel comfortable at home. They will look for happiness

outside to throw away all problems they have. Despite that their parents give the best for them, they still do not feel happy and always close their eyes and ears because they feel to be ignored by their parents, and the result they will not respect their parents again. On the outside they can be anything they want, although they know that what they do is wrong, but it is a satisfaction for them, so that they will do it without much thinking.

The changes of child's personality become a form of rebellion for what their parents have done. Whether it is good or bad, child's personality based on the educating method conducted by the parent. Children will be changed to be good person again, when they find something or someone who makes them comfortable. *The Last Song* movie shows such phenomenon, the major character of this movie has a personality change after the parent decided to divorce. She hates her father who leaves her and her little brother, but after she found love she talks to her father again.

The Last Song is one of the most favorable movies which were originally scheduled for release on January 2010, but it was postponed to March 31, 2010. The movie is originally taken from the novel of Nicholas Sparks with the same title "*The Last Song*". This movie is directed by Julie Anne Robinson and the film is distributed by American Touchstone Pictures.

The movie presents Miley Cyrus as Veronica Miller, usually calls Ronnie. The major character of the film who has a changed of personality, Liam Hemsworth as Will Blakelee, a popular and skilled beach volleyball player, Greg Kinnear as Steve Miller (Ronnie and Jonah's father), and then,

Bobby Coleman as Jonah (Ronnie's younger brother). The setting is taken place in Tybee Island, Georgia. Tybee island and nearby Savannah and also neighboring locations became the sites of filming with the intention of masquerading, the area as Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina. The locale proved too unique to disguise.

The woman behind the success of *The Last Song* is a director named Julie Anne Robinson. Julie Anne Robinson is a British theatre, television, and film director perhaps best known for her work on British television. She earned BAFTA and Golden Globe nominations for directing the first half of the BBC miniseries *Blackpool*. In 2009, Robinson completed work on her first feature film; the American Touchstone Pictures film *The Last Song*.

Julie Anne Robinson's career began with theater. In 1998, she directed the play *Terms of Abuse; the New York Time*. Robinson received favorable reviews for the play *Yard*, which she directed later the same year. Scriptwriter Kaite O' Reiley earned the Peggy Ramsay Award for writing the play. Then, *The Daily Telegraph*, Robinson followed with *Blagger* in 2000; *The Daily Telegraph's* Charles Spencer remarked that it was "notably well-acted under Julie-Anne Robinson's direction". In 2000, Robinson directed the play *A Place at the Table's* Morley. Robinson began directing television episodes in 2000, when she helmed an episode of the British soap opera *Doctors*. From 2001 to 2004, she directed two more episodes of *Doctors*, along with episodes of *Cutting It*, *No Angels*, and *Holby City*. In 2004, Robinson directed the first half of the miniseries *Blackpool*. For this, she earned a BAFTA nomination for

"Best Drama Serial". When the series was released to American audiences the following year under the name *Viva Blackpool*, Robinson was among the nominees for the Golden Globe for "Best Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television". Also in 2004, Robinson directed the play *How Love is Spelt*.

From 2005 to 2006, Robinson directed two more episodes for *Holby City* and the first three episodes of *Goldplated*. Also in 2006, she began directing episodes for the American television series *Grey's Anatomy*, beginning with *Band-Aid Covers the Bullet Hole*. And then, she also directed the season 3 episode *From a Whisper to a Scream*, which aired on November 23, 2006. Robinson's first film, the made-for-television movie *Coming Down the Mountain* aired on September 2, 2007 on BBC. The movie earned Robinson her second BAFTA nomination, this time for "Best Single Drama". Following this, Robinson directed episodes of more American television series. In 2009, episodes Robinson had directed for *Big Love* and *Pushing Daisies* aired. In addition, Robinson entered a blind directing contract with ABC Studios, she directed the pilot episode for the ABC series *The Middle*. Notably in 2009, Robinson accepted her first feature films. She was signed on in May to make her motion picture debut directing Disney's *The Last Song*.

The Last Song is a movie that tells about at eighteen, Veronica "Ronnie" Miller who remains as rebellious as she was the day her parents divorced and her father moved to Georgia three years prior. Once a classical piano child prodigy under the tutelage of her father, Ronnie now ignores the instrument and has not spoken with her father since he left. Ronnie has been

received in Juilliard School since she was young, but Ronnie refuses to attend because she hates her father. Now, her father has the chance to reconnect with his estranged daughter when her mother, sends the rebellious teen and her younger brother, to spend the summer with him. Her father is a former Juilliard School professor and concert pianist, lives a quiet life in Tybee Island, the small beach town in Georgia where he grew up, working on a stained glass window for the local church to replace the one the church lost in a fire. According to the local's environment, it was her father who had set fire to the church one night.

After arrival, Ronnie becomes miserable, defiant, and defensive toward all those around her. Including a popular handsome boy, Will Blakelee, whose introduction involved crashing into her during a volleyball match, and accidentally spilling Ronnie's strawberry shake on her. She shrugs him off and meets Blaze, an outcast who lives with her boyfriend Marcus. While at a beach campfire, Marcus hits on Ronnie and Blaze mistakes this for Ronnie flirting with him. Angered by this, Blaze sets Ronnie up by putting a bracelet in Ronnie's bag. Just as Ronnie walks out she is promptly arrested, which is reminded her of an incident that occurred back home. Then, Ronnie discovers a Loggerhead Sea Turtle nest at the beach near her house and while protecting it, she meets Will again as a volunteer who work for the aquarium.

After a night of staying up to defends the turtles with Will, she discovers he is deeper than she believed, and begins to have feelings for him. As Ronnie falls in love with Will, she also manages to form a better and

stronger bond with her father. As their relationship deepens, Will invites her to his sister's wedding. Later that day, the turtle eggs hatch and her father collapses with a coughing seizure that evening. Ronnie immediately has Steve rushed to a hospital and realizes that he had been diagnosed with cancer long before her summer visit (in a prior scene, he reveals having been on a medication and possibly setting fire to the church) and why her parents' marriage has fallen apart. She decides to start spending more time with her father since he is unlikely to survive any longer. Around the same time, Ronnie and Will get into a confrontation because Will confessed that Scott had actually set fire to the church, but he had never confessed. Will now leaving for college, there is no time to patch things up.

Her father has been working on a piece of music for quite a while. Fall comes and Jonah returns to New York for the school year but Ronnie stays behind to take care of her father. Leading a slow life she tries to fill in the three years of ignoring her father into a couple months. She continues working on his piece of music (titled "For Ronnie"), because her father's hands could not finish. When she finally plays the last chord, she looks up to see that her father had died while listening to her play and is heartbroken.

At his funeral she stands to make a speech but declares that none of the speeches she wrote would ever be able to show how wonderful her father really was. Instead, she decides to share with them the song she helped finish. Before she sits down to play, sunlight shines through the stained glass window. Ronnie smiles as she remembers overhearing her father say that

every time a light shines through that window or any window, it's him and she says "Hi, Daddy." At the funeral, while Ronnie is talking to the attendants, she runs into Will. He says that he liked the song she played and that he knows her dad did too and Ronnie thanks him for coming to the funeral.

At the end of the movie, Ronnie is packing up her dad's stuff when she sees Will standing outside. She goes outside to see him and Will apologizes to her for everything that had happened and Ronnie forgives him. Will surprises Ronnie by revealing that he will be transferring to Columbia in order to be with her and they share a kiss. The last scene shows her packing up her car and driving away.

The Last Song is an interesting movie, there are some aspects that make this movie is really interesting. The first is *The Last Song* is romantic film taken from the novel with same title, and usually people are more interesting with the film than the novel because most of people are not interested to read but they more like watching film.

The second is *The Last Song* provides a good moral message to the audience that every parent in the world wishes for and give the best for their children, although sometimes the children are no satisfied with their parent's decision. But children will be aware after they know that it is better for them.

The third is although Ronnie is cool girl, she does not care about anything around but she has a high social life that is shown when she sees a sea turtle eggs will be eaten by the raccoon. She tries to protect the eggs with a

various ways, even she is willing to sleep outside the house with the cool ocean weather, just to keep the eggs are not eaten by a raccoon

And the last reason is the power of love between Ronnie and Will, it could change Ronnie's treatment on her father, who originally she has with her father and because of the happiness that she feels at this time, unconsciously she takes communicate anymore with hes father.

Based on the several reasons above, the writer will observe *The Last Song* movie by using psychoanalytic theory by Sigmund Freud. So, the writer gives the title of the proposal: **GROWTH OF VERONICA MILLER'S PERSONALITY IN JULIE ANNE ROBINSON'S *THE LAST SONG* MOVIE (2010): A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.**

B. Previous Study

The study on *The Last Song* movie is the first being conducted in this research paper. The writer has researched through local and digital libraries and found none of it. Library of UGM, UNS, UNDIP, UNNES have reported zero call on the research on *The Last Song*. Thus, this study is first ever conducted at least in UMS.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the title, the writer has main problem statement as follows: "How is change of the Veronica Miller's personality reflected in *The Last Song*?"

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research the writer focuses on Growth of Veronica Miller's personality in *The Last Song* movie using a psychoanalytic approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem statement above, the writer determines the objective of the study as follow:

1. To analyze the film based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze Veronica Miller's personality based on a psychoanalytic perspective.

F. Benefits of the Study

The writer hopes this research gives some benefits for the writer herself and the readers in general. The research is expected to give benefit as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefits

This research can give additional information and knowledge to the other literary researcher and to reader, especially in the study of *The Last Song* movie.

2. Practical Benefits

This research can enrich the writer's and the reader's knowledge and experience concerning with a psychoanalytic approach.

G. Research Paper Organization

The research organization of the research are as follows: chapter one is introduction which includes background of the study, previous study, problem

statement, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, benefits of the study, theoretical approach, research method and also research paper organization. Chapter two is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of psychoanalytic theory, the basic concept of psychoanalysis and theoretical application. Chapter three deals with structural analysis of the movie and includes narrative and technique elements. Chapter four is the analysis of the major character using a psychoanalytic approach. And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion of the research. It contains the conclusions of the research and the analysis of the writer related on the result of the research and the suggestion related on the study.