

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

What is the purpose of human life? Every day we always busy with our daily life. We are going to work, school every day. The sadness, the difficulty, the joys and happiness are the biggest gift from God. The main purpose of our life is devote to God. It is the most our priority goal in life. We are going to talk about human life in this period, they do not have an opened mind when they are trapped in a problem. They will choose a shortcut for solve their problem. Here, we will talking about “Suicide”.

What is suicide? It is an action which chosen by someone to end his life. “The death caused by their self, either directly or indirectly either positive or negative then we can conclude if the act is suicide” (Durkheim, 1897, p. 82). According to statistics in European nation’s Durkheim collected there are a lot collective tendencies to suicides. According to statistics Durkheim collect from European countries a lot of suicides happened People who choose for suicide are not ready and want to die. They commit suicide just to end their current problems. Some of the last messages from suicidal people are often words that they actually do not want to die, but just want to end the problem. Words like “I cannot take it anymore!” or, “why am I alive?” can be a marker that shows a strong desire to escape the rigors of the reality of life. And they are already at an insufficient level; suicide will be their final solution. This research examine the issue from this novel about suicide reflected from the novel *Me Before You*.

The Novel *Me Before You* written by Jojo Moyes. Jojo Moyes is a novelist and screenwriter. She was born on 4 August 1969 in London. She lives with her husband with 3 Three children’s in their sweet home in the Greet Stamford her husband is journalist. She studied in University of

London. She is very smart and lucky woman. Because she has worked for the independent in a long time for about 10 years she in there. When she attended a postgraduate journalism course in city university London, she got a chance to get a scholarship funded by the independent newspaper. After receiving a scholarship she was recruited by the newspaper. On January 5, 2012 Jojo Moyes has succeeded in writing the novel *Me Before You* and has successfully released also on the same date. The novel *Me Before You*, published by Penguin Books and at four years after the novel release, in the year 2016 film *Me Before You* have finished work and ready release. The film is adapted from the novel and screenwriter by Jojo Moyes.

The novel *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes, there are many complicated problems. This novel was published by Penguin Books on 5 January in 2012. The main characters are Will Traynor and Louisa Clark. Lou is an eccentric girl, she as Will's personal assistance. Will Traynor is a rich man, he is handsome, and he has everything. Will formerly adventurer playboy successful and businessman. His life changed dramatically when a motorcycle accident happen. His life changed after the accident. He loss many things, and now he suffer Quadriplegia. Quadriplegia is kind paralysis, caused by illness or injury resulting in partial or complete loss of use of all their limbs and torso. He was no longer able to do anything without help from others, already 2 years Will survive on his life. He cannot do anything, he is temperamental, he is angry, he frustrated. Will tired with his life. Every second when he is alone, he always attempt for suicide. Will tired with his life, he decide to contacted "Dignitas" (a group which helps reviews those with illness and serve physical and mental illness to die assisted by qualified doctors and nurse).

*Me Before You* is a novel by Jojo Moyes. The characters created more alive. Will is pessimistic with his life and Louisa is an innocent girl, whose never dare to dream. Slowly but surely Will who exhausted with his life he started to open his up mind because of Lou. Because of her, Will becomes more communicative and more open minded, and they begin to

share their experiences. They fall in love each other's. When Will felt sick, Louisa saw the scar on the wrist Will and then accidentally heard from Camilla Will's mother and Will's younger brother how the way he attempted suicide after Camilla rejected Will request to end his life through Dignitas. Dignitas is an organization which organizes the suicide, it is located in Switzerland. Because of fear of suicide attempts Will, Camilla will promise to fulfill the request, but only if Will agree to live another six months. Camilla intend to prove in six months, Will would believe that his life is meaningful. Will said that the time which spent together with Louisa was very special, but he could not live with a wheelchair forever in his life, he will continue his plan. Louisa feel angry and hurt, she did not want to talk to Will. They are agree in the last six months is the best time in their life. Finally Will pass away in the clinic, and he also left a legacy.

The novel *Me before You* is a romance novel written by Jojo Moyes. The book was first published on 5 January 2012 in the United Kingdom. The novel *Me Before You* adapted in to movie in 2016 directed by Thea Sharrock. Take a set in the UK, the film is shot in various historic locations around the country. The film was released in June 3, 2016 in the US, received mixed reviews on Metacritic and grossed 207 million dollars worldwide. Many Readers give praises and critic for this novel. Some of them give appreciation about first, the introduction chapter Jojo Moyes did not make the readers feel bored because with a very brief introduction. Readers are invited to use their imagination into real life. .not just the theme of love and thought provoking adults but also an issue that is considered legal if viewed from a different angle. Second, Jojo Moyes disarms the reader with the normalcy of her voice. Her language is never lofty; she exposes the characters' flaws with the literary equivalent of a fluorescent bulb's naked light. The matter-of-fact language of Lou and Will's conversations and thoughts, and the starkness of their surroundings Lou's humble, cramped family house. Moyes's pacing is ingenious you don't quite notice when the wheelchair moves forward, but it does, despite the

resistance of the man within it and the woman behind it. And almost of them give some critics such as, first, this novel is not suitable for children. Second, this novel makes the reader feel hopeless because most all of the conflict in this novel cannot be finished with imaginary problem solution from the reader. Because Will's condition intrudes scarily into the novel a sudden bout of pneumonia, a potentially fatal infection flaring up but just as tangibly. The readers cannot predicted the storyline and the climax of the novel.

Therefore, the researcher chose this research because the researcher wants to know the problem clearly reflected from the main character. This novel shows about Will's complicated life. He is disappointed of his life and still choose the suicide even he have met with Louisa. So, this is very interesting, how suicide look from the other perspective.

The researcher focus on the research in analyzing suicide toward character Will Traynor at Jojo Moyes's *Me Before You* novel (2012) on a Sociological Approach.

Based all the background, the researcher conduct a research entitled, "Suicide of Will Traynor Reflected in *Me Before You* Novel by Jojo Moyes (2012): a Sociological Approach in the Durkheim Tradition".

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

Based on the previous background of study, the research question as follows:

1. How is suicide of Will Traynor reflected in Jojo Moye's *Me Before You* Novel (2012)?
2. What are the problems which make Will decide to commit suicide?
3. Why does Will usually do the things which threaten his life?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

Based on the research questions above, the researcher decided that the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To identify the suicide of Will Traynor reflected in Jojo Moyes's *Me Before You* (2012).
2. To describe the problems that make Will commit suicide.
3. To reveal Will's reason in doing things which are threatening his life.

#### **1.4 Benefit of the Study**

The researcher expected a lot that this research which investigates the issue "suicide" toward the character Will Traynor in Jojo Moyes's *Me Before You* novel bears many benefits. The benefits of this study differentiated into two benefits:

##### 1.4.1 Theoretical 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 the reference for other researcher who wants to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies in *Me Before You* novel.

##### 1.4.2 Practical Benefits

This study will give contribution for other researcher who are interested in literary study on literature from perspective sociological approach in the Durkheim tradition.