

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature is a writing form which expresses and communicates through feeling and human attitude in literary works. According to Wellek and Warren, some literary critics see literature as a product of human creativity of written or oral work (1993). The novel is one of the literary works that have a story related to human life. Human is different from the other creatures, especially in the feel, think, and behave. The psychological problem often occurs in the characters of the novel, such as sadness, happiness, and frustration. There may be some motives and desires that make someone behave normal or abnormal.

Agatha Christie is an English writer and some of her novels tell about mystery and detective. One of her novels is *Death on the Nile* that was published in the UK by the Collins Club on 1 November 1937. Agatha Christie starts to write detective fiction since 1920, where her first work was published. She had published more than 60 detective novels. Agatha Christie's works are very famous which has a highest-selling novel. The works are 66 detective novels and 14 short stories that are in demand to one billion copies in English and one billion translated in other languages.

The writer chooses the topic of frustration and unconscious motives in *Death on the Nile* because of some reasons. Firstly, *Death on the Nile* is a unique novel that can be seen through the plot. The unpredictable story makes the readers surprise because the ending of this story is different from the reader's imagination. Secondly, the writer sees that *Death on the Nile* is an expressed psychological problem experienced by the main character which is suitable to the writer's concern. Lastly, *Death on the Nile* was one of the best novels written by Agatha Christie which received "Mystery Writers of America Grand Master Award and The Order of the British Empire, Dame Commander."

Death on the Nile is an interesting novel because it tells about Jacqueline, the woman as a suspect of a murderer. She has a best friend named Linnet and a boyfriend named Simon. All her life was changing when Linnet meets with Simon. Linnet not only steals Simon away from her friend Jacqueline, but she marries Simon and they head off on their honeymoon to Egypt. In revenge for stealing her man, Jacqueline starts showing up at all the locations where they visit. Hercule Poirot is vacationing in Egypt and boards the same ship to the Nile. There are some conflicts on the boat and Hercule Poirot takes on the case. Poirot can find the murderer. Moreover, at the end of the story, Jacqueline feels frustrated because of her sorrow life. Then, she ended her life tragically. She takes a pistol and commits suicide.

In this research, the writer believes that Jacqueline as the main character undergoes psychological problems. The psychological condition of the character is really interesting to be analyzed. However, the writer tries to find out one of the psychological conditions of Jacqueline that is figured out as frustration. This reason is inspired after the writer read the novel entitled *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie. However, some researchers analyze this novel focus on the character of Hercule Poirot (the Belgian detective). Then the writer wants to analyze Jacqueline as the main character.

Based on the previous explanation, the writer tries to analyze the psychological problems that the writer found in the main character, Jacqueline. Then, the writer entitles this research as **An Analysis of Unconscious Motives Behind Jacqueline's Frustration in *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie.**

1.2 Identification of the Problem

The character that was suspected as a murderer in *Death on the Nile* is the main character called Jacqueline. There are some conflicts experienced by Jacqueline in the novel. The conflicts can be found as the causes of psychological condition or the frustration of the main character.

The writer believes that there are unconscious motives that make Jacqueline feel frustrated, and she cannot act normally and think rational. Therefore, the frustration makes her in an unpredictable situation, such as killing her boyfriend. The

unconscious motives can affect murder and suicide. The writer will find the causes of Jacqueline's frustration the unconscious motives of Jacqueline's frustration.

1.3 Scope of the Research

This research focuses on the character of Jacqueline in *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie. The approach used in analyzing the novel is the psychological approach. Then, the psychological phenomena studied are the unconsciousness and frustration.

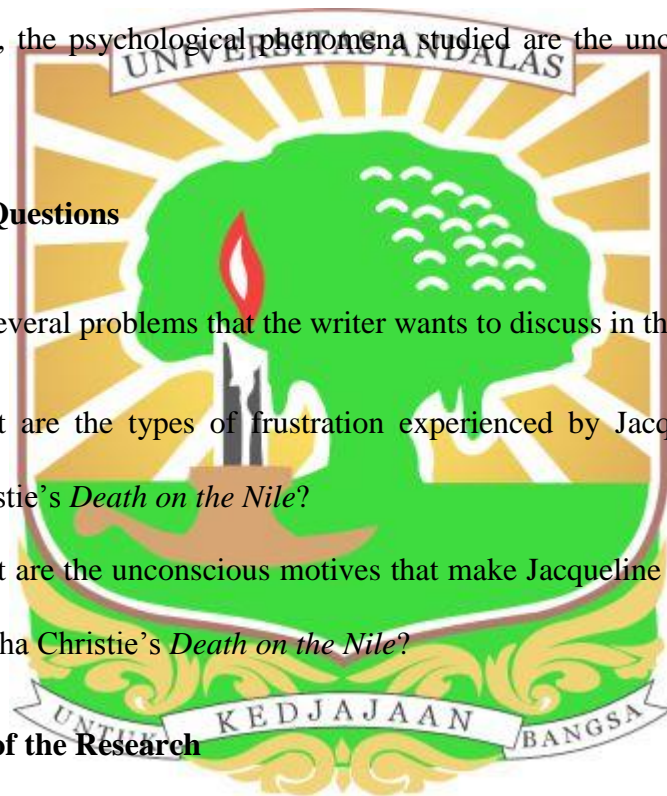
1.4 Research Questions

There are several problems that the writer wants to discuss in this research.

1. What are the types of frustration experienced by Jacqueline in Agatha Christie's *Death on the Nile*?
2. What are the unconscious motives that make Jacqueline feels frustrated in Agatha Christie's *Death on the Nile*?

1.5 Objective of the Research

The objective of this research is to find out the psychological problems of Jacqueline in *Death on the Nile*. The analysis is to identify the types and describes the causes of Jacqueline's frustration. Then, the writer shows the unconscious motives that cause the strange desire for Jacqueline by killing some people. By doing this



research, the writer also can explain the unconscious motives that make her become a frustrated person.

1.6 Review of Previous Studies

In the review of previous studies, the writer will show some analysis related to this research. The studies that the writer found are necessary source concerning the topics and novel. The writer reviews some related studies to understand deeply. Then, the purpose of doing a review is to find a different point of view in analysis and opinions by the other researchers who have the same topic or object. There are some previous studies that talk about psychological as the subject of the research.

The first study by Beben Zaenal Hasan (2014) from Sunan Gunung Jati Islamic University, Bandung entitled *Characterization and conflict in Agatha Christie's Death on the Nile novel*. In this thesis, he analyzes the characterization and conflict that happen in the novel. He uses E.M Forster's characterization theory to analyze the characters using flat and round characters. Then, he uses Robert Stanton's conflict theory to see the internal and external conflicts in the novel. This thesis is useful to the writer because of its use in the same novel. Moreover, this study is interesting because he does not only describe the characterization in detail but also explains the analysis of characters through the table. It helps the writer understand the characterization of *Death on the Nile* deeply. Other than that, he manages to explore the character and characterization and even the conflicts. The weakness of this study

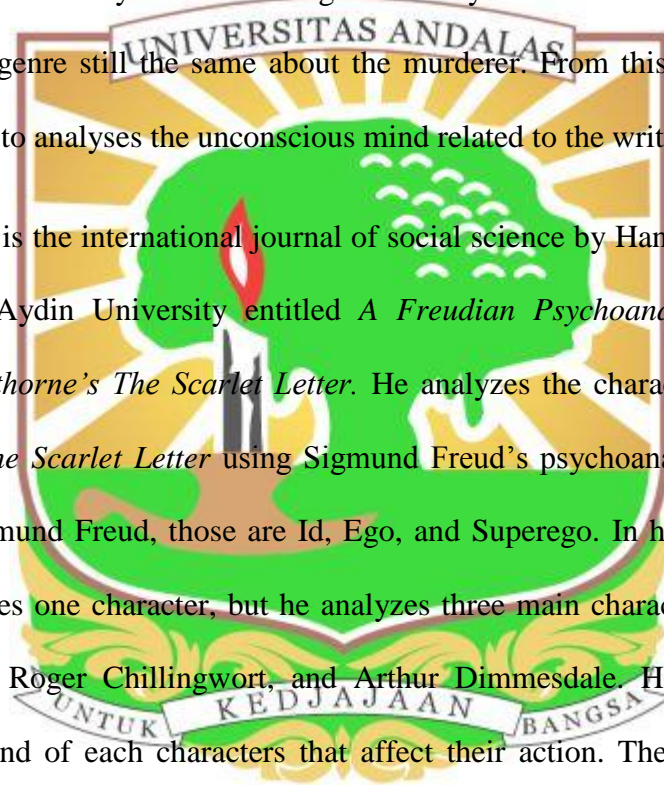
is in the review of related studies. The writer of this study did not make the review of related studies and it makes the readers cannot compare this study to others.

The second study by Ratna Erawati (2007) from Sebelas Maret University entitled *An analysis of frustration and self-adjustment as experienced by Roger Hancock in the novella "the strange country" by Ernest Hemingway*. In this thesis, she discusses the psychological problem of the main character named Roger. Roger experienced frustration because he lost his greatest stories and he cannot find it everywhere. Roger also cannot make the new stories, and that situation makes him frustrated because he failed to be the most excellent writer. Then, he faced self-adjustment when he tried to be confident in producing better work, but he has no power and spirit of writing stories again. This study uses the psychological approach, the theory of frustration from Floyd L. Ruch and the theory of Self-Adjustment from Hubert Bonner. The strength of her research is when she explains the analysis through the frequency table and description. It is clearer to discuss and understand by the reader. The topic is also the same as the writer's analysis of the frustration suffered by the main character in the novel. The lack of this thesis is located in the format of the analysis. She does not create a clean look along the left and right side of the page.

The third study by Nessie Agustia (2011) from Andalas University entitled *The Unconscious mind of A Psychopath in Patrick Suskind's Perfume: The Story of the murderer*. In this thesis, she discusses the psychological problem of the main

character in the novel. She found the unconscious motivation that causes a strange desire to the main character by killing 25 virgins. The main character becomes a psychopath because of his experience in childhood. In this study, the writer finds a similar discussion about Sigmund Freud's theory that discusses the psychological analysis. Based on this research, the writer thinks Sigmund Freud's theory can be used to analyze a literary work. Although the study from the different titles of the object, but the genre still the same about the murderer. From this study, the writer also learns how to analyses the unconscious mind related to the writer's research.

The last is the international journal of social science by Hande Isaoglu (2015) from Istanbul Aydin University entitled *A Freudian Psychoanalytic Analysis of Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter*. He analyzes the characters in Nathaniel Hawthorne's *The Scarlet Letter* using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis theory. The concept by Sigmund Freud, those are Id, Ego, and Superego. In his article, he does not only analyzes one character, but he analyzes three main characters in the novel, Hester Prynne, Roger Chillingworth, and Arthur Dimmesdale. He talks about the unconscious mind of each characters that affect their action. These characters and their actions are intended to be analyzed in relation to Freudian concept of id, ego, and superego. He uses references from the repressed of the main characters when their childhood and memories. The writer believes that the picture of childhood makes her learns more about psychoanalysis of the character. This research is beneficial because it uses the same theory and concept of personality.



From the previous studies above, the topics are not only about the psychological problem suffered by the main character, but the writer also put a study from the same work to make a better understanding of this research. There are some researchers above using Freud's theory in analyzing literary works. In this case, it helps the writer understand well the theory. The writer realizes that the topics might be similar to the writer's idea, but the analysis that the writer wants to explore will be different from the other researchers. The writer analyzes the frustration and the unconscious motives of the main character in the *Death on the Nile* novel by Agatha Christie.

1.7 Theoretical Framework

Psychology and Literature

There is a relationship between psychology and literature. Those are the same in the study about humans and life. In psychoanalytic criticism, the reader can see the way the text in literary work can be formed, and also get some information about the meaning of the formation in that literary text. It tells about the relationship between psychoanalysis approaches with literature.

Furthermore, the relations between psychology and literature based on Wellek and Warren, we may study of psychological of the writer, as a type and as an individual or the research of creative process, or the study of the psychological

standards and laws present within works of literature, or finally the effects of literature to the readers. (1977:81).

From the statement above, it can be said that there are four meanings by using the psychology of literature. Firstly, the psychological study on the author as an individual. It deals with the reflection of the psychological condition of the author through his or her literary works. Secondly, the study of the creative process which emphasizes on the analysis of the steps of creating the work. Thirdly, the study of the psychological types and laws that can be obtained from the literary works. Finally, the study on the effect of literature to the readers. In this case, it deals with the readers of the respondents to the literary works that they have read.

The most suitable type that may be applied in *Death on the Nile* is the third type, which focuses on the work itself. Therefore, the use of psychological approach becomes an instrument to explain the character's behavior. The third point will be used to reveal the psychological problem of the main character that appears in *Death on the Nile*. The suitable psychological problem that is relevant to the phenomena of the main character is frustration. This analysis uses the theory of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud and the theory of frustration proposed by Floyd L. Ruch.

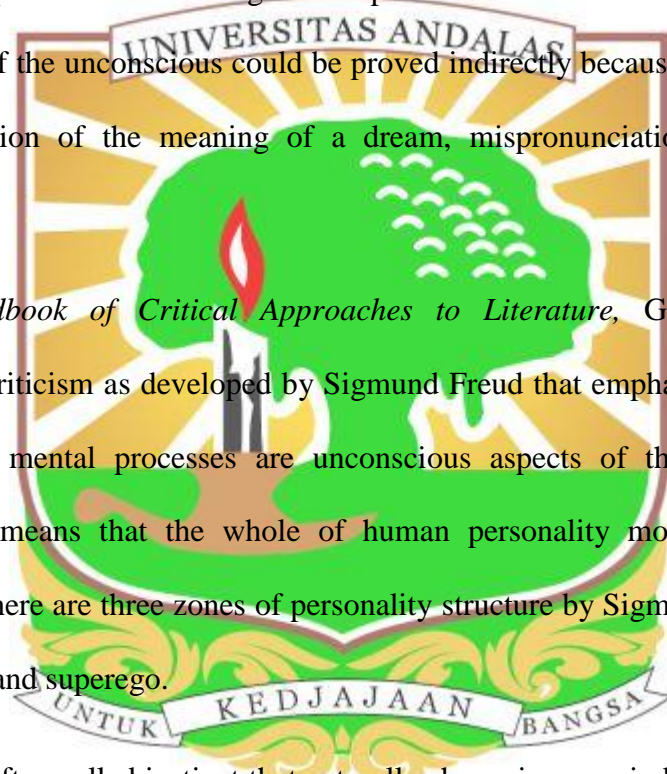
Sigmund Freud's Psychoanalysis

Many approaches in the literature can be used to analyze literary works. In this research, the writer uses the theory of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud. According

to Sigmund Freud, there is no aim in psychoanalysis except for help us resolve the psychological problems and understanding the unconscious mind in mental life (2006:12). Freud knows that the unconscious is still life in human beings and put in the first place. The content of the unconscious is encouragements, longings, feelings, attitudes, thinking, or instinct, which is under controlled by desires. Actually, the unconscious appears in the most significant part of human consciousness and action. The existence of the unconscious could be proved indirectly because the unconscious is the explanation of the meaning of a dream, mispronunciation, and kinds of forgetting.

In *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*, Guerin states that psychological criticism as developed by Sigmund Freud that emphasizes the most of an individual's mental processes are unconscious aspects of the human psyche (1999:155). It means that the whole of human personality most driven by the unconscious. There are three zones of personality structure by Sigmund Freud. Those are the id, ego, and superego.

The Id often called instinct that naturally shows in our minds. Wilfred Guerin states that “the id is the reservoir of libido, the primary source of all psychic energy. It functions to fulfill the primordial life principle, which Freud considers to be the pleasure principle.” (1999:156) It is the primary component of personality, and everybody has id in their life. It happens naturally, and it is the personality present since our birth. The id organizes for our basic drives such as food, water, and sex. If

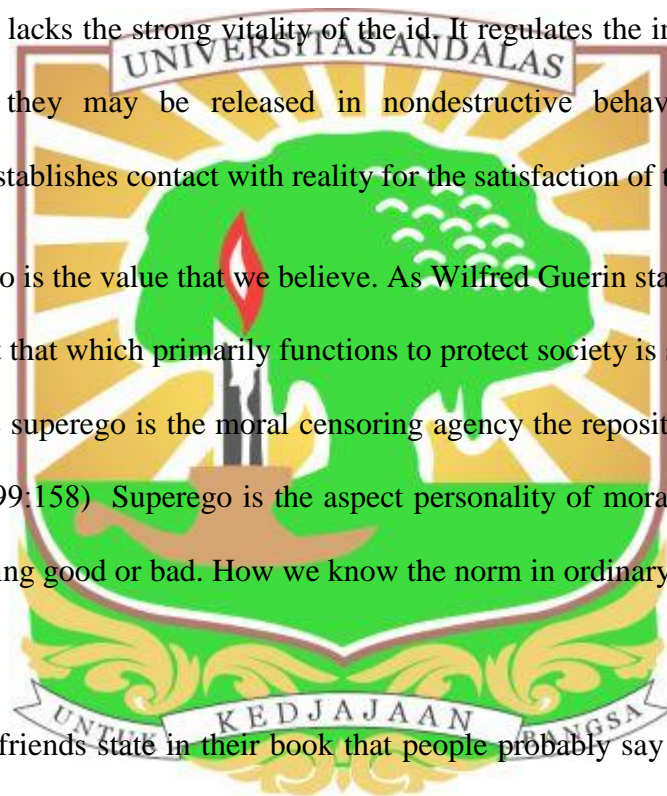


the needs are not satisfied immediately, the result is like anxiety, frustration, or depression.

The ego is the part of the personality that is recognized for dealing with reality. As Wilfred Guerin states that " the first of these regulating agencies, that which protects the individual is ego. This is the rational governing agent of the psyche. Though the ego lacks the strong vitality of the id. It regulates the instinctual drives of id so that they may be released in nondestructive behavioral patterns." (1999:157). It establishes contact with reality for the satisfaction of the id.

The superego is the value that we believe. As Wilfred Guerin states that "the other regulating agent that which primarily functions to protect society is superego. Largely unconscious the superego is the moral censoring agency the repository of conscience and pride." (1999:158) Superego is the aspect personality of moral standards in our life like something good or bad. How we know the norm in ordinary life, it will see in the superego.

Guerin and friends state in their book that people probably say that the id would make us devils, the superego would have us behave as angels (or, worse, as creatures of absolute social conformity), and the ego to keep us healthy human beings by maintaining a balance between these two opposing forces (1999:158). Freud said that the key to having a good personality is a balance between the id, the ego, and the superego. It can be concluded that Sigmund Freud's theory is applicable to be used in



analyzing literary works because the writer has found some similar discussion that also uses his theory to analyzing literary work. As a result, the writer will analyze the psychological problem of the character in the novel used theory by Sigmund Freud. In this case, the writer finds the behavior of the main character that related to psychological approach, such as unconscious and frustration. One example of the psychological problem that the writer wants to analyze is frustration.

Frustration



The psychological approach mainly focuses on analyzing the personality of the character that reflected human towards life. Psychology deals with our feeling, thoughts, and our way of doing things and one of the example of psychological problem is frustration. Freud says that "Frustration occurred whenever pleasure seeking or pain avoiding behaviour was blocked" (1920).

In psychology, frustration is a common emotional response related to anger, annoyance and disappointment. Frustration is a feeling of being upset because of the inability to change or achieve something. Every human has a problem when faces this world and sometimes cannot control the emotion in the right way. As a result, It will cause frustrated.

Frustration is a state of low mood that can have a negative effect on a person's thoughts, behavior, feelings, and world view. They may lose interest in making decisions and sometimes think of death or suicide. Sometimes, when people want to

fulfill their necessities, they can be an excellent fancy or an evil desire. When they can have what they want, they will be satisfied. On the contrary, when they cannot fulfill them, the result will be upset and feeling sadness. Those feelings can put into frustration. Children or adults can experience frustration. If this condition is not handled soon, they will be in acute anxiety and frustrated.

There are some motives that caused someone facing frustration. Floyd L. Ruch states that “the motives and produce frustrations may be classified into three main categories: environmental, personal and conflict” (1971:461-462).

1. Environmental Frustration

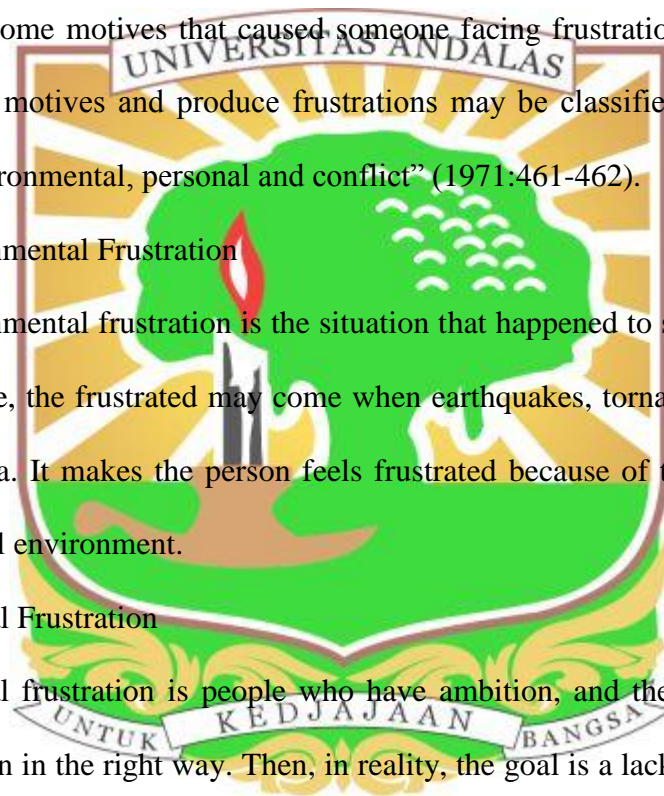
Environmental frustration is the situation that happened to social barriers, for example, the frustrated may come when earthquakes, tornadoes, or floods in one area. It makes the person feels frustrated because of the damage to the physical environment.

2. Personal Frustration

Personal frustration is people who have ambition, and they think that their ambition in the right way. Then, in reality, the goal is a lack of necessary and not worth it at all. It will increase the feeling of frustration, for example, the boy wants to be the police, but his body not tall enough.

3. Conflict Frustration

Based on Ruch, he says that conflict frustration occurs when an individual must choose one or the other of two goals or has both positive and negative



feelings about a particular purpose. The frustration comes when someone upset to select a better goal. The brain will work hard and make a bad situation. Then, she/he feels frustrated with the conflict.

1.8 Method of the Research

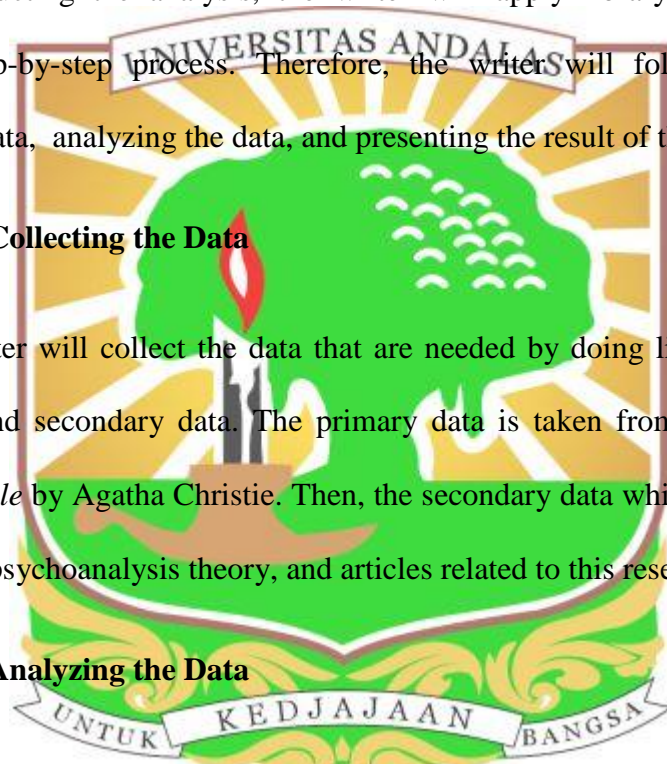
In conducting the analysis, the writer will apply library research, which involves a step-by-step process. Therefore, the writer will follow some steps: collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of the analysis.

1.8.1 Collecting the Data

The writer will collect the data that are needed by doing library research to find primary and secondary data. The primary data is taken from the work itself, *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie. Then, the secondary data which are taken from literary books, psychoanalysis theory, and articles related to this research.

1.8.2 Analyzing the Data

In analyzing the data, the writer reads the novel carefully and read the supporting data. Afterward, the writer analyzes intrinsic elements by finding several important events and the psychological problem in the main character that exists in the novel. The writer identifies the action of one of the main characters that suffered from frustration in the novel. Therefore, the writer makes sure that the references are suitable for the analysis. Besides, the writer applies psychoanalysis theory by



Sigmund Freud and frustration theory by Floyd L. Ruch, which includes the discussion about frustration and unconscious motive.

1.8.3 Presenting the Result of Analysis

In presenting the result of the analysis, the writer uses qualitative research. According to Bodgan and Biklen in *Qualitative Research for Education: an Introduction to Theory and Method*, qualitative research is descriptive and collected the data in the form of words or pictures rather than numbers (2007). The descriptive method is used to display the result of the analysis by quoting the sentence from the novel, which relevant to the analysis. Then, explain the detailed phenomenon in forms of words.

