

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1. 1 Background of the Study

Human beings have a personality. Personality is divided into two types extrovert and introvert. An introvert in *Cambridge Dictionary* is someone shy, quiet, and prefers to spend time alone rather than often being with other people. In other words, introvert people like a quiet place with fewer people as they will feel uncomfortable in a place full of people. Introvert people are not sociable but it does not mean that they are anti-social, it only drains their energy quickly. Introvert people usually recharge their energy when they have quality time alone. They are more comfortable with people in their small circle of friends, they choose to have a small number of people they are comfortable with than many people they find unfamiliar with. They spend their time mostly in their room, their most comfortable place to enjoy their time alone. Introvert people always think about everything carefully before deciding as they always think about any possibility before making a decision. Introvert people are one of the best listeners in conversation, they are also good observant. They have enormous knowledge about everything they are interested in.

An extrovert is the opposite of an introvert as *Cambridge Dictionary* said that an extrovert is an energetic person who enjoys being with other people. It means that extrovert people enjoy other people's company, and they enjoy the social event. They also avoid being alone for a long time as they will feel

unenergetic while they are alone. They are fine with anyone as they always find a topic to talk about with different people. Extrovert people recharge their energy by socializing. They will be full of energy while they are in a circle full of new people. They are categorized also as the type who makes a decision quickly as they take action first before they think about the outcome. In a conversation, extrovert people are the one who starts a conversation and talking more than listening as they always find a new topic to talk about. They also like to be the center of attention in every conversation.

As introverts and extroverts have different traits in personality, their impacts in life are also different one from another. In this pandemic period, the impact of people's personality is so obvious, some people also said that “when you did not feel anything in this pandemic period, it means that you are an introvert”. Pandemic period means to lock down, it means that everyone has to stay at home and cannot go out of their house if it is not something important. The school was closed, many workplaces must take a rest and many workers have to lose their job, even markets have to be closed for a period of time. People with introverted personality will be delighted in this period because it is meant that they can spend their quality time alone far away from social interaction. They can spend their entire time inside the house without any desire to go outside of the house. Introvert people will have full energy and take their quality time more productively than extrovert people. People with extrovert personality will find this period as something disastrous as they cannot get out of their house mean they cannot hang out with their friends and cannot enjoy any social interaction as it is

prohibited. Spending all days inside the house will make extrovert people deplete their energy and they cannot recharge their energy fully as they cannot interact with many people. There is Berg an extrovert who shared about what he felt in this pandemic era, he said that he was desperate for the pressure-release valve found in the company of friends. But that valve — one through which he needed to externalize my despair — had been shut off. He also added that his wife who is an introvert is calmer in this situation (Berg, 2020). Despite that in one research done by the Swiss research team about the pandemic impact for introverts and extroverts they conclude that the findings revealed that those high in introversion who was able to draw upon these adaptive emotion-regulating strategies indeed were best able to preserve their well-being and relief from loneliness. Extroverts fared less well throughout the study primarily because rather than use adaptive emotion regulation strategies, they tended to suppress their despair (Whitbourne, 2020).

Many novels use personality as their topic especially introvert, such as *Tell The Wolves I'm Home* by Carol Rifka Brunt, *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain, *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple, and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky. The novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is a novel written by Stephen Chbosky in 1999. This novel is categorized as coming of age story and takes an introverted person who learns new things from his friends. The novel becomes the number 1 New York Times bestseller for more than a year, an American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults (2000) and Best Book for Reluctant

Readers (2000), and with millions of copies in print, this novel for teen readers. This novel also got adapted to a movie with the same title in 2012. The movie script was written by Stephen Chbosky, who also become the director of this movie. The cast for the player was, Logan Lerman as Charlie, Emma Watson as Sam, and Ezra Miller as Patrick. Its first release is on 12 September 2012 in the US. (Saver et al., 2013)

This novel is the story of an introverted male student named Charlie, he never enjoyed his life with his friend in his school, or to be exact, he does not have someone to call a 'friend'. The story started with Charlie writing a letter to an anonymous person and telling them about his everyday life. he said that he hopes the school is quickly over even though the semester has just started. Because of his personality, many people are worried about him. His teacher even asks him to participate more in a social activity like an extracurricular or party which he never attends. One day, he meets Patrick and his sister Sam. After he met them, he started to participate in any kind of event and starts to meet new friends. Slowly as time flies, he started to be open up his heart to his friends and become happier and join in conversation not only listening. For the writer, this story is an example of what introverted person's everyday life. A life that is full of imagination, loneliness, uncomfortable around people, and more.

The writer chose "Introvertness of a Male Character Portrayed in Stephen Chbosky's *"The Perks of Being a Wallflower"* as the title of the thesis. The title was chosen because the writer focused to analyze introvert characteristics in the main character of the novel *The Perk of Being a Wallflower* and also analyze the

impact of introvertness on his life. The writer found some researchers who also analyzed these literary works and will use them as reference and comparison to a better result. Other than that the writer also collects many other references to make this research more reliable.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

To help the writer to analyse the novel, the writer composed statement of the problem as follows:

1. What are the characteristics of introvertness portrayed in the male character of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?
2. What are the factors that cause the male character to be an introvert person?
3. What are the impacts of introvertness on the male character of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*?

### **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

Based on the statement of the problem, the writer formulates the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To find out the characteristics of introvertness in the male character.
2. To find out the factors that cause the male character to be an introvert person.
3. To find out the impacts of introvertness of the male character.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

The study is limited to discuss the characteristics of introvert, the factors that cause the introvert side and the impacts of introvertness that are experienced by the male character, Charlie in Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The writer hopes by doing this research, it can help others to do further research especially in English Literature of Faculty of Language and Cultural Studies to understand Carl Jung's approach, especially about personality. Also, the writer hopes that this research can help introvert people to start to open their hearts and live more freely in society. Furthermore, this study has helped the writer to comprehend more about psychoanalysis especially about personality and its impacts on everyday life.

#### **1.6 Approach to the Study**

The type of study in this research is qualitative research in nature. According to Creswell (2013), qualitative research is a research method to explore and understand the meaning that some individuals or groups of people think come

from social or human problems (LP2M Universitas Medan Area, 2020). Data could be in the form of videos, images, or artifacts. The writer used the content analysis technique as one of the qualitative methods to analyze the data in this research. Content analysis is a research tool used to determine the presence of certain words, themes, or concepts within some given qualitative data. Using content analysis, researchers can quantify and analyze the presence, meanings, and relationships of certain words, themes, or concepts. Content analysis has two general types: conceptual and relational analysis. Each of them leads to a different conclusion, interpretation, and meaning. Conceptual analysis is a research tool to help to quantify how many times a word/phrase or text appears in a document. On the other hand, relational analysis is a technique to explore the relationships of concepts found in a text. Each of the concepts has no meaning as an individual but rather the product of the correlation among concepts. In this study, the writer chose relational analysis as an analyzing method because the concepts or the ideas found in the film, determine the meaning, correlate, and intertwine with each other. So relational content analysis becomes a suitable method in this study.

This study focuses on the context-oriented approach. The term context-oriented approaches refer here to a heterogeneous group of schools and methodologies which do no longer regard literary texts as self-contained, impartial works of art but attempt to area them inside a bigger context. Relying on the motion, this context can be history, social and political background, literary genre, nationality, or gender (M. Klarer, 2004). The theory that the writer used in this thesis is using Carl Jung's Psychoanalysis Approach: Psychological Types

and Theory of Collective Unconsciousness. He divided personality into general types Introvert and Extravert and is influenced by an individual's adaptation or orientation to life. He also called introverts as general attitude types, since they are distinguished by the direction of general interest or libido movement, while extravert as function types (C. Jung, 1921). In Theory of collective unconsciousness, Jung's stated that the entire personality is present from birth and that personality is not simply a function of the environment, as was thought at the time he was developing his ideas, but rather it brings out what is already present (C. G. Jung, 1975).

To make good and valid results, the writer did several steps. First, the writer collected the data source for this research the first was Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. It contains information about the main object of this research. The additional data source of this research came from other books, journals, and websites that relate to the topics of this research. Second, the writer read the data sources for this research and identified the object observation related to behaviors, actions, intentions, reasons, and effects and made it into a list. Third, the writer analyzed the list using psychoanalysis theory, especially Carl Jung's psychological types theory and theory of collective unconscious. And lastly, the writer had to interpret the objective of the study, that were to find out the characteristic, causes and the impact of the introvertness of the male character in Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

## 1.7 Organization of the Paper

This paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is the introduction that includes the background of the study, statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the scope of the study, the significance of the study, approach of the study, and organization of the paper. The second chapter consists of biography of Stephen Chbosky and synopsis of the novel *The Perks of being a Wallflower*. The third chapter consists of the previous study, popular literature and novel definition, psychoanalysis definition, personality definition, Carl Gustav Jung's extrovert and introvert characteristic. The fourth chapter consists of an analysis of the characteristics of introvertness showed in Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of being a Wallflower*, and the impacts of introvertness in Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of being a Wallflower*. Finally, the last chapter is the conclusion of the analysis and suggestion.