

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is reflected in Human life, and vice versa. Many literary works adopt from real life. As in the short story by Edgar Allan Poe The Black Cat, it is reflects human life. This study primarily aims to analyze the psychological aspects of the main character in The Black Cat short story by using the psychoanalysis theory by Freud (1856-1939), to find out the anxiety and defense mechanisms used by the main character. This study is interesting because in this short story, shows many psychological aspects in shape of anxiety and defense mechanism, and it is often happens in everyday life.

Aspects of psychology include feelings, emotions, logic and human behavior. This is the reason of researcher conducted this study, because aspects of psychology are very closely related to daily life and important to be noted. This study was conducted so that the reader can understand the aspects of psychology and can apply it in everyday life to analyze the different characteristics of others. So, this study is expected to be a lesson for others in order to understand, adapting, and interacting to people who have different personalities.

As father of Psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud continued to modify his theory over a period of nearly half a century. Psychoanalysis focuses on the

unconscious aspects of personality. According to Freud the human mind mostly hidden in the unconscious, it was mysterious and hidden. Meanwhile He believed that the conscious level of the mind could be seen similar to the tip of the iceberg. According to Freud, aspects of psychoanalysis emphasize the importance of understanding that individual personalities are formed by different characters in each individual. Unconscious thoughts, feelings and experiences which influence individual thoughts and actions are factors outside of a person's recognition (Patel, 2013).

In defining anxiety, Freud emphasized that it is a felt, affective, discomfort feeling, and unpleasant state which produced by the Ego. Anxiety functions as a signal to the individual towards existence some danger is imminent or imminent danger. Anxiety allows the ego to be alert to signs of threats and danger. The coming danger signals stimulate the individual to mobilize self-defense and reduce pain anxiety (Feist, 2009).

Defense mechanisms are someone's strategy to hide and reduce their anxiety. Defense mechanism was used unconsciously when there are too much anxieties disturbing the ego. And it is to avoid the potential to harm a person's mental health which making them vulnerable (Snowden (2006).

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The following are several problems formulates in conducting this research:

1. What are the types of anxieties experienced by the main character?
2. What are the kinds of defense mechanisms used by the main character to overcome his anxieties?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The following are the aims of conducting this research are:

1. To find out the types of anxieties experienced by the main character.
2. To indicate the defense mechanism used by main character.

1.4 Scope of the Study

This study use psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud to analyze the main character's personality, with focus on discussing the types that causing the anxiety by the main character. It also discusses the defense mechanism used by the main character to overcome his anxiety.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study conducted to find out the types that causing the anxiety by the main character. It also discusses the defense mechanism used by main character to overcome his anxiety.

Benefiting the study are the various sector as follows:

1. To the researcher, to enrich the theoretical based on psychoanalysis theory especially in the analysis of anxiety and ego defense mechanism.
2. To the readers, this study help readers in understanding the anxiety and ego defense mechanism theory by Sigmund Freud.
3. To the society, this study provide the information about psychoanalysis theory that can be applied in everyday life to analyzing another person's characteristic.

1.6 Approach of the Study

This study focus on Qualitative Approach by describe the types of anxieties, and find out the defense mechanisms used by the main character in “*The Black Cat*” short story. In addition to the qualitative approach, this literary research also applies a psychoanalytic approach.

1.7 Organization of the paper

To make this thesis systematic and easy to read, the organization of the thesis may firstly be explained in general. This thesis is organized in the following:

Chapter 1 is introduction. This chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, approach to the study and organization of the paper.

Chapter II is biography of the author and synopsis of the work. In this chapter explains about biography and synopsis of the author of short story “*The Black Cat*”.

Chapter III is review of related literature. In this chapter explains about theories applied in this research.

Chapter IV describe findings and discussion.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. This chapter is the last chapter consisting of the conclusion and suggestion of the study.