CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is about presentation of human life. Literary work is a reflection of the authors’s imagination that shows of the phenomenon in their life. It means that when the authors make their literary works, there is an expression of problem from the author’s point of view. Literary work has relation with human life. It is appropriate to use psychology as an approach in understanding human being from psychological point of view. An understanding to a literary work also has connection with human being. Victory and defeat is above all an emotional condition; although physical destruction contributes to a degree, it does so jointly with the more powerful causal lines flowing from morale and organizational coherence (Randall, 2010: 9). Popular history, journalism, and political rhetoric extol yet another theory: Leadership – having a better general – is the main determinant of victory. Psychological strategy is virtually never discussed or considered, despite the fact that psychological strategy is the core of the art of victory.

Psychological strategy is employed in defining and achieving grand strategic goals, which reflect the desires which are psychological/emotional of a society. How goals are identified determines their appeal and motivation value. How perceptions are shaped in target audiences
will determine success or failure in achieving goals. The art of psychological strategy will either motivate or paralyze or confuse, divide or unite, thus determining victor vanquished. (Copley:2006/120) Psychology expert, Hilgard (1962: 498) says that frustrating event is one in which directed activity is blocked, slowed up, or otherwise interfered with. Various cases caused by bad experience, frustration, and depression can be proven in *The Virgin Suicides* novel that is experienced by Lux, the main character in *The Virgin Suicides* novel.

The author of *The Virgin Suicides* novel, Jeffrey Eugenides, was born in Detroit and attended Brown and Stanford Universities. *The Virgin Suicides* was published in 1993 and was adapted into a motion picture in 1999 by Sofia Coppola. In 2003, Jeffrey Eugenides received the Pulitzer Prize for his novel *Middlesex*, which was also a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, and France’s Prix Médicis. He joined the faculty of Princeton University in the fall of 2007. *The Virgin Suicides* is the 1993 debut novel by American writer Jeffrey Eugenides. The fictional story, which is set in Grosse Pointe, Michigan during the mid 1970s, centers on the lives of the five beautiful and entrancing Lisbon sisters. The girls fascinate their community as their neighbors struggle to find an explanation for their acts. (jeffreyeugenides.weebly.com: 2012)

Struggle to get victory in the “Lux” *The Virgin Suicides* novel, shows about Lux life, society, and the trouble of his life. There are some
requirements for having freedom in society that become a conflict in Lux’s life, so those become the conflict in this story. Researcher uses psychoanalytic approach for researching Lux’s psychology, thus her depression and frustration to get a victory in her life, undergoes a problem which makes him become insane and make a final choice to suicide herself.

Based on the background above, the researcher proposes to conduct a research entitled “Victory in Jeffery Eugenides’ The Virgin Suicides Novel (1993): A Psychoanalytic Approach.”

B. Literature Review

The writer personally thinks that The Virgin Suicides is a unique novel to read and also to be a research object. It is shown with the previous studied by Maria-Miruna and Mallory Szymanski that was created before this research. Both were using the same book, but with different perspective.

The first research was written by Maria-Miruna CIOCOI-POP, Assistant, “Vasile Goldis” Western University of Arad with tittle “On The Creative Role Of Imagination In Jeffrey Eugenides’ The Virgin Suicides”. On that research, Maria-Miruna concerned about the creative role of imagination that imagination is one of the most important gifts that man posses, but also a vast domain characterized by ambiguity. It goes without saying that in literature, the “mind’s eye” can be the leading force behind
the author’s intentions. But more seldom does one come across literary characters whose identities are altered by imagination. The aim of the present paper is to underline the creative role of imagination in Jeffrey Eugenides’ novel “The Virgin Suicides”; the way in which imagination not only foreshadows the characters’ reality, but creates it and offers various angles of analysis. (Miruna, Maria)

The second research was written by Mallory Szymanski “Laboring to Uphold the Image of Suburbia: Representations of Deviant Sexual Desire in The Virgin Suicides and Middlesex”. This paper argues that Eugenides’ novels employ instances of deviant sexuality to unmask the efforts of suburbanites to define their living spaces—against the city as the locus of filth—as stable and orderly models of the American Dream. Existing socio-historical scholarship about suburbia contends with a notion of the suburb as a haven for white, middle-class families. Two competing perspectives emerge out of this scholarship: the first critiques the conformist force of the homogeneous American suburb; the second revises the history of suburbia, complicating the picture by providing evidence of Black suburbanization and working-class suburbs. I conclude that while suburbs have historically housed differences of race and class, the collective imagined suburb includes only white middle-class families. This paper seeks to extend the critique of the revisionist scholars by introducing sexuality as a category of analysis and exploring representations of “deviant” sexuality in suburban literature. (Szymanski Mallory: 2008)
C. Problem Statement

Based on the previous background of the study, the researcher, aims at analyzing the problem “How is Victory in Jeffery Eugenides’ *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993): A Psychoanalytic Approach?”

D. Limitation of the Study

The researcher focuses on the research in analyzing victory freedom toward character Lux Lisbon at Jeffery Eugenides’ *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993) on a Psychonalytic approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

In conducting the research, the researcher formulates the objectives of the study, as follows:

1. To describe *The Virgin Suicides* novel based on structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze Victory Freedom reflected in Jeffery Eugenides’ “*The Virgin Suicides*” based on psychoanalytic approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The researchers expected a lot the research of issue “Victory Freedom toward character Lux Lisbon in this *The Virgin Suicides* novel
bears many benefits. The benefits of this study will be divided into two, they are;

1. **Theoritical Benefits**

   The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and contribution of knowledge to the academic reference. It can be also as a reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies on this *The Virgin Suicides* novel.

2. **Pratical Benefits**

   The study is expected to enrich knowledge and experience for the writer in many things and for other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or for other universities which have the same interest in literary study on literature from a psychoanalytic Approach.

**G. Research Method**

1. **Type of the Study**

   In this research, the researcher uses a qualititative research. It is a library research while data sources need literary data. This kind of research has purpose to analyze literature using psychoanalytic approach. There are some steps to conduct the research. They are (1) determining the type of the study (2) determining the object of the study (3) determining data and data source (4) determining technique of data collection, and (5) determining technique of data analysis.
2. **Object of the Study**

   The object of the study is Victory in Jeffery Eugenide’s *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993). It is analyzed by using a psychoanalytic approach.

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

   There are two data sources which are needed to conduct this research. They are primary data sources and secondary data sources.

   a. **Primary Data Sources**

      The source of primary data is Jeffery Eugenides’ *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993) by Harper Collins Canada.

   b. **Secondary Data**

      The sources of secondary data are taken from other sources related the study, such as: website, dictionary, and some books which support the research.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The technique of collecting data are reading novel and note taking, the steps are as follows:

   a. Reading the original novel *The Virgin Suicides* several times.

   b. Determining the characters of novel.

   c. Taking notes of important things for both of primary and secondary data source.

   d. Classifying data by determining the relevant data.
5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It relates with structural elements of Victory in Jeffery Eugenide’ *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993).

**H. Paper Organization**

This research paper organization of Victory in Jeffery Eugenides’ *The Virgin Suicides* Novel (1993) is as follows: Chapter I is introduction, which consists of the background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research paper organization. Chapter II concerns with the underlying theory that consist of psychoanalytic perpective and structural element. Chapter III deals with the structural analysis and discussion of the novel. Chapter IV psychoanalytic analysis of the novel. Chapter V elaborates Conclusion and Suggestion.