

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

*PS, I Love You* is Irish writer Cecelia Ahern's first novel, published in 2004. The book reached No. 1 best-seller status in Ireland (for 19 weeks), the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, and the Netherlands. Cecelia Ahern was born on September 30, 1981 in Dublin, Ireland. She is the daughter of the former Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern. On 14th December 2009 it was announced that Cecelia had given birth to her first child with partner David Keoghane, a girl named Robin. She was secretly married on 11 June 2010 in County Kildare, Ireland. Her older sister, Georgina Ahern is married to Nicky Byrne of Irish pop group Westlife. Cecelia was a member of the Irish pop group Shimma who finished third in the Irish national for the Eurovision Song Contest in 2000. She attended Griffith College Dublin and obtained a degree in Journalism and Media Communications. Cecelia Ahern wrote her first novel, *PS, I Love You* when she was twenty-one. It was published in 2004.

*P.S. I Love You* tells about Holly Kennedy who is beautiful, smart and married to the love of her life - a passionate, funny and impetuous Irishman named Gerry. So when Gerry's life is taken by an illness, it takes the life out of Holly. The only one who can help her is the person who is no longer there. Nobody knows Holly better than Gerry, so it's a good thing he planned ahead. Before he died, Gerry wrote Holly a series of 10 letters that will guide her, not only through her grief but in rediscovering herself. The messages include

various tasks and treats Gerry has left for Holly. This is his way of letting her know he will always be there for her. Each letter sends her on a new adventure which slowly moulds her into a new person, each signs off in the same way: "P.S. I Love You." Holly's mother and best friends, Sharon and Denise, begin to worry that Gerry's letters are keeping Holly tied to the past, but, in fact, each letter is pushing her further into a new future, making her stronger and helping her to move on into a bright future.

There are three reasons why the researcher is interested in studying this novel. The researcher is interested in studying this novel firstly because it is a realistic novel. The author does not use a difficult words and language so easy to understand. The second, *P.S. I Love You* shows a good moral message that the person must be rational to cope with problem and find the way to be a strong woman and also try to be a brave woman. The third, the novel is one of a popular novel in the Ireland. Thus, the novel was adapted into movie in 2007.

The novel shows about how the person must be rational to cope with problem. So the writer conducted this research entitled: **“BEING RATIONAL REFLECTED CECELIA AHERN *P.S. I LOVE YOU* NOVEL (2004): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH”**

## **B. Literature Review**

There is no literature review related to *P.S. I Love You* (2004) novel written by Cecelia Ahern. So, the writer cannot compare this research with another research. The writer uses Individual psychology approach to analyze

the data and using *P.S. I Love You* novel as an object. The writer analyzes

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### **C. Problem Statement**

The problem statement of the study will focus on the way of being rational of Holly Kennedy in *P.S. I Love You* novel when Holly is very sad with her husband is death. Her husband was gone and he would never be back. Based on the background of the study, writer proposed the problem: “How being rational is reflected in Cecelia Ahern’s *P.S. I Love You* novel?”

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

The study focuses on the analysis of being rational reflected in *P.S. I Love You* (2004) written by Cecelia Ahern based on Individual Psychological Approach.

### **E. Benefits of the Study**

The benefits of the study are:

#### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and contribution the development of the knowledge, an academic

reference by the other researchers to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies on *P.S. I Love You* novel.

## **2. Practical Benefit**

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other students at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or other university who have interest in literary study on the novel from a Individual psychology.

## **F. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze the novel base on the structural element.
2. To analyze the novel base on Individual psychological Approach.

## **G. Research method**

Research method is significant to organize a research. To make it easier for the writer to analyze the data and to arrange a research paper. The writer elaborates five main points concerning how to conduct the research. They are: (1) type of study, (2) object of the study, (3) data and data source, (4) method of collecting data, and (5) technique of analyzing data.

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

In this research, the researcher applied qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using Individual psychological approach. The steps to conduct the research are

as follows: 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 study is the way of being rational reflected in *P.S. I Love You* novel (2004) written by Cecelia Ahern. It is analyzed by using an Individual Psychological Approach. In this novel, the researcher downloaded from enbookfi, the novel has not acknowledgements and copyright but this novel has complete pages and chapters.

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

Type of data in this research is textual data. It consists of word, phrase and sentences. The data source consist of:

### **a. Primary Data**

The primary data source are is Cecelia Ahern's Novel *P.S. I Love You*.

### **b. Secondary Data**

The secondary data source is literary books or any information related the study such as: website, dictionary, and some books that support the analysis.

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

The writer used documentation as the method of collecting data in this research. The steps are as follows:

- a. Reading comprehension the novel repeatedly.
- b. Reading translation novel to get more understanding.

- c. Reading some related reference to observe the theory, data and information.
- d. Accessing to the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- e. Making a summary and determining (title, issue, topic, theory) about that novel.
- f. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

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

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with the structural elements of the novel and individual psychology.

## **H. Paper organization**

This research paper is divided into five chapters. *Chapter I* consists of introduction that includes 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* consists of underlying theory that includes the notion of individual psychology, basic concept of individual psychology, structural element of novel, and theory applications. *Chapter III* consists of structural analysis based on character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme and discussion. *Chapter IV* consists of individual psychology analysis. *Chapter V* consists of conclusion and suggestion.