

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

*The Girl with the Dragon* is a novel by the late Swedish author and journalist Stieg Larsson. It is the first book of the *Millennium Series Trilogy*, published in 2005, became a best seller in Europe and the United States. Stieg Larsson was born on August 15, 1954, in Skelleftehamn, Sweden. For the first nine years of his life, Larsson was raised by his maternal grandparents. Larsson's grandfather passed away, however, when Stieg was only nine years old, at which time the boy moved in with his father, Erland Larsson, and his younger brother Joakim.

Larsson was born on August 15, 1954, in Skelleftehamn, Sweden. 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). Stieg Larsson died in 2004, just a few moments after submitting the manuscript *The Girl*

*with the Dragon Tattoo* sequels, the girl who played with fire and the girl who kicked the honet's nest. The third novel in the *Millenium* trilogy is know as a phenomenon directly. Mesmerizing readers around the world, won numerous awards and twice in the film adaption.

*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel told about Mikael Blomkvist, a middle aged journalist who publishes the magazine Millennium in Stockholm, has just lost a libel case involving allegations about billionaire Swedish industrialist Hans-Erik Wennerstrom's unscrupulous activities, and is sentenced to three months incarceration. Blomkvist steps down from his position on the magazine's board of directors, despite strong objections from his longtime friend, occasional lover, and business partner Erika Berger.

Blomkvist at this time offered a freelance assignment by Henrik Vanger, the elderly former CEO of Vanger Enterprises. Blomkvist accepts the assignment unaware yet that Vanger has commissioned a comprehensive investigation into Blomkvist's personal and professional history, to be carried out by the gifted private investigator Lisbeth Salander. Vanger tempts Blomkvist with promises of not only financial reward for the assignment, but also solid evidence that Wennerström is truly the criminal Blomkvist believes to him. Blomkvist agrees to his cover story for analyze of Vanger's great-niece Harriet's disappearance 40 years earlier.

After discovering that Salander has hacked into his computer, he convinces her to assist him with research. Blomkvist and Lisbeth realize that Harriet was not actually murdered, instead ran away in order to escape from her brother, who had been sexually abusing her brother and father. With the help of Lisbeth's hacking skills and contacts, they manage to track her to Australia, where she now runs a sheep farming company. Vanger's promises of evidence regarding Wennerstrom prove to have been mostly a lure for Blomkvist and are not especially significant.

There is public responses from reader, this novel will tell the readers about the mystery of a girl who has a dragon tattoo on his body. Like a mystery novel novels that have been published first. Novels that fall into the category of no interest to immediately read. But the claims that fade when reading page after page of Stieg Larsson's novel. This novel tells about the ins and outs of investigative journalism. Not just the investigation, but also the mystery that the years have not solved even by the police.

Novel *The Girl with the Dragon Tatto* is one of the best selles by Stieg Larsson's. *The girl with the Dragon Tatto*, was number one published in 2005, became a best seller in Europe and the United States.

Nothing wrong if this novel was awarded the Glass Key Award in 2006. And the author, who died after he published the novel trilogy,

received the grace of the International Author of the Year by the ITV3 Crime Thriller Award in 2008.

In *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel, there are many characters who have different characteristics. Each character in this novel has a different characteristic. Stieg Larsson creates the main characters such as Mikael Blomkvist and Lisbeth Salanders. Unfortunately, there is no complete physical description for the major characters. But it is covered by the description of the other qualities of the characters. The appearance of the other characters can support Stieg Larsson's ideas in *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*. The characters support each other and make a complicated story in this novel.

The setting is amazing. The setting of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel is clear and makes the readers follow the story. It has taken on Private Island. The narrator describes this place is very clear

Plot is a sequence of consistent events arranged to form a pattern and achieve an intended effect, in other words, the plot is a sequence of events that leads up to the most important part of a story, the climax. In the organization of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel, Stieg Larsson uses traditional plot to make it easier to be understood.

Style is the writer's voice reflected in their choice of words, sentence structure and tone of ideas in order to show the reader what the writer is intending. Style in literature refers to the way in which an author

puts together words, and the kinds of words he uses, most good writers have a recognizable style.

Theme of this novel has many kinds of life problems such as moral, ethnic, social, religious, politic and culture. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel take a theme is there is no pain there is no gain more meaningful if we get it by hard effort.

The writer is interested to analyze *The Girl with Dragon Tattoo* novel because there are many reasons. First, the story of the novel is interesting. Stieg Larsson takes about sex as the element of the novel. It is different from another novel. Second, Stieg Larsson's extend his message in this novel by means of Blomkvist as the main character. Third, Stieg Larsson describes the character in novel clearly, it makes the readers understand with the story of novel. Fourth, the language style is standard language that easily to understand.

Based on the background above, the writer proposes to conduct a research entitled "*LIFE STRUGGLE OF MIKAEL BLOMKVIST REFLECTED IN STEIG LARSON'S THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO NOVEL (2008): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE*"

## **B. Literature Review**

The writer found the previous studies done by Ary Fatmawati (2013), "Superwoman Reflected In David Fincher's *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* Movie (2011): A Feminist Approach".

The second previous study is at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with a title Ambition of Mikael Blomkvist reflected in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel (2008) : A Psychoanalytic Approach by Maya Ruhil Ahmani (2014).

The third previous study at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta with a title on The Influence of Past Traumatic Experience on the Personality development of Lisbeth Salander *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel (2008) : A Psychoanalytic criticism by Efi Puspita Sari (2004)

Different from the previous research, the writer focuses on the life struggle of Mikael Blomkvist, one of the major characters in this novel by using an Individual Psychological Perspective. The writer gives this research title "Life Struggle of Michael Blomkvist Reflected In Stieg Larsson's *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* Novel (2008): An Individual Psychological Perspective".

### **C. Problem Statement**

The writer focuses her research on the life struggle of Mikael Blomkvist in Stieg Larsson's novel with the problem of this research is "How the life struggle of Michael Bomkvist is reflected in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel on the sweden. The writer will analyze the novel using Individual Psychological Perspective.

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

The writer focuses on the analysis of life struggle of Michael Blomkvist in Stieg Larsson's *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel, published on 2008 using An Individual Psychological Perspective.

#### **E. Benefit of he Study**

The writer hopes the result of this research will give the advantages for the readers.

##### 1. Theoretical benefit

Theoretical benefit from the study is to give novel contribution on literary knowledge, especially the literary study of *The Girl with the Dragon tattoo* novel by Stieg Larsson.

##### 2. Practical benefit

Practical benefit to increase the researcher literary work, especially to understand the novel based on individual psychological perspective.

#### **F. Objective of the Study**

The objective of study are the following:

1. To analyze the novel based on it is structural elemens.
2. To analyze the novel on An Individual Psychological Perspective.

#### **G. Research Method**

##### 1. Type of Research

The research about this novel belongs to qualitative research. Qualitative research is a type of the research a discriptive qualitative research. The researcher clasifies her research into qualitative research

because the research does not need a statistic data to analyze and explore the facts.

## 2. Data and Data Source

Type of data in this research is textual data. It consists of word, phrase and sentences. The data source consists of two categories, they are primary data source and secondary data source. The primary data source is the novel itself. The secondary data source is about Individual Psychological perspective and all relevant materials in the novel.

## 3. Technique of Data Collection

Data collecting technique in this study is library research. The necessary step are as follows:

- a. Reading and understanding *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* novel by Stieg Larson and the secondary data sources from the other books.
- b. Clasifying data into some categories
- c. Determining the theory of literature which is relevant for analyzing the data.

## 4. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive technique. Descriptive kualitative technique is used to describe the elements of the novel and make understanding about the novel.

## **H. Research Paper Organization**

This research paper is divided into five chapter. *Chapter I* consists of introduction that included 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 included the notion of individual psychological perspective, basic concept of individual psychological perspective, 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 psychological perspective analysis. *Chapter V* consists of conclusion and suggestion.