

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

There are several types of personality disorders, one of which is a psychopathic disorder. A person who has a psychopathic disorder is known as a psychopath and they frequently commit violent act such as killing. According to J.L. Koch on Nadica Buzina's journal entitled *Psychopathy – Historical Controversies and New Diagnostic Approach*, the term of psychopathic appeared in the late 19th century in Germany and was used as a synonym for aggressive and irresponsible behavior. Psychopathic has been characterized as a disorder mainly of personality and to the extent, behavior. According to Hare (1993: ix), psychopathy is a personality disorder defined by a distinctive cluster of behaviors and inferred personality traits most of which society view as pejorative. People who are psychopathic prey ruthlessly on others using charm, deceit, violence, or other methods that allow them to get what they want (Hare, 1993: xi). Some of them commit killing for no reason and do it just for sport. Even though some psychopaths commit crimes without any reason and just for their pleasure instead, but the crimes that they have committed can also be caused by some factors such as

traumatic experience, envy and greed, poor parenting, and socioeconomic status are usually the main cause that can make a person become a psychopath. Their passion for killing makes a psychopath known as a social predator. Naturally, a psychopath cannot recognize their own emotion, so it will be very difficult for them to be able to control their emotions.

Psychopathic theme is also interesting to be explore because there is no significant distinction between a psychopath and other normal human personality. In society, many people still generalized psychopath as a murderer who is antisocial, likes to be alone, and is unable to establish social relations with others. While in fact, there are also some people with this disorder who can look normal and even have a successful life. As said by Hare (2018), a psychopath tends to blend in. They can be our friends and fun to be around but at the same time they might take advantage of us by using charm, deceit, violence, or other methods that allow them to get what they want. Therefore, many people still unaware of the existence of a psychopath among them. Psychopathic behavioral phenomena are included in the study of literary psychology in literary research because, essentially, psychology pays attention to the psychological problems of the fictional figures in literary works.

According to Aksan (2008:65) on the *psychopathic behavior phenomenon on Katarsis novel by Anastasia Aemilia* journal, the psychopathic behavior phenomenon that exists in community has unconsciously influenced several artwork forms one of which is literature. It occurs because literary works cannot be separated from the writers

who produced them. The phenomenon of psychopathic behavior by the author is illustrated based on their psychopathic experience or the imagination of authors that are able to describe a psychopathic figure. For instance, Agatha Christie, a mystery novel writer, wrote about the world she knew and saw based on the men, lords and ladies of the military, spinsters, widows, and doctors from the circle of friends and acquaintances in her community. She was a natural observer and she was always extremely accurate in her depictions of village politics, local rivalries, and family jealousies. The most daily events and casual observations might trigger the idea for a new plot (Musinguzi 2017).

The A.B.C. Murders is a detective fiction novel written by British author Agatha Christie. It is Agatha Christie's world-famous serial killer mystery, featuring her characters Hercule Poirot, Arthur Hastings and Chief Inspector Japp. The novel is about a serial killing by a mysterious murderer known who left an A.B.C railway guide beside each victim's as a clue. The A.B.C Railway Guide open at the name of the town where the murder has taken place. Having begun with Andover, Bexhill and then Churston, there seems little chance of the murderer being caught - until he makes the crucial and vain mistake of challenging Hercule Poirot to frustrate his plans.

Some researchers have studied about psychopath disorder in the journal article by Jeanette Herdita Juniaruni Widyasari M.WI, entitled *Martin's Psychopathic Disorder in the Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* (2015). The author of this journal analyzes

one of the characters within the novel which is Martin and focuses on the psychopath behavior of the character. Concepts of psychopath by Robert D.Hare were use in this journal article to reveal psychopath act of the character. She also analyzes Martin's id, ego, and superego to find the reason of why Martin chose women as his victim.

Another similar studies about similar research in the journal article by Rosin Novaditya Nur Wahid, *The Psychopath Phenomenon Reflected in Gillian Flynn's Gone Girl Novel (2012): A Psychoanalytic Approach* (2016). This journal focuses on one particular character in the novel which is Amy. There are two characteristic of psychopath that was similar with the first journal which is lack of remorse and manipulative. The author also uses psychoanalytic perspective to shows that id, ego, and superego have a role to make Amy's psychopath.

Likewise, *An Analysis of Psychopathic Traits towards Annie Wilkes in Misery Novel by Stephen King* journal article by Sri Yadriha also focuses on the psychopathic traits in one of the character in the novel named Annie Wilkes and uses Robert D. Hare's theory to reveal psychopathic traits shown by Annie Wilkes. The author of this research found eleven psychopathic traits in Annie Wilke.

Furthermore, in 2017, research conducted by Cahyaningsih Pujimahanani titled *Esther's Psychopathy in David Leslie Johnson's Orphan Movie Script (2016)* analyzes the psychopathy in literary work which is a movie script written by David Leslie Johnson entitled Orphan (2009). The author focuses on finding evidence, causes and effects of Esther's psychopathy in Orphan movie script.

The last one is *A Study On Ambition Represented By The Two Characters In Agatha Christie's The ABC Murders (2015)* journal article by Fitri Nofianti. The author focuses on the ambition of two characters which is Hercule Poirot as the detective and Franklin Clarke as the serial killer.

From the explanation above, Franklin Clarke's psychopathic disorder had not much been highlighted. Therefore, the writer will focus on Franklin Clarke's psychopathic disorder such as symptoms and explore the portrayal of Franklin Clarke's psychopathic disorder in Agatha Christie's A.B.C Murders. This previous study will be used as a reference to the symptoms of Psychopathy and how to apply it to the character that will be analyzed. As with the previous study of the corpus, it will be used to better understanding of Franklin Clarke's intention on doing the serial killing.

1.2 Research Question

This research will propose to answer the questions as follow:

1. What are the Psychopathic disorder symptoms underwent by Franklin Clarke?
2. How is psychopathic disorder suffered by Franklin Clarke portrayed in Agatha Christie's A.B.C Murders?
3. What are the factors causes Franklin Clarke become a psychopath?

1.3 Objectives of the study

In accordance with the background of the study above, the writer tries to achieve objective as follow:

1. To analyze the psychopathic disorder symptoms underwent by Franklin Clarke
2. To identify the portrayal of psychopathic disorder suffered by Franklin Clarke in Agatha Christie's A.B.C Murders.
3. To identify the factors causes Franklin Clarke become a psychopath.

1.4 Significance of the study

Based on the background and objectives of the study, it is expected that the result of this study will provide knowledge in the field of literature and research in the study of literary psychology, especially psychopathic disorder. It is also hoped that the study can become a tool for understanding the psychopathic disorder of Franklin Clarke's character in A.B.C Murders novels, and can be used as a reference or reading material for further research in literary psychology.