AMY'S CHARACTER IN THE MOVIE "GONE GIRL"

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Abstract: In this paper, the researcher wanted to find out the factors of Amy's mental disorder, how Amy's character and what effect of mental disorder to the movie. The method of data analysis was descriptive, because the researcher explained and interpreted the data from the action of Amy in the movie. The books of literary theories were used to understand the theory that was relevant to this research. The approach used in this research was psychological of anxiety approach to identify the factors of Amy's mental disorder in describing Amy's character. The result of this analysis showed that there were three types of anxiety as the factors of Amy's mental problems in this movie, realistic, moral, and neurotic anxiety. She experienced anxieties because of her husband that caused Amy had a mental disorder. Amy was described as an antagonist, cruel, manipulative, liar, psychopath, and antisocial. The effect of mental disorder to the movie was the story had different atmosphere and made the story more complicated

Key words: Anxiety, Influencing factors, Mental Disorder.

Abstrak: Tesis ini berjudul karakter Amy dalam film "Gone Girl." Dalam tesis ini peneliti ingin mengetahui faktor-faktor gangguan mental Amy, bagaimana karakter Amy dan apa pengaruh gangguan mental terhadap film. Metode yang digunakan dalam analisis data adalah deskriptif, karena peneliti menjelaskan dan menafsirkan data dari tindakan Amy dalam film. Buku-buku teori sastra digunakan untuk memahami teori yang relevan dengan penelitian ini. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah pendekatan psikologis kecemasan untuk mengidentifikasi faktor-faktor gangguan mental Amy dalam menggambarkan karakter Amy. Hasil analisis ini menunjukkan bahwa ada tiga jenis kecemasan sebagai faktor gangguan mental Amy yaitu, kecemasan realistis, moral, dan neurotik. Amy mengalami kecemasan karena suaminya yang menyebabkan Amy mengalami gangguan mental. Amy digambarkan sebagai antagonis, seorang wanita yang kejam, manipulatif, pembohong, psikopat, dan antisosial. Efek gangguan mental terhadap film adalah ceritanya memiliki suasana yang berbeda, dan membuat cerita lebih hidup tetapi menjadi lebih rumit.

Kata kunci: Kecemasan, Faktor yang Mempengaruhi, Gangguan Mental

1. INTRODUCTION

The relationship between literature and life cannot be separated, because some conflicts happened in a literary work are mostly based on life experience. Life is a thing that inspired the literary work. The author writes something based on what happened in life or his experience. The result of creative activity in mind or imagination happens because literary presents the life which is largely made up of social phenomenon (Wellek & Werren, 1970, p.109).This statements implicitly say that literature is related to all aspects of human life. Literature is something written based on human mind, feelings, imagination or the creative

activity of a work of art that created in a form of literary works. According to Alib (2008, p.5), literary work is also an expression of images and events of daily activity. This is why literary work is not only about imagination of mind but also the illustration of real life. It provides the rules, norms and values of life. The author expresses the things that happen in our lives in the form of literary work. This statement means that most literary works are created from story of life which inspired the author to write. It can even be said that literature is as the history of human life's journey. The things that happened in a literary work, is the representation of our life to express someone's feeling.

Literature and psychology are related to each other. Literature reflects to human life such as feeling, thought, imagination and perception which can be viewed by personal judgment. In literary works the reader can see the characters experienced mental conflict that influences the personality of character and impact to others characters in the story. The author unconsciously created the character act and think based on psychology aspect. To understand the characterization in literary works the author required psychological theory. That is why there is psychoanalysis theory in analyzing the characterization in the literary work. It is a theory of personality or the dynamics of personality source that guides psychoanalysis. First laid out by Sigmund Freud in the late 19th century.

Movie is the result of human mind, feelings and created based on life experience of the author that delivered by characters in the movie. It is created with meaning included moral lesson to deliver a great message of story. Movie cannot be separated from character, because character is one of important things in movie. There is no story without character. According to Breurer (as cited in Aprilia, 2008, p.3), characters in movie touches all aspects of life through rules and laws applied in society. Character is a person, an animal, a thing or a creature that takes the important part in the story to deliver information and lesson by action and spoken. The author creates the character with its characterization.

Characterization is defined by what the character does, what the character says, and what others say about them, and by the setting in which he or she moves. Every character in movie provide pattern to describe her or his personality. Characterization is related to psychological, it is about human's behavior and personality.

According to Barnet (1994, p.32), characterization in literary work is defined by what the characters do, by what they say, by what others say about them and by the setting in which they move. From what the character say in the context of the story, the reader can see the characterization.

Characterization is related to psychological. It is about personality. It is something related to human's behavior.

According to Jess and Gregory (2006, p.4), personality is a pattern of relatively permanent traits and unique characteristics that give both consistency and individuality to a person's behavior. Personalities can be observed by understanding human's characteristic when dealing with problems in life. In psychoanalysis there are several conditions that affect to characteristic: environment, family, internal obstacles, problems and the character's belief.

But there is psychology health problem that impact to the characteristic. Such as, mental disorder, one of psychological conditions about mental disorder that indicates someone is having failure in harmonizing in life. It is usually triggered by the pressures or life or experiencing emotional trauma that caused the conflict who have not found the way out. The factors of mental disorder are environment, problems, conflict, trauma and also anxiety. According to Rathus & Greene (2003, p.121), when someone feel anxious about something and could not find the way out, It would be the factor of character experienced mental health problems or mental disorder. In this case someone would be lost control and could not think logically. The result is someone would do manipulation, ruthless, lies, and cruel. It is happened to ''Amy" the main character in the *Gone Girl* movie.

The researcher was interested in analyzing Amy's character in the *Gone Girl* movie. It is because this movie showed complicated story that made the audiences must pay attention to Amy. She is wife of Nick Dunne who has a complicated personality and also mental disorder. In their fifth wedding anniversary, Amy was gone. It made the audiences encouraging to hate Nick, but Amy doing many lie and manipulative to blame her husband. Based on Amy's diary, she did it because she hated Nick for cheated. He wanted Amy to be a cool girl, a poor woman who is in controlled, being a woman that Amy did not want to be. At the end of the story showed Amy is dangerous woman because she killed her ex, Desi Collings and back to Nick's life forever. It means that Amy experienced mental health problems or can call as mental disorder because of a family problem, exactly a marriage.

To understand what factors that made Amy had mental disorder, the researcher used psychological approach that developed by Freud. It is the theory of personality or psychological study of author's personality, reader's personality and also the character's personality that presented in the story of movie. This theory is related to human's behavior. According to Jess and Gregory (2006, p.4), personalities can be observed by understanding character's characteristic when they deal with problems that happened in the story. To support this analysis the researcher analyzed the factors of Amy's mental disorder based on Amy's diary perspective.

From the explanation above, the researcher conducted a research entitled "Amy's Character in the movie "Gone Girl." This study aimed to identify types of anxiety of Amy as the factors

of mental disorder, to describe how Amy's character and to identify what effect of Mental disorder to the movie. The result of this study was expected to share valuable knowledge in character, mental disorder, psychological for other researcher who would like to conduct the similar topic.

2. METHODOLOGY

This research entitled *Amy's character in the movie "Gone Girl"* used descriptive method through the library research. This research used descriptive research because the data was not processed by using statistical principles but based on the literary theories and facts according to the data found in supporting this literature research. Descriptive method is a statement of affairs, attempting to make a sense of or to interpret, as the simply attempt to determine, description of identify, (Willey, 2004, p.24).

The instruments of this research were psychoanalysis which focused on mental disorder, psychology of anxiety, character and characterization.

In collecting the data, the first step that researcher did was downloading the Gone Girl movie. After that, the researcher watched the movie several times, found the transcript, the dialogue, the conflict, and wrote the important things by using note technique.

In analyzing the data, the researcher categorized the problems from the conflicts happened in the movie, categorized Amy into mental disorder in psychoanalysis of anxiety, found the factors of Amy's mental disorder, and concluded the result of the analyses.

3. DISCUSSION

The researcher found three types of anxiety in the *Gone Girl* movie as the factors of Amy's mental disorder. They are realistic anxiety, moral anxiety and neurotic anxiety. This anxiety made Amy had a mental disorder she described as antagonist, she was liar, psychopath, manipulative, cruel and antisocial. For the effects of mental disorder, the researcher also found that the effects of mental disorder to could change the story from romance story to tragedy and crime.

3.1. The factors of Amy's Mental Disorder

3.1.1   Realistic anxiety

Realistic anxiety comes from external world. Feel fear of something will happen in the future with reason or without reason. This anxiety comes to anticipate the bad things in the future.

Scene.1. 00:32:11-00:32:20

(Amy) let's swear we will never be like them.
(Nick) who?
Amy makes a sweeping gesture: everyone outside the window

(Amy) every other couple we know.
Husband who treat their wives like hapless
puppies: to be trained and broken

   In scene 1 and the dialogue above, it could be inferred that Amy experienced realistic Anxiety for the first time. It was when she asked Nick to swear that they would never like other couples. Amy saw a couple from the window where a husband treated his wife badly. It made Amy felt worried and anxious that someday Nick would do the same thing, she felt afraid of the future and tried to anticipate it by asking her husband to swear that they would never be like that bad couple. It can be proven from the underlined sentence that proved Amy to experienced realistic anxiety.

Scene. 3. 00:34:41-00:34:58

(Amy) I used the last of my trust to buy him a bar but the Bar
just costing us more money.
And suddenly, I know everything is about to get worse.

   In scene 3 and the dialogue above, it explained that Amy experienced realistic anxiety at the second time that could be seen from the underline sentence. At that time, Nick was depressed because he did not get a job. All he did was playing games. He bought everything without Amy's permission. Nick spent a lot of Amy's money to buy unimportant things. She saw a shopping bag and started pulling out the contents, a laptop, Ipod, and a dozen of PS2 games. It made Amy worried about the future if Nick would spend all her money with no limit.

He used Amy for money like a bank. Amy used the last of her trust to buy Nick a bar but the bar was just costing more money. Suddenly, Amy knew everything was about to get worse. She started thinking that the bad things would happen.

3.1.2 Moral Anxiety

   Moral Anxiety is normal anxiety that can happen to everyone when something is wrong. This comes from internal factors like mind, feelings, fear of our selves, easy to feel guilt, scared if something is wrong, fear of punishment and fear if causing mistakes for others.

Scene 2. 00:34:09-00:34:21

(Amy) Nick, I don't get it.
It's like you're daring me to be someone I don't want to be.
You like a nagging and controlling husband.
I'm not that person. I'm your wife.

   From scene 2 and the dialogue above, it could be inferred that Amy experienced moral anxiety when she realized that her husband always treated her like someone else. Amy felt

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controlled. She only wanted to be treated like a wife and not someone else. Her husband had turned into a nagging husband and controlled Amy like a bank that had a lot of money, like a poor woman who was controlled. Amy felt guilty about herself because she unconsciously became someone else she did not like. She had done something wrong with herself. It made Amy experienced moral anxiety.

3.1.3. Neurotic Anxiety

Neurotic anxiety is an anxiety that comes from unconscious fear and it will take control in opportune time. This type of anxiety is driven by a fear being overwhelmed in threatened situation. This anxiety will make someone lose control, temper, mind, personality, and rationality. Neurotic anxiety causes internal and external factors, and related to particular object or fear of something. Neurotic can motivate someone to act if in dangerous in situations. It means that if someone is in a situation that threatens his life caused by internal factors or other characters in the story, he will act anything to protect himself from the situation even though he is at risk of punishment.

Scene 5. 00:45:23-00:45:30

(Amy) Last night, <u>I went from desperate, pathetic,</u>
<u>sad to anxious. I became someone I don't even like.</u>
The kind of woman I used to mock.

From the dialogue in scene 5, it explained that Amy experienced neurotic anxiety for the first time when she realized that her husband was having an affair with a girl who was younger than her. Nick was rarely at home, he always left home every night. Amy tried to change herself so that her husband would not ignore her. She turned into a woman she did not like. But Nick did whatever he wanted and, she had to obey him. Otherwise, she did not exist. Amy felt hopeless, sad, and anxious, then turned into a woman she did not like, like a poor woman. It explained that Amy had lost her personality. She became kind of woman that she did not even like because of anxiety that she got from external factor (another character, Nick) in the story. It could be concluded that Amy had neurotic anxiety.

3.2. The description of Amy's Character

In this part the researcher described the character of Amy that refers to mental disorder. Character and characterization

Amy Elliot Dunne. : Wife of Nick Dune, daughter of Rand Elliot and Marybeth Elliot.

There are two kinds of characters in movie, major and minor characters. Major is the most telling in the story, the object or subject of the conflict. Meanwhile, minor character is character who has a role to the development the major character. Amy was the major character. She was the most telling in the story and the subject of the conflict. Major character consisted of protagonist and antagonist. Protagonist takes on the role of good person. At the beginning of story Amy was categorized as antagonist.

Antagonist is a character that takes on the role of bad person. A bad experienced came to Amy, her husband always controlled her like a poor woman, treated her badly, cheated and hurt her, Amy hated her husband. The problems that came to Amy's marriage made Amy felt scared and worried then turned into mental disorder. She became a woman who was cruel, psychopath, liar, antisocial, and manipulative. She tried to punish her husband into a prison by trapping him as her murderer. It could be proven from the dialogue of Amy in scene 22.

01:00:57-01:01:10

(Amy) The world will hate Nick for killing his beautiful,
pregnant wife. And when I'm ready, I'll go out on the
ocean with a handful of pi11s and a couple of stones.
If they find my body, they'll know
That Nick dumped his beloved like garbage, and
she floated down past. Then Nick will be punish
all the other abused, unwanted, inconvenient women

The most dangerous thing about Amy, she was a dangerous woman. Because of her obsession to punish her husband, she would do anything like lying, blackmailing and even committing murder. She wanted to see Nick's death in the prison for cheating and hurting her.

3.2.1. Cruel

Amy became cruel when she already knew Nick made affair with a girl named Andie. She made a plan to bring Nick into a prison. The plan was stronger when Nick did violence to Amy, he pushed Amy. Amy trapped her husband as her murderer by creating a fake death scenario. She hit him to the corner, started staging her murder scenes: tossing tables, upturning the ottoman and throwing her around violently.

3.2.2. Psychopath

Amy used knife to kill Dessi, her ex. Finally Desi died with a lot of blood. Amy performed this action with no mercy, she just thought about her happiness and how to get back to Nick.

3.2.3. Manipulating

Manipulation is the act of diversion. Besides murdering Desi, Amy also manipulated people, by trapping her husband as her murder and fighting against him. Amy was manipulating the blood in the kitchen floor to make everyone thought that Nick murdered her. Amy began finger painting the floor with her blood. She removed the needle and tapes her wound. She mopped the blood on the floor with the paper towels.

3.2.4. Liar

Lying is always done by mental disorder person. Normal people will lie if necessary but mental disorder person lies is the way of life. Amy lied about her pregnancy, her name and her death. Amy lied to others about her pregnancy to make people thought that Nick impregnated her, and to make people believed that Nick murdered his pregnant wife. Amy faked her pregnancy by taking her pregnant friend.

3.2.5. Antisocial

Usually a person who has a mental disorder is antisocial. She liked to be alone because when she associated with others she felt bridled. She does not want to live with society. Amy made and shed friends weekly, they were like project. It could be proven when Noelle, Amy's friend told to the police that they were best friend. But Nick said that Amy did not have a friend. She liked being alone in home.

3.3. The effect of Mental Disorder to Movie

Mental disorder determines how the characters act, talk, and walk, how the way of a character thinks in the beginning until the end of the story. She was naturally more complex and complicated. Mental disorder has an effect to the story of movie. Mental disorder is about personality health problems within character. In movie, mental disorder might happen to character to extend the plot. Plot is the most affected by what happens in the story. Mental disorder in the movie "*Gone Girl*" had a huge influence to the movie, especially to the storyline. The story had different atmosphere. It made the story more life but complicated enough. In the beginning of story, Nick felt confused for what would he give to Amy as fifth wedding anniversary present and that moment was also the day of Amy leaving her true self and started her fake death scenario.

The storyline became more complicated because of mental disorder that happened to Amy. *Gone Girl* presented the romantic and harmonious couple between Amy and Nick Dune. They looked like the happiest couple in the century, the perfect beautiful woman with a handsome and ideal man. The story showed that people believed Nick as a cruel husband who deserved to be punished. Not only Nick who was trapped into Amy's faked scenario but also many people. People never knew that Nick had been married to a mental disorder woman who was very dangerous. At the end,

people felt guilty to Nick because Nick was not the murderer of his wife. People's point of view changed they thought that Amy and Nick was the happiest romantic couple ever. But they still did not know that Amy and Nick were not like what they thought.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings above, the results of this research showed that the factor of Amy's mental disorder was because of anxiety faced by Amy. It was found that there were three types of anxiety in this movie. Realistic anxiety was when Amy was being afraid about what could have happened to their marriage in the future. She guessed something would get worse with the reason that his husband was not her dream man anymore. Then, Amy experienced moral anxiety. Amy felt that she was just a mistake for his husband, something loaded by mistake, and something that should be removed from Nick's life. The last factor was neurotic anxiety. This anxiety came to Amy when she already knew that Nick had cheated on her with a younger woman. It made Amy lost her temper and personality. This anxiety made Amy could not found the way out then Amy experienced mental disorder.

Then the researcher described how Amy's character presented as an antagonist, a woman who had mental disorder as the result of conflict that happened to their marriage. Amy was described as a dangerous and psychopath woman. She murdered Desi with knife in her house so that she could be with Nick. She was cruel; she trapped her husband by punishing him for cheating and being lazy with her by faking death scenario. She was a liar, lied to Nick and other people about her pregnancy and also her death. She manipulated her blood to support her faked dead scenario. And the last, she was described as an antisocial because she never had friends. Amy did not like to live in society.

Amy had problems in her marriage that made she felt anxious. She experienced mental health problem or mental disorder in this movie. There were three types of anxiety found in the Gone Girl movie. They are realistic, moral, and neurotic anxieties. It can be concluded family could made a person experienced mental disorder. Problem that happened to a marriage that could not be resolved would make a wife a mental disorder person. In marriage, people should be open and accepted each other, because marriage is committed to live together. Problem needs to be solved properly, not to blame each other and make one of the parties to be disappointed. Mental disorder that happened to Amy made Amy being a dangerous woman who was psychopath, antisocial, liar, manipulative, and cruel.

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