CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

In this chapter, the paper will explain some related literature and the sources of the concerning topic. Thus, this chapter is focused on three main points which have connection with this analysis. They are character and characterization, and also the theory of Psychology that this paper uses to describe the individual psychology presented by Alfred Adler. This paper will explain the notion of individual psychology, the basic concepts of individual psychology and theoretical application.

2.1 Character and Characterization

In literary works, especially drama, character has an important role. In short, character must reflect the real world condition in order to make the character more natural or life like. Practically, by analyzing the character, the readers will be able to get what the author wants to say and to reveal in his work.

The way of an author describes a character is various. Occasionally, an author describes a character as a personage that exists only in illusion and has high spirit of struggle to survive. Furthermore, frequently an author describes a character that has almost similar ways with a person in real human life.

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A characterization on fictional works is similar with the daily life. It always plays a certain character or characterization. An Agent who is responsible for fictional story into a manageable and understandable story is called a character. Meanwhile, the way the author presents the character itself is called characterization. Annete in *How to analyze a character* in a Play (2002) says that there are four phases of characterization that can help the readers to analyze the character. Those phases are as follows:

2.1.1 Physical description

It is the very simplest phases of characterization with an imaginative work. The author gives detailed description and explanation about gender, age, physical, appearance and complexion. The text will give an indication of the age and physical appearance of the character.

It is not always given in the character list or stage directions of the play, but mostly in what is said about the character by others or the characters own words. We get this information from what she says about herself and what others say about her.

If a character has a disability or a specific mannerism, it will also be clearly stated in the text. It is therefore very important to read the text a couple of times and make notes of all this information. It is very unlikely that you will pick up all the information with one reading.

2.1.2 Social Description

In this regard, the author describes all factors related to social item such as social status, economic status, marital status, occupation, religion, and family interaction. It is important to know your character's status in the play. A character's status can be low or high or even in between. Status can also change.

You should also explore relationships with other characters carefully. This can stay the same throughout the play, but many times relationships change and can be different in different scenes. It is also important to know if these relationships are real or pretended.

2.1.3 Psychological Description

It involves aspects of psychology such as, emotion, like, attitude and intellectual matter. This phase is more important thing since feeling and attitude give more obvious description than social ones.

Here you will look at the goals of your character. This is a vast process as you would not only have to find the major goal for character in the play, but also a specific goal for each scene the character is part of. You can either first find the main goal for the character in the entire play or you can start by finding specific goals for each scene.

2.1.4 Moral Description

In many literary works, aspect of moral can be traced clearly in serious novel in general and tragedy drama in particular. This is where you will explore the personality, values and beliefs of your character.

Again, all this is revealed by the text. You will soon notice if your character is the good or the bad guy. Little in *Approach to Literature* (1966: PP states that the best plots arise naturally out of character in action, gaining in credibility and a sense of natural growth from this fact.

Considering, this statement says that character is an important element of literature, for the character's dialogues and actions will develop the story and create the best plot. Therefore, character determines the development of good story. In short, character is one elements of literature.

Thus, character can be defines as the description of person, his age and his character traits. Not only that, character can also be seen in the human personality that presence moral uprightness and the simpler notion of human being. Related to the statement above Holman in his book entitled *A Handbook to Literature* (1986: 81) says that,

> Character is a complicated term that includes the idea of the moral constitution of the human personality, the presence of the moral uprightness, and the simpler notion of the presence of creatures in art that seem to be human beings of one sort of another

Not only that, Crow, Ph. D   in his book entitled *General Psychology* (1981: 228) says that,

> A person personality is judge to be good or bad, in comparison with the manifested behavior on other. At one time it was believed that an individual was born with his personality and that it is developed as his anatomical structure unaffected by environment influences.

Thus, based on the quotation above, we come to the conclusion that character can also be seen from the personality of the person. This conclusion based on the reason that one's personality can be identified through the way of acting and the way of behaving. Therefore, personality can shape character into a good character or a bad character.

Kenney in his book *How to Analyze Fiction* (1966: 28) says that the simple, or flat, character is less the representation of human personality than the embodiment of a single attitude or obsession in a character. Almost similarly, Holman in *A Handbook of Literature* (1986:204) says that flat character is a term to describe a character, constructed a single ideas or quality; a flat character never surprises the reader, for it can immediately recognizable. However, flat character is the simplest one because people see only side of a person.

In this case, the author shows the character's personality from the beginning until the end of the story without any changes. On the contrary, round character is a complex and fully realized individual. Therefore, it is difficult to describe with any adequacy as most people are in real life.

Theoretically, Kenney says about round character in his book *How to Analyze Fiction* (1966: 29) as follows that complex (round) character is obviously more lifelike than the simple, because in life people are not simply embodiment of single attitude.

In some ways, based on the role of character in a story, the term character can also be divided into two types. Those types are major or main and minor or supporting characters. Still, the major character is a character that has an important role in the story, whereas the minor character is a character that supports and develops the flow of the story.

Thus, it can be concluded that the major character is the most important person among others in the most part of the whole story in which he does anything and appears continually, whereas the minor character is the character that supports the story and that is not important character in the story. In the other hand, based on sympathy of the readers toward the character, there are two types of character. Those two types based on the sympathy of the readers are protagonist and antagonist character.

Further more, Scanlan in his book entitled *Reading Drama* (1988:31) says that protagonist is the character whose objectives spearhead the action of the play. It also says that this character may be a hero, inspiring sympathy and admiration or antagonist or a villain, arousing and contempt. More over, it may be said that protagonist is in the good side, as a hero and the readers feel

sympathy with him, whereas antagonist is the bad side and the readers feel unsympathetic or hate him.

Therefore, it means that the antagonist always attacks the protagonist character. To do this, the antagonist always do bad attitude to defeat the protagonist. Assuming that, this research will present Abbie's character from her changes or development when the play is going on, and also from her role in the story.

2.1.5 Methods of Characterization

In many discussions, characterization in literature is the presentation of the attitudes and behavior of imaginary persons in order to make them credible to the author's audience. In other words, characterization is the technique uses to help the readers become acquainted with a person, or character, in his work. Theoretically, the author employs a technique called methods of characterization in revealing the character traits of the characters in the story.

Meantime, Holman in *A Handbook to Literature* (1987: 517) describes that method of characterization is the technique an author uses to reveal the personality and character of fictional person. More over, there are number of methods used by to the author. One of them, according to Kenney in his book entitled *How to Analyze Fiction* (1966:34-36), explain that there are three methods of characterization. Those methods are:

1. The Discursive Method: The author who chooses the discursive method simply tells us about his characters. He enumerates their qualities and may even express approval or disapproval of them.
2. The Dramatic Method: The author allows his characters to reveal themselves to us through their own words and actions
3. The Contextual Method: By the contextual method we mean the device of suggesting character by the verbal context that surrounds the character

Related to the statements above, we can conclude that discursive method is a method that can be seen from the paragraph, dramatic method is a method that can be seen from the dialogues between character, and contextual method is a method that can be seen from the context. Almost similarly, this idea is also stated by Little in his book entitled *Approach to Literature* (1966:89) says that,

> Characters may be presented mainly through description and discussion, or in more dramatic manner, by the author's simply reporting the character's speech and action. These methods can, of course, be used together. One extreme of the dramatic method is the modern device of the interior monologue, or stream of consciousness technique

From the quotation above, it can be concluded that there are four methods of characterization. Theoretically, those four methods of characterization are descriptive, dramatic, combination between descriptive and dramatic method and stream of consciousness. Meantime, the descriptive and dramatic method has own virtues and limitation, because the dramatic method is livelier than the descriptive one.

Almost similarly, this opinion is supported by Little in *Approach to Literature* (1966:90) that states,

> Neither the descriptive nor the dramatic method of characterization is "the best" method: each has its virtues and limitations. The descriptive method is generally the easier to understand, but characters summed up tend to seem a little lifeless. On the other hand, the dramatic method is more vivid and lively, but is relatively difficult for the reader, at least in extreme forms

Assuming the theory above, the paper applies the theories suggested by Kenney and Little, to analyze the character in *Desire under the Elms* that concern with discursive method of characterization or descriptive method of characterization as well as dramatic method of characterization.

To do this, the paper uses both methods of characterization which appropriate to be used as the means to find out the character traits of *Desire under the Elms*. Since this work is a play, that is written in dialogues which are added with stage direction.

2.2   Notion of Individual Psychology

Adler in Feist in his book *Theories of Personality* (2006:95) says that,

> People's interpretation of experiences are more important that the experiences themselves. Neither the past nor the future determines present behavior. Instead, people are motivated by their present perception of the past and their present expectation of the future.

Based on his statement above, Adler conclude that individual psychology is the way on understanding human behavior, inferiority, compensation, a life style and creativity. All behaviors are seen in relation to

the final goal of the superiority or success. Adler in Feist (2006: 65) also says that neither a terrorist nor a person driven mad by ambition.

Indeed, his individual psychology presents an optimistic view of people while resting heavily on the notion of social interest, that is, the feeling of oneness with all humankind. Theoretically, individual psychology is a science that attempts to understand the human personality as an organized entity. Apparently, humans are conscious being; they are ordinarily aware of the persons for their behavior and they are conscious of their inferiorities also conscious of the goals for which they strive.

Still, Adler in Kalat (1990: 480) recognized that people may not be aware of their own style of life and the assumptions behind it and may fail to realize that the real motive behind some words or action is to manipulate other. Therefore, humans are self–conscious individuals capable of planning and guiding their actions with full awareness for their own self – realization.

Moreover, the individual is shaped by social and familiar factors. All activities that persons did are guided by a person's fundamental attitude toward life. Adler also states the final goal of struggle is to be aggressive and all of powerful to dominates others because he believed that our present conduct is determined by future goals.

2.3 Basic Principles of Individual Psychology

On study this drama; the paper uses an Individual Psychological Approach, which has six basic principles. According to Adler in Feist (2006:

d. the six basic principles are striving for superiority, subject perceptions, unified and self-consistent, Social Interest, Style of Life, and Creative power. But this paper only uses striving for superiority, subject perceptions, social interest, style of life, and creative power to analyze the ambition of the main character in Eugene O'Neill's playwright *Desire under the Elms* by using an individual psychological approach. Here are the explanations:

2.3.1 Striving for Superiority

The first tenet of Adlerian theory is the one dynamic force behind people's behavior is the striving for success or superiority. Later, Adler reduced all motivation to a single drive-the striving for success or superiority. Seemingly, individual psychology holds that everyone begins life with physical deficiencies that activate feelings of inferiority-feelings that motivate a person to strive for either superiority or success.

Moreover, psychological unhealthy individuals strive for personal superiority, whereas psychological healthy people seek success for all humanity. Adler in Feist (2006: 70) says that people strive toward a final goal of either personal superiority or the goal of success for all humankind. Still, Adler believed that some people strive for superiority with little or no concern for others.

Meantime, their goals are personal ones and their striving is motivated by exaggerated feelings of personal inferiority. Such as murderers and thieves are obvious example of people who strive for personal gain. In short, striving

for superiority means a condition that forces a man to gain a better life to make him exist in the society.

Thus, each individual is forced by drives to be superior, powerful and regarded. This is a response to the feeling of inferiority. By inferiority feeling, person will make some efforts to cover it.

2.3.2 Subjective Perceptions

Adler second tenet is people's subjective perceptions shape their behavior and personality. People strive for superiority or success to compensate for feelings of inferiority, but the manner in which they strive is not shaped by reality but by their subjective perceptions of reality, that is, by their fictions, or expectations of the future.

2.3.2.1 Fictional Finalism

Surely, our most important fiction is the goal of superiority or success. Meantime, a goal we created early in life and may not clearly understand. This subjective, fictional final goal guides our style of life, gives unity to our personality.

Based on Adler's ideas on factionalism originated with Hans Vaihinger's book the *Philosophy of "As If"* in Feist (2006: 73), Vaihinger believed that fictions are ideas that have no real existence, yet they influence people as if they really existed. Seemingly, people are motivated not by what is true, but by what they believe is true. So, fictional finalism indicates that what an individual wants to achieve is fiction.

Generally, every human has desire in his or her life. This desire can motivate someone to do and be better. It means that they have to work hard and always build new spirit to get what they want.

Moreover, our behavior is determined by our perceptions of what we hope to achieve in the future, not by what we have done or what he has been done to us. In some discussions, argues that people create ideas that guide their behavior and no one's various striving can occur without the perception of goals. In short, these goals do not exist in the future but they exist subjectively or mentally here and now as striving or ideals that affect present behavior.

Basically, a man lives within the fictional ideas, which sometimes have no relationship with the realities that he has created as final goal. These fictional ideas will accelerate a man's life activities; he is fully aware of his fictional goals and then continued by interpreting the daily happening of life in the perspective of his fictional goals.

2.3.2.2 Inferiority Feeling and Compensation

Theoretically, each individual has certain organs that somewhat weaker than others. Sometimes, it makes them have the feeling of inferior. According to Adler, in Kalat (1990: 480) inferiority means an exaggerated feeling of weakness, inadequacy, and helplessness.

Practically, it relates to an individual consciousness, which plays a very important role in human life, that is man tries to understand his

weaknesses, incapability's and imperfection dealing with his self – condition to strive for superiority. Still, Adler in Feist (2006: 74) emphasizes that physical deficiencies alone do not cause a particular style of life; they simply provide present motivation for reaching future goals.

Such motivation, like all aspects of personality, is unified and self consistent. Inferiority feelings are not a sign of abnormality. They are considered to challenge to strive for the superiority and they are also the cause of all improvement in man's lot.

2.3.3   Style of Life

Meantime, style of life is a term that Adler uses to refer to the flavor of a person's life. It includes not only the person's goal, but also self- concept, feeling towards others an attitude toward the world. Shortly, it is the product of the interaction of heredity, environment, and a person's creative power.

Lundin in *Personality: A Behavioral Analysis* (1969: 25) says that often the particular ways in which one goes about compensating for his inferiority, securing superiority, and social interest constitute what Adler called the style of life. Thus, all aspects of one's life and one's particular ways of behaving center around one's style of life also includes all aspects of behavior that are oriented toward the aim of achieving the life's goal.

Later, the short individual may develop an aggressive style in order to compensate by becoming intellectual or clever. Style of life is the system principle by which the individual personality functions. Therefore, man has

different style of life although he has the same goal. Surely, it shows that he loves in his environment with the feature as a member of society that the others have no. Theoretically, there are three types of Style of Life;

2.3.3.1 Ruling Type

Apparently, this is the first type in Style of Life that leads people to have their own way to make all of their dreams come true. Moreover, this type explains how people tries to reach their goal by dominate all the things, work or anything that can support their way to reach the desire. Sometimes not all of people use this way, because this type seems like individuality. If people use this way, they will dominate all the things and try to be the one in every situation. They will not let other to take their chance.

2.3.3.2 Getting Type

Then, this is the second type of Style of Life; it explains how people try to get everything that they want, including with what way that they use to get the desire. With this type, people will learn more and more how to make their dream come true even by a good way or a bad way. If they use a good way in this type, they will be useful not only for their self but also for others.

For example, when someone wants his factory grows well, he will make a new innovation for its product. With his new innovation, it will make people feel comfortable and it will also make the owner of

the factory can reach what he wants. In brief, this type let the people use many ways to make their dream comes true.

2.3.3.3 Avoiding Type

Finally, this type explains how people try to avoid all the things that can make them in danger or unsatisfied. It means that when people feel that their way on reaching their goal disturbs by others they will avoid it by many ways. They will not let others fail their way, so they will do many things.

2.4   Social Interest

Seemingly, the value of all human activity must be seen from the viewpoint of social interest. Adler in Kalat (2006: 481) said that any personality based on a selfish style of life is unhealthy. Therefore, people's need for one another requires that they develop a social interest, a sense of solidarity and identification with other people.

Apparently, people with strong social interest strive for superiority in a way that contributes to the welfare. Adler concludes that a man should live among others, and this means that he must interact with others in society.

Practically, person is embedded in a social context from the first day of life. How manifest it self in the relationship between the children's mother, and continuously involved in relations that shape the personality. Adler in Feist (2006: 75) states that social interest can be defined as an attitude of

relatedness with humanity in general, as well as an emphatic for each member of the human race.

Meantime, as a member of society, a man automatically has to make an adaptation to his environment where he lives. Purposely, he can enjoy life with the others. Therefore, social interest is true and inevitable compensation for all the natural weakness of individual human beings.

Moreover, social interest means striving for a form of community which must be though of it mankind had reached the goal of others; we help ourselves toward the same goal. Striving for superiority becomes socialized; the ideal of a perfect society takes the place of purely personal ambition and selfish gain.

By working for the common good, humans compensate for their weaknesses. The image of the perfect person living in a perfect society blotted out the picture of the strong, aggressive person, dominating and exploiting society. Social interest is helping society to attain the goal of perfect society.

People are driven by a need for power and domination to a wish for personal superiority and finally to a desire to subordinate their own needs in favor of the greater good. Social interest develops in the context of family relationships and other formative experiences. These experiences thwart the development of social interest.

2.5   Creative Power

Adler in Feist (2006: 79) states that style of life is molded by people's creative power. In short, each person is empowered with the freedom to create her or his own style of life. Ultimately, all people are responsible for who they are and how they behave.

Furthermore, their creative power places them in control of their own lives, is responsible for their final goal, determines their method of striving for that goal, and contributes to the development of social interest. In short, creative power makes each person a free individual.

To be true, creative power is a dynamic concept implying movement and this movement is the most salient characteristic of life. Adler in Feist (2006: 79) says that all psychic life involves movement toward a goal. Still, Adler in Feist (2006: 79) says that the concept of creative power implies that we create our own personality, that actively we construct it out of our environment and heredity.

Meantime, the creative power is the active principle of human life and it is not unlike the older concept of soul. Creative power not only implies freedom but it also produces perception, memory, imagination, fantasy and dream. In other words, persons are free to be what they will.

Freely, we may choose to experience pain, joy or anxiety or to defend ourselves against the experiences by erecting various state guarding tendencies. Thus, creative self is the yeast that acts upon the facts of the world

and transform these facts into a personality that is subjective, dynamic, unified, personal and uniquely stylized.

2.6 Application

According to the theory of Individual Psychology by Alfred Adler, the paper focuses on analyzing the ambition in Abbie toward his personality in Eugene O'Neill's *Desire under the Elms.* By knowing the individual psychology of the character, the paper tries to explore the feeling of the ambition in Abbie as a major character. The investigation of personality could be done toward the action of the character, the dialogue of the character and the thought of the character.

Secondly, the paper will make a study about the theory of Individual Psychology, especially based on Adler's theory. Third, the paper makes the relationship between the Individual Psychology theory and the study inside of the drama. Then, the paper tries to find out how ambition can influence the major character's personality. All steps above are used to answer the problem statement of the paper and to achieve the objective of the paper