

CHAPTER 4

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the novel *Choke* by Chuck Palahniuk, the writer classifies the findings into two points: Victor's inauthenticity and Victor's subjectivity. Firstly, the writer implicates that Victor interpersonal relationship with the mother and his traumatic childhood are the main source of Victor's inauthenticity. His inauthenticity marks by his incapability to acknowledge his self-potential, his struggle with his addiction to sex, social desperation and existential crisis. He flees his own subjectivity and lives as the object. Alienation, abandonment, existential guilt, anxiety, anguish and despair are the form of Victor's existential crisis that can be found through the story.

Moreover, the writer found that the burden of his traumatic childhood spares him to be more suffered and dysfunction because he cannot cope with the circumstances. Victor's traumatic childhood and his dysfunctional relationship with the mother caused him to live cowardly since he believes that he has a fixed nature. He terrifies to take action to improve his life because he does not want to be responsible for himself. He seeks conformity and security he could not get from his mother when he was a child. Lastly, his compulsive needs for sex is not only a way to escape from reality, it is also his effort to get in touch with others.

In Victor's subjectivity, the writer discovers that the issue of subjectivity plays an important role in his life. Subjectivity helps to improve Victor's life to pursue his happiness and reshape his identity as he reevaluates his life and lives authentically. The struggles to break his addiction and restore lives are extremely challenging for him. He gradually improves himself and reconciles his relationship with his surroundings, specifically his relationship with his mother, Ida Mancini. It proves how subjectivity strongly influence Victor's acceptance of his reality when he realize that he needs to confront his problems in order to get rid misery from his life. In the end of the story, Victor takes full responsibility and reclaims his life.

Based on the finding above, the writer concludes that inauthenticity and existential crisis can relieve one's authentic sense and freedom to live a meaningful life. To achieve reconciliation, one must recreate one's own values by embracing one's subjectivity and take full responsibility to reclaim one's life first. Palahniuk has serious intentions on writing this novel. Besides encouraging his reader to embrace their own voices, he also wants to remind the readers how the power of self-narrative can be dangerously manipulating yet liberating at the same time.