

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, problems of the study, objectives of the study, significances of the study, and limitation of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

Psychology and literature are two different aspects of knowledge that have various interrelationships. Psychology and literature study literature by looking at it as a psychological activity from both the author and the readers. According to Jatman (1985, p.165), psychology and literature have the same object ; human and what differs between them is only in the space. He states that the object in the literary works are mentality, humanity and behaviorism that appear in the text as the imaginative world. But, for psychology, the objects are shown in the real world. Literary works, especially those in the form of prose such as short stories, dramas and novels must always show the story of the characters in living their lives. In writing literary work, the author must present a unique character with certain behavior to add the attraction of the story. This aspect is raised by literary psychology as a study material, especially regarding the background of the actions and thoughts of the characters related in literary works. By analyzing the psychiatric conditions of the characters in the literary work produced, it can be concluded how the psychological condition of the author when writing literary work. Madness is a kind of psychoanalysis since it also discusses about problems about the human environment, like phenomenon formed by elite group in a society.

Madness is a theory developed by a French historian and philosopher, Paul-Michel Foucault or better known as Michel Foucault. Foucault is best known for his keen research in the fields of social institutions, especially psychiatry, medicine, as well as the humanities and prison systems, and his works on the history of sexuality. He was born in 1926 and died in 1984. The most prominent work of Foucault's thought is his first major work, *The History of Madness* (1961). Madness, according to Michel Foucault, is a phenomenon formed by elite groups in a society (Foucault, 2002, p.337). This elite group uses the "madness" category as a weapon to get rid of parties that they do not want. When someone is said to be "mad" then he will be removed from the general public (Rosidi, 2013). Finally, the composition of a society is governed by this elite group. This elite group creates certain symbols for crazy and sane classifications. The symbols are arranged in such a way that they become something scientific and generally recognized. So, elite is someone or a party that has a power. Mad and normal category were made from the elite.

The researcher chose trilogy of David Pelzer's novels titled *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* to be analyzed by using the theory of Michel Foucault about madness. *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* trilogy were interesting to discuss in terms of psychoanalysis theory of madness because the trilogy was based on the author's true life story about his past lives where David Pelzer's in his childhood, was tortured by his mother and shunned by those around him. *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* trilogy were also enticing to analyze because David is said to be "crazy" then people around him try to ostracize him from the society. The psychological aspects displayed in these novels are very closely related to human problems. On the basis of these assumptions, this study focused on the main character of the trilogy *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* named David using the approach of Michel Foucault's psychoanalysis madness theory. This study analyzed the indicators of

madness experienced by David and the effects of madness in David's character through himself in the trilogy. The literary analyses were narrowed by two focus points according to the purpose of the analyses and their ability to show how indicators of madness experienced by David and the effects of madness in David character through himself in the trilogy were expressed in the text.

Based on the explanations above, the researcher conducted a research entitled "Madness of Main Character, David in Dave Pelzer's Trilogy : *A Child Called It, The Lost Boy, and A Man Named Dave*".

1.2. Problems of the Study

The problems of the study were formulated in the following questions:

1. What were the indicators of madness experienced by David Pelzer, the main character in the trilogy *A Child Called It, The Lost Boy, and A Man Named Dave*?
2. What were the effects of madness in David's character through himself in *A Child Called It, The Lost Boy, and A Man Named Dave* trilogy?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

In accordance with the problems of the study, the objectives of this study were:

1. To find out the indicators of madness experienced by David Pelzer, the main character in the trilogy *A Child Called It, The Lost Boy, and A Man Named Dave*.
2. To find out the effects of madness in David's character through himself in *A Child Called It, The Lost Boy, and A Man Named Dave* trilogy.

1.4. Significances of the Study

Based on the description above, the researcher hoped that both the researcher and the reader of this study would have deeper knowledge about the theory of madness by Michel Foucault. The researcher also hoped that readers as connoisseurs of literature would find out more about these novels, especially David as the main character. This study was also as the

contribution of thoughts in an effort to improve the quality of appreciation of literary works, especially the *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* trilogy. It was also hoped that this study could be used as an information material for advanced researchers that was relevant to this research.

1.5. Limitation of the Study

So that this discussion was more directed and did not deviate from the existing problems, so this study focused on examining the main character, David, in *A Child Called It*, *The Lost Boy*, and *A Man Named Dave* trilogy by using the theory of madness by Michel Foucault.