

# CHAPTER I

## INTROCUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

*The Girl with the Dragon* (original title in Swedish: *Män som hatar kvinnor* – literally, *men who hate women*) is a crime novel by the late Swedish author and journalist Stieg Larsson. It is the first book of the *Millennium Series Trilogy*, published in 2005, one year after the author Stieg Larsson's death. It received the *Glass Key Award* form Crime Writers of Scandinavia in 2006, in 2008 *Boeke Prize*, and in 2009 the *Galaxy British Book Awards* for Books Direct Crime Thriller of the Year, and the prestigious Anthony Award for Best First Novel. According to figures from june 2011, the *Millennium Serius Trilogy* has together sold 60 million copies in more than 50 countries.

Stieg Larsson was born on August 15, 1954, in Skelleftehamn, Sweden. As a journalist and editor of the *Magazine Expo*, Larsson was active in documenting and exposing Swedish extreme right and racist organizations. Larsson's political convictions, as well as his journalistic experiences, led him to found the *Swedish Expo Foundation*, similar to the British Searchlight Foundation, established to “counteract the growth of the extreme right and the white power-culture in schools and among young people”. He also became the editor of the foundation's magazine,

Expo, in 1995. Larsson lived much of his life in Stockholm and worked there in the field of journalism and as an independent researcher of right-wing extremism.

When he died at the age of 50, Larsson left three unpublished thrillers and unfinished manuscripts for more. He was the second best-selling author in the world for 2008. Still, Larsson had never abandoned his childhood passion for science fiction and crime fiction, and during the 1990s he drafted a trilogy of crime novels now known as the *Millennium Trilogy*, whose original Swedish titles translate to *Men Who Hate Women*, *The Witch Who Dreamed of a Can of Petrol* and *The Exploding Castle in the Air*. The books were published to considerable success in Sweden before being picked up by the small British publishing house Quercus and released under new English titles: *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2005), *The Girl Who Played with Fire* (2006) and *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest* (2007).

In summary of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel, the novel begins In December 2002, Mikael Blomkvist, publisher of the Swedish political magazine *Millennium*, loses a libel case involving allegations about billionaire industrialist Hans Erik Wennerstrom. He is sentenced to three months (deferred) in prison, and ordered to pay hefty damages and costs. Soon afterwards, he is invited to meet Henrik Vanger, the retired CEO of the Vanger Corporation, unaware that Vanger has checked into his personal and professional history; the investigation of Blomkvist's circumstances has been carried out by Lisbeth Salander, a brilliant, but deeply troubled, researcher and computer hacker.

Vanger promises Blomkvist evidence against Wennerstrom in return for discovering what happened to his grandniece, Harriet, who disappeared in 1966. Vanger believes that she was murdered by a member of the family. Harriet disappeared during a family gathering at the Vanger estate on Hedeby Island, when the island was temporarily cut off from the mainland by a traffic accident on the bridge. Blomkvist moves to the island and begins his research into the history of the Vanger family and Harriet's disappearance.

Salander was ruled legally incompetent as a child, and is under the care of a legal guardian, Holger Palmgren. When Palmgren suffers a stroke, he is replaced by Nils Bjurman, who uses his position to sexually abuse her. After using a hidden camera to record Bjurman raping her, Salander takes her revenge, torturing him and threatening to ruin him unless he gives her full control of her life and finances. She then uses a tattoo machine to brand him as a rapist.

While searching through the evidence, Blomkvist decides that he needs a research assistant, and Vanger's lawyer suggests Salander. When he sees the report she prepared for Vanger, Blomkvist realises that Salander has hacked into his computer. He confronts her and asks her to help him with the investigation, to which she agrees. The two eventually become lovers, but Salander keeps Blomkvist at a distance.

Blomkvist and Salander begin to realise that they are on the trail of a serial killer. When looking through old photographs, Blomkvist realises that they contain a

clue to the murderer's identity. When he becomes suspicious of Harriet's brother, Martin Vanger, and goes to his house, Martin takes him prisoner. Martin reveals that his father, Gottfried, "initiated" him into rape and murder before his death, and implies that Gottfried sexually abused both him and Harriet. Martin admits to murdering dozens of women, but denies killing his sister. Salander saves Blomkvist just as Martin is about to kill him, and goes in pursuit of Martin, who dies when he crashes his car. In the aftermath, Henrik wants to keep the truth about Martin a secret to avoid a scandal and talks Blomkvist and Salander into agreeing with him. By following a trail that leads to Cecilia's sister Anita, who now lives in London, Blomkvist and Salander learn that Harriet is still alive and is living under Anita's name in Australia. When Blomkvist flies there to meet her, Harriet tells him the truth about her disappearance: her father and brother had repeatedly raped her until she killed her father in self-defense, a year later, her cousin Anita had smuggled her out of Sweden. Blomkvist persuades her to return to Sweden, where she reunites with Henrik. Blomkvist then accompanies Lisbeth to her mother's funeral.

Blomkvist learns that the evidence against Wennerstrom that Vanger promised him is useless. However Salander has already hacked Wennerstrom's computer and has discovered that his crimes go far beyond what Blomkvist documented. Using her evidence, Blomkvist prints an expose and book which ruins Wennerstrom and catapults *Millennium* to national prominence. Salander, using her hacking skills, succeeds in stealing more than a quarter of a billion dollars from

Wennerstrom's secret bank account. Blomkvist and Salander spend Christmas together in his holiday retreat. At Christmas, she goes to Blomkvist's home, intending to declare her love for him, but backs away when she sees him with his long-time lover and business partner Erika Berger.

*The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* is a novel that has many public responses. These responses come from some readers. Keith P. wrote in *Amazon.com*, website, January 2 March 2011, he said that "Excellent film and book, look forward to reading the other and possible sequel to movie, gotta love that Daniel Craig". Emma in *Goodpress*, website, 11 Oct 2012, said that "Hated it with a passion. Really didn't like it. It was overly wordy, misguided, easily lost, needlessly violent and masochistic, and overall a very unfulfilling read". From *stieglarsson.com*, website, said that "Wonderful book. Must disturbing book I have ever read and I was absolutely astonished when I realized that there was a Millennium Trilogy. I thought that the book just ended abruptly but I was surprised to find out there was more books. I am so excited to read more about Lisbeth Salander".

According to the researcher there are four interesting points of the novel to be researched. First the characters in the novel have strong. Lisbeth Salander, known for her "crooked smile," is one of the most intriguing characters to hit bookstores ever. Salander's appearance (tattoos, piercings, provocative T-shirts, spiky hair, short skirts) and her unusual mannerisms give those who encounter her plenty of room to misjudge and stereotype her. The awesome mental processing, the questionable

morality, the cold gaze, the difficulty interacting "normally" with people, the seeming lack of emotion, the underground pursuit of justice, the holding back of information from the cops and other authorities, the use of technology and scientific reasoning to solve crime. Salander is very vulnerable and full of self-doubt. She's isolated by the mysterious trauma of her past, and by her official status as a mentally ill person. With a photographic memory, a proclivity for snooping, and a genius for hacking, she's the perfect private investigator-vigilante.

Second, the novel is set in Hedeby Island. The interesting of the setting in the novel is that the setting of the novel is a real life. Because of that, by the readers it can be imagined and easily described. Third, the novel has interesting plot. Stieg Larsson uses a personality of Lisbeth Salander plot and inner trauma conflict subplot to tell the story in the novel. So, the conflict can be understood easily.

The last point, the novel has important theme to be discussed. The theme of the story is post traumatic experience. Past traumatic experience is a disturbing event in the present, or reminiscing about a terrible shared episode - for some people, these kinds of experiences can open the floodgates of frightful and horrible memories. The writer uses the psychoanalytic criticism as an approach to analyze the novel. Based on the background above, the writer proposes to conduct a research entitled **"THE INFLUENCE OF PAST TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE ON THE PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT OF LISBETH SALANDER IN STIEG**

## **LARRSON'S *THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO* NOVEL (2008) : A PSYCHOANALITYC CRITICISM".**

### **B. Previous Study**

In this research, the researcher focuses on "The Influence of Past Traumatic Experience on The Personality Development of Lisbeth Salander in Stieg Larrson's *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* Novel (2008): A Psychoanalytic Criticism". To prove the originality of this research the writer discusses previous studies that was done by Ari Fatmawati (2013), "Superwoman Reflected In David Fincher's *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* Movie (2011): A Feminist Approach". And by Maya Ruhil Ahmani (2013), "Ambition of Mikael Blomkvist reflected in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* Novel (2008): A Psychoanalytic Approach".

Different from the previous research, this study focuses on the influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development of Lisbeth Salander, one of the major characters in this novel by using psychoanalytic criticism. The writer entitled this research "The Influence of Past Traumatic Experience on The Personality Development of Lisbeth Salander in Stieg Larrson's *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* Novel (2008): A Psychoanalytic Criticism".

### **C. Problem Statements**

The problem statement of the study is “How is the influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development of Lisbeth Salander reflected in Stieg Larsson’s *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel?”

Research question:

1. What causes the traumatic experience?
2. What are the effects of the traumatic experience?
3. How is post traumatic experience?
4. Why did Larson address the pict of the traumatic experience?

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

In this study, the writer focuses on the analysis of Lisbeth Salander’s influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development in Stieg Larsson’s *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel, published on 2008.

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

According to the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To identify what causes the influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development in the self of Lisbeth Salander.
2. To explain why Lisbeth Salander tries to solve the problem of past traumatic experience on the personality development.

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

The study of the influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development of Lisbeth Salander in Stieg Larsson novel has several benefits, they are:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

The study is hoped to give new contribution and new information of literature especially on Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragoon Tattoo*.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

To give deeper understanding for the writers especially on Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or other university who have interest with literary study on the novel from psychoanalytic criticism.

## **G. Research Method**

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

In this study, the researcher applies qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. The steps to conduct the research are as the following: 1) determining the type of the study, 2) determining data and data source, 4) determining technique of data collection, and finally, 5) determining technique of data analysis.

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

The object of the research is The Influence of Past Traumatic on The Personality Development of Lisbeth Salander reflected in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel (2008): A Psychoanalytic Criticism.

### 3. Types of the Data and the Data Source

The data in this study can be divided into two kinds of data, namely primary and secondary data. Primary data are the main data consisting of dialogue, action and description about the character especially major character on *The Girl with The Dragon Tattoo* novel. Secondary data are supporting data consisting of theoretical approach. In this case, the secondary data are the data concerning, the structural elements of novel, research method and psychoanalytic theories.

#### a. Primary Data

The primary data sources are taken from Stieg Larsson's novel *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*.

#### b. Secondary Data

The secondary data sources are taken from literary books or any information related to past traumatic experience on the personality development that support the psychoanalytic criticism.

### 4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer used note-taking as the method of collecting data in this research.

The steps are as follows:

- a. Reading and Learning Comprehension the novel repeatedly.
- b. Reading translation novel to get more understanding.
- c. Accesing to the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- d. Making a summary and determining (title, issue, topic, theory) about that

novel.

- e. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis.
- f. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

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

In analyzing the data, the researcher employs descriptive analysis, It means the writer makes some interpretations of the data from text and content to get the needed data which writer wants to analyze using psychoanalytic criticism. Focus will be paid on the influence of past traumatic experience on the personality development of Lisbeth Salander.

### **H. Research Paper Organization**

This research consists of five chapters. *Chapter I* is Introduction, which consists of background, literary review, research problem, research objective, research limitation, research benefit, research methodology, and the last is research organization. *Chapter II* comprises of the Underlying theory, which presents notion of Psychoanalytic criticism, the structure of personality, the notion of posttraumatic experience, notion of personality development and theoretical application. *Chapter III* is Structural analysis of the novel, which involves the structural elements of character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style, theme and discussion. *Chapter IV* constitutes Psychoanalytic analysis of the personality. The last is *Chapter V* which contains Conclusion and Suggestion.