

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Trauma is a feeling caused by a traumatic incident might result in an excessive reaction in both one's physic and psychological. It signifies that trauma is an occurrence that might occur as a result of losing something, such as the death of a family member, a couple, or people with whom you have a good relationship.

Although psychological activity can induce trauma, the consequence is more pronounced in someone's psychology. However, psychological trauma does exist. This is the true effect that someone who has been through a terrible encounter will confront. This is referred to as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) (Harvey, 2002:5).

In relation with trauma, trauma can also cause people to deal with mental illnesses. According to **Fawcett** (2015), the portrayal of people with mental illnesses follows standard negative stereotypes such as being violent, undeserving, sloppy. There are many of them end up killing themselves (A D Lesage, 1994) because they are unable to endure the trauma that led to their breakdown.

In this thesis the author decided to choose "All the Bright Places" a Novel by Jennifer Niven. Jennifer Niven is an American author known for her work in the young adultfiction genre. She was born on May 4, 1968, in Charlotte, North Carolina, USA.Niven has written several successful novels, with one of her most notable worksbeing "All the Bright Places," published in 2015.

This novel received critical acclaim for its portrayal of mental health issues and its exploration of complex emotions faced by teenagers. (The Hollywood Reporter, 2020).

Before becoming a full-time writer, Jennifer Niven worked in various creative fields, including film and television production. She has also authored non-fiction books. In addition to her writing, Niven has been an advocate for mental health awareness and suicide prevention, using her platform to shed light on these important issues.

Niven, who based the novel on her own personal experience with an individual she previously loved. She found the process to be relieving. "I had known a boy and lost a boy that I loved very much, years ago," Niven says to The Hollywood Reporter. "It was such an emotional, intense event. I was aware that I would eventually like to write about it, but I wasn't sure when".

Based on the background above, the author chose "All the Bright Places" by Jennifer Niven as the subject of his analysis of past trauma. The author of this thesis concentrated on the mental illness and post-traumatic stress disorder that two of the novel's main characters were dealing with. In order to address the psychological aspects of the novel's characters, the author applied a psychological approach.

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1.2 Research Question

The writer is interested in finding answers to the following questions based on the study's background:

1. What impact does it have on the two protagonists in *All the Bright Places* due to their past trauma?
2. What are the factors lead to Theodore Finch and Violet Markey's recovery from past trauma and how does it affect them?

1.3 Aims of the Study

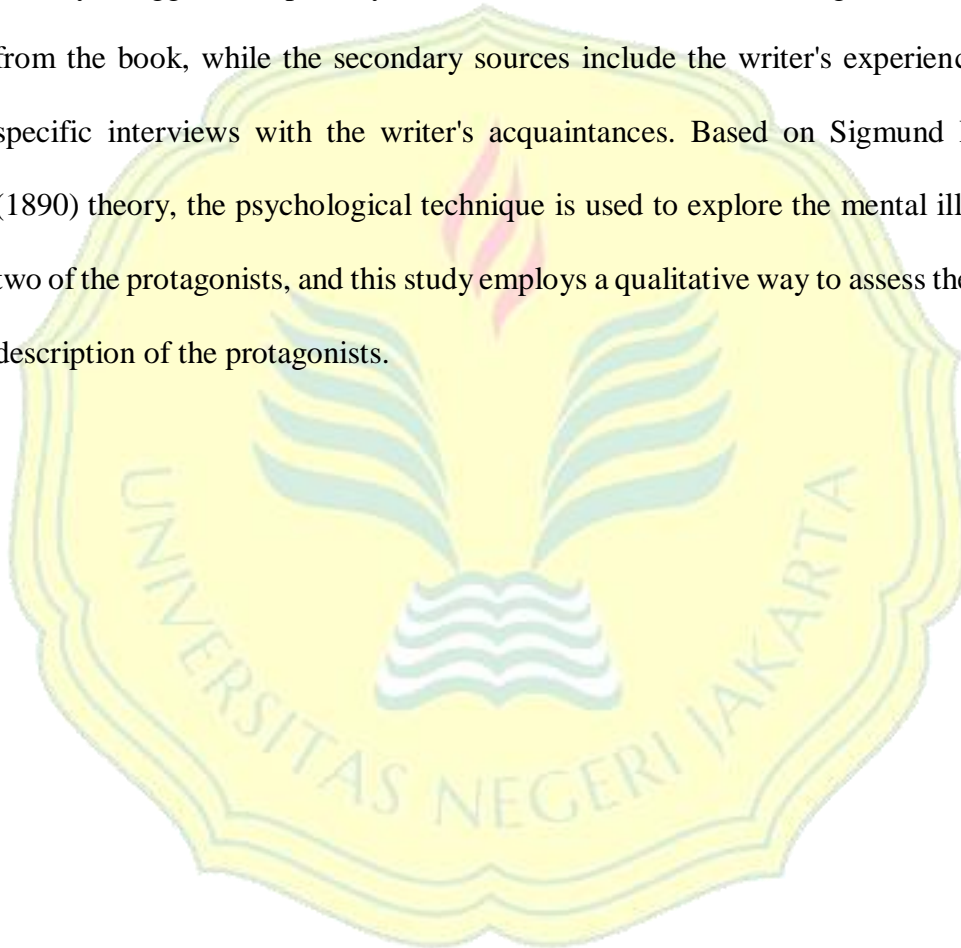
This study focuses on the characterization of two main characters, especially on their past trauma in the novel "*All the Bright Places*". To indicate how two of the novel's key characters are portrayed as having post-traumatic stress disorder and other mental disorders, and to explain how the two major characters heal.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The author expects that this study will be helpful as a source for research on understanding trauma, particularly in contemporary books with romance as their central focus in order to raise readers' awareness of these difficulties, this study also hoped to add to the body of knowledge regarding the connection between mental health and love and hopes that through conducting this research, the public would become more aware of PTSD and bipolar disorder.

1.5 Scope of the Study

This research focuses on how past trauma affects the novel's protagonists throughout the story, presenting the differences between their journey and their identity struggle. The primary sources for the data are the dialogue and material from the book, while the secondary sources include the writer's experiences and specific interviews with the writer's acquaintances. Based on Sigmund Freud's (1890) theory, the psychological technique is used to explore the mental illness in two of the protagonists, and this study employs a qualitative way to assess the major description of the protagonists.



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