

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

This research is conducted to see the point of view of someone who is suffering from mental illness. This is the reason behind the character of Theodore Finch is made as well. He is the main character of *All the Bright Places* novel written by Jenniver Niven. He is the one who has suffered from depression as he gets to experience some traumatic experiences since childhood. Since then, the idea that is frequently being thought of is mostly about death. Finch has been trying to know how to kill himself.

It is interesting to be analyzed since the novel of *All the Bright Places* showed characters' mental health presented by the author in the story in order to make an understanding on how the kind of illness could also be arranged in an interesting story. Indirectly, this issue of illness can be absorbed as knowledge for the readers to understand that characters' mental health reflected to their daily life action inside the story (Widyantara, et.al., 2020). The novel has origins interest by discussing about life and death, sane and insanity, reality and identity, and love.

The novel *All the Bright Places* has Violet Markey and Theodore Finch as main characters. The male main character, Theodore Finch or called Finch appears in the novel as high school student, young, energetic and moody but commits to suicide. He tries to kill himself by taking too many sleeping pills, hanging himself, jumping from the bell tower, or drowning himself. Then, instead of dying, Finch finds himself feeling depressed by his bipolar illness. Knowing that his attempt to suicide fail, the fear comes to Finch, and he is hopeless. Until stage on stage, Finch starts to revive the motivation of his life, but he fails, until at the end, he commits complete suicide. The case that happens through Finch in the novel seems has agreement with Adler's individual psychology.

Surely, every novel has the elements, such as theme, character, and plot. Character is one of the elements that interesting to explore. It is because character is the imaginary people that author's creates. Moreover, one of Jenniver Niven's work *All the Bright Places* excites to analyze because there are many issues and lessons in this novel that can be explore through the development character of human mind that influenced by society and the future. Furthermore, the study will be dealing by using psychological approach. The psychological analytic theory that will be applying in the study is individual psychology by Alfred Adler. So, it is interesting to analyze this novel through the individual psychology, to deeply know what would happen if someone is forced to face a precarious situation. It seems like Adler's statement that, one shall find the following law holding in the development of all psychic happenings: "we cannot think, feel, will, or act without the perception of some goal" (Adler in Widyasura, 2009).

By choosing a novel of Jennifer Niven's *All the Bright Places* and Adler's theory, this research deals to make something fresh to analyze. *All the Bright Places* is a novel that tells more about the ways of Finch search the meaning of life and the case of his suicide or death. Jennifer Niven as the author clearly describes the way of thinking of Finch's character until he decides to do suicide.

Relating to that issue, the researcher would like to see broader mental health issues as seeing the correlation to several theories and symptoms regarding the needs of killing one's self. Finch has mentioned that he feels dead and empty inside, which is a common reaction for those who are depressed and in need of suicidal prevention.

B. Problem Statement

To explain how the suicide reflected in this novel, the research questions are:

1. How are Theodore Finch's characteristics described in *All the Bright Places* novel?

2. What are the reasons that motivate Finch to do suicide?
3. What are the ways Finch doing to threaten his life?

C. Objective of the Study

Based on the research questions, the researcher concludes the objective of the study as follows:

1. To describe Theodore Finch's characteristics described in *All the Bright Places* novel.
2. To find out the reasons that motivate Finch to do suicide.
3. To know the ways Finch doing to threaten his life.

D. Limitation of the Study

In *All The Bright Places* Novel, many issues can be discussed. But to limit the problems, the researcher focuses on Theodore Finch's suicide in *All The Bright Places* novel based on psychological perspective.

E. Benefits of the Study

The research has 2 (two) benefits, namely theoretical benefits and practical benefits:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The researcher hopes that this study will give understanding and helpful information to the academic reference. It can reference other writers who want to doings further study, particularly the literary studies in *All The Bright Places* Novel

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to contribute to other researchers interested in literary research on literature from the psychological perspective.