

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In this world, there are so many things that people face in their life. Whether it is a good thing or the bad thing for their life, no matter what it is they still have to face those things. Sometimes, it is hard to see people just being disrespectful to other people even though they do not know the struggle that they face in their life. Accepting each other in this era is very rare and not everyone can do that, some people will spread the hatred if there is something that not acceptable to them. For the example in not accepting each other is because of the diversity.

According to Encyclopedia, diversity, as a word or concept, can apply to rocks, plants, animals, people, systems of law, and others. Diversity as it is has come to be used in the public and scholarly discourse since the 1970s, refers specifically to those differences, primarily in race and ethnicity, that have been the basis of exclusion or segregation or differential treatment in public action and private social interaction. Meanwhile, Queensborough Community College, New York state that diversity is understanding that each individual is unique, and recognizing our individual and differences. Whether the differences itself from race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, age, physical abilities, religious belief, political beliefs, or other ideology.

From the two definitions above, the author concludes that diversity is the differences in people's life which make every individual is unique and it may have an impact on social life such as different treatments in different place. The difference itself can be different from race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status, religious belief, political beliefs, ideology, and even physical ability. Some people who have one of the differences from above are struggling in living their life, they are surviving to keep living in this the world even though they have

the physical ability and also it is because they believe to themselves that they are actually just the same as normal people.

Sharon M Draper is a professional educator and also a writer. She was born on August 21st 1948, in Cleveland, Ohio. Her ethnicity is African American. For her educations, she was study at Pepperdine University, B.A., 1971 and Miami University (Oxford, OH), M.A. She has been honored as the National Teacher of the Year, five-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Literary Awards, and a New York Times bestselling author, with *Out of My Mind* staying on the list for almost two years. There are so many awards that she gets from the other nominations, such as she was selected as Ohio's Outstanding High School Language Arts Educator, Ohio Teacher of the Year, and was chosen as a NCNW Excellence in Teaching Award winner, and many others. She has been honored at the White House six times, and was chosen as one of only four authors in the country to speak at the National Book Festival Gala in Washington, D.C, and to represent the United States in Moscow at their Book Festival. Besides *Out of My Mind* novel that she has been write, there are another novels or books which become bestsellers. Such as *Copper Sun*, *Tears of Tiger*, *Sassy: Little Sister is Not my Name!*, *Out of My Mind*, and many others.

Out of My Mind novel is written by Sharon M Draper which tells about a girl who living in diversity. The novel was published on March 9th 2010 and the name of publisher is Antheneum Books for Young Readers. The genre of this novel is realistic fiction and this novel has 295 pages. The researcher uses the hard copy to do the research to analyze this novel. Out of My Mind novel has been translated into few languages, such as Italian, Spanish, Russian, Korean, German, Hebrew, Brazilian Portuguese, Catalan, Chinese Complex and Simplified. There are some aspects that shown in this novel, such as friendship, love, respect, and family. Melody Brooks as the main character in this novel who has cerebral palsy which is make her cannot do anything and always sits in her wheelchair, she cannot

move her fingers except for her thumb so she cannot write, walk, not even talk. Besides that, she is actually smart brilliant girl and there is a lot of things and words that comes in her mind which make her sadder because she cannot say it loud. However, no one can see that she is actually smart girl, not even a doctor and her teacher in the school but luckily her parents always in her back and always ready to help her.

One day, Melody got a new wheelchair it is electric wheelchair which makes her happy. She is in Fifth grade and her school have something new called “inclusion classes”, it means the class which make the students like Melody Brooks have a chance to interact with another “normal” students and the excitement fill up in Melody Brooks. When they become one class, there are so many students from regular class looking another student with different expressions, some of them laughing, watching and ignoring but there are two girls that really famous among them because they are so mean with another kids, they are Molly and Claire. Also, there is one more girl and she is a nice girl and friendly as well who wants to get close and sit next to Melody, her name is Rose. Melody really excited and happy every time she wants to meet with Rose in the class. They both become so close, they study together and Melody asks to Rose to join with her when she wants to go in trip with her family. Everything is going well and there is a time that some students have new stuff and they bring it in the school so the other can see it also and Rose also have new stuff it is brand new laptop and she show it to the other friends in the class, when Melody sees them having fun showing their new stuff, she feels like she wants to have a laptop like Rose but better than Rose have. She wants a computer which only made for her and after the research that she tried to find, she finds an adapted computer which suit with Melody wants, it is Medi-Talker. When finally, she gets the machine she so excited and she put a thousands of words in it and practicing every day until she can bring it in the school and cannot wait to show it to

everyone in the school. Not everyone seems excited when Melody can talk even though through the machine.

The friendship between Melody and Rose going well until the teacher make the quiz team for quiz competition is appear. Everyone seems underestimate Melody including the teacher and they do not believe that Melody will be pass in the quiz just because she is different from the others. Rose also feel same just like the others who doubting Melody will be able to follow the quiz and Melody can feel that Rose is not so friendly like last time. When Melody did it and she finally can join the quiz team no one can believe it including Rose and there are so many things that happened before the competition began. When the time has come for going to the Washington D.C Melody have the struggle for going there because of the flight was cancel and she got left alone by her friends which is her quiz team. Melody starts to feel a little bit insecure and she trying to stay strong even though she is actually not overall she have mix feelings. At the end of the story, after all the things that happened to her, Melody trying to keep moving on for her own life and she have to start it all over again.

The reason the researcher is interest to analyze this novel, it is because *Out of My Mind* novel is interesting and inspiring. Besides that, this novel also become number one bestsellers in New York Times, so the researcher believes that this novel is great to be analyzed. The story in this novel will make the reader know how to live in diversity with cerebral palsy, it is so interesting because the reader will learn how to see something else from different perspective as well. So, the researcher interests to analyze Sharon M Draper's novel entitle *Out of My Mind*.

Based on the background above, the researcher proposes to conduct a research entitled **“Living in Diversity Reflected in *Out of My Mind* Novel by Sharon M Draper: A Psychoanalytic Study”**.

B. Problem Statement

Based on the background study above, the problem statement can be formulated as follows:

1. How is Melody Brooks's psychological condition from psychoanalysis perspective in *Out of My Mind* novel?
2. What is diversity reflected in *Out of My Mind* novel?
3. How does Melody Brooks live a life that is different from the others in *Out of My Mind* novel?

C. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study can be formulating as follows:

1. To identify Melody Brooks's psychological condition from psychoanalysis perspective in *Out of My Mind* novel.
2. To describe what is diversity reflected in *Out of My Mind* novel.
3. To describe how Melody Brooks live a life that is different from the others in *Out of My Mind* novel.

D. Benefits of the Study

This research is conducted in order to have benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study is expected to give information, benefits, and contribution to the larger of knowledge particularly the literary study in Sharon M Draper's *Out of My Mind*.

2. Practical Benefit

The researcher expects that this research will give significant benefits in the form information, especially for students of English Department interested in literary studies who manage themselves to increase their knowledge in analyzing *Out of My Mind* novel by Sharon M Draper.

E. The limitations of the study

The limitation or the obstacle of this study is there is no much literature review or the study that have done using *Out of My Mind* novel. So, the researcher looking for another study or reference that related to the study matter.