CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Literature is written expression that consist value of human life. Eagleton stated that literature is highly valued kind of writing and describe something. Literature is the set of works that can assure, the value of literary work cannot change and the value is also distinguished by inherent uniqueness (9). It means that the literary work contains about value of human life that unalterable.

Wellek also states that literature has been used to define writing of any subject-matter. Therefore some subject-matter of quality or value like intellectual, moral, aesthetic, political, psychology and etc is implied. Wellek also explains that a text can be regarded as work of literature because literature itself gives examples of value belonging to different categories (64). Although both expert give different point of view about literature, but both of them describe about literature is written expression that contain of value of human life.

According to Fowler, literature is reality, and from this reality is always contains of highly valuable entity. There are many literary theorists but no one can explain what literature is satisfactorily (23). Fowler give addition that literature is almost used in term of belief and value of human society where socially positioned fulfill the discussion. Literature also reputed as a condition of modern society and it needs to deliver by discourse of critics and

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theoreticians, continuously lick norms and value which create the imagined of literature in general concept (6-7).

From the quotation above, the writer get some definition and relation between literature and value. Eagleton with his opinion said that literature has a unalterable value which always exist and value of the literary work cannot change (9). From Wellek's opinion, he said that literature has been used to define writing of subject-matter. From subject-matter, it has value term that explains explicitly or implicitly in literary work (64). And Fowler with his opinion said that literature has norms and value of socially positioned like value from a condition of modern society or value of human society (7). It means that the value include in subject-matter of human where in subject-matter imply about psychology. Because of that, literature and psychology have relation in literary work. The literary work that the writer takes in this thesis is novel.

The novel that is taken to be studied in this thesis is *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer. Perfume: the Story of a Murderer* is a second novel by Patrick Suskind after *Der Kontrabaß (The Double Bass)* in 1981 which became one of the most popular German plays of the decade. Then, he writes *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer* which also became one of the most popular German plays of decade that was written in 1985 and very interesting and very popular in that era. From *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer,* Patrick Suskind achieved international popular and critical acclaim, a historical fable about a murderous perfume-maker with keen sense of smell, which oddly lacks any human odor

himself. In his fiction, Suskind typically explores the effects of obsessive

behaviour upon an individual's life (www.enotes.com). *Perfume: the Story of*

a Murderer has been translate in to twenty-five language. *Perfume: the Story*

of a Murderer immediately became a German best seller and subsequently

sold over six million copies worldwide by 1991. Because of the popular of this

novel, *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer* adopted as a film version was

released in 2006 with same title.

Perfume: the Story of a Murderer tells about Jean Baptise Grenouille

who has best smell in that era. From theme, this novel guides the reader to

know Grenouille's passion when he will get the aroma. From the story begins

until the end, the novel shows the emotion of Grenouille when he wants to

know until he makes a perfume. From plot, this novel tells when Grenouille

was born but he does not have an aroma like another child, then he works to

Grimal's tannery and Baldini's perfume shop. After he gets some knowledge

from Baldini, he goes to Grasse to learn how to extract the aroma. In Grasse,

he wants to have girl's body scent, but he does not know how to do it. Then,

he works to Madame Arnulfi. He learns to extract the aroma using fat.

Because, he has known how to get the aroma using fat, he murders 25 girls to

get the aroma. After murder the girls, Grenouille removes her skin using fat.

He does it in 25 girls. After he gets the last girl, Laure, he has been caught by

Grasse's government. He will punish in front of Grasse's people, but he uses

the perfume that he made from 25 girls before. As a result, Grasse's people

and Grasse's officer that comes in Grenouille's execution feel hypnotize with

Grenouille's scent. Because of this event, Grenouille's case is closed and Grasse's people consider that Grenouille does not murder the girls. Then, Grenouille back to his hometown, Paris. From psychoanalysis, this novel tells when Grenouille was child; he learns to know the name of thing with his sense of smell. Then, he increases his sense of smell ability by learns in Baldini's perfume shop. It happens when Grenouille was teenager. But when he learns to catch the aroma, he falls in love with girl's body scent and wants to have it by murder her. It happens when Grenouille was young adult.

Based on the explanation above, this thesis wants to analyze the novel uses theme, plot and psychoanalysis. The writer chooses this novel and the problem to analyze because the writer interests to know how the author describes the alteration of Grenouille's psychosis by theme, plot, and psychoanalysis. So, the writer entitles this thesis as **The Alteration of Grenouille's Psychosis in Murdering Some Virgins in Patrick Suskind's** *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer.*

1.2. Statement of Problem

Based on the background of study above, the statement of problem are:

1.2.1.   What is theme of *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer*?

1.2.2.   What is plot *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer*?

1.2.3.   What stage of Grenouille's Psychosis is reflected in *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer*?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of problem above, the objective of the study are:

1.3.1.   To describe theme of *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer.*

1.3.2.   To describe plot of *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer.*

1.3.3.   To explain Grenouille's Psychosis is reflected in *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer.*

1.4. Scope and Limitation

Scope of this thesis is *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer*'s novel by Patrick Suskind. This thesis investigates part of the novel where Grenouille as main character increases his smell ability by murders some girls to make best perfume in the world.

This writer will limit the discussion of this thesis into some topics, those are theme's analysis in *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer,* plot's analysis in *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer,* and psychoanalysis in *Perfume: the Story of a Murderer.*

1.5. Significance of Study

The significance of this thesis is hoped will increase the knowledge about theme, plot, and psychoanalysis especially the stage of human development. From this thesis, it is expected that the writer gets more knowledge about psychoanalysis in human development. Hopefully, the result of this thesis useful for student in State Islamic of University Sunan Ampel Surabaya and

enrich their knowledge about theme, plot and psychoanalysis in human

development.

1.6. Method of Study

This thesis uses descriptive analytic method. In descriptive analytic

method has the meaning that the writer will explain the result of analysis in

the form of words and sentence. There are some steps that used in descriptive

analytic method. First, the writer reads the novel of *Perfume: the Story of a*

Murderer by Patrick Suskind as the primary data in order to comprehend and

examine it well. Secondly, the writer selects the data about theme, plot, and

stage's of Grenouille psychosis. Finally, the writer analyzes the data that has

been collected before.

1.7. Definition of Key Term

1.7.1. Alteration

In oxford dictionary, alteration defines as become different of

change (12). So, in this novel, alteration is a process or a changing a

person from bad to good, from poor to rich person or from general person

to important person or the other way.

1.7.2. Theme

Theme is general concept or doctrine which extended implicitly or

asserted in imaginative work and as a purpose to involve and make

persuasive to the reader. (Abrams 205)

1.7.3. Plot

Plot is concept about which there has been much critical

disagreement. (Holman 113)