

**THE HYSTERIA SUFFERED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER
OF NAWAL EL-SAADAWI'S *WOMAN AT POINT ZERO***

THESIS

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

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EL-SAADAWI'S *WOMAN AT POINT ZERO***

THESIS

Presented to

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in partial fulfillment of the requirements for *Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S)*

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UNIVERSITAS NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG

2018


APPROVAL SHEET

This to certify that Nur Laili Mahmudah's thesis entitled **The Hysteria Suffered by the Main Character of Nawal El-Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*** has been approved for thesis examination of the Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S).


Malang, December 14, 2018

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STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**The Hysteria Suffered by the Main Character of Nawal El-Saadawi’s *Woman at Point Zero***” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those ones that are cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is an objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, December 14, 2018



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MOTTO

**TO WANT SOMETHING IS NEVER ENOUGH, YOU HAVE GOT TO
DESIRE IT. YOU NEED STRONG MOTIVATION TO HELP YPO COPE
WITH OBSTACLES THAT WILL SURELY STAND IN YOUR WAY.**

LES BROWN



DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to:

My Parents Ali mahfudz and Uswatun Hasanah who always pray for me to finish
this thesis and always supports me from zero to be hero

My Sister Viva Iffatul Izza who I love.

My Husband who always support me to finish this thesis

All lecturers of English Letters departement

English Letters Students 2013



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Although I try to do the best, I realize that this thesis is so far from excellence and still need improvement. Therefore, I will appreciate valuable criticisms, suggestions, and comments from the readers.

The Writer

Nur Laili Mahmudah



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ABSTRACT

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Advisor : Muhammad Edy Thoyib, M.A.

Keywords : hysteria, sexual violence

This thesis is a study of a fictional novel by Nawal El-Saadawi, a famous Egyptian novelist, writer about Arab women and their struggle to achieve liberation. This book, entitled *Women at Zero Point*, tells the story of a woman's life journey in Qanatir prison. This novel was written in 1975.

This thesis formulates two main issues. First, "what kinds of hysteria suffered by the main character in Nawal El-Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*?" Second, "what are causes the main characters hysteria in Nawal El-Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*?"

Psychoanalysis by Sigmund Frued's theory relates to others to answer the first and second questions. To the analysis, this study uses a library research method, where the existing data is obtained from primary and secondary. The novel *woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El-Saadawi is the basis of analysis, while other relevant references are from books and the internet. In this study, researchers used a psychological approach as a means to uncover problems related to one's life.

The results of the study show that discussion of the findings as follows: There is a psychological disturbance in the figures of Firdaus that occurs as long as inside and between psychic figures referred to as hysteria with anxiety, fear, pain, and weakness. This causes some physical and psychological symptoms to arise in hysteria including Firdaus' vicissitude, fright hysteria and conversion hysteria.

ملخص البحث

محمودة، نور ليلي. 2018. الصراع النفسي للشخصية الرئيسية في امرأة عند نقطة الصفر لرواية نوال السعداوي. البحث الجامعي ، قسم اللغة الإنجليزية وآدابها ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية ، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية مالانج.

المشرف: محمد ادي طيب الماجستير.

الكلمات الأساسية: الصراع النفسي ، الهستيريا ، العنف الجنسي

هذا البحث العلم هو دراسة لرواية نوال السعداوي ، روائية مصرية مشهورة وطبيبة وكاتبة مسلحة حول موضوع المرأة العربية ونضالها من أجل التحرر. يروي الكتاب الذي يحمل عنوان "امرأة عند نقطة الصفر" قصة حياة امرأة مصرية حتى تكون في سجن القناطر. هذه الرواية كتبت عام 1975.

هذه البحث أن تصوغ قضيتين رئيسيتين. أولاً ، "أي نوع من الصراع النفسي يقوم بتجربة الشخصية الرئيسية في رواية" المرأة عند نقطة الصفر "لنوال السعداوي؟". ثانياً ، "ما هو سبب الصراع النفسي الذي عايشته الشخصية الرئيسية في رواية المرأة عند نقطة الصفر لنوال السعداوي؟".

تستخدم نظرية سيغموند فرويد للنهج النفسية والهستيريا للإجابة على السؤالين الأول والثاني. لتحليل ذلك ، تطبق هذه الدراسة طريقة بحث المكتبة ، حيث يتم الحصول على البيانات الموجودة من المصادر الأولية والثانوية. أصبحت رواية "المرأة عند نقطة الصفر" لرواية نوال السعداوي أساس التحليل ، في حين أن المراجع الداعمة المناسبة الأخرى مأخوذة من الكتب والإنترنت. في هذه الدراسة، تستخدم الباحثون منهجاً نفسياً لتحليل المشكلات المتعلقة بجوانب الحياة النفسية، وخاصة في معرفة رحلة حياة الفرد.

من نتائج المناقشة ، وجد الباحثون العديد من النتائج ، بما في ذلك: هناك اضطراب نفسي في شخصية الفردوس التي تحدث أثناء وجوده في السجن وبين الوطاء المشار إليهم باسم الهستيريا ، وهي القلق والخوف والألم والضعف. هذا يسبب ظهور العديد من الأعراض الجسدية والنفسية في الهستيريا بما في ذلك تقلب الفردوس ، الهستيريا الرهيب (الخوف) و هستيريا التحويل.

ABSTRAK

Mahmudah, Nur Laili. 2018. **The Hysteria Suffered by the main character of Nawal El-Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero***. Skripsi, Jurusan Bahasa dan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana malik Ibrahim Malang.

Dosen pembimbing : Muhammad Edy Thoyib, M.A.

Kata kunci : histeria, kekerasan seksual

Skripsi ini merupakan suatu studi mengenai sebuah novel karya Nawal El-Saadawi, seorang novelis terkenal dari Mesir, dokter dan penulis militan tentang persoalan wanita-wanita Arab dan perjuangan mereka untuk mencapai pembebasan. Buku yang berjudul *Woman at Point Zero* ini mengisahkan tentang perjalanan hidup seorang wanita Mesir hingga ia berada di penjara Qanatir. Novel ini ditulis pada tahun 1975.

Skripsi ini merumuskan dua pokok permasalahan. Pertama, “ seperti apa histeria yang dialami oleh tokoh utama dalam novel *Woman at Point Zero* karya Nawal El-Saadawi?. “kedua, “apa penyebab histeria yang dialami oleh tokoh utama dalam novel *Woman at Point Zero* karya Nawal El-Saadawi?”

Teori Sigmund Freud mengenai pendekatan psikologis and histeria digunakan untuk menjawab pertanyaan pertama dan kedua. Untuk menganalisis tersebut, studi ini menerapkan metode penelitian pustaka, dimana data-data yang ada diperoleh dari sumber primer dan skunder. Novel *Woman at Point Zero* karya Nawal El-Saadawi menjadi dasar analisis, sedangkan referensi-referensi pendukung lain yang relevan banyak diambil dari buku dan internet. Dalam studi ini, priset menggunakan pendekatan psikologis sebagai sarana untuk menganalisa masalah karena menyangkut aspek kehidupan psikologis terutama dalam mengetahui perjalanan hidup seseorang.

Dari hasil pembahasan temuan sebagai berikut: Terdapat gangguan psikis pada tokoh Firdaus yang terjadi selama di dalam penjara dan di antara tokoh psikis yang disebut sebagai histeria dengan kecemasan, ketakutan, kesakitan, dan kelemahan. hal ini menyebabkan timbulnya beberapa gejala fisik maupun psikis dalam histeria diantaranya Firdaus' vicissitude (kesesakan Firdaus), fright histeria (ketakutan) and conversion hysteria (konversi).

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides background of the study, problem of the study, objectives of the study, scope and limitation, significance of the study, research method, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Life cannot be separated by a term "Literature". Literature is created by human being as the product of life. Literature can be defined as personality expression that can be an experience, thought, feeling, idea, and spirit in the concrete form in arousing enchantment by using language as the tool. Welleck and Warren (1993) define "Literature as a full creation form, emotion, and expression which designate imaginative ideas through language as media". Literary work conveys awareness to the reader about moral values in a life. Therefore, after reading literature, the reader will get deep understanding about human being, life, and the world.

Literature can be divided into some kinds of literature called genre. There are four genres in literature; those are prose fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction prose. Fiction will produce some literatures such as; myth, novel, short stories, and romance. Then, poetry is a product of literature using figurative languages. In addition, drama is written which is consisted of many 2 dialogues to be performed. The last is nonfiction prose that can be historical or biographical work,

essay, textbook, etc. All of those products of literature can be analyzed according to some theories of literature.

Among those varieties of literary works created by the authors, one of them is novel. Novel can be categorized as the product of fiction. It presents expressively a story based on the real story either or forms the fantasy's author. Language used in a novel can be categorized as denotation. So, it makes the readers will get easy to understand. In other hand, Jacob (1999:11- 12) explains that many novels consist of suspense in the story plot which can make the reader having an angered. In this case, novel has the power in reflecting story from the real life and it brings the reader to involve him/herself toward the story. Because the reader's position can be easy to be influenced by the author, it is also easy for the author to convey the certain moral values intended by him/herself toward the reader.

Afterwards, there are three prominent elements of novel; facts, theme and language. Facts consist of the structure appearing in novel such as the characters, plots, and setting. While, theme is defined as the central idea applied in novel. Then, language is the sequence of words, phrases, and sentences that give meanings used by people to express their thoughts and feelings.

Endraswara (2008:07) analyzes literature; especially novel is a manifestation of author's experiences as the wish fulfillment. In psychological aspect, literature is the product of author's mind subconsciously then it will be 3

created in the form of sentences consciously called literature. In psychological phenomenology, literature and psychology cannot be separated. Literature

Reflects psychological phase of author. The author will get an identity of his literature through emotion he controlled during the process of writing a novel. Emotion power that encourages strong feeling showed in the form of love, anxiety, and happiness. Emotion will be showed in the novel by the author in using and structuring sentences. In the other hand, the power of emotion will create degree of reader's impression after reading novel.

The novel that raised about the conflicts experienced by humans is very interesting to reviewed. Nurgiyantoro (1995: 3) says that fiction tells a variety of problems human life in its interaction with the environment and neighbor, its interaction with self alone, and his interaction with God. Conflicts experienced by a person are an interesting source of inspiration for the author in creating a literary work. The ability of authors to choose and building conflicts through events will greatly determine the level of attractiveness stories produced. According Nurgiyantoro (1995: 124), writing the story is actually nothing else is to build and develop that conflict.

One of the best known literary forms is the novel. Generally novel is the result of a writer's creative power of life experience and form people's lives. People often say that the novel is a container to reveal the human life from various aspects as it expresses the variety kinds of feelings in it for example the background of community life that became the basis the creation of a literary work. This phenomenon is known as a psychological symbol because it has

emotional response. The emotional response can come from either the author himself from readers who are generally in the form of fun, hatred, disappointment, regret, anger, and so on which is the form of response or reader's assessment of figures and theme stories presented by the author. On the other side of the psychology of literature examine the essential elements of literature, the author, the reader, and the work (in particular story characters). Literary psychology becomes a science that represents literature in expressing feelings and state of the author's soul, work, and reader as cause and effect of creation a story. Novels as one type of literary work tend to reveal the psychological aspects which is very closely related to society. The themes of the novels illustrate the soul of the character in it in particular. One of the novels that has the element of psychology is novel *Women at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi.

The Novel of *Woman at Point Zero* is one of Nawal el-Saadawi's works of the many works he has published. He as a nation doctor Egypt. He is famous as a novelist and writer of women who fight for rights woman. His work has spread to various countries including Indonesia. He was born in a village called Kafr Tahla on the banks of the Nile. He started practice in rural areas, then in hospitals in Cairo, and last became the Director of Egyptian Public Health. Around 1972, the result published her first nonfiction book entitled *Women and Sex*, he discharged from his position as director and as Chief Editor of the Health Magazine. However, it does not prevent Nawal el-Saadawi to remain publishes his books on the status, psychology, and sexuality of women. His workshop which was censored by Egyptian censors and banned in Saudi Arabia and Libya, published in

Lebanon. *The Hidden Face of Eve* is his book first published into English. His works include: *Women and*

Sex, Women and Psychological Conflict (the books on women); *The Chent of the Children Circle, Tow Women in Love, God Dies by the Nile, Wemoirs of a Ledy*

Doctor (novel); *A Moment of Truth, Litte Sympathy* (short story).

The main character in this novel is Firdaus is a top-class prostitute who was sentenced to death for killing a pimp or a male calender. Some of the people who had been killed by Firdaus alone to protect themselves, they pardoned for him. Unexpectedly, however, Firdaus rejected her and said that dying is the ultimate form of freedom. Among the times of his death rod, Firdaus was denied or interaction from the outside world. The novel is inspired by research conducted by Nawal El-Saadawi on neurological diseases among Egyptian women. Through this novel also Nawal El Saadawi as try visual visually her life of women from 1970-1980 through the figure of Firdaus. Why do I call it quaint? At that time, women often became the object of violence and harassment of men to be natural among Egyptian society. Because little Firdaus is often the target of sexual harassment from her friends and uncles - a Shaykh - even while marrying Firdaus often for no apparent reason. From this novel, the husband always has a higher degree of wife. Husbands may do anything to their wives and children. Narrated, Father Firdaus was able to greedily eat was pregnant and her son did not eat for several days. As winter came, Dad's bed was moved closer as the children and wife headed for the cold door.

Nawal el Saadawi as author has a specificity in conveying stories relating to socio-cultural issues involving individuals in the conflict. Any literary works are essentially views, ideas, ideas or the author's experience. With the work, the author intends for society the reader also feel what he experienced. Novel is one kind of literary works offers a model of life to the reader in the form of a story. Novel is a form the most popular literary works by society, in other words the novel is the most popular form of literary work in the world, the most widely printed and the most numerous outstanding. As a social reflection, the novel often displays the various conflicts encountered man in his life both as an individual and in relation to other humans and the environment. Conflict experienced by humans is very complex, as large and as complex as the existing life conflict. Although the conflict faced by humans is not equally, there are problems of life that are universal and experienced by all human beings. For example conflicts related to love, anxiety, fear, resentment, lust, religion, association, self-esteem, arrogance, inner conflict, and conflicts that are closely related to human psyche.

This literature review can be a reference for the readers does not seem to plagiarize a study. Nawal el-Saadawi's novel *Woman at Point Zero* has been studied in thesis by Cinta Rara Suci Prestiono student of Faculty of Letters Universitas Jember in the know 2013 that examines by using the theory of gender inequality. Title which is raised in his thesis is "*Gender Inequality Analysis in Novel of Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi.*" Gender Injustice applied in this analysis because there is a lot of gender inequality experienced by the main

character in the novel *Woman on the Point of Zero* by Nawal el-Saadawi. In addition, gender inequality studies are discussed in this research the reader can know the equality between men and women. This research using descriptive method that aims to create a systematic description, factual, and accurate information on the data under study. The author uses the theory Fakhri and Nurgiyantoro.

Besides being analyzed using gender inequality theory, the novel *Women at Point Zero* work by Nawal el-Saadawi has been discussed under the heading "*Structural Analysis and Semiotics in the Novel Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi*". This thesis discussed by Lidya Pega Simbolon student of Faculty of Letters University of North Sumatra in 2010. Semiotics is applied in such a synthesis because in semiotics has a goal to increase understanding of the signs in literary works. The mark is a means of communication that is aesthetic, because every sign requires meaning. This research uses the method descriptive method that aims to create a systematic, factual, and accurate description regarding the data under study. The author uses the theory of Peirce and Nurgiyantoro.

Further analysis was done by Risa Anggriani student of Study Program Arabic Faculty of Letters University of North Sumatra in 2008 with the title "*Background Analysis and Main Leader in the Novel of Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi*". The purpose of this research is to know the background of place, time, socio-cultural, background function and main character in the novel *Woman at Point Zero* works Nawal el-Saadawi. This research uses descriptive method that aims make systematic, factual, and accurate descriptions of the data

under study. The author uses the Nurgiyantoro theory supported by Aminuddin. Based on searches by the author, still no one discussed the problem of radical feminism in Nawal El Saadawi's *Women at Point Zero*. Nawal el-Saadawi's novel *Woman at Point Zero* is loaded with violence against women perpetrated by men resulting in physical and psychological violence. In addition, behind the oppressed women, there are some figures who fight for women's rights. Figures it wants to put an end to the brutality of the man he considers always oppressing and making women an object of enjoyment. Analysis of feminism radical in the form of this thesis can be a perfecting of the analyzes before, because the novel is loaded with feminist movements.

B. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the researcher describe two problems in the novel which is important to be conducted:

1. What kinds of hysteria suffered by the main character in Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*?
2. What causes the main character's hysteria by the main character in Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*?

C. Objectives of the Study

Related to the problem of the study, the objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the hysteria by the main character Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*.
2. To explain the factors causing the hysteria by the main character in Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*.

D. Scope and Limitation of the Study

To make the research be more systematic study, this research focuses on discussing the hysteria analysis about main character Firdaus in Nawal El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero* to make this study a more systematic study, this research focuses on exploring topic surrounding psychology.

E. Significance of the Study

Practically, the results of this study are expected to be helpful and giving information for readers in appreciating literary works and understanding aspects of conflict, causes, and attitudes taken by the main character in the novel *Woman at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi.

Theoretically this research is useful to strengthen the theory of literary psychology assume that literature has a relationship with psychology and that literary works can studied using the theory of literary psychology. Particularly on aspects of conflict, causes, and attitudes taken by the main character in the novel *Women at Point Zero* by Nawal El Saadawi.

F. Research Method

The section discusses research methods that are going to be applied in this study. It consists of research design, data source, research instrument, data collection and data analysis.

1. Research Design

The present study is a literary criticism and uses psychological approach to deal with the data. Literary criticism is the study, discussion, evaluation, and interpretation of literature. Modern literary criticism is often informed by literary

theory, which is the philosophical discussion of this methods and goals. Though the two activities are closely related, literary critics are not always, and have not always been theorists.

It is literary criticism because in this study the researcher conducts a discussion of literature, including description, analysis, and interpretation of a literary work, that is *Woman at Point Zero*. It needs the involvement of the researcher as the interpreter in order to make it easy the process of the explaining the hidden things that cannot be explained through other methods. It uses psychological approach because the analysis is focused on studying the psychological condition of the main character in the aspect dealing with the theory of hysteria by Sigmund Freud.

2. Data Sources

The research data source is a novel "*Woman at Point Zero*" by Nawal El Saadawi published by Zed Book Ltd 'Egypt in 1975. It consists of 154 pages. The data are quoted from the statement of the novel, which are directly concerned the objectives of the study.

3. Data Collections

In collecting the data, the researcher does the following steps:

- a. The researcher reads the novel several times and tries to understand it.
- b. The researcher reads chapter by chapter and undertakes to choose the data dealing with the problems to be investigated.

- c. The researcher mark all statements from the novel which are related to th problem of the study as the data of this research.
- d. The data already collected and ready to be analyzed.

4. Data Analysis

After the data are collected, the researcher begins analyzing them by reading the novel and selecting every part related to psychological condition of the main character in the novel. And then takes the pharagraph which consists of the hysteria. In addition, she studies information from the paragraph more depply and she arranges the paragraph appropriate with the chronological time. Futhermore, she explains the data about the main character's psychological condition viewed from the theory of hysteria. Moreover, the data analyzed and arranged. Finally, she draws a conclusion inline with the statement of the problems.

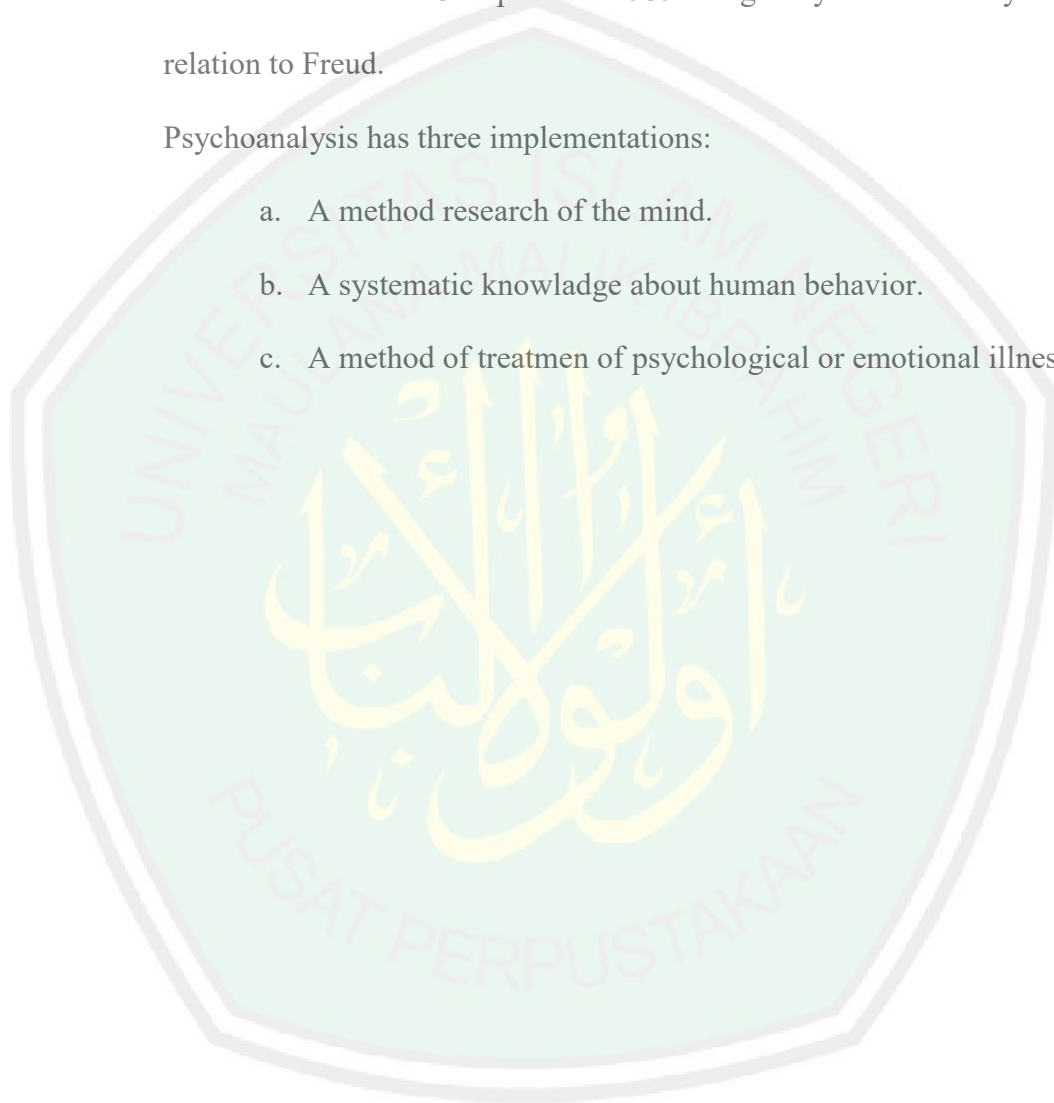
G. Defenition of Key Terms

1. Conflict is a lawsuit or controversy in a fictional or drama story (the opposition between two forces, the opposition within a character, the opposition between two characters and so on).
2. Hysteria was dropped when the influence of a psychodynamic theory of mental ill health, with its concepts of unconcious mental forces affecting behaviour, fell out of favour in psychiatry. It was Freud who proposed that the memory of trauma which the patient fails to confront, because it will cause them too much mental anguish, can be converted into physical symptoms.

3. Psychoanalysis is the branch of science which was developed by Sigmund Freud and his followers, as the study of human psychological function and behavior. Sigmund Freud himself was born in Moravia on May 6, 1856, and died in London on 23 September 1939. Originally the term only used in relation to Freud.

Psychoanalysis has three implementations:

- a. A method research of the mind.
- b. A systematic knowledge about human behavior.
- c. A method of treatment of psychological or emotional illness.



CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter presents review of related literature. It contains some topics used to support the analysis in the research which is necessary source concerning the topics. Those are literature and psychology, psychological approach, new criticism theory, characters, characterization, psychoanalysis, personality, epistolary novel and previous of the study.

A. Psychology of Literature

In *Encyclopedia of knowledge* (1995, vol. 13), literature, which organically designated all written language, is now restricted to examples of literary genre such as drama, epics, lyrics, novel, and poetry.

Psychology is an academic and applied discipline involving the scientific study of mental processes, emotion, personality, behavior, and relationships. Psychology also refers to the application of such knowledge to various spheres of human activity, including problems of individuals daily lives and the treatment of mental health problems.

“Psychology maybe defined as then scientific study of human and animal behavior” (Roecklein, 1977: 15). Some psychology would wish to add that a distinction between internal behavior and external behavior is an important part of the basic definition. Beside that literary psychology is a literary study that

considers a literary work as psychological activity in which, the author uses the thought and feeling in producing the literary work (Endraswara,2004: 96).

In general application of psychological knowledge to art can generate two kinds of illumination. First, the new field provides a more precise language with which to discuss the creative process. Second, application goes back to the study of the lives of authors as means of understanding their art.

Psychology can be used to explain fictional character in *Literature and Psychology* (1951) provides numerous instances from life which clarify the actions and reactions of created characters who might otherwise be puzzling or implausible. A critic who brings the interest to fiction becomes again a psychoanalyst, searching for the subconscious patterns which motivate a character.

Psychological aspect is one of the values needed to be exposed. A literary work is psychological activity where the author uses his creative power, deep feeling and inspiration (Endraswara, 2003: 96). So, the readers, in understanding a literary work, will not release from their psychological activity. In addition, the author in progress catches indications in his mind then expresses it in the written text, and it is completed by the author's experience around his environment. Therefore, the people call such phenomenon "psychology of literature".

Psychology of literature views that psychological phenomenon presents psychological activity through the characters if it happens in drama or prose. Jatman (in Endraswara, 2003: 97) states that literature and psychology have close

relationship either indirectly or functionally. Indirectly, literature and psychology have the same object, that is human being's life. Functionally, both literature and psychology learn about human being's psychological condition. The difference is that in psychology the indication is real, while in literary work it is imaginative.

There is a doubt whether psychological aspects can come into literary text since the psychological aspects in the text is very abstract. Indeed, it is difficult to avoid, because to understand a literary work the knowledge of psychology is needed as literary work also concerns with human psychology. Wellek and Warren (1956:81) propose that the psychology of literature has certain typical characteristics as follows.

Psychology of literature has four research possibilities. Firstly, the research is on the psychology of the author as type of person or as an individual. This study tends to be the psychology of art. The researcher tries to catch the mental state of an author at the moment he produces literary works. Secondly, the research is on creative process in accordance with the mental. This study has relation to the psychology of creative process; on how the psychological steps focus in expressing literary works. Thirdly, the research is on law of psychology applied in literary works. Here, study can be related to psychology theories. The assumption of this study is that the author often uses certain theories in his creation. This study seriously uses literary text as field of the study. Fourthly, the research is on psychological effect of literary text to the readers. This study is more focusing on the pragmatic aspects of psychological text toward the readers.

Research on psychology of literature has a firm base as both literature and psychology are studying the human life. The difference is that literature studies man as imaginative creation of the author, while psychology studies man as the

real creation of God. However, human characters in psychology and in literature show similarity so that psychology of literature is important to take. Despite the imagination and creation of literary works, the author often uses the laws of psychology to develop the characters of the figure. The author, consciously or not, has applied theories of psychology.

B. Psychological Approach

An approach to literature can make upon the interpretation of art can be seen almost as remarkably in the numerous psychological studies and understand about the aspect of personality (Ratna, 2006: 342). It seems to make interpretation toward literature close with society needs.

Psychological approach can not be separated from Freud. Psychological approach appears when literary scholar was introduced Freud's theory of psychoanalysis (Wiyatmi, 2006: 108).

Psychological approach is an to literature that draws upon psychoanalytic theories, especially the theory of Sigmund Freud, to understand more fully the text, the writer, and the reader.

The basic notion of the approach is its idea of the existence of human unconsciousness which impulse, desire and feelings about which a person is unaware however, it influences his or her emotions and behavior.

Psychological approach seems to merit separate attention, especially since it has relations with another field of knowledge and therefore is best considered under the heading.

Critics use psychological approach to explore the motivations of characters and the symbolic meaning of events, while biographers speculate about a writer's own motivation. Psychological approach is also used to describe and analyze the reader's personal responses to a text.

C. Character

1. The Definition of Literary Character

In fiction, character is very important. By presenting the characters in the literary work, the author will help the reader to understand and interpret the story. Character is a complicated term that includes the idea of moral and constitution of human personality, the presence of moral uprightness and the simpler notion of the presence of the creatures in art that seem to be human beings one short and author (Holman & Harmon, 81). It can be said that character is an element that created by the author to describe the human being with some of the human condition in the environment.

Character in literature generally, and in fiction specifically, is an extended verbal representation of human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behavior (Robert & Jacobs, 134).

2. Character as an Element of Literature

Character is one of important in the fiction. Through the character, the reader can understand about story. They are some definitions about character; one of them is a character presumably an imagined person who inhabits a story, although that simple definition may admit to a few exception (Kennedy, 81). The first element of literature that makes a literary work such as novel, short story and drama to be real is character.

Character is the foundation in the fiction. Character as an element of literature has same function in the fiction, but the character in fiction should be natural because the readers tend to expect that the characters in the fiction reliable and same like real life.

In fiction, there are many kinds of character. The character classified as a flat character and round character. A flat character has only one outstanding trait or feature or at most a few of distinguish mark flat character tends to stay the same through a story (Kennedy & Gioia, 82). And contrasted with a flat character, a round character is more personality. A round character, however, present us with more facets-that is, their authors portray them in greater depth and in more generous detail round character often change-learn become enlightened, grow or deteriorate (Kennedy & Gioia, 82).

Based on statement, character can be distinguished into two: they are flat character and round character. Flat character is generally more simple and usually only has one trait, such as lazy man or woman, arrogant, or others. On other hand, round character are usually the major figure in a story. They have many

realistic traits and are relatively fully developed by the author (Roberts & Jacobs, 135).

3. Characterization

The creation of images of these imaginary persons so credible that they exist for the reader as real within the limits of the function is called characterization (Holman, 91). It can be said that characterization can also be explained as a creation of an author to reveal the personality and character of the fiction. The author tells the reader how the character look like. Each character in the literary works has their own personal characteristic that differs with other.

In the characterization. They are three fundamental methods of characterization in fiction: 1. The explicit presentation by the author of the character through direct exposition, either in an introduction block or more often piece meal throughout the work illustrated by action. 2. The presentation of he character in action with little or no explicit comment by author, in the expectation that the reader will be able to reduce the attributes of the actor from the action, 3. The representation from within a character, without comment on the character by the author, of the impact and emotions on the character's inner self, with the expectation that the reader will come to clear understanding of the attributes of the character (Holman, 91).

Another method from M.H. Abrams in *A Glossary of Literary* divided technique or method into two chatagories of the characterization, the telling and showing. In telling, the author intervenes authoritatively in order to discribe, and

often to evaluate, the motives and dispositional qualities of the character (Abrams, 34). It can be said that telling method is the technique in the author describes about how the characters look like, beautiful, handsome, his or her attitude, selfish, ambitions, alcoholics. For example, if the author wants to tell the readers that the character by the name Firdaus as a bad person, the author writes "Firdaus is a bad person" as a part of drama's descriptions.

Another method of characterization by Abrams is showing. In showing (also called "the dramatic method"), the author simply presents the characters talking and acting and leaves the reader to infer the motives and dispositions that lie behind what they say and do. The author may show not only external speech and actions, but also a character's inner thoughts, feelings, and responsiveness to events (Abrams, 33). In this method, the author not only presents the external speech and action, but also the internal for example character's inner thoughts, feeling, and responsiveness events.

In other hand, Pooley says that characterization, the method an author uses to acquaint the reader with his character. Author may use any or all of four different methods of characterization (Pooley, 538)

First, an author may describe the character's physical traits and personality. It means that in the physical traits, an author shows the physical of character in the literary work. For example, beautiful, handsome, long hair, short, tall, etc.

Second, an author may show the character's speech and behavior. In this method, an author shows character through his or her speech, for example, the character maybe has a loud speech. An author also shows the character through his or her behavior.

Third, an author may give the opinions and reaction of other characters toward this individual. In this method, an author shows the characterization through the opinions or other character.

The last, an author may show the character's thoughts and feeling. In this method, an author shows the character through his or her thoughts and feelings.

After having a look at those methods of characterization, this study will take some part of it in discussing the character. It will describe all parts of the basic characteristics of one of the characters being discussed.

D. Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalysis started as a simple theory. Each of us has a conscious and an unconscious mind. The unconscious is the repository of memories, emotions, and thoughts, many of them illogical that affect our behavior even though we cannot talk about them. Traumatic experiences force thoughts and emotions into the unconscious (Kalat, 532). The goal of psychoanalysis is to bring those memories to consciousness (Kalat, 532). Modern psychology emphasizes and helps people to look for the personal identity and personality problem solving (Abrams, 156). Personality is one of the aspects in psychology which is needed to build a theory to interpret the behavior of a human being. A theory begins the psychology

personality developed by Sigmund Freud. Freud, of course, was fortunate that his name did not become indelibly tied to cocaine. Instead, his name has become associated with psychoanalysis, the most famous of all personality theories (Jess Feist, 17).

The statements above imply that literature and psychology are closely related because literature is the creation of psychological process and author's thought and imagination which is certainly influenced by psychological activity, and also because psychoanalysis itself is used as a tool to interpret literature. Besides, it also denotes that the interaction of conscious and unconscious elements in the mind is important in understanding human behavior.

The same thing prevails in analyzing the character in the story because the character is the reflection of human's life. The character presents a variety of personality and behavior which relate to psyche and psychological experience or problem which is felt by human in the real life (Minderop 1). Furthermore, in his book, Tyson says that Psychoanalysis can help better understand human behavior, and then it must certainly be able to help to understand literary texts, which are about human behavior.

The main part of psychoanalysis theory is introduced by Freud between 1890 and 1939. He is considered as the first person who maps human's unconscious mind. He believes that unconsciousness is determining factor of important and dynamic behavior (Semiun 55). This statement shows that all

humans' behavior is unconsciously affected by unconscious mind. That is why, this part is very important to understand human behavior.

Tyson continues that the notion human beings are motivated, even driven, by desires, fears, needs, and conflicts of which they are unaware—that is, unconscious—was one of Sigmund Freud's most radical insights, and it still governs classical psychoanalysis today. The statement reveals that the unconscious mind has a big influence upon human behavior.

The unconsciousness is the attitudes, feeling, and thoughts which is repressed, cannot be controlled by the will, but, only by drawing it tightly into conscious mind, not related by the law of logic, and not limited by time and place (Semiun 55-56). It indicates that there should be the cause which driving them out if the individual wants to take those attitudes, feelings, or thoughts out of the unconsciousness to conscious mind. On the other word, the individual cannot take them as they want into conscious mind.

The unconscious is the storehouse of those painful experiences and emotions, those wounds, fears, guilty, desires, and unresolved conflicts. This implies that all things like attitudes, feelings, or thoughts which make individual feels bad or worried will be repressed into unconscious mind.

Tyson says further that until people find a way to know and acknowledge to their selves the true causes of their repressed wounds, fears, guilty desires, and unresolved conflicts, they hang onto them in disguised, distorted, and self- defeating ways. To know more about the interaction of conscious and

unconscious elements in the mind, it is better to understand the new models of psyche.

In his career, Freud suggests a three-part, rather than a two-part, model of the psyche, dividing it into the ego, the super-ego, and the id, these three 'levels' of the personality roughly corresponding to, respectively, the consciousness, the conscience, and the unconscious (Barry 97). Behavior is the result of conflict and reconciliation of those three systems of personality. (Minderop 20).

In essentials, this new model of psyche will help to reveal the unconscious mind of the character and understand the character's psychological problems. Seeing how important the impact and contribution of this new model of psyche in influencing the behavior of the character, this research will provide some explanations from some resources discussing about the case.

E. Hysteria

1. Vicissitude

Written between March 15 and April 4, 1915, and immediately published, *Instincts and Their Vicissitudes* opens the "collection which I originally intended to publish in book form under the title "Preliminaries to a Metapsychology". The intention of the series is to clarify and carry deeper the theoretical assumptions on which a psycho-analytic system could be founded" (Freud, 1917d, p. 222 n.).

The previous year, 1914, Freud's introduction of narcissism and of the ego as a libidinally cathected agency altered the dynamics of the psychic conflict between sexual drives and ego drives (self-preservation), leading to "the second

step in the theory of the drives" (1920g). In 1924 Freud grouped "Instincts and Their Vicissitudes" with the "Metapsychology" collection of twelve essays, five of which were published. The first translations appeared in Spanish in 1924, in English in 1925, in French in 1936, in Italian in 1972, and in Portuguese in 1974.

Freud began elaborating his metapsychology under the notion of the dynamics of the psyche. He established the drive as a concept. Prior to this he had been theorizing about one or more drives. The continuing pressure of the drive, as a "measure of the demand for work that it represents," became the "very essence" of the drive (Freud, 1915c, p. 122). Freud then theorized about the complex relationships among autoeroticism, the sexual drives, narcissism, and the dynamic genesis of the ego. The sexual drives, early defenses belonging to narcissistic organization, have two destinies that result in the work demanded by the drive: reversal in the opposite direction and turning against the self. The former destiny splits into another two movements: turning a drive away from activity toward passivity, which combines with turning against the self, and reversing content, the only instance of which is the transformation of love and hate. Freud's study (1915c) then gives a new analysis of sadism/masochism, voyeurism/exhibitionism, and love/hate as pairs of opposites.

The opposition of pairs is an evolving process that starts from autoeroticism as a narcissistic formation. This opposition is subject to the active, reflective, and passive expressions of the drives, from which objects and a "new subject" emerge. The genesis of the ego thus contributes to the biological polarity

of psychic life, activity/passivity, which is expressed in the ambivalence of the drive impulses.

Love and hate introduce ambivalence of feeling. Again, the opposition proves complex. Freud explained how the opposition depends on the economic polarity of pleasure/unpleasure and the real polarity of ego/external reality in the dynamics of the psyche. Loving follows from pleasure; hating from unpleasure. The initial ego/reality opposition (or internal/external reality opposition) differentiates internal and external according to a sound objective criterion—the internal being the continuing pressure of the drive, which is inescapable, and the external being subtle stimuli that can be avoided. This opposition mutates into a purified-pleasure-ego under the influence of the pleasure principle in the narcissistic position. Then ego and pleasure correspond, and external world and unpleasure correspond. "At the very beginning, it seems, the external world, objects, and what is hated are identical" (1915c, p. 136). Freud then demonstrates the role of hate as a constituent in affirming and preserving the ego, as well as the autonomy of hate in relation to love.

As a pivotal text among Freud's works, "Instincts and Their Vicissitudes" and the essays that follow do not entirely succeed. "What has happened to my Metapsychology? In the first place it has not yet been written. But if I still have ten years to live, then I promise to make further contributions to it. A first example of this will be found in an essay of mine entitled Beyond the Pleasure Principle [1920g]," Freud wrote to Lou Andreas-Salomé on April 2, 1919 (1966a/1972, p. 95). In fact, this "third step in the theory of the instincts" (1920g,

p. 59) enabled Freud to elaborate various themes identified or developed in that study: the relation of the drive to biology, the problem of masochism and pain (Freud, 1924c), the polarities of sexual psychic life, the addition of the phallic/castrated opposition to the active/passive and masculine/feminine oppositions (Freud, 1923e), a more sophisticated morphodynamics of the ego (Freud, 1925h), and how hatred leads to the death drives.

"Instincts and Their Vicissitudes" was a source of inspiration for Freud and his successors. It is essential to understanding the work of Melanie Klein and Jacques Lacan, as well as André Green's discussion of how the drives intersect in their expression, for example. It is also central to understanding the drive and the ontogenesis of the ego in psychoanalysis.

2. Fright Hysteria

Some aspects of sexuality that are noxious and consist principally in insufficient satisfaction (*coitus interruptus*, *ejaculatio praecox*, etc) lead, according to Freud's discovery, not to hysteria but to anxiety neurosis. In my opinion, however, the excitation of the sexual affect in cases such as this converted into hysterical somatic phenomena with reasonable frequency.

It is self-evident and also follows amply from our observations that the non-sexual affects of fright, anxiety or anger lead to the development of hysterical phenomena. But it does perhaps bear repeating that the sexual factor is by far the most important and, in terms of pathology, the most fruitful. The naive observations of our predecessors, the traces of which are preserved in the world "hysteria" came nearer to the truth than the more recent view that puts sexuality

almost last in order to protect patients from person to person and are no more powerful than in healthy people. Hysterics, however, fall ill from them and, for the most part, precisely by fighting them, that is, by fending off sexuality.

Alongside sexual hysteria we should at this point recall hysteria due to fright genuinely traumatic hysteria. It is one of the best-known and recognized form of hysteria.

Occupying what may be called the same stratum as phenomena that have arisen through the conversion of affective excitation are those that owe their origin to suggestion (mostly auto-suggestion) in individuals who are innately suggestible. High-level suggestibility, i.e. an uninhibited predominance of newly excited ideas, is not an essential feature of hysteria, but it does occur as a complication in those disposed to hysteria, in whom precisely this idiosyncrasy of the nervous system enables the physical realization of ideas that have too great a value. In any case, it is mostly only affective ideas that can be realized by suggestion as somatic phenomena, and so the process can also frequently be understood as a conversion of the accompanying affect of fright or anxiety.

3. Conversion Hysteria

A 35-year-old woman loses the use of her legs, suddenly becoming paralysed from the waist down. In another case, a woman feels an overwhelming compulsion to close her eyes, until eventually she cannot open them at all. After numerous tests, nothing physically wrong was found with these patients, so what caused their symptoms?.

Conditions like these used to be diagnosed as hysteria. In fact, they would fit neatly into the pages of Sigmund Freud and Josef Breuer's *Studies On Hysteria*, written over a century ago. You might think our understanding has advanced since Freud, or, rather more fashionably, that Freud was just wrong. But this isn't the case.

The term hysteria was dropped when the influence of a psychodynamic theory of mental ill health, with its concepts of unconscious mental forces affecting behaviour, fell out of favour in psychiatry. But while they turned to more measurable features and symptoms, the condition remains in what is now called "conversions disorder".

It was Freud who proposed that the memory of trauma which the patient fails to confront, because it will cause them too much mental anguish, can be "converted" into physical symptoms. What is more surprising is that cases like this are typical of those routinely seen by neurologists today.

For example, the case of the 35-year-old woman (Ely), noted above, is given in Gordon Turnbull's *Trauma*, a book on the history and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder. After X-rays for a bleed in Ely's spinal cord came back negative, Turnbull tried a lumbar puncture to extract fluid. Ely didn't even wince as the needle went in. She seemed indifferent to her sudden paralysis. The nurses thought she was putting it on. Perplexed, Turnbull's mind "suddenly jumped to Freud", who he recalls said that mental conflict could become physical disability.

On interviewing Ely, he eventually discovered that she had been raped by someone she knew. This caused the unbearable mental conflict that was “converted” into her physical symptoms. She evidently knew this, but had pushed its significance out of her conscious awareness to protect herself. She found that talking her experiences through repeatedly was cathartic – her pent up feelings were released. Two days later, she was able to leave the hospital, unaided.

The woman (Mary) who felt compelled to shut her eyes is one of many cases described by the neurologist Suzanne O’Sullivan in *It’s All In Your Head*. Her husband was on remand for child abuse, but she refused to think this might be an important factor in her illness. Treated with muscle relaxant drugs, she soon recovered. But a month later, she was readmitted, suffering from amnesia. Brain scans and an EEG were normal, but a neighbour told O’Sullivan that her husband had been released from prison. O’Sullivan is left wondering what this patient “could not bear to look upon” or “tolerate to remember”.

Despite the many new technical means of investigation, researchers have very little to offer beyond Freud to account for how psychological and emotional experiences manifest in physical symptoms. O’Sullivan writes that: “For all the shortcomings in the concepts proposed by Freud and Breuer in *Studies*, the 21st century has brought no great advances to a better understanding of the mechanisms for this disorder.”

This is acknowledged more publicly now. For example, the neurologist Richard Kanaan in BBC Radio 4’s *All In The Mind* states that Freud still “looms

quite large in our repertoire of explanations”. In fact, it would be a very small repertoire if you excluded Freud. Since we can use sophisticated medical testing, we now know that it is not the neurological “hardware” that is damaged, so it must be the “software”, our psychological response to the meaning of trauma, that leads to conversion disorder.

Freud originally studied anatomy and neurology and wrote notable papers, some of which are still considered classics today, such as *On Aphasia*. But it was the limitations inherent in the brain sciences of his day that led him to develop a more psychological map of the mind.

In a radical departure from the practice of the day, which either paraded hysterical patients around at public demonstrations – as the French neurologist, Jean-Martin Charcot did – or treated them as malingerers, Freud sat his patients down and listened attentively to them. After ten years of this practice, Freud came to believe that behind every hysterical symptom, such as convulsions, paralysis, blindness, epilepsy, amnesia or pain, lay a hidden trauma or series of traumas.

In his many case examples, Freud carefully traces these initially hidden traumas. His accounts in *Studies On Hysteria* would still make exemplary reading for those working with conversion disorder patients today who also deserve to be listened to.

While conversion disorder has attracted suspiciously little academic attention, what research has been done tends to confirm Freud. In 2016, researchers discovered that patients with conversion disorder had experienced a

greater number of stressful life events than other people, and a dramatic increase in these events near to the time when their symptoms began.

This profile fits many of the cases described by Freud in *Studies On Hysteria*. For example, Katherina's breathing difficulties and visions of a frightening face staring at her, came on after witnessing her father sexually abuse her cousin. The research also found that in some patients no stressors were identified, but one wonders if this is only because few researchers can replicate Freud's skillful picking up of clues in his patients' "free associations"?

Freud's brilliance was in recognising that disturbing memories don't just go away. His compassion lives to this day in the method he established for bringing them to light and reducing their negative and sometimes debilitating effects: Psychoanalysis.

F. Previous Study

This literature review can be a reference for the readers does not seem to plagiarize a study. Nawal el-Saadawi's novel *Woman at Point Zero* has been studied in thesis by Cinta Rara Suci Prestiono student of Faculty of Letters Universitas Jember in the know 2013 that examines by using the theory of gender inequality. Title which is raised in his thesis is "*Gender Inequality Analysis in Novel of Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi.*" Gender Injustice applied in this analysis because there is a lot of gender inequality experienced by the main character in the novel *Woman on the Point of Zero* by Nawal el-Saadawi. In addition, gender inequality studies are discussed in this research the reader can

know the equality between men and women. This research using descriptive method that aims to create a systematic description, factual, and accurate information on the data under study. The author uses the theory Fakhri and Nurgiyantoro.

Besides being analyzed using gender inequality theory, the novel *Women at Point Zero* work by Nawal el-Saadawi has been discussed under the heading "*Structural Analysis and Semiotics in the Novel Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi*". This thesis discussed by Lidya Pega Simbolon student of Faculty of Letters University of Sumatra North in 2010. Semiotics is applied in such a synthesis because in semiotics has a goal to increase understanding of the signs in literary works. The mark is a means of communication that is aesthetic, because every sign requires meaning. This research uses the method descriptive method that aims to create a systematic, factual, and accurate description regarding the data under study. The author uses the theory of Peirce and Nurgiyantoro.

Further analysis was done by Risa Anggriani student of Study Program Arabic Faculty of Letters University of North Sumatra in 2008 with the title "*Background Analysis and Main Leader in the Novel of Women at Point Zero by Nawal el-Saadawi*". The purpose of this research is to know the background of place, time, socio-cultural, background function and main character in the novel *Woman at Point Zero* works Nawal el-Saadawi. This research uses descriptive method that aims make systematic, factual, and accurate descriptions of the data under study. The author uses the Nurgiyantoro theory supported by Aminuddin. Based on searches by the author, still no one discussed the problem of radical

feminism in Nawal El Saadawi's *Women at Point Zero*. Nawal el-Saadawi's novel *Woman at Point Zero* is loaded with violence against women perpetrated by men resulting in physical and psychological violence. In addition, behind the oppressed women, there are some figures who fight for women's rights. Figures it wants to put an end to the brutality of the man he considers always oppressing and making women an object of enjoyment. Analysis of feminism radical in the form of this thesis can be a perfecting of the analyzes before, because the novel is loaded with feminist movements.

From those previous studies, the researcher can summarize them as follow; the first research focuses on the woman's oppression that leads the major character to reach self-esteem. The second research concerned with the structural element and signs. The third research focuses on psychological conflict that explains the inequality in several aspects. Concerning with those literature reviews, as far as the present researcher concerns, there is no research, which focuses on one perspectives; there is Psychological Theory by Sigmund Freud yet so the present researcher takes the same object that brings psychological issues and elaborate both theories to know the reaction of the readers toward the novel.

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter provides the analysis on the collected data to the answer of the problem of the study. The researcher analyzes the text through psychological theory of Sigmund Freud's theory.

A. The Kinds of Hysteria Suffered by Firdaus

In this part, discusses about what kind of physiological conflict experienced by Firdaus. The first one is the Firdaus' Vicissitude and Freudian Hysteria. Actually is According to Freud, only "physical traumas" and consequently "any experience which calls up distressing effects such as those of fright, anxiety, shame or physical pain" can lead to hysterical symptoms. Next is Firdaus and fright hysteria which is hysteric experiences that could live as long as the subject is alive, as in the case of Firdaus. The last is Firdaus and conversion hysteria.

1. Firdaus' Vicissitude and Freudian Hysteria

Freud's perspective on hysteria centered on sexuality as the basis of all neurotic diseases from which hysteria emanates, irrespective of whether these are real acts or mere fantasies and visualizations. According to Freud, only "physical traumas" and consequently "any experience which calls up distressing effects such as those of fright, anxiety, shame or physical pain" can lead to hysterical symptoms (Breuer & Freud 1957, p. 26). Firdaus also exhibits hysterical symptoms which will be explained later.

Firdaus, the main character of the novel, undergoes clitoridectomy at a very early age. Clitoridectomy was a very common and painful practice in African countries, known to afflict the female psyche and induce hysteric symptoms. Firdaus condemns her mother when she describes her experience.

“She brought a woman who was carrying a small knife or maybe a razor blade. They cut off a piece of flesh from between my thighs” (p.12).

The physical trauma caused by this act proved its influence on Firdaus and her fellow sisters who also suffered the same fate. She describes her feelings after circumcision.

“I cried all night. Next morning my mother did not send me to the field” (p.12).

This act had a long term effect on the subject which, according to Freudian theory, would trigger hysteria at a later stage of life. The loss of this part of her genitals (clitoris) as a result of circumcision refers to the Lacanian castration and more specifically, hints at Freudian hysterical anesthesia which explains the psychological anguish over physical loss of part of her body. The actual clitoral scission from the body renders the subject unwholesome; the loss of her identity and wholesomeness stems from this bodily excision which causes real mental and physical trauma. This disconnection between body and psyche, this psychophysical disorientation and hysterical anesthesia, all result from alienation and loss of control over her body.

Mary Daly (1978) explains the psychological state of girls who suffer circumcision as

“Those who physically survive these atrocities live their entire lifetimes, from early childhood or from puberty, preoccupied by pain” (p. 156).

This is the pain which Firdaus suffers and which eventually leads her down the path of self-destruction. “After circumcision”, a subject “suffers depression, psychosis, self-mutilation and spiritual death” (Sedehi and Talif, p. 63). Heon Dung Park (1988) explains that women suffer from psychological anxieties and fears about their sexuality and bodies. These psychological anxieties are instantly linked to memories of horror and pain, bloodshed and submission which the subject suffers while she is circumcised (, pp. 51-52). This anguish is manifested outwardly in Firdaus’s narrative – she talks incessantly about her ordeal, namely the aftermath of circumcision. She speaks ostensibly of hysterical symptoms when she narrates.

“I stay awake at night weeping alone” (p.17).

The memory of her clitoridectomy terrorizes her whenever she recalls the moments she spent with her playmate. The memory of Mohammedian, the playmate, the smell of straw and “the touch of his fingers” (pg. 25) and how, “my whole body shuddered with a faraway yet familiar pleasure arising from me like the air, like an illusion.”

This recollection induces fits of weeping and moaning in her “sleep as though it was something [she] was losing now, a loss [she] was experiencing for the first time” and not something she had lost long ago (p.26).

El Saadawi focuses on the experience of clitoridectomy because she herself was a victim of this bizarre ritual, as well as molestation, just like her heroine, Firdaus. El Saadawi confirms through her personal experiences and

research that “circumcision is the source of sexual and psychological shock in the life of the girl” (El Saadawi 2007, p. 59) and this shock corresponds with Freud’s hysteric theory which underscores it as a significant breeder of hysteria. Thus, El Saadawi focuses on the cultural practice of female genital mutilation as well as the repression of women’s desires as factors leading to hysteria (Faulkner 2005, p. 35).

Circumcision and sexual molestation often subvert hysterical symptoms. Firdaus experiences sexual molestation at the hands of her playmate. She narrates how, he “used to pinch me under water and follow me into the small shelter made of maze stalks. He would make me lie down on a pile of straw, and lift up my galabeya. We played at ‘bride and bridegroom’(pg.12).

Therefore, hysteria according to Freud, builds from a child’s reaction to sexual seduction at a young age. The sexual pleasures derived at that age later transform into feelings of guilt. Therefore, the memory of sexual seduction is the triggering incident to mental trauma and suffering (Cixous & Clement 1986, p. 42). Herein lies a strong argument relevant to Firdaus’s sexual experiences with her playmate, Mohammedian. The feeling of pleasure that Cixous describes, turns torturous because of the pain of circumcision that removes all sensation of sexual pleasure. This pain is heightened through the loss of a significant part of the girl’s femininity. Firdaus expresses this loss in the following excerpt.

He [her uncle] was doing to me what mohammedian had done to me before ... but I no longer felt the strong sensation of pleasure that radiated from an unknown and yet familiar part of my body. I closed my eyes and tried to reach the pleasure I had knownbefore but in vain. It was as if I could no longer recall the

exact spot from which it used to arise, or as though a part of me, of my being, was gone and would never return. (p.13).

These sexual overtones as genital stimulation, coitus-like acts are classified as traumas which lead to hysterical reaction to some events which happen later at adulthood (Freud and Gay 1989, p. 106). This idea is emphasized plainly in Firdaus' experiences with Mohammedian and later, her uncle, which seriously impact her psyche later in life.

2. Firdaus and Fright Hysteria

Molestation and harassment play a pivotal role in initiating hysteric experiences that could live as long as the subject is alive, as in the case of Firdaus. She narrates a harrowing account of molestation by her uncle which results in hysterical symptoms ranging from weeping to aphasia to trembling and other symptoms. This brings to attention the case of Dora (Ida Baur) whom Freud had treated in 1900. Dora's case was similar to Firdaus's, in that she suffered sexual molestation by her neighbor which eventually led to hysteria. Such molestation is classified under sexual experiences which according to Freud, were predisposed to hysteria.

Fright hysteria has also contributed to Firdaus's bouts of amnesia. According to Freud, this too is related to the sexual factor. Freud explicates in his *Studies on Hysteria* that "alongside sexual hysteria we must recall hysteria due to the fright- traumatic hysteria proper- which constitutes one of the best known and recognized forms of hysteria" (1957, p.247). This element of fright as theorized by Freud, constituted major trauma that Firdaus endured throughout her life and which fear manifested as hysteria until her death. Since early childhood, there

were many frightful incidences that had made her life a living hell. The circumcision was the first hysteria causing event that haunted Firdaus for most of her life.

Firdaus's sexual exploitation by her playmate and later her uncle, left her deeply scarred and in constant turmoil. Her uncle remained a constant threat to her existence and being, her fear of him so deeply etched into her psyche that she was prone to fits of hysteria. She reveals the way she acts when he is close, "I did not sit beside him on the bed as I often used to do before, but hid myself under eiderdown on my little sofa" (pg.21). She hides in fear of his sexual advances which she recounts.

I would glimpse my uncle's hand moving slowly from behind the book he was reading to touch my leg. The next moment I could feel it travelling up my thigh with a cautious, stealthy, trembling movement[...] his hand would continue to press against my thigh with a grasping, almost brutal insistence. (p.13).

This experience with her uncle did not stop at this point. This fear keeps haunting her and she avoids even sitting next to him lest he molests her again. Her fears are once more awakened as the ghost of her uncle haunts her when she narrates.

I was trembling all over, seized with a feeling I could not explain, that my uncle's long fingers would draw close to me after a little while, and cautiously lift the eiderdown under which I lay. Then his lips would touch my face and press down on my mouth, and his trembling fingers would feel their way slowly upward over my thighs. (p. 21).

Firdaus's relationship with her uncle is confusing because it oscillates between arousal and fear. She reveals her fear of her uncle who is considered a threat to both her body and mind. She tells her interviewer.

A strange thing was happening to me ... Somewhere, in some distant spot within my body was awakening an old pleasure lost a long ago ... for it seemed to arise outside my body, or in a part of my being severed from it many years ago. (pp. 21-21).

Here she is referring at once to the sensations of pleasure lost and the pain of clitoridectomy; she is unable to articulate her feeling because of her state of confusion.

Firdaus's predicament is deleterious because the source of her fear is her uncle with whom she shares a sexual relationship. This echoes Freud's claims that the source of female hysteria is more often than not, a father, uncle or brother according to the many case histories he had treated and documented. Firdaus's hysterical situation is attributable to her uncle who was a seducer and molester. These sexual experiences had so discoloured her perception of men that she had developed an almost psychotic need to destroy them all. She narrates an instance of the horrific atmosphere she lived through in close proximity with her uncle: "I held my breath and pretended to be asleep, waiting for his fingers to reach out at me. An eternity seems to pass without anything happening" (pg.22). From her standpoint as a victim of sexual abuse, it is obvious that Firdaus's state of hysteria manifested through fits of crying whenever her traumatic experiences are awakened by a triggering event.

Furthermore, her trauma also brings on other hysterical symptoms which leave her mute, unable to speak or express herself, a symptom indicative of

aphasia. This trait of mutism and silence, confirms Wan Roselezam's view that this is not a passive feminine trait, but one of considerable power that carries with it underlying complexity (2003). Freud had termed aphasia as a hysterical figuring symptom. Firdaus's aphasia is the cumulative effect of continuous sexual molestation since her childhood. Her feelings towards her uncle are ambivalent. She says, "I wanted to tell him that I loved him, but the words would not come. I wanted to cry but the tears would not flow" (pg. 21). This can thus be considered as the first sign of body language employed by Firdaus to express her inner self. Maleki and Lalbakhsh contend that women's suppressed voices, can be an effectively important factor in bringing liberation and equality to women's lives (pg. 65) because this suppressed voice will find vent one day, and vocalize all that had been suppressed and stored away for years, as happens in the case of Firdaus.

3. Firdaus and Conversion Hysteria

Firdaus also manifested signs of conversion hysteria in which physical symptoms can occur without any apparent physical cause. Conversion hysteria according to Freud, is the transformation of physical excitement into chronic physical symptoms, which is an aspect of hysteria (Breuer and Freud 1957, p. 86). Thus, conversion is no more than a technique unconsciously employed by which the symptoms of hysteria are reflected on the body due to the repression stored in the unconscious. Those symptoms, avers Freud, are substitutes for a number of emotionally cathected mental processes, wishes and desires which "through psychic repression were prevented from being discharged in psychical activity."

This discharge cannot be obtained in hysteria unless by means of conversion (Freud and Strachy 1975, p. 30).

Whatever pain and suffering Firdaus has gone through in life due to her father, uncle or husband, she has repressed these memories from consciousness, especially the erotic ones related to her uncle, and transformed its effects, as Freud theorized, into physical sensations of pains (Breuer and Freud 1957, p. 164). The novel begins with Firdaus narrating how she was raped by her husband and later, by a character named Bayoumi. Firdaus is trapped in a marriage to Sheikh Mahmoud, her 60 year- old husband. She was only 19 years old when she was married off to this old man who also had a swelling under his lower lip which would sometimes “turn into a rusty old tap exuding drops red in color like blood” (WPZ, p.45). This description hints at his deformity and reflects - the distorted image of males as seen through the eyes of females in this society. This man represents the phallogocentric culture of a society dominated by males who seek sexual gratification at the expense of their women. Firdaus highlights her relationship with her husband through his deformity to characterize her intense hatred for him.

Her husband forces painful sex on her; Firdaus is obliged to submit herself to this old man whose brutality repulses her.

At night he would wind his legs and arms around me, and let his old gnarled hand travel all over my body, like the claws of a starving man who has been deprived of real food for many years ... when his arms and legs let go of me, I would gently slip my body from under him , and go on tiptoe to the bathroom. There I would carefully wash my

face and lips, my arms and thighs, and every part of my body. (pp. 45-46).

Firdaus represses some of these memories from consciousness and later converts them into physical sensations of pain. Such repressed memories would surface much later in her life, culminating in intense hatred which makes her feel like, “destroying all the men I had ever known, one after the other in a row: my uncle, my husband, my father ... ” (pg.107), because each male represents a repugnant experience that propels Firdaus into a hysterical vortex.

Definitely, any painful experience that the subject undergoes would evoke negative symptoms which either present immediately or at a later time, when unlocked from the unconscious by certain triggers. Sometimes, these emotions or feelings can induce trauma that manifests hysterical symptoms. Firdaus experiences much pain and suffering with her oppressive husband. When she leaves him and returns to her uncle’s house, both her uncle and his wife delude her about marital norms and abusive husbands. She is made to return to her husband who soon thereafter, disallows her from eating to remind her of her duties and obligations to him. He then becomes violent towards her.

He later leapt on me like a mad dog. The hole on his swelling was oozing drops of foul-smelling pus. I did not turn my face or my nose away this time. I surrendered my face to his face and my body to his body, passively, without any resistance, without a movement, as though life had been drained out of it. (p.47).

Henceforth, Sheikh Mahmoud frequently and deliberately beats her. She confirms this abuse.

On one occasion he hit all over me with his shoe. My face and body became swollen and bruised... One day, he hit me with a heavy stick until the blood ran from my nose and ears. So I left,

but this time I did not go to my uncle's house, I walked through the streets with swollen eyes and a bruised face. (pp. 46-47).

This marriage to Sheikh Mahmoud, says Eustace Palmer, lays the foundation for many traumatic encounters. Palmer confirms that.

Marriage to the repressive Mahmoud means that Firdaus goes back into prison [after the prisons of her father and later her uncle's] where she is abused, beaten, and tamed. Mahmoud is really just another variation of the repulsive and repressive father figure, representative of all the various male and societal forces that use Firdaus. (2008, p.162).

Firdaus's character has thus far, been studied in the light of Freudian ideology of hysteria, to determine how she presents hysterical symptoms after a long history of sexual abuse and exploitation. Sexuality, as has been explained, was a major determinant of Firdaus's hysterical symptoms.

B. The Causes of Hysteria by Firdaus

In this part, there are three causes of psychological conflict experienced by Firdaus Id, Ego and Superego. The first one is the life journey as an ordinary person. Actually is started in her family since she was born. Next is the life journey as a prostitute which is started by the unpredictable meeting between Firdaus and Sharifa. The last is the life journey as a prisoner in the Qanatir prison.

1. The life journey as an Ordinary Person

The first life journey of Firdaus is the life as an ordinary person. Actually she did what people usually did. Since her childhood, she is accustomed to help her father and her mother. She will do what her parents ask her to do. She also plays with her friend, Mohammdain. She has an uncle who is very kind to her.

Sometimes, Firdaus' uncle teaches her to write and read. Unfortunately, Firdaus loses her parents in her childhood. So, she stays together with her uncle.

Firdaus' uncle is well-educated. He asked Firdaus to go to school. Firdaus loves to go to school because there are a lot of things that she can do in the school. Firdaus is a girl who thinks differently from other girls around her. When other girls keep talking about love, Firdaus is the only one who thinks about being a head of state. She confesses that she is not like other women.

Fortunately, Firdaus finished her school until secondary school with a good result. She is a smart girl. However, her aunt wants her to marry Sheikh Mahmoud because the entire daily needs become more expensive. Besides, it is risky for a woman who lives without a husband in Firdaus' age. So, Sheikh Mahmoud marries Firdaus. However, Firdaus always gets bad treatment from her husband. Because of that, she leaves home and finds her happiness outside her family.

Firdaus' life journey as an ordinary person means the life at point zero because she brings nothing when she comes to this world (Venevica, 2007). That is actually called the law of nature so that the life of human beings will balance each other. However, the balance of everyone will be different from others. It is based on the rules where they live.

In this case, life journey as an ordinary person is influenced by motivation to reach the aim. Motivation is human basic needs to reach someone's goal in this or her life, and Firdaus is too. Actually, there are 8 hierarchies of needs based on Maslow's theory. The most needs that usually appear in Firdaus' life journey as

an ordinary person is psychological or physical needs. Firdaus will do everything to reach her physical need even though she works hard, hurts, and she is in danger to each it.

My mother would hide his food from us at the bottom of the holes in the oven. He would sit eating alone while we watched him. One evening I dared to stretch out my hand to this plate, but he struck me a sharp blow over the back of my finger (p. 19).

While Firdaus lives with her family. She never gets happiness that she needs. In her family, her father is number one and all the family members should put father first than any other member. Even though there is no food, Firdaus' mother will put her father first. That is why Firdaus cannot avoid her hunger. She dares to touch her father's hit.

In social life of Firdaus, women should do all housework. They should take care of the house carefully. All women usually prepare food for the members of family, clean the house, wash the clothes, and do something inside the house. Actually they are prohibited of doing something outside the house because tasks in home are a lot, and so it is in Firdaus' life. She should take care about the house, her mother, her father, her uncle, even her husband, clean the house, clean the clothes, and cook the food to reach the point zero. She should do something that women do at the time whether she likes it or not, even she can do or not because it is a must.

Besides preparing the needs in home, the life of women around Firdaus have struggled throughout the century to establish their presence with the men in the public sphere because women are considered lower than men. However,

Firdaus is the one who has different way of thinking. When other women try to avoid thinking of becoming a head of state, Firdaus is the one who wants to be one of the women which can appear in the government. That is why Firdaus wants to be a head of state so that her presence is considered by men.

Fortunately, Firdaus is well-educated. She gets her right to school. It makes her smart and has different a way of thinking. However, she does not apply what she gets. She never gets affection in her family. She never gets her chance to develop herself. Firdaus only gets affection in her family. She never gets her chance to develop herself. Firdaus only gets bad treatments especially from her even though she obeys and respects him. She never gets her right to love and be loved.

It can be concluded that the beginning of Firdaus' life determines the end of her life because zero means back to the beginning of someone's life and exactly follow the reality of life, for example, human will be born and die (Venevica, 2007). So, there is the cycle that Firdaus should face in going through this life. However, that she did in her early beginning of life will direct he how to end her life.

2. The Life Journey as Prostitute

Thshe decides to be a prostitute after unpredictable meeting with Shafira, a mother of prostitute. Sharifa tells Firdaus that life is very hard. The only people who really live are those who are harder than life itself. So, it brings Firdaus to make her dreams come true. However, being a prostitute it not easy. Firdaus should face a lot of problems in her life.

First, as the Sharifa's follower, Sharifa takes control over Firdaus and Firdaus never gets money that she earns. After that, she does not get someone that she likes. Sharifa prohibits her to fall in love. Because of that, she runs away from Sharifa's hand and looks for another job. However, starting a life as a prostitute makes her considered as an unrespectable woman by her friend, Di'aa. Thus, she looks for a respectable job. She meets Ibrahim who offers his love but he also betrays Firdaus' love. Of course, it makes her feel so desperate to feel in love. So, she decides to be a prostitute rather than any other role of women. If she is a prostitute, she can take control over men. She can do what she wants to do and nobody can stop her.

Firdaus has been portrayed famously, as a femme fatale of sorts in this novel. As a prisoner waiting her execution she relates her story to a psychiatrist. Firdaus's life has been marked by violence and cruelty since childhood, the consequences of which led her to suffer hysteric symptoms for most of her adult life. Born into a big family, she grew up in poverty and hardship. She and her siblings often went without food and had to work long hours in the field, tending livestock. Their father was cruel and selfish; he would always have food for himself and would never fail to have his meal because it is the role of the wife to consider the husband as a godfather, an idol who is preferred to all the family members, especially the females. While the children would go to sleep hungry.

My father never went to bed without supper, no matter what happened. Sometimes when there was no food at home we would all go to bed with empty stomachs. But he would never fail to have a meal [...] he would sit eating alone

while we watched him. One evening I dared to stretch out my hand to his plate, but he struck me. (pp. 17-18).

Firdaus moves in to live with her uncle after the death of her father. After she completes her secondary school education, she is forcefully married off to a man thrice her age. This marriage set Firdaus in a state of turmoil that turned her life upside down due to the maltreatment she received from her old husband. She flees her married life of oppression and suffering at the hands of this tyrannical husband. She seeks shelter with Bayoumi, a coffee shop owner. Bayoumi treats her well in the beginning but he then starts beating her and exploiting her sexually. She flees again only to lead a life of prostitution until she encounters an abusive man who threatens her life. She stabs him to death, is imprisoned for her crime and sentenced to death.

3. The Life Journey as a Prisoner

Firdaus third life journey is the life as a prisoner. Firdaus is put in a prison because she kills a man. Of course, Firdaus is sentenced to death for killing a man. Here, Firdaus spends much time in the prison. She refuses all visitors and will not speak to anyone. She usually leaves her food untouched and remains wide awake for days. She is very different from Firdaus in the past.

Everybody's life has the journey whether it is good or not. Actually, the meaning of the life journey as a prisoner is divided into two. They are the life journey as a prisoner means what Firdaus has done in her life journey as a prisoner means the life at point zero.

a. The Life Journey as a Prisoner Means What Firdaus has Done

Actually people have their own destiny. They have their own willingness but in this life God has His own plan. Nobody can predict how they end this life because God has decided what will happen to somebody and it is different from each other. Everyone would do something different. They never know what they would face in their life. However, in going through this journey of life, human should face their own destiny. It also happens to Firdaus' life. Firdaus never thinks what she would be in the future.

Nobody is perfect in this world and nobody knows what kind of journey he or she will face in this world. Firdaus never thinks to be a prostitute. She actually wants to be someone who makes women to be treated as equal as men. She never thinks to like prostitute. All in her mind wants to be different like other girls. She is well-educated and gets a good score in school because she is a smart person. However, the unpredictable meeting with Bayoumi and Shafira makes the different journey of her life.

When she meets Bayoumi, indeed she got good treatments at first. Bayoumi did something different from any other person that Firdaus loved. Never in her life had anyone put her first before themselves. Her father used to occupy the oven room in the winter and left her the coldest room in the house. Her uncle had the bed to himself when she slept on the wooden couch. When he married, she husband ate twice as much food as she did, but Bayoumi was so different. He was the first person who really cared about Firdaus.

However, a good person is not always good all time. Bayoumi has changed and it reminds Firdaus of her bad past experience, about her treatment

and violence that she got before. Actually, she wants to forget her past life because it hurts her so much. So, in avoiding the bad treatments from Bayoumi and Friends, she decides to run away and have a new life in another place.

Unfortunately, Firdaus fell down to the same hole both in past and present. The unpredictable meeting with Sharifaa made her become a successful prostitute even though she must deal with a lot of difficulty in this life. She ran away from Sharifa's hand because she never got what she wanted. She worked in a company, but she is aware that she never found her true love since she has been treated like this. So, she decided to be a prostitute again.

Actually she never thinks to be a prostitute or being a high-class prostitute. All she wants to take control over the man and revenge against them. However she is taught to be a prostitute and she is not aware about that. It can be seen from her experiences since her childhood until she met Sharifa. All her experiences direct her to be a successful prostitute. Actually she does not want but she did. She did something unconsciously.

'I am not prostitute. But right now from my early days my father, my uncle, my husband, all of them, taught me to grow up as a prostitute (p. 99).

However, she learns a lot from every experience whether it is bad or not, even in the past or present. What she had to do is just to continue this life without regretting what she done in this life. Even she killed someone and should be responsible to it that is called part of life. Every time she killed someone and should be responsible to it that is called part of life. Every decision has the consequences. She feels no fear to die. She prefers to die for a crime she has committed rather

than to die for one of the crimes which someone has committed. One thing that she should be proud of herself, she reached her goal in her early life. She is higher than men. She makes men realize that she is worthy and expensive.

b. The Life Journey as a Prisoner Means the Life at Point Zero

People bring nothing when they are born and die in this world. It means everybody at point zero because they have nothing the first time they come to the world and they bring nothing when they leave this world (Venevica, 2007). It also happens to Firdaus' life. Zero means the end of Firdaus' life, it means how Firdaus ended her life.

That is called the law of nature so that the life of human being will be balance. The balance means that there are limitations in human's life. Here, it reminds Firdaus that there is a limitation that she cannot do when she faces the reality of life. However, she breaks it and does something she wants to do.

If the life is balance, there will not be any burden at the end of someone's life. However, the balance of everyone should be different. It is based on the law where someone lived. Firdaus lives in Egypt. It means that Firdaus should follow the law and rule in Egypt so that she reaches the zero point. She should follow the social situation and all the rules in her environment to get the point of balance. In this case, prostitute only the process that Firdaus should do to reach the zero point both in the beginning and the end of her life. The prostitute means that she should have a pimp to protect her from police and other pimps.

However she rejects it because she can protect herself. She does not want to be controlled by men like her past experiences. Because of that, she kills that she only killed criminals, but she committed no crime. Indeed, she wants to be responsible for what she has done.

Now I am waiting for them. After a little while they will come to take me away. Tomorrow morning I shall no longer be here. I will be in a place which no one knows (p. 101).

Firdaus decides not to send an appeal to the President asking for him to pardon her self from the crime she has committed. She prefers to die for a crime that she has committed because she does not want to break the law. Besides, she has triumphed over both life and death because she does not have longer desire to live nor does any longer fears to die. She wants nothing. She hopes for nothing. She fears nothing because she is free now. She has reached her destination in this life.

It can be concluded that how great Firdaus is in her life, how rich Firdaus is in her life, how respected Firdaus is in her life; she will bring nothing when she dies. It is called zero so that the journey of life becomes balance. It also happens to human's life so that the life should be at point zero.

Firdaus is the main character in *Woman at Point Zero*. This part will discuss generally about Firdaus' characteristics which are related to the motivations why she did something. Referring to the Murphy's theory, there are nine ways that are used by the researcher in presenting the characteristics in the novel (Murphy, 1998: 30-38). Murphy, furthermore, proposed nine ways to make the characters are understandable for the readers (pp. 161-173). It means that Firdaus' characteristics can be seen from personal description, reaction, speech,

thought, direct comment, conversations of others, past life, mannerism, and presenting the characters as seen by another. In brief, those nine ways above are useful to see someone's characters. The analysis of Firdaus' characteristics will be used for analyzing how her motivation appear through Firdaus' character and also her attitude in going through this life. Here are some of the characteristics that the researcher found.

a) Smart

Firdaus comes from a very poor family. She is a village girl from the low social status. She is a woman, who lives in the nineteenth century. However, she has a different characteristic from any other women at the time. She has different ways of thinking especially about rulers because she likes to read books written about rulers. It shows that she is a smart girl.

I liked classes, and I enjoyed studying. Despite the unfailing vigilance of the superintendent, and other things. When the results of the final examination were announced, I was told that I had come out second in the school and seventh countrywide (p.32)

Firdaus is different from other women. She is clever and really enjoys her school. She likes to go the library and read a books because she gets something new from the books. She also likes reading the books about the crimes committed by kings and rulers, wars, peoples, revolutions, even about love stories and poems.

Firdaus is interested in history, government, politics and rule. It open her mind about the difference between woman's and men's role. Actually, this is one

of her desire being different from other women. When other girls around her think about love and man, she imagines being a head of state. The fact is that she wants to be what men are at that time. She wants to be treated as equal as a man. She actually wants to do what men do.

I knew that women did not become heads of state, but I felt that I was not like other women, nor like the other girls around me who kept talking about love, or about men. For these were subjects I never mentioned. Somehow I was not interested in the things that occupied their minds, and what seemed of importance to them struck me as being trivial (p. 25).

According to Lahey, personality is the sum total of all of the ways of acting, thinking, and feeling that are typical for the person and make each person different from other individuals (Lahey, 2009). From the sentence above it can be said that everybody will be different from each other, and so will Firdaus. Firdaus is different from other women at the time. She never thinks to be as the same as other girls. She has been taught to value herself and to rely on herself. She wants to be respected and considered as equal as a man.

However, as long as Firdaus' life, she decided to become a prostitute again although she had stopped being a prostitute because her friend said that a prostitute was 'unrespectable'. Of course it hurts but she has the reason why she decides to be a prostitute. She chooses to be a free woman who has a high value rather than a wife.

That men force women to sell their bodies at price, and that the lowest paid body is that of a wife. All women are prostitutes of one kind or another. Because I was intelligent I preferred to be a free prostitute, rather than an enslaved

*wife. Every time I gave my body I charged the highest price
(p.91)*

Firdaus prefers being a prostitute rather than an enslaved wife because as a prostitute she is free to choose what she wants to choose. She can choose with whom she wants to go. She is free to choose what she wants to do because she has the right to decide. She thinks that a prostitute is worthier than an enslaved wife. If she gives her body to the man, it means that the man should price her. She has the highest price than an enslaved wife. She is more respectable than a wife because all men who want her body will pay her. Yet, a wife only has her body just for her husband, and it was not priced. Goldman said that the reason why women become prostitutes is because of financial need, escape from an abusive home, physical disablement that excludes them from other forms of labor (Goldman, 1970). That is called Marxism Feminism and it exists for Firdaus's life.

b) Obedient

Firdaus was a poor girl since she was a child. She never sighed what she had. She was an obedient girl since she was a child. She never fought her parents or her uncle. She does what they say and never refuses them. However, it was risky for a girl to live without a husband at the time because the situation was full of hardship. Besides, girls of her age have already married and born a baby. It makes Firdaus' uncle and auntie want to seek a husband for Firdaus, Sheikh Mahmood, who is an uncle of Firdaus's auntie. Of course, Sheikh Mahmood is much older to be Firdaus' husband. He is over sixty. However, Firdaus does not refuse it. She obeys what her uncle and her auntie ask.

Once back I do not know how I put up with life in my uncle's house, nor do I remember know I became Sheikh Mahmood's wife (p. 42)

Actually Firdaus does not want to marry Sheikh Mahmood, but she should be obedient to her uncle who had school and fed her until Senior High School. She has no parents and family now expect her uncle and auntie. So, she must listen to them and do what they want.

Until Firdaus became a prostitute, she was still obedient to other people who helped her. Her name is Sharifa, a woman who opens Firdaus' mind. Firdaus' eyes to life. To event in her past, and makes Fiedaus realizes that woman are worth. Sharifa tells Firdaus works, she is not allowed tp feel anything because work is only work. Firdaus should not mix feeling with work. Firdaus should be professional.

*'You can feel me?' I exclaimed with amazement.
'Yes,' he said. 'What about you. Do you also feel me?'
'I don't feel anything.'
'Why?'
'I do not know. Sharifa told me work is work, and that feelings do not come in where work is concerned.'* (p. 58)

Firdaus is afraid of Sharifa. However, Sharifa is the person who helps her to find her self-actualized that woman is respectable and worth if she knows how to make her respected. So, he tries to be abedient to Sharifa even though she wants to feel something when she works.

*'Do you want to sleep?'
'Yes.'
'Then sleep in my arms.'
'But what about Sharifa.'* (p. 58)

It means that friends Firdaus really respects to Sharifa. She will do what Sharifa ask her to do. Sharifa tells her that she will get nothing out of feeling except pain. That is what exactly happened in the prostitution. If working as a prostitute brings the feeling, the feeling will kill instead.

c) Selective

As a successful prostitute, Firdaus is free to decide everything in her life, moreover for whom she wants to sell her body. She becomes a selective person because she has worth and price. If the man are out her standart, she will reject them.

A man came up to me and whispered. I looked him straight in the eye and said 'No'. Another man came up to me and muterred something in a secretive voice which could barely be heard. I examined him carefully from head to toes and said, 'No'. He enquired: 'Why No?' I replied: 'Because there are plenty of men and I want to choose with whom to go.' (p. 68)

After she is aware that she is worth, she is very selective choosing her costumers. However, choosing her customers is done by seeing them from the head until the bottom of their body, if it is match with her want, she will accept it. On the contrary, if it is not match with her criterion, she will ignore and reject it.

'So he said, 'well they, why not choose me?'

'Because your finger nails are dirty, and I like them to be clean.'

A third man approach. He pronounced the secret word, the key to the riddle I had solved. I asked,

'How much you will pay?'

'Ten pounds.'

'No, twenty.'

'Your wishes are my orders, 'and he paid me on the spot (p.68)

She will select the men who are clean, well-manicured and has money to pay her. She will select them carefully and refuse them directly if they are not appropriate as her customers. If they pay her based on her demand, she will accept them. Meanwhile, if they cannot pay her well, she will leave and reject them because she is worth and very expensive.

I now had free time in which I could relax, go for walks, or to the cinema, or the theatre, time to read the newspaper and to discuss politics with the few close friends I selected from the many who hovered around me seeking to strike up a friendship (p.69).

Besides, she also takes time for relaxed or to discuss about certain topics, for example politics because she really likes politics. She likes to have discussion with her closed friends whom she considers smart and honor. Firdaus has different friends now. Most of them come from upper class and well-educated.

One of my friends was called Di'aa. He was a journalist, or a writer, or something of the sport. I preferred him to my other friends because he was a man of culture, and I had developed a liking for culture, ever since I had started to go to school and had learned to read, but especially during this last period, since I could now buy books (p. 69).

One of her friends is Di'aa chooses Di'aa because she believes that Di'aa is a smart enough and well-educated person. She likes to share about culture and she thinks that Di'aa is the right person in having a good sharing moment about culture.

d) Silent

Firdaus is a silent woman who likes to hide what she feels and what she thinks about. She never shows it. It can be seen in her childhood. Since her

childhood, she accepts what others do without complaining, for example, what her uncle did in the house and what Mohammadain did in the small shelter. She never told about it to others. Besides, she never asks for food even though she is very hungry. In her family, her father is the number one. He must not go to bed with empty stomach.

My father never went to bed without supper, no matter what happened. Sometimes when there was no food at home we would all go to bed with empty stomachs. But he would never fail to have a meal. My mother would hide his food from us at the bottom of one of the holes in the oven. He would sit eating alone while we watched him (pp. 18-19).

Firdaus works hard to do her duty every day. She helps her mother to carry a heavy earthenware jar, full of water on her head, work in the field and house. However, she never protests when she does not get food. She always accepts the conditions as they are.

My father had never given me money. I worked in the fields, and worked in the house, and together with my mother ate the scraps of food left over from my father. And on those days when there was no food left over from him, I went to bed without supper (p.64).

When she wants something, she would work hard to reach it. She should do all of her father's demand so that her father will grant it. One day, when she wants to buy a candy, she is aware that she does not have any money. So, she asks for money in order to be able to buy it. At the time, money is everything for the poor family even though only one piastre. It means that she must work hard to do her father's demand only for one piastre. Finally, she gets the piastre and that is the first piastre that she ever holds.

My father it me over the hand when I first held it out for a coin. My mother had once beaten me for losing a piastre in the market place, and returning home without it. My uncle's wife used to hide the piastres in her bodice whenever she heard me approaching before she had finished counting. My husband counted his piastres almost everyday, but as soon as he saw me coming, he put them quickly in some secret recess the moment she heard my voice (p. 67).

She does not only keep silence indescribing about the meaning of money, but she also says her silence is describing as a dead body. A dead body means a body which has no reaction because her body is just hers. No one can have it.

I was telling the man he could have my body, he could have a dead body, but he would never be able to make me react, or tremble, or feel either pelasure or pain. I made no effort, expended no energy, gave no affection, and provided no thought (pp. 85-86).

By the statement above, the silent Firdaus can be seen by her speech, mind, thought, mannerism, and other characters' point of view that is shown in the direct or indirect speech.

e) Sexual Pleasure-seeking

When she was a child, Firdaus started to experiment sexually with a boy named Mohammdain. They usually played together at fields. They played "bride and bridegroom." It means that they should take off their clothes and rub against one another. Firdaus describes the sensation of pleasure she gets from her friend Mohammdain, which ends when her mother forces her to undergo a strange surgery.

After this procedure, Firdaus never experiences sexual pelasure like the way she once did. Thought her mother forces her to undergo the procedure as a

matter of tradition and does not seem to think about it politically, Firdaus considers the tradition as another attempt to suppress women. By removing the clitoris, sex has become an act in which only men take pleasure. Firdaus believes that if women are equal to men, then both would find sexual pleasure.

I would nurse them between my breasts for a while, leave them to slip down over my belly, and then below it to the place between my things. Deep inside my body I could feel a strange trembling. At first it was like pleasure asking to pain. It ended with pain, a pain which felt like pleasure (p. 56).

In serving her customers, Firdaus only feels a deep pain, but a pain that is almost like a pleasure, and a pleasure that she really enjoys. Of course, the phantom feelings of pain and pleasure start with her circumcision. However, as the prostitute she can feel it again.

'Do you feel pleasure?'
'What did you say?' I enquired.
'Do you feel pleasure?' he repeated
I was afraid to say I felt nothing so I closed my eyes once more and said, 'Yes.' (p. 50).

Firdaus says that she feels her body is not her own until she becomes her own boss and the phantom feelings of pleasure and the pain emanate from another body that is not her body. That is why, she only feels and seeks the pleasure, pleasure, and pleasure; the pleasure which mixes with the pain, but that is exactly the pleasure that can find through this life.

I felt the sudden touch of him, like a dream remembered from the distant past, or some memory that began with life. My body pulsed with an obscure pleasure, or with a pain that was not really pain but pleasure, with a pleasure I had never known before, had lived in another life that was not my life, or in another body that was not my body (pg. 48).

Men's touch reminds Firdaus about her past life. Indeed, the sensation is started since she was child. Every touch of Mohammdain and her uncle are the way of Firdaus to begin seeking the pleasure; the pleasure that she will always find her pleasure through prostitute although someone talks that her job is not respectable.

She ever stopped being a prostitute because her friend said that her job was unrespectable. Yet, she changes her paradigm. She believes that being a prostitute means that women is higher and man is lower because she can ask for money to the men. It means that men will give her money that she asks so that she can be served. The more difficult men obtain her, the more money they will pay. By this condition, Firdaus can find her pleasure again.

f) Brave

Firdaus is a brave person. Through the journey of her life, it brings her that life is not flat and easy. So, it makes her brave enough to deal with everything in her life. Every suffering that comes from people around her affects her to make decisions bravely very often. It is started when she leaves her uncle's house, she is afraid of living in the street. She is in fear when somebody stares at her from the top till the bottom of her body. She is so scared at the time.

When I was sure the eyes had gone, I ran quickly down to pavement. Now, I had but one thought in my mind. How to reach my uncle's house in the shortest possible time. (p. 42).

Of course, she is in fear to leave her uncle's house at the first time. However, after she got married with Sheikh Mahmoud, she decided to leave her husband's house because her husband did a lot of bad treatment. She suffered so

much when she lived with her husband. So, she leaves her house to find her freedom.

The way Firdaus is against a man when she has a great arguing, shouting, and slapping to man (pimp). Actually, this man wants to protect Firdaus but he threatens her. Finally she kills him to protect herself.

I rised my hand even higher that he had done, and brought it down violently on his face. The whites of his eyes went red. His hand started to reach for the knife he carried in his pocked, but my hand was quicker than his. I raised the knife and buried it deep in his neck, pulled it out of his neck the trust it deep into his chest and plugged it deep into his belly. I stuck the knife into almost every part of his body. I was astonished to find how easily my hand moved as I thrust the knife into his flesh, and pulled it out almost without effort (p. 95).

She kills a man like she has a lot of revenge on him. Actually she had not done it before. This is the first time she does it. However, she did it easily by pulling the knife in his neck, chest, and belly. She did it without any doubt. She was very brave in doing something that she never did easily without any big effort.

So I lifted my hand high up above my head and landed it violently on his face.

'Now you can believe that I slapped you. Burying a knife in your neck is just as as easy and requires exactly the ame movement.'

This time, when he looked at me, his eyes were full offear. I said, 'perhaps now you will believe that I am prefectly capable of killing you, for you are no better tan an insect, and all you do is to spend the thousands you take from your starving people on prostitute.' (pp. 99-100).

She is a brave woman, even she has killed a man, and she will do what she usually does. However, there is something different to her. She is brave enough to tell the man that she is a killer. People in common will not and declare that they are a killer, but she did. Actually, it is very dangerous to her because people will know that she commits a crime. It means that he should be put in jail since she would endanger people's life. However, she prefers to be a killer and not to commit crimes. She thinks that she only kills criminals, not commits the crime like anybody did.

At the end of the novel, Firdaus faces her death bravely. She prefers to be hanged rather than asking an appeal to the President to be pardoned. Firdaus' statement at the end of her life shows her bravery as a woman. She does not regret what she did.

'There's hope for you release if you send an appeal to the President asking him to pardon you for the crime you committed'

'But I don't want to be released, 'I said, 'And I want no pardon for my crime. For what you call my crime was no crime.'

'Everybody has to die. I prefer to die for a crime I have committed rather than to die for one of the crimes which you have committed.' (p. 101).

She prefers to be responsible for what she has done even though she must die rather than sending an appeal to the President. She is a brave woman; accepting something that is very horrifying bravely. It means that she is not afraid of death because everybody will die. What really matters in this world is the way someone ends their life. However, Firdaus prefers to die to be hanged rather than die in any other ways.

g) Tough

In going through this life, every experiences shapes her as a tough woman. Through those experiences, even though it is hard, cruel, bad, and uncompromising makes her life as a tough woman. There is a lot of oppression in her life, it started from turbulent in her childhood, being abused and witnessing violence against her mother by her father, molested by her uncle and auntie, married with a man that she does not like, getting bad treatments from her husband, betrayed by someone she loves, exploited by pimps and never getting the true love that she looks for.

All of those tragedies and difficulties in her life change her from a gentle woman to be a tough woman. She can slap, threaten, and choose the man that she wants to choose, even though she will kill a man to protect herself. She will never show that she is weak in front of men because she does not want to be a weak woman. What she wants to show is that a woman can be as strong as a man.

All the men I did get to know, every single man of them, have filled me with one desire: to lift my hand bring it smashing on his face (p. 11).

Firdaus also learn that all women are prostitutes of one kind to another. The men force women to sell their bodies at a price and the lowest paid body is a wife. Yet, it will be different from prostitutes. Prostitutes have price when they sell their bodies. For Firdaus, the higher the price, the more she will be respected.

Men impose deception on women and punish them for being deceived, force them down to the lowest level and punish them for falling so low, bind them in marriage and then

chastise them with menial service for life, or insults, or blows (p. 86).

However, Firdaus is a tough woman. She does not want to be lower than men. What she wants is to be equal to man. She resists every man who wants to treat her badly although most of them are doubtful of her toughness.

*He stared at me a brief moment, laughed and then said, "I can't believe that someone like you can kill."
"Why not?"
"Because you are too gentle."
"And who said that to kill does not require gentleness?"
(p.99).*

In Firdaus' way of thinking being weak only brings her into oppression and suffering which never ends. She must do real action bravely to prove to the men that she is tough enough in dealing with everything in this life even though it is a bad thing from men.

So I lifted my hand high up above my head and landed it violently on his face.

"Now you can believe that I slapped you. Burying a knife in your neck is just as easy and requires exactly the same movement." (p. 99).

Firdaus is a strong woman. She will do anything as she likes. She does not fear anything after all tragedies and experiences which shape her to be tougher.

Here, she also describes her feeling through song.

*I hope for nothing
I want for nothing
I fear nothing
I am free (p. 87).*

And the song that she sings is her detachment from the world around her is finally complete. No one can hurt her anymore. Nothing in this world she should fear. Men can kill her body, but the truth and her voice are immortal.

For death and truth are similar in that the both require a great courage if one wishes to face them. And truths are similiar in that it kills. When I killed I did it with truth not with a knife (p. 102).

Firdaus does not regret when she condemns a death sentence. She keeps holding on her dication. She does not feel afraid and sorry although she knows that she does not has a longer life. Instead, she considers her death as a proud decision which makes her feel superior to everyone else and ready to face her death bravely.

Now I am waiting for them. After a little while they will come to take me away. Tommorow morning I shall no longer be here. I will be in a place which no one knows. This journey to an unknown destination, to a place unknown to all those who live in this earth, be they king or prince, or ruler, fills me with pride (p. 101).

As the conclusion, it can be seen from her reaction, manner, and action that Firdaus is really a tough woman. Sheis not wea anymore after facing so many difficulties in this life. The journey of her lifeis not simple. However, it shapes her into a tough and strong woman.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this last chapter, two sections are presented. The first part is concerned with the conclusions of the analysis which answer problems formulated in Chapter one. The second part, the researcher offers some suggestions for the future researchers and for the English teachers.

A. Conclusion

The researcher analyzes the psychological of Firdaus using the way proposed by Sigmund Freud, Freud and Breuer had devised the talking cure, as suggested by their patient Anna O, as a form of therapy by which the subject absolves and cures self from hysterical symptoms. Through the talking cure, or what is termed today as psychotherapy, the subject finds catharsis. Freud later used this technique to successfully treat all his patients. Firdaus is portrayed in session with the psychiatrist in an isolated section of prison where she is incarcerated.

Firdaus, I would suggest, is a stereotype of Dora and Anna O. while the psychiatrist is typecast as Freud treating his patient. Firdaus narrates her life story to the psychiatrist, uninterrupted, as per her request. In so doing, she is able to exorcise herself of buried experiences and absolve herself of repressed trauma. Firdaus wanted her life story to be told to women across the world in order to raise awareness on how her society treats women. She, until the very end, refuses to sign an appeal against her murder conviction, opting instead to be executed.

She dies a free woman, after having absolved a burden she carried for long years. Firdaus's life story has been documented by the psychiatrist to educate and empower women in their dealings with men in male-centered societies. Firdaus's story deserves merit because she has become, albeit posthumously, a beacon of hope for abused and oppressed women. In the end, she found her true self and daring of a courageous woman in a male-centric society; she did not die in vain.

Indeed, in going through journey of life, nobody can predict what kind of life journey they will face. The journey means what someone has done in their life whether they like or not. Actually Firdaus never thinks to be prostitute. However, her past experiences teach her to be a successful prostitute. Actually she does not want but she did. She does something unconsciously. Thus, she never regrets what she has done because what she had to do is just to continue this life. Every decision has the consequences. So, even though she did a crime, she should be responsible for that.

This study concludes that society has the power to affect someone's life journey. It can be positive and negative. It depends on the way of thinking how to make it better or not. Here, Firdaus determines her right to life to be a prostitute because it makes her independent, respectable and not all the men can be close to her.

B. Suggestion

The researcher mentioned in chapter one, this paper provides the suggestions for the future researchers that will conduct further analysis on Nawal

El Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*. In this study, the researcher concentrates on one character Firdaus, who is the main character in Saadawi's *Woman at Point Zero*. The researcher suggests that the future researchers conduct analysis on other characters' role and other interesting problems like the reason why the role of mother does not really appear in this novel.

The researcher takes only chapter one of the novels because it is the main part of the story. Besides, there are a lot of adverb of manner, time, place and frequency in chapter one and the words are not difficult to understand. Compared with any other chapter, chapter one is the most interesting chapter because the reader is forced to guess what kind of person in the story is talked about. Besides, chapter one is not as long as chapter two or not as short as chapter three. Chapter one has enough content to be discussed. So, the researcher thinks that chapter one is the best one in learning activities for the tenth grade.

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