

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

Family is a group of people and lives together in one house, from the Census Bureau's definition of "family". A family includes a householder and one or more people living in the same household who are related to the householder by birth, marriage, or adoption. All people in a household who are related to the householder are regarded as members of family. A family household may contain people not related to the householder, but those people are not included as part of the householder's family in census tabulations. Thus, the number of family households is equal to the number of families, but family households may include more members in the families. A household can contain only one family for purposes of census tabulations.

Family is a group of people affiliated by consanguinity (by recognized birth), affinity (by marriage), or co-residence/shared consumption. Members of the immediate family may include a spouse, parent, sibling, son and daughter. Members of the extended family may include grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, nephew and niece (Rosenblum, 2003: 847).

In daily life, interacting people always are colored by two things, namely conflict and cooperation. Conflict is a result of purposeful interaction among two or parties in a competitive setting. It refers to overt behavior rather than to potential for action and to subjective states. A competitive situation might

exist without any awareness of it by the parties concerned, according to Rahim (2011: 17) conflict “is a situation of competition in which the parties are aware of the incompatibility of potential future positions and in which each party wishes to occupy a position that is incompatible with the wishes of the others.

Family conflict always happens in people living in the same household if they get a problem. Sometimes one of family member can not solve the problem so it will become a family conflict. According to Wikipedia, family conflict is “a form of interrole conflict in which the role pressures from the work and family domains are mutually incompatible in some respect. That is participation in the work (family) role is made more difficult by virtue of participation in the family (work) role” (Greenhaus & Beutell, 1985: 77).

Literary work has a close relationship with human life. Literature is an important thing in people’s life because literature happens around them. In general, there are three genres of literature; they are prose, poetry, and drama. Novel is a written literary product which has the beautiful values and gives some fun and sadness for everyone who reads it. It is along work with a great amount of detail in every page (Peck & Coyle, 1984: 103). Novel often presents a documentary picture of life. It looks at the people in society. As the presentation of documentary picture of life, many people have conducted some researches on novel by using various literary theories, including sociological theory.

One of the famous novels in 2010 is *Breaking Night* by Liz Murray. Liz Murray was born in September 23, 1980. She completed high school and won

a New York Times scholarship while homeless, and graduated from Harvard University in 2009. She has been awarded The White House Project Role Model Award, a Christopher Award, as well as the Chutzpah Award, which was given to Liz by Oprah Winfrey. Lifetime Television produced a film about Liz's life, *Homeless to Harvard: The Liz Murray Story*. Today, she travels the world to deliver motivational speeches and workshops to inspire others.

Liz is the founder and director of Manifest Trainings, a New York-based company that empowers adults to create the results they want in their own lives. As a child, Liz Murray crammed cafeteria food in her backpack on Fridays so she could stave off starvation during the weekend. Now 29, she works with a non-profit organization called Blessings in a Backpack ([www.blessingsinabackpack.org](http://www.blessingsinabackpack.org)) that supplies today's children with food for the weekend when school cafeterias are closed. Liz says, "If I'd had access to a program like Blessings in a Backpack when I was an undernourished child in New York City, I may not have gone to bed hungry all those nights. Thankfully, with this organization's continued commitment, thousands of children across America won't have to.

*Breaking Night* novel was published in the United State and Canada by Hyperison and released on September 7, 2010. *Breaking Night* tells about the history of a young woman who at age fifteen was living on the streets, and who eventually made it into Harvard. Liz Murray was born to loving but drug-addicted parents in the Bronx. In school she was taunted for her dirty clothing

and lice-infested hair, eventually skipping so many classes that she was put into a girls' home. At age fifteen, Liz found herself on the streets when her family finally unraveled. She learned to scrape by, foraging for food and riding subways all night to have a warm place to sleep. When Liz's mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a *New York Times* scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. *Breaking Night* is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.

*Breaking night* is an interesting novel. Why the researcher is interested to study this novel is due to four following reasons: First reason, this novel is written based on true story from the journey life of Liz Murray with her family conflict in her life. It is good idea to learn about history in this day about the Liz struggle.

Second reason, the conflict within the novel is based on the daily conflict in a social life. So, by reading this novel, people who have been read it, are able to know the situation of the conflict and they're also able to solve it.

Third reason is Liz Murray tries her spirit to live. She tries to work in her school in the morning she does not tell it to anyone although she becomes a cleaning service worker. So, people can learn about the spirit in appreciating their life.

Fourth reason is this novel is contained many moral messages for readers where Liz Murray is able to stand even with many conflict in her life, she tries to work hard to become successful people.

Based on the reason and illustration above the researcher will analyze of family conflict happened in the Liz's and family's life using sociological approach. By so doing, the researcher gives the title: FAMILY CONFLICT REFLECTED IN *BREAKING NIGHT* NOVEL (2010): A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.

## **B. Literature Review**

There are found previous analysis related with the Breaking Night novel. The research did by Morris (2012) entitled *Breaking the Cycle: An Analysis of Liz Murray's Memoir Breaking Night*. The result of his analysis was, the subtitle of Liz Murray's *Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival, and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard*, plainly forecasts a personal narrative of success and redemption. Reading it, I was inspired to see her beating the odds against her ever leading a satisfactory life. Unlike, say, Augustine, she could never have expected to set an example that many readers would be able to emulate. Very few readers, one hopes, would ever find themselves in her extreme circumstances. So, having lived the experiences she did, why did she write the memoir? What motivated her to tell her story? I have concluded that she must not have known how she did it and wrote the memoir in order to find the answers for herself. In this essay I will

explore her three major themes of forgiveness, survival, and journey, in order to illuminate her inner journey from nowhere to somewhere.

The different with this study is that, this study focused on the conflict related with sociological analysis.

### **C. Problem Statement**

After knowing the background of the study above, the researcher tries to formulate his research by arranging the problem, as follow "How is the family conflict of Liz's family reflected in *Breaking Night* novel (2010)?"

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

The researcher will focus to analyze the Family conflict of Liz's family reflected in *Breaking Night* novel (2010) using Sociological Approach.

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

Based on the problem statement above, the researcher focuses the objective below:

1. To analyze Liz Murray in *Breaking Night* novel (2010) based on the structural elements of the novel.
2. To describe the family conflict of Liz's family reflected in *Breaking Night* novel (2010) based on sociological approach.

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

The result of the study will contribute to:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This research will give contribution in criticizing a literary work and producing the objective criticism about Liz Murray in novel *Breaking Night* (2010) using Sociological Approach.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

Practically, this research can add the knowledge to the researcher and other researcher of the sociological theory applied in a literary work, particularly in Liz Murray and family conflict in *Breaking Night* novel (2010).

## **G. Research Method**

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

The type of the research, which is used by the researcher, is qualitative type. Moleong (1989: 3) said that qualitative research is “a research which result is in the descriptive data”.

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

The object study in *Breaking Night* novel (2010) written by Liz Murray using by sociological approach.

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

a. Type of the data

Types of data in this research are the novel *Breaking Night* novel (2010) and text that consists of words, phrases and sentences.

b. Data Source

The data of this research are primary and secondary data.

- 1) Primary data source of this research is the novel *Breaking Night* novel (2010) that written by Liz Murray
- 2) The secondary data sources are the author's biography, essay, comment, homepage, and website about the novel and other relevant sources.

**4. Technique of the Data Collecting**

In this study, the researcher applies library research, released document to be observed. The techniques are:

**5. Technique of the Data Analyzing**

In analyzing the data, the researcher applies descriptive approach. The steps taken by the researcher in analyzing the data are as follows: the first step is analyzing the data of this research. Analyzing the data of this research is trying to clarify the obtained data by selecting the necessary ones. Second step is analyzing the data based on sociological approach.

- a. Reading the novel comprehensively and repeatedly.
- b. Identifying the topic of novel.
- c. Determining the major character that will be analyzed.
- d. Some related books to find out theory, data, and information required.

- e. Reading comprehensively the primary and secondary data sources and taking a note.
- f. Accessing internet to get several information
- g. Arranging the data into several categories
- h. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

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

The research paper organization of this paper is; Chapter I consists of Background of the Study, Literature review, Problem statement, Limitation of the study, Objectives of the study, The benefits of the study, Research Method, and Research Paper Organization. Chapter II is Underlying Theory. It consists of Sociology of Literature, Aspects of Sociological Theory, Theory of Conflict and Structural Elements of the novel, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is the American Social Background of in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. Chapter IV is Structural Analysis of novel, consists of structural elements and discussion. Chapter V is the sociological analysis of the novel. Chapter VI is conclusion and suggestion