

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes The Background of The Study (1.1), Statement of the Problem (1.2), The Objective of The Study (1.3), The Significance of the Study (1.4), Scope and Limitation (1.5)

1.1 Background of the study

Every human being in this world has different personalities. The personality can be good or bad. Crow, Ph. D in his book *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.

Based on the quotation above, it means that People's personalities are built from their behavior on their environment. People will judge our personalities are good or bad based on our behavior that is showed to the environment. That is the reason people have bad and good personalities, it depends on their behavior. Behavior can be defined as the way in which an individual behaves or act (Wilma Guez an John Allen, 2000 : 9). It is the way an individual conducts himself. On this book *Behavior Modification*, they add that :

behavior, therefore, is the way an individual acts toward people, society or objects. It can be either bad or good. It can be normal or abnormal according to society

norms. Society will always try to correct bad behavior and try to bring abnormal behavior back to normal.

When human beings live in the society, they always try to change their behavior into good ones. It is influenced by people surroundings like family and friends or themselves. Cause the society judges the person's life. They will appraise our behavior when we get into their culture. When people have good attitudes, it shows that they have good personalities. But it depends on the culture where we live because every culture has different kind of attitudes. According to some regions something like greeting becomes good attitudes but in another region that thing becomes the bad one. Newcomers have to be able to understand and adapt into the new situation. They can bring their bad attitudes back to good.

People as human being certainly have an obsession in their life. Of course it is seen as normal process of life before they get success. An obsession of life becomes the important part of their life. People always look for success by their obsession and survive to get what the men want. In the kind of obsession, there is unhealthy obsession. People with the unhealthy obsession are more dangerous than other distressed people. People, sometimes do not have any obsessions in their life it is because they do not have a goal for living in this world. That kind of people will feel useless in society so they will become inferior people. But using some obsessions can make people do anything although they know that it is the wrong way.

Obsessions are distressing and ego-dystonic but are acknowledged as originating in the person's mind and as being unreasonable excessive (Veale, 2002). Someone who has an obsession has many things to do to reach what they want. Obsessive ideas may be pleasant or unpleasant, may last for a brief period

or may be present for life. Only unpleasant obsessions present a problem. They make the unfortunate victim unhappy, they are disturbing and annoying, and may lead to behavior which has a major impact upon one's life. A. Hoffer in book *Obsession and Depression* said that :

Obsessive ideas cause anxiety and depression not only because they are there but because the victim in most cases knows they are irrational and ought not be present, and they force behavior which imposes tremendous problems for the individual (1970 : 78).

Obsessions are unwanted and disturbing thoughts, images, or impulses that suddenly pop into the mind and cause a great deal of anxiety or distress. It is so disturbing the mind when people have an obsession. Moreover, people who find their first obsession have a crush on their obsession. It can increase the anxiety up. They can do anything to confront their anxiety.

Most people do not recognize their anxiety for what it is, and instead think there is something wrong with them. Some people are preoccupied with the symptoms of anxiety. Others think they are weird, weak, or even going crazy. Unfortunately, these thoughts only make people feel even more anxious and self-conscious. In book *Theories of anxiety*, the characteristics of anxiety as an emotion are that it is distressing, and that its sources are identifiable (1995, 4). According to Power and Dalgleish (1997 : 207) anxiety can be conceptualized as “a state in which an individual is unable to instigate a clear pattern of behavior to remove or alter the event/object/interpretation that is threatening and existing goal.” For some, anxiety was more of a continual underlying stressful and unpleasant state of mind whereas others were able to distinguish particular triggers which caused them to have panic attacks. People with high anxiety always feel unwell and worrying on unidentified thing for their whole life. They

will look for the way how to solve that but it is useless. So, it can conduce distressing and force them to do a dangerous thing if they cannot stand it anymore. On the other hand, anxiety is always followed by defense mechanism, people usually confront their anxiety by doing some defense mechanisms. In *Critical theory today*, Tyson says “Defense mechanism is the processes by which we preserve the repressed in order to avert knowing what we feel we can’t handle knowing (Tyson, 2006:15).” So, people can construct their better and calmer feeling by doing these defense mechanisms even though they know it is continues process.

One of the films that attract the attention of the researcher about the form of anxiety is the film entitled “perfume”. A film directed by Tom Tykwer and written by Andrew Birkin titled “Perfume” is based on the 1985 novel by Patrick Suskind which has sold over 15 million copies worldwide. Producer Bernd Eichinger bought the film rights to Süskind's novel in 2000 and began writing the screenplay together with screenwriter Andrew Birkin. Tom Tykwer was selected as the director and joined the two in developing the screenplay in 2003. The filming took place in Spain, Germany, and France. The film was made on a budget of €50 million, making it one of the most expensive German films. “Perfume” was released on September 14, 2006 in Germany, December 26, 2006 in the United Kingdom and December 27, 2006 in the United States. It grossed over \$135 million worldwide, of which over \$53 million was made in Germany.

“Perfume” told about the story of murderer in French by an expert of perfume making. The film begins with the execution of Jean-Baptise Grenouille,

the main character who is depicted as the murderer. Then the story goes flashback to the story of his life. The story is begun with his abandonment at birth in a French fish market which is so rotten. Raised in an orphanage, Grenouille grows into strangely detached boy with a superhuman sense of smell. *Perfume* movie is terrifying story of murder and obsession set in 18th century France. Jean-Baptiste Grenouille has a unique talent for discerning the scents and smells that swirl around him, which he uses to create the world's finest perfumes. Strangely lacking any scent of his own, he becomes obsessed with capturing the irresistible but elusive aroma of young womanhood. As Grenouille's obsession turns deadly, 12 young girls are found murdered. Panic breaks out people rush to protect their daughters, while an unrepentant and unrelenting Grenouille still lacks the final ingredient to complete his quest. Finally he completes his quest by murdering the most beautiful girl in that town to perfect his perfume.

The researcher is attracted to this movie because the "Perfume" movie shows up the high obsession of a superhuman sense of smell that begets a murder some women. Not only the obsession, but this film also shows about the anxiety of the main character Jean-Baptiste Grenouille. He tries to confront his anxiety in achieving his obsession to get a perfect perfume. In confronting his anxiety he is murdering some beautiful girls in a town creating panic that causing his execution. On the other hand, for making this film is one of the most expensive German film productions and it won some awards in this world. Perfume movie won 15 awards and 16 nominations. One of them is won German Film Award 2007 for Best Cinematography, won Jupiter Award 2007 for Best German Film and Director.

In this research, the researcher focuses on the script of “perfume” movie only and it will be analyzed with the anxiety theory of Sigmund Freud. After the introduction, the researcher continues this research with the analysis that will discuss in the next text.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

Based on the background, this research formulates three problem statements in order to answer the main purpose of the research. Some questions are formulated as follows:

1.2.1 What is the obsession that Grenouille has in Tom Tykwer’s “Perfume” movie?

1.2.2 How does Grenouille’s experiences influence his action in achieving his obsession ?

1.2.3 How is the process of confronting his anxiety in achievig his obsession in Tom Tykwer’s “Pefume” movie?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Derived from the questions above, the objectives of the research are :

1.3.1 To find out the obsession that Grenouille has in Tom Tykwer’s “Perfume” movie.

1.3.2 To explain Grenouille’s experiences that influence his action in achieving his obsession identify kinds of anxiety as reflected by Grenouille on his obsession in *Perfume* movie.

1.3.2 To describe the process of confronting the anxiety as reflected by Grenouille on his obsession in “Perfume” movie.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

This research is expected to give benefits to the readers who seek to analyze literary works. By reading this research, the reader will understand the individual and personal problem that showed by Tom Tykwer through this movie’s subtitle “Perfume”. Besides that, this research will expectedly increase the interest of other researcher to do a similar kind of research.

Furthermore, this research can be able to be used as an input for teachers and students in order to have a better understanding about anxiety syndrome in kind of movie. It also hoped that the readers can be more interested in reading, understanding, and enjoying literary works.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In this study, the researcher’s scope is the discussion about anxiety in “Perfume” movie. Those related to an obsession of the main character in this movie. Besides that, the writer limits the discussion only about anxiety in Jean-Baptiste Grenouille as the main character in Tom Tykwer’s “Perfume” movie. The data to support this research are taken from “Perfume” movie’s subtitle then analyzed Grenouille’s anxiety on his obsession.