

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of Study**

The literary work is the material of communication between the author and the reader. Literature is a science which deals with an article or words that has the value of art and culture and also a beauty with a particular meaning. According to Warren and Wellek (1976:22) "literature is the result of human's creation which expresses the mind of creator, thought, understanding, and idea for responding toward of life in his imaginative language and emotion. They also pointed that the art of literature specifically seems to claim "the truth" through the view of life which artistically coherent work possesses". Besides, literature contains the values of culture which can influence the thinking ways of human, a mirror of life, experience, thought, and felt as the human's guidance to recognize life.

A literary work can be portraying of the autor's life. By their works, they can express his/her imagination through idea, mind and psychological experience. Literature can be classified into short story, novel, poetry and drama. From this research, the researcher takes the novel as the object of study to be her thesis. Psychology is also influenced in the literary work, According to Wittig (2001) "psychology is science or study of the thought processes and behavior of humans and other animals in their interaction with the environment. Psychologist study processes of sense perception, thinking, learning, cognition, emotions and

motivations, personality, abnormal behavior, interaction between individuals, and interaction with the environment”.

In literary work the author usually discuss about biography, social, mental disorder and etc. Among the psychological issues, mental disorder is one of global phenomenon occurred in our surrounding to be discussed. One of phenomenon of mental disorder is schizophrenia like what is portrayed in a novel entitled *January First*. This is one of the mental illness novel adopted from a true story of Jany (the daughter of the author) who suffers from schizophrenia. In this novel, Janni is described as a schizophrenic whose condition continues to slowly deteriorate as she hears phantom sounds, has hallucination, and becomes increasingly paranoid. Because of her illness, she must be separated from her social life which commonly happens to people with schizophrenia.

As stated by Andreasen (in Weinberger and Harrison, 2011:3), “schizophrenia is an illness that has an effect on someone’s identity, his or her brain, and his or her most complex functions of brain system”. In many cases, a person who suffers from schizophrenia may have disorganized speech and behaviour. He or she finds difficulties to distinguish what is real and unreal, and to express his or her own emotions. Unfortunately, sometimes the schizophrenic does not realise that he or she is suffering from this illness and even, many of these sufferers refuse to get treatment.

From that notion above, schizophrenia is one of the disorders known as brain disorder which can give bad influences to human thought. A person experiencing mental disorder has a loss of contact with reality. Mental disorder is characterized by difficulties with thinking, seeing and hearing in their life. When people get

schizophrenia they can imagine something which is not real, sometime they will call their shadow like in the real life, they will imagine with the real name or create special name from their own for example symbol of fruit, animal, or human like in real life.

“Schizophrenia is a devastating disorder which is characterized by a loss of contact with reality, false beliefs (delusions), false perceptions (hallucinations), and irrational thinking and behavior. The most typical age for the onset of schizophrenia is the late teens and early 20 years old”. (Alshowkan and Curtis 2012:122).

From the explanation above, means that schizophrenia is a mental disorder that affects brain of human, so people will be hard to think, control emotion and make decisions. Schizophrenia is also a mental disorder that interferes person's ability to think clearly, and related to others. It can happen to adult or child who gets the disorder. Child and adult are suffer schizophrenia generally.

The writer tries to analyze this issue as described in *January First* novel which was released on May 15, 2012 in New York and directed by Michael Schofield as the author. Schofield is an English lecturer at California State University, Northridge. His family's story has appeared in the Los Angeles Times and on The Oprah Winfrey Show, and Discovery Health. He lives in the Los Angeles area with his family.

This story tells about the real experience of Schofields as the author of this novel. At six years old, Michael Schofield's daughter named January, was diagnosed with one of the most severe cases of child onset schizophrenia. January is at the mercy of her imaginary friends, except they aren't the imaginary friends that most

young children have; they are hallucinations. And January is caught in the conflict between our world and their world, a place she calls Calalini. Some of these hallucinations, like "24 Hours," are friendly and some, like "400 the Cat" and "Wednesday the Rat," bite and scratch her until she does what they want. They often tell her to scream at strangers, jump out of buildings, and attack her baby brother.

The writer chooses *January First* novel because the writer knows it is important to analyse because sometimes we can find the person or child who suffers from this illness and to understand deeply about schizophrenia. In this analysis the writer employs psychological approach. By analyzing narration and dialogue, it will help the writer to analyze this kind of disorder.

The reason why the writer choose this titled *January First* by Michael Schofield because there are some causes of schizophrenic child and characteristic of schizophrenic child which are affecting to their growth. From Schofield's novel the writer can learn much about the condition of life from people who are suffering schizophrenia especially in children through characteristic as described in this novel. As a child, commonly they will experience good living conditions without disturbing their thinking, feeling and behavior and then they can develop their life until adulthood in good process, but Janny has different experience of life. She is not like any other normal children.

## **1.2 Research Question**

1. What are the characteristics of schizophrenia as seen in main character in schofield's *January First* novel?

2. What are the causes of schizophrenia as seen in main character in schofield's *January First* novel?

### **1.3 Research Objective**

1. To explain about the characteristic of schizophrenia as seen in main character in schofield's *January First* novel
2. To explain about the cause of schizophrenia as seen in main character in schofield's *January First* novel

### **1.4 Uses of the Study**

#### **1.4.1 Theoretical Uses**

In theoretical uses, the writer wants to apply the theory and approach by Owen and Wittig in order to provide the knowledge about the analysis on the literary work. This research is able to give overview of the story which is correlated with the causes and characteristic of schizophrenic child. From this research the writer also wants to provide the deeper knowledge for the people who will analyze child schizophrenia characteristics. The aim of this research also is not only for the researcher in English Literature major but also for the reader who gets interested in the novel *January First*.

#### **1.4.2 Practical Uses**

Practically, the analysis gives contribution of knowledge for the writer and for the readers to figure out about the causes and the characteristics of child suffering

from schizophrenia. It is also expected to motivate English Literature student to do research.

### **1.5 Scope of Study**

The writer limits the discussion and only focuses about the characteristics and the causes of child with schizophrenia as seen in Jany's character as the one and only character who suffer schizophrenia in *January First* novel by Michael Schofield which was published in New York by using the theory of Owen (Owen) and the approach by Wittig (2001).