

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Defense mechanism phenomenon can occur in everyday life. The defense mechanism is a psychological phenomenon that occurs in the human mind caused by excessive anxiety. It aims to reduce anxiety and keep minds in safe condition. Not only that, but this phenomenon can be found in characters in literary works. According to Benjamin H. Ogden (2018: 123), in analyzing the psychology of characters in literary works, researchers must consider two things: First, researcher must see that elements in literary work are unique circumstances that have their own behavior, thoughts, and circumstances which are reflected in literary work. Second, researcher must show literary work from perspective of researcher, psychoanalysis. This research showing psychological phenomenon, defense mechanism found in two literary works from different countries, namely S.A Swann's *Wolfbreed* (2009) from United States and Lynn Okamoto's *Elfen Lied* (2002) from Japan. In both literary works, main characters perform a defense mechanism in an effort to overcome anxiety.

Wolfbreed is a novel by S. A Swann, first published in 2009 by Spectra Books, USA. Take setting in 13th century, it tells story of a young girl, named Lilly who has an ability to transform into a werewolf. As a result of her ability, the military organization 'Teutonic Order' under church rule enslaved Lilly for the purpose of expanding influence of Christianity in Prusa. George R. R. M (Swann, 2009), gives a compliment on this novel:

"S.A. Swann has written a spellbinding fantasy of the Teutonic Knights and the great Northern Crusade, set in a little-known period of history amidst the gloomy forests of Prussia and Lithuania. Vivid and visceral, dark and delicious, this one kept me turning pages from start to finish."

During being a slave to Order, Lily is experienced with violence and torture to make Lilly obeying orders from her master. *Wolfbreed* describes a werewolf's struggle from slavery and a love that gives hope to live.

Popularity of anime (Japanese animation) has spread all over the world. Some of its products such as light novels, manga (Japanese comics), and video

games have attracted a lot of attention. *Elfen Lied* is a Japanese manga series by Lynn Okamoto which is first published in 2002 in Weekly Young Jump by Shueisha Publisher, Japan. It tells story of a diclonius (mutant humans), Lucy, who has psychokinesis abilities that make it a target of scientists and military to become guinea pigs. *Elfen Lied* uses a setting in Kamakura and Kanagawa, Japan as a place that occurs in an era where humans are able to create and use technology. *Elfen Lied* describes violence and discrimination that occurs in a main character as mutant humans.

This study compares two literary works from two different nations, *Elfen Lied* from Japan and *Wolfbreed* from USA. Comparison focuses on defense mechanisms phenomenon performed by both main characters in the story, Lilly in *Wolfbreed* and Lucy in *Elfen Lied*.

Comparative literature is studies comparison of two or more literary works from different nations. According to Henry Remak in Basnett (1993: 31), comparative literature is a method to study connection of two literary works from different nations. Comparative literature involves other knowledge in the comparison of literary works such as psychology, philosophy, history, social, politics, etc. According to Zepetnek (1998), Comparative Literature studies a comparison of two or more literary works originating from two different nations by using other fields of science to find out the culture in an area. In this paper, researcher uses one of theories of psychoanalysis, defense mechanism to compare defense mechanisms phenomena in two literary works.

Defense mechanism is a system in mind that aims to reduce burdens on person minds caused by excessive anxiety. According to Cramer (1991: 3), defense mechanism is a mindset that aims to reduce mental stress caused by excessive negative influences such as anxiety and guilt. According to Freud in Feist, Feist, and Roberts (2018: 39), defense mechanism is a natural event that occurs in human minds to reduce anxiety by performing repetitive actions. In this study, researcher analyzes defense mechanism phenomenon performed by main characters in both literary works. Each main character in both literary works perform defense mechanisms which is depicted in the story due to suffering they experienced.

In this research, researcher analyzes defense mechanisms phenomena performed by the main characters in two literary works, Lilly in *Wolfbreed* and Lucy in *Elfen Lied* to find out the similarities and differences of defense mechanisms phenomena in two characters. In addition, a comparison between two characters presents how defense mechanism is exposed in the two literary works. Researcher

chooses this topic because a bad view of someone who performs a defense mechanism, creates feelings of hatred for a victim who performs it and leads to violence and discrimination. Violent behavior does not only hurt physic of person, but also hurt victim's mind which causes victims to have a psychological illness. By using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis theory, this research focuses on defense machanisms of characters that appears through the behavior and thoughts of main characters in both literary works.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

1. What defense mechanism is performed by Lilly on S.A Swann *Wolfbreed*?
2. What defense mechanism is performed by Lucy on Lynn Okamoto's *Elfen Lied*?
3. What are the differences and similarities of defense mechanism between Lilly in *Wolfbreed* and Lucy in *Elfen Lied*?
4. How is the defense mechanism exposed in the two literary works?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objective of this study is to analyze defense mechanism phenomenon performed by Lilly and Lucy. An analysis is to find out similarities and differences between defense mechanisms of both characters. From this defense mechanism, it can be seen how the attitude of each author in using defense mechanisms in his literary works.

1.4 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to explain the defense mechanism performed by Lilly and Lucy. Then, defense mechanism characters indicate similarities and differences between defense mechanisms used in two literary works, *Wolfbreed* and *Elfen Lied*. By knowing the defense mechanism phenomenon, people can understand the differences between two novels and the feeling of others through their behavior.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

Based on the topic, the scope of this research is defense mechanism Lilly's in *Wolfbreed* and Lucy in *Elfen Lied*. The limitation is the defense mechanism phenomenon in the two stories, *Wolfbreed* and *Elfen Lied* which shows similarities and differences in two literary works.

1.6 Significance of the Study

This research is expected to be a reference for students of the Faculty of Cultural Sciences, University of 17 August 1945 Surabaya who research in the same field. A comparison of defense mechanisms in S.A Swann's *Wolfbreed* and Lynn Okamoto's *Elfen Lied* give benefit to readers as follows:

1. Increasing the reader's understanding of the defense mechanisms phenomenon.
2. Respecting the attitudes and behavior of others.
3. Understanding the culture or habits of people in other places.
4. Preventing acts of violence and discrimination against children from an early age.