

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Humans, especially an adult people must have passed through childhood and adolescence. Childhood is a period where is people have full of energy without having to worry about complex things and problems. Adolescence is a period where humans are in a productive time or a person.

In Merriam Webster dictionary, adolescence means the time when someone is young or *a person's life before adulthood*. So it's happening between childhood and maturity period. Someone who in adolescence is often called a teenager. A teenager is a transition period between childhood and adulthood.

At this time, the child experience a phase of growth and development both in physical and psychoanalytical. They are not children in body shape or way of thinking or acting, but they are also not mature adults either. In this period, the children also experiencing mental, emotional, social, and physical maturity. Besides, adolescents tend to be unstable and easily depressed (Jose RL 2010).

As well as in the novel entitled *All the Bright Places* by JenniverNiven, teenager's lives who propone to unstable and depressed. Adolescents are prone to experiencing stress to the point of suicide. Usually, it happens because they are unprepared for their minds to deal with bad things or they have a mental illness.

In Halodoc website, there are some mental illness that often experienced by teenagers like depression, anxiety, anorexia, and ADHD. As or the mental illness named bipolar disorder in *All the Bright Places* novel. This mental illness is rarely of concern because sometimes not known either by ourselves or societies. According to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Bipolar disorder is a mental illness in which the person will change an extreme mood, energy, and ability to think clearly. Talking of bipolar disorder in adolescents, some many books and movies tell about it, such as *All the Bright Places* by JenniverNiven, *Everything Is Horrible and Wonderful* by Stephanie

WittelsWachs, *Dear Friend, From My Life, I Write to You in Your Life* by Yiyun Li, Prozac Nation [2001], Michael Clayton [2007], The Informant! [2009], etc.

From some novel that tells about bipolar disorder, I interest with *All the Bright Places* novel. It is because the novel tells about bipolar disorder and depression in two different backgrounds. This novel result of challenging work by a writer named Jenniver Niven. According to the information that the writer found, Jenniver grew up in Indiana but now she lives in Los Angeles with her bridge and three literary cats. Besides writing, she also worked as a screenwriter and journalist an associate producer. *The Ice Master* (2003) and *Ada Blackjack: A True Story of Survival in the Arctic* (2003) are the first two works by Niven. Then, in 2010 she wrote about her memory as a teenager in school, which is the period of high school called *The Aqua Net Diaries: Big Hair, Big Dreams, Small Town*.

After writing several novels, in 2015 she released her first young adult novel with the title *All the Bright Places*. This novel won a 2015 Goodreads choice award for Best Young Adult Fiction and was longlisted for the 2015 Guardian Children's Fiction Prize. It is to be adapted into a film by Netflix and will star Elle Fanning and Justice Smith. Production on the film began in October 2018. She released another young adult novel in 2016 called *Holding Up the Universe*. The inspiration of the novel came from Niven's problems with weight and subsequent bullying as a teenager after the death of her mother.

The story of the novels begins when there are between two people who are depressed and want to commit suicide met at the top of a bell tower. They are Theodore Finch and Ultraviolet Remarkable. Theodore Finch is a bipolar disorder. He was described as a strange, depressed, suicidal, aggressive, troublemaker, caring, anxious, and moody. And Violet is depressed because felt guilty for the death of her sister. The real thing when they were at the top of the bell tower was they wanted to commit suicide, but in the end, Finch decided to save Violet. When it was crowded, the statement that appears is Violet saved the Finch from suicide because in school Finch was labeled as a freak while Violet was a good person or called a hot girl. After that tragedy, it's become the beginning of their closeness. Moreover, when Mr. Black gave the task of reporting on the miracle of

Indiana and they became a group with Violet. Indiana's task with Finch was able to cure the trauma faced by Violet. Finch made Violet 'live' again, even becoming a new and energetic person. Their togetherness fosters love, they feel happy when together. However, the effort to get well together was not as easy as Violet's, it was not enough. Finch thought that no one could repair him, he was screwed, already broken, helpless, he had warned Violet of this, that he could not give himself in full.

Finally, Finch attempted suicide by drowning himself. he also wrote poetry for Violet. Violet felt the loss and regret again for the second time. In this novel, the author describes two figures very interestingly. We can understand the point of view of each character with such a writing style. This novel successfully gives us knowledge about mental illness in teenagers caused by themselves and environmental factors. This is very important and needs to be read. So that we can know the mental illness in a teenager's life and unwanted events do not occur. The implication of the reader can take lessons from the moral messages that are conveyed and can implement them in social life. For bipolar disorder, stress, and suicides in adolescents to diminish and we all live peacefully, safely, and comfortably.

Rachman and Musthofa from English Literature in “*Theodore Finch’s Borderline Personality Disorder in Jenniver Niven’s ALL The Bright Places*” tell if Theodore Finch is experiencing borderline personality disorder. According to Catlea Xmas Ratushima, Haryati Sultyorini from Dian Nuswantoro University [2017], Theodore Finch is experiencing mental illness as specify bipolar disorder. Finch as a bipolar is described as anxious, depressed, considered strange, smart, caring, suicidal. Bipolar disorder experienced by Finch is caused by internal and external factors such as the story of violence committed by his father since childhood and added to the views and treatment of his friends at school. Some previous studies only discussed the issue of mental disorders such as depression and bipolar. But this research will analyze the bipolar disorder and the causes reflected in *All the Bright Places* novel with A Bipolarist Perspective.

B. Problem Statement

The problem statement in this study, as follows:

1. What are the characteristics of Bipolar disorder reflected in Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* (2015) novel?
2. What are the causes of bipolar disorder reflected in the main character in Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* (2015) novel?

C. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study in this study, as follows:

1. To find out the characteristics of bipolar disorder reflected in Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* (2015) novel.
2. To find out the causes of bipolar disorder reflected in Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* (2015) novel.

D. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the researcher focuses on analyzing characteristics of bipolar disorder and the causes of bipolar disorder in Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* (2015) novel.

E. Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from the study are:

1. Theoretically

The study was expected to give some information the literary studies on Jenniver Niven's *All the Bright Places* novel especially knowledge of bipolar disorder issue.

2. Practically

The study was expected to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and other researchers who have interest with literary study on the novel based on individual psychological approach.