

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is the result of the author's thinking about real-world events. Literature has less to do with writing, but more to do with language, which serves as a place to express certain experiences and thoughts. What the author tells in his work is about a man and all kinds of behaviors and value in human life. Literary work serves as a medium of communication in the form of novels, poems, biographies, essay, etc. The novel deals with different types of human life in society, from happy life to sad life, adapted to a growing reality. It is no uncommon for images and portraits of women to appear in the produced works.

One of the most frequently addressed issues in literary works in feminism. In social relation, it is often said that the role of women in society is small than that of men (Becker, 1999). There are many social, political, and economic advantages for men in society. At one time, women were not considered dignified. Properties less women are abused as compensation to satisfy men's desires.

Women are undervalued in social thinking. Women's standards are seen in household chores. Women are often noticed for their beauty and figure. That is why so many men take advantage of the opportunity when women are put in a difficult situation and turned into prostitutes. Societal values that position women as complementary system to male societies only result in women being exploited and abandoned.

In this case, many women experience personality disorders. With circumstances that make them have to go through a lot of trauma, anxiety, and disappointment in life. The trauma that follows them makes them feel worthless. Personality disorders that exist

in a woman make them withdraw from themselves. The problems that arise make form a woman's personality development in terms of motivation for survival and emotions.

Women's status is always subject to male dominance. Activists concerned for the fate of their fellow women want to change this situation, and this is the beginning of the feminist movement. The feminist movement grew out of the assumptions women have about their lives and their surroundings.

Therefore, researchers chose one of the Christian romance novels Francine Rivers' *Redeeming Love*. Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis was developed based on the personality of the individual to be able to analyze it using a feminist psychoanalytic approach on the theoretical basis of this research. Christian romance is a powerful tool for teaching life values for survival. The Christian faith teaches this, no matter how bad men past deeds may be. It will improve over time in the future. Christianity teaches about new life and birth with inner change and God-given opportunities.

This novel tells the story of Sarah, who is the illegitimate daughter of a rich businessman and his lover. His lover raises Sarah as single parents. Sarah knows the harsh reality when she lives with her mother. She is ridiculed by her peers because her mother is a prostitute. She saw her mother asking God for help but no miracles happened in their predicament and she saw images of men looking for women when needed. That entire she kept inside herself. After her mother died, Sarah's life was even more ruined. Sarah is sold to a rich pedophile namely, Duke. Sarah was immediately given a new name according to her appearance, namely Angel. Duke, the pedophile, had intercourse for the first time with Sarah. Sarah is seven years old. She worked with the Duke until she matured to become a prostitute. She feels her life has been ruined after years of living with the Duke. Angel managed to escape to the port of San Francisco. While on the ship, the Angel had no money. So Angel had to work like what was done at Duke's place.

Angel also got enough money to live in California. Poor Angel was abused and robbed until she was helpless. Angel was found by a brothel owner and treated at an embroidery house. Angel also worked there as a prostitute who is very liked by men because she has beauty and has white skin, blue eyes, and blonde hair.

In general, the novel *Redeeming Love* played by the character Angel, has a dark past that makes her not want to live any longer. She has hope that this torture will end soon. She doesn't want to believe in anymore who has to do with men, God, and love. A deep wound gave an unstoppable sign of pain to the Angel throughout his life and was stored in his memory.

The research objectives are how the main character Angel reveal her personality based on the defense mechanism of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung's Individuation. And how women were treated by men based on the setting of the Novel *Redeeming Love* set in the 1850s Gold Rush in California.

This study, the relationship between the novel *Redeeming Love* and English education is not only seen in terms of language, but there are life values and issues encountered in the form of personality and gender. The researcher hopes that this research can be taken as learning material, especially for women not to give up on circumstances. Believe me; a woman can have a new and good life if she hopes for her creator.

1.2 Limitation of the Study

With the wide range of psychology in literary works, the question of this study is limited to the psychoanalysis of the Angel in the Novel *Redeeming Love* based on Sigmund Freud's theory of personality in the study of defense mechanism.

1.3 Research Questions

The research questions of the study are as follows:

1. How is Angel's personality based on Sigmund Freud's Ego defense mechanism and Carl Jung's individuation process?
2. How were women treated by men based on to the setting of the Novel?

1.4 Research Objectives

The research objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To give an explanation about how the main character Angel reveal her personality based on the defense mechanism of Sigmund Freud and Carl Jung's Individuation
2. To explore how women were treated by men based on the setting of the Novel *Redeeming Love*.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The researcher expected to be able to provide theoretical and practical benefits as follow:

1. The authors of this study hope that readers, future researcher, and student will find this researcher useful.
2. It is hoped that readers will learn more about psycho-feminist after reading this study.
3. Researchers hope that this study will serve as a reference for future research. The differences in each woman's psycho-feminist make this literary work interesting for analysis.
4. This research may help students increase their vocabulary.
5. In addition, Students can understand life's difficulties by learning effective self-defense techniques. This study can give female readers lessons on how to manage their own lives.

6. The purpose of this study is also to help teacher to teach the students literature especially about (feminism), the position of women, or psycho-feminism.

1.6 Definitions of Key Terms

The researcher uses certain terminology that is frequently used to address the problem described in this proposal's topic discussion. The researcher defines the terms used as the following:

1. Psycho-Feminist

Psycho-Feminist is a branch of psychology focused on societal frameworks and sex. Feminist psychology aligns itself with the values and principles of feminism (Chodorow, 1989).

2. Reading

Reading is read and analyze a text critically, breaking it down into its component parts and assessing its strengths, weaknesses and understand the author's purpose in writing the text and how it relates to life (Axelod & Cooper, 2002).

3. River's Redeeming Love

Redeeming Love is a historical romance novel by Francine Rivers set in the 1850s Gold Rush in California. The story is inspired by the Book of Hosea from the Bible, and its central theme is the redeeming love of God towards sinners (Novel Redeeming Love)

Based on the definitions of the key terms above, the title of this undergraduate thesis: "A Psycho-Feminist Reading River's Redeeming Love" can be defend as a critical analysis of a Novel written by Francine River called *Redeeming Love*, seen from the perspective of psycho-feminist theory; a branch of psychology focused on societal frameworks and sex.