

**PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA OF THE MAIN
CHARACTER IN E. LOCKHART'S *WE WERE LIARS***

THESIS

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG
2021**

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THESIS

Presented to

Universitas Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of *Sarjana Sastra* (S.S)

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM MALANG

2021

STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**Psychological Trauma of the Main Character in E. Lockhart’s *We Were Liars***” is my original work. I do not include any previously written or published materials, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. As a result of this, if there is an objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

Malang, October 6th 2021



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APPROVAL SHEET

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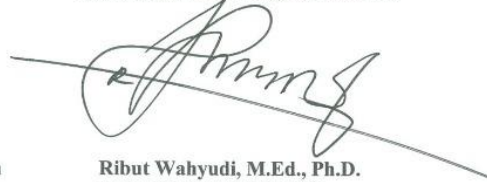
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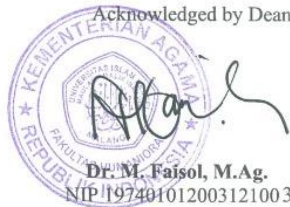


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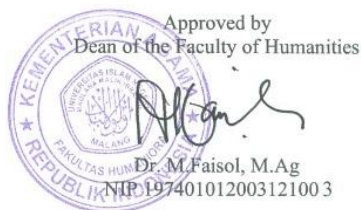
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MOTTO

فَبِأَيِّ آلَاءِ رَبِّكُمَا تُكَذِّبَانِ

Which is it, of the favors of your Lord, that ye deny?

"Maka nikmat Rabb-kamu yang manakah, yang kamu dustakan;"

(QS. Ar-Rahman 55:13)

DEDICATION

Alhamdulillahirabbil'alamin, I prostrate my gratitude to Allah; by God's destiny, I can become a person who thinks, has the knowledge, has faith, and is patient. Hopefully, this success will be a big step in my future, in reaching all my dreams and goals. I proudly dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents, who always take care of me and support me through their prayers. My lovely sister and brother who constantly motivate me to complete my thesis. My thesis supervisor who always helps and guides me with her patience. My fiancé who has supported, gives me positive energy and always ready if I needed. My wonderful friends in batch 2017 at Department of English Literature who spent almost four years together.

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Bismillahirrohmanirrahim,

Assalamu 'alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh

Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah SWT, who has given me strength, guidance, and blessing so that I can finish this thesis entitled *Psychological Trauma of the Main Character in E. Lockhart's We Were Liars*. Also, peace and salvation be upon the greatest prophet, Muhammad SAW, who guides and spreads the truthfulness and brightness.

It is not easy to write and complete this thesis. Therefore, I would like to give a special thanks to my advisor Dr. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum., for giving me a lot of advice, guidance, and encouragement to complete my thesis as soon as possible. Thank you for taking the time to read all my drafts and discuss my thoughts and mistakes.

In addition, I would like to thank many people who have contributed and motivated me to complete my thesis and my studies at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. My gratitude is also presented for my beloved parents Mr. Sanhaji, and Mrs. Emiliya Contesa. My lovely sister Wilda Nafisa and my brother M. Rojil Gufron, thank you for your beautiful love, support, and infinite prayer. My big family, who always supporting me to do my thesis. May Allah blesses and gives my family full of happiness. It is also rightfully proud to my fiancé, M. Fahmi Abdillah, thank you for making my life wonderful. My beautiful best friends Oktavia Fiddah, Tyas A. Setyanigrum, Gita Sofyanti, Bq. Rosita, and

Mahlidatus Sulhiyah who always support and bring happiness. My friends majoring in Department of English Literature to support each other in finishing this thesis.

As an imperfect person, the researcher is well aware of the weaknesses in writing this thesis. If there are errors and inadequacies in this study, I expect all constructive suggestions and criticisms from all parties, for the sake of further improvement. I hope that this thesis can be useful for me, the readers, and the next researcher.

Wassalamu'alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh

Malang, October 6th 2021

The Researcher,

Kuni Kama Liyyah

NIM 17320166

مستخلص البحث

ليا ، كوني كاما. 2021. فقدان ذاكرة إيقاع سنكلير في رواية كنا كذايين لإي لوكهارت. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي بكلية العلوم الإنسانية. جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية
المشرف: د. هجرية. موندي راهايو. إم

الكلمات المفتاحية: الصدمة ، اضطراب ما بعد الصدمة (PTSD) ، فقدان الذاكرة ، الشخصية :
الرئيسية

الحدث الصادم هو حدث يمكن أن يؤثر على أي شخص ويمكن أن يكون له تأثير نفسي. واحدة من النفسية التي يمكن أن تحدث هي اضطراب ما بعد الصدمة تُعرف الصدمة التي تحدث بعد حدث المشاكل هذه الرواية مثيرة للاهتمام للتحليل لأن الباحث يصف (PTSD) صادم باسم اضطراب ما بعد الصدمة بوضوح جوهر علم النفس. تم نشر هذه الرواية أيضًا في عام 2014 ولم يتم البحث عنها إلا من قبل عدد قليل من الأشخاص. هذا يجعل الباحثين مهتمين بتحليل هذه الرواية من منظور مختلف.

هناك ثلاثة أهداف لهذه الدراسة: أولاً ، تحديد أسباب الصدمة. الثاني ، شكل اضطراب ما بعد الصدمة ثالثاً ، الطريقة التي يتعامل بها الإيقاع مع صدمته. كما يستخدم الباحث أسلوب بحث النقد الأدبي الذي يركز فقط على تحليل المصنف الأدبي. البيانات الواردة في هذه الدراسة مأخوذة من النصوص السردية We Were Liars رواية هو البحث هذا والنصوص الحوارية الواردة في رواية كنا كذايين موضوع يتركز البحث على المشاكل المتعلقة بالصدمات النفسية التي تعاني منها الشخصية الرئيسية والتي . للكاتب تتم دراستها نفسياً بشكل غير طبيعي.

تشير نتائج هذه الدراسة ، أولاً ، إلى أن أسباب الصدمة التي يعاني منها الإيقاع تنقسم إلى الصدمات بسبب الحوادث والصدمات النفسية ، بما في ذلك طلاق الوالدين ، والصراع الأسري ، ورفض الجسدية وفاة أصدقائه. ثانياً ، ينقسم شكل الصدمة النفسية في شخصية الإيقاع إلى قسمين ، وهما اضطراب ما بعد في إيقاع (PTSD) واضطرابات الذاكرة. وجد الباحثون أن اضطراب ما بعد الصدمة (PTSD) الصدمة مقسم إلى ثلاثة متغيرات ، وهي تذكر الحدث الصادم وتجنبه والاضطراب الجسدي. وكذلك اضطرابات الذاكرة التي تعاني منها شخصيات الإيقاع في شكل فقدان الذاكرة والتشاؤم. ثالثاً ، الطريقة التي يتعامل بها الإيقاع مع صدمته. وجد الباحثون ثلاث نتائج. قرر أولاً العودة إلى حيث تعيش عائلته الممتدة ويخطط لأشياء كبيرة لإنقاذ عائلته. ثانياً ، حاول تحويل الرغبات التي قد تكون مدمرة إلى أنشطة إيجابية ، مثل الإفراج عن الندم من خلال اختلاق القصص. والثالث يبني الخيال لمساعدة إيقاع على عدم الاستمرار في إلقاء اللوم على نفسه ويمكن أن يساعد في المضي قدماً في حياته واستعادة ذاكرته دون التعرض للاكتئاب.

ABSTRACT

Liyah, Kuni Kama (2021) *Psychological Trauma of the Main Character in E. Lockhart's We Were Liars*. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: Dr.Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.

Keywords: Trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Amnesia, Main Character.

Trauma is an anxiety disorder that arises as a result of traumatic events that can affect and have an impact in human psychology. Trauma that occurs after a traumatic event happened is concluded on the Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). This novel is interesting to analyze because the researcher describes clearly the essence of psychology. Also, this novel was published in 2014 and has only been researched by a few people. This makes the researcher interested in analyzing this novel from a different perspective.

There are three objectives of this study: first, to identify the causes of trauma; second, the form of PTSD; and third, the way Cadence faces her trauma. In addition, the researcher uses a literary criticism research method that only focuses on the analysis of a literary work. The data in this study were taken from narrative texts and conversational texts contained in the novel *We Were Liars*.

The findings of this study indicate that, first, the causes of trauma experienced by Cadence are divided into physical trauma due to accidents and psychological trauma, including parental divorce, family conflict, denial of the death of her friends. Second, the form of psychological trauma in Cadence's character is divided into two, namely post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and memory disorders. The researcher found that Cadence's PTSD was divided into three variants, namely remembering the traumatic event, avoiding it, and physical disturbance. The memory problems experienced by Cadence characters in the form of amnesia and confabulation. Third, is the way Cadence faces her trauma. The researcher found three findings. First, she decides to return to where her extended family lives and plans big things to save her family. Second, she instinctually turns her desires that may be destructive into positive activities, such as releasing regrets through making up stories. The third, Cadence builds imagination to help herself not continue blaming herself and can help to move on with her life and recover her memory without experiencing depression.

ABSTRAK

Liyah, Kuni Kama. 2021. *Trauma Psikologis Karakter Utama Dalam Novel We Were Liars Karya E. Lockhart*. Skripsi Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora. Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: Dr.Hj. Mundi Rahayu, M. Hum.

Kata Kunci: Trauma, Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, Amnesia, Tokoh Utama.

Trauma merupakan gangguan kecemasan yang muncul akibat dari peristiwa traumatis yang dapat mempengaruhi serta berdampak pada psikologis manusia. Trauma yang muncul setelah peristiwa traumatis disebut sebagai Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Novel ini menarik untuk dianalisis karena peneliti mendeskripsikan dengan jelas esensi psikologinya. Serta, novel ini diterbitkan pada tahun 2014 dan baru diteliti oleh beberapa orang saja. Hal ini, membuat peneliti tertarik untuk menganalisis novel ini dalam perspektif yang berbeda.

Ada tiga tujuan dari penelitian ini: pertama, untuk mengidentifikasi penyebab trauma; kedua, bentuk dari PTSD; ketiga, yaitu cara Cadence menghadapi traumanya. Selain itu, peneliti menggunakan metode penelitian kritik sastra yang hanya berfokus pada analisis sebuah karya sastra. Data dalam penelitian ini diambil dari teks naratif dan teks percakapan yang terkandung dalam novel *We Were Liars*.

Temuan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa, pertama, penyebab trauma yang dialami Cadence terbagi menjadi trauma fisik karena kecelakaan dan trauma psikologis antara lain perceraian orang tua, konflik keluarga, penolakan atas kematian teman-temannya. Kedua, wujud trauma psikologis pada karakter Cadence terbagi menjadi dua, yaitu post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) dan gangguan memori. Peneliti menemukan PTSD yang dialami Cadence terbagi menjadi tiga varian, yaitu mengingat peristiwa traumatis, penghindaran, dan gangguan fisik. Serta adanya gangguan ingatan yang dialami tokoh Cadence yang berupa amnesia dan konfabulation. Ketiga, cara Cadence menghadapi traumanya. Peneliti menemukan tiga temuan. Pertama dia memutuskan untuk kembali ke tempat keluarga besarnya tinggal dan merencanakan hal besar untuk menyelamatkan keluarganya. Kedua, mencoba untuk mengubah keinginan yang mungkin menjadi destruktif dalam kegiatan yang positif, seperti melepaskan penyesalannya melalui mengarang cerita. Ketiga membangun imajinasi untuk membantu Cadence agar tidak terus menyalahkan dirinya sendiri serta dapat membantu untuk melanjutkan hidupnya dan memulihkan ingatannya tanpa mengalami depresi.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher explains the overview of the thesis in the background. The research questions explain the problem of the study. The objectives of the study will explain related to the problem of the study. The researcher will explain some steps such as significance of the study, scope and limitations of the study, method of the research, and of course definition of key terms will be shared here.

A. Background of Study

An event or experience that is scary or horrifying will over time traumatize a person. Trauma is derived from the Greek word trauma, which means "wound." The term is used to describe a condition that arises as a result of a person's reaction to an occurrence. According to psychologists, trauma is defined as an impact or an incident that has an effect on a person and leaves a mark.

A traumatic incident is a life event that can affect anyone and can lead to mental health issues. Post-traumatic stress disorder is one of the psychological issues that can occur. According to (Townsend & Morgan, 2017) defines Post Traumatic Stress Disorder as an event that occurs as a result of a tragedy or calamity, such as an accident, natural disaster, war, or violence, and results in symptoms such as anxiety and a loss of personal integrity. Meanwhile, according to (Wahyuni, 2016) post-traumatic stress disorder is an anxiety illness that develops as a result of someone directly experiencing or witnessing a terrible event or series of events.

Post-traumatic stress disorder is known as a syndrome in someone who has experienced a traumatic event in the past. Such conditions will have psychological consequences in the form of behavioral disorders such as excessive anxiety, impatience, inability to sleep, tenseness, and a variety of other behaviors (Endiyono & Hidayah, 2019). A traumatic event is a tough thing for anyone. As a result, some persons who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a result of a traumatic event will constantly worry about it. This can have an impact on the sufferer's life. In addition, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder generally affects women more than men because most women are more sensitive to change than men, so they experience more intense emotions.

We Were Liars is young adult literature in the form of a novel by E. Lockhart, a New York Times Best Seller. The researcher chose this novel because of the way it has written, and the language is easy to understand, and it is including in recent literary works (2014) so that it is still relevant to discuss. It has unique storyline, complicated conflict, and also a lot of moral messages.

Cadence, a character in the novel *We Were Liars*, has endured psychological trauma in her past life. The novel tells the story of Cadence Eastman who experiences memory problems while on a summer of fifteenth on the private island of Beechwood. Cadence's tragedy has an impact on how she goes about her daily existence. Every day, she spent the remainder of the day attempting to figure out what had truly occurred to her during the accident that night in the summer of the fifteenth. Everyone agreed that discussing the accident would exacerbate the

trauma. The doctors who treated Cadence advised Cadence to remember for herself regarding what happened.

Scary or horrible incidents or experiences can traumatize a person over time. Cadence's trauma, which is deep and ingrained in her, forms the central focus of the narrative. Cadence has lost her recollection of the past, which is said to be a result or impact of trauma. Cadence's unconsciousness about her past can be studied through abnormal psychology.

Several other studies have also discussed *We Were Liars* novel written by E. Lockhart. The first study entitled *Cadence's Defense Mechanism in Recovering Her Lost Memory in We Were Liars by E. Lockhart*. This research was conducted by Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory. This research focuses on Cadence's struggles with amnesia and the defense mechanism in recovering her lost memories. The second is entitled *Othering Issue in E. Lockhart's Novel We Were Liars: A Post-Colonial Study*. This research focuses on a character Gat, who is considered an unwelcome family in the Sinclair family. However, Gat's character is different; Gat is not a rich man, and Gat is not a white person. In this study, the authors used Edward's Otherness theory. Through the implementation of this theory, it is known that the othering issue is a process that aims to discriminate and differentiate from one another. The last is entitled *Family Conflict in E. Lockhart's Novel We Were Liars*. This research discusses the causes of conflict in the Sinclair family in the novel *We Were Liars*. This research takes Wirawan's theory which reveals the types of causes of conflict. Researchers argue that

conflicts in these families are caused by three leading causes: different social systems, personalities, and needs.

The researcher used the same object, namely, the novel *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart by applying different theories. The first previous study used Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory, the second used Edward's otherness theory, and the last one used Wirawan's theory which reveals the types of causes of conflict. In this study, the researcher wants to examine the novel *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart using abnormal psychological approach using the Mendato theory.

The novel *We Were Liars* was chosen as the subject of this research in several of E. Lockhart's works above because the main character in the story endured psychological trauma that resulted in memory loss. The researcher's goal is to choose the main character Cadence Sinclair over other characters because she wants to learn about the main character's post-traumatic disorder, amnesia, the main character's life alters after experiencing various occurrences. This study uses the theory of abnormal psychology to examine the psychological trauma of the main character.

The researcher wants to discuss using the theory of abnormal psychology, especially the form of psychological trauma and the general response to trauma, by Mendato. She wanted to know how the form of psychological trauma and the general response to trauma experienced by the main character Cadence Sinclair. (Mendato, 2010) argues that PTSD is divided into three main forms of symptoms, namely, (1) recalling traumatic events, (2) avoidance, (3) physical disorder or the body automatically reacts by itself to threats that aren't real.

B. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher identifies some problems study as follows:

1. What are the causes of the trauma experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*?
2. What are the forms of PTSD experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*?
3. How does Cadence face her trauma in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*?

C. Objectives of the Study

Following the problems of the study above, the objective of the study is shown below:

1. To find out the causes of the trauma experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*.
2. To find out the form of PTSD experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*.
3. To find out Cadence faces her trauma in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*.

D. Limitation of the Study

Based on the identification of the problem, in this study the following problem limitations were carried out. In the novel *We Were Liars*, there are many interesting topics to be studied further. However, this study focuses on the causes of the trauma experienced by Cadence, the forms of PTSD experienced by Cadence, and Cadence face her trauma in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*. The researcher did not analyze some limitations, such as the defense mechanism of the

main character.

E. Significances of the Study

This research is expected to be used theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research is expected to help provide an understanding of the development of literature related to literary psychology theory, especially those related to abnormal psychology. Practically, this research is expected to add insight to the reader especially knowledge about trauma in novels, and can use it as one of the studies in an effort to improve the ability of literary appreciation.

F. Definition of Key Terms

In this chapter, the researcher defines important terms used in this study. The keywords are: Main Character, Psychological Trauma and PTSD.

1. The Main Character is a character who is considered a priority in a story or other literary work (Nurgiyantoro, 2018). The main character is a character whose storytelling is prioritized in the process concerned. This character is a character who is told a lot in the story. This character has the most roles and appears in the storyline, and is always in touch with other actors. The existence of the significant character dramatically influences the development of the plot.
2. Psychological Trauma is an abnormal state of mind or behavior as a result of mental stress. The type of mental damage that occurs as a result of a traumatic event. An experience that destroys feelings of security, ability, and self-worth, causing psychological wounds that are difficult to fully heal. When trauma leads to posttraumatic stress disorder, the

damage may involve physical changes in the brain and brain chemistry.

In addition, these conditions will change a person's response to future stress.

3. PTSD is an anxiety disorder that makes sufferers remember traumatic events. A post-traumatic stress disorder that attacks the mind and appears after a person experiences or witnesses an unpleasant event.
4. Amnesia refers to the inability to remember information stored in memory that occurs for a short or long time.

G. Previous Studies

Several studies that are relevant to this study are presented with the aim of avoiding duplication and proving that the topic under study has not been carried out by other researchers in the same context.

The researcher got some previous studies that are relevant to this object. The first one came from (Soegijono, 2018) with the title *Cadence's Defense Mechanism in Recovering Her Lost Memory in We Were Liars by E. Lockhart*. In her research, she focuses on the struggles of Cadence Sinclair, who lost her memory after an accident. In this study, it was explained that the defense mechanisms employed by Cadence could help recover her lost memories. This research was conducted using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory to analyze Cadence Sinclair's defense mechanism. The results showed that the defense mechanism helped protect Cadence after she dealt with the accident, and it also helped her recover her memory. It was also found that there are three types of defense mechanisms in this analysis: sublimation, repression, and fantasy.

The second one comes from (Sholehuddin, 2019) with the title *Othering Issue in E. Lockhart's Novel We Were Liars: A Post-Colonial Study*. In this research, he tries to focus on a character from Gat, who is considered an unwelcome family in the Sinclair family. However, Gat's character is different; Gat is not a rich man, and Gat is not a white person. In this study, the authors used Edward's Otherness theory. Through the implementation of this theory, it is known that the othering issue is a process that aims to discriminate and differentiate from one another.

The third research comes from (Dina & Suhendi, 2019) with the title *Family Conflict in E. Lockhart's Novel We Were Liars*. This research discusses the causes of conflict in the Sinclair family in the novel. *We Were Liars*. This research takes Wirawan's theory which reveals the types of causes of conflict. Researchers argue that conflicts in these families are caused by three leading causes: different social systems, personalities, and needs.

The point that makes this research different from the previous study is that the object of discussions used is rarely examined. In this study, the researcher tried to focus on the main characters in the novel, described as experiencing psychological trauma, such as in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*. The researcher used an abnormal psychological approach to answer forms of trauma, general responses to trauma and techniques that describe trauma of the main character.

H. Research Method

1. Research Design

The research design of this research is literary criticism. According to (Koentjaraningrat, 1991), literary criticism describes an accurate illustration of a person or group and indicates what happened. In this design, the objectives of the research are novel. The focus of this research is on the things that are attached to the main character in terms of literary psychology. The psychological element is the center of the problem in the novel *We Were Liars*. Thus, this research will reveal things related to the psychology of the main character, namely; (1) the causes of the trauma experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*, (2) the forms of PTSD experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*, (3) Cadence face her trauma in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*.

The literary criticism used in this study makes it easier for researcher to identify gaps in literary works. This literary criticism includes analysis, description, and interpretation of a literary work from the novel *We Were Liars*. The analysis of this study uses a psychological approach that focuses on the psychological condition of the main character in the novel *We Were Liars* who experience a trauma disorder. The analysis is done by studying the sentences and statements in the novel that can help show the psychological condition of the main character, Cadence Sinclair, in the novel *We Were Liars*. Therefore, the researcher uses psychological theory because it is considered appropriate to examine the problems of the main character of the novel.

2. Data Source

The researcher gets data source of this study from (Lockhart, 2014) novel entitled *We Were Liars* published by Delacorte Press United States, 256 pages.

3. Data Collection

The data collection technique used in this study was a textual observation technique of reading and taking notes. The steps are taken in the reading and note textual observation technique are as follows. The overall reading of the novel *We Were Liars* with the aim of knowing the general identification. Careful reading is accompanied by activities to analyze sentences and paragraphs that contain elements of psychological trauma. Recording data from the results of reading into a data book in the form of direct quotations without changes from the novel. After collecting the data, the researcher organizes the data and selects certain parts that are considered important and suitable for analysis. Then, the researcher began to analyze the data.

4. Data Analysis

In order to analyze the data, the researcher developed some steps for data processing. The first step is to check the collected data related to the topics. Through the psychology of literature analysis, the researcher could infer the psychological development of the main character. In order to simplify the operation, the researcher listed the collected data. The goal is to select the necessary data that can be analyzed in this study. The next step is to classify the data according to the research question. The last step is, she concludes the analysis and provide suggestions to the reader.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter will discuss the related literature review to show that previous research is related to the research topic. The researcher explains the discussion in general to the most specific, starting from characters in a literary work, psychological trauma in the perspective of abnormal psychology, memory disorders.

A. Psychological Approach in Literary Criticism

Literature is the expression of written or oral works based on ideas, human experience, opinions, and feelings. It can also be said to be a realistic face wrapped in an aesthetic appearance through language media. According to (Musliah, Halimah, & Mustika, 2018), literary works are created from an author's experience as well as from the stories of other people. It can be concluded that literary works and humans have an inseparable relationship because literature is a reflection of human life which includes thoughts, feelings, attitudes, behavior, knowledge, responses, and human imagination.

According to (Nurgiyantoro, 2018), literature is an imaginative work that serves as a pleasant reading material full of cultural values helpful in adding to the inner wealth of humans, humanity, and life. Everyone is different from one individual to another. Literature is an imaginative and creative human activity, but literature is also believed to represent real-life expressed through language as a medium. Literature consists of many values of human life, such as moral teachings and life motivation, so that readers can benefit from reading. Therefore,

sometimes literary works are made by authors through natural social life phenomena, for example, in terms of psychology. This problem is related to human behavior in life.

Literature consists of three genres, namely, drama, poetry, and prose. One of the prose literary works is a novel (Jaenudin, Kosim, & Ismayani, 2018). A novel is a literary work presented in the form of a series of stories in which there are characters and a series of events in people's lives. According (Wellek, 1949) say that the imagination of writers also produces literature. Literature is not only a story in a factual world with facts, but also literature is a product of the imagination of a writer who creates the world, without limitation.

Psychology of literature is a literary study that views work as a psychological activity according to (Endraswara, 2013). According to (Ratna, 2012) psychology of literature is an interdisciplinary research model by determining that literary works have a more dominant position. On the basis of a very broad literary treasure that is evoked through different traditions, psychological elements display different aspects.

According to (Endraswara, 2013) psychology of literature is the study of literary works which are believed to reflect psychological processes and activities. In examining psychological literary the important thing that needs to be understood is the extent to which the psychological involvement of the author and the author's ability to present fictional characters involved in mental problems according to (Minderop, 2005). In addition, psychology is also concerned with studying human psychological phenomena, their symptoms, and their causes

(Ahmadi & Supriyono, 2009). According to Wellek Warren in (Kasnadi & Sutejo, 2010) psychology of literature has four meanings, the first is the study of author psychology. Second, the study of the creative process. Third, the study of types and psychological laws applied to literary works. Fourth, studying the impact of literature on readers.

Furthermore, analyzing psychological literature can be done in two ways: understanding psychological theories and exploring works. Second, determine literary works first and then select relevant ideas. After that the author conducts a psychological analysis, of course, will use this psychological theory by relating it to the content of the story in the literary work.

B. Character in Literature

Studying a novel is very important to know one of the most critical aspects, namely character. Characters in literary works are one of the important aspects because without characters, literary works cannot become a story. Characters are prioritized in novels, plays, theater, or films. Character in this case refers to the actor who is part of the character.

Abrams in (Nurgiyantoro, 2018), Story characters are shown in a narrative work, or drama, which readers interpret as having moral qualities and certain tendencies as expressed in speech is done in action. From these quotes, it can also be seen that a character and his personal qualities are closely related to the acceptance of readers or listeners. The distinction between one character and another is more determined by personal qualities than seen physically.

In terms of character involvement in the whole story, fictional characters are divided into two, namely the main character and additional character (Sayuti , 2000). The main character is a character who has a big role in the events in the story. According to (Sayuti , 2000) the main character in a story can be determined in at least three ways. First, it is the character who is most involved with the meaning and the theme. Second, that character has the most contact with other characters. Third, it is the character who takes the most time to tell.

Just like humans, characters in fiction also have three dimensions, namely physiological, sociological, and psychological dimensions. Physiological dimensions include age, gender, body condition, and so on. The sociological dimension includes social status, occupation, education, and so on. According to (Christoper , 2019) psychological dimensions include mentality, moral measures, personal desires and feelings, attitudes and behavior (temperament), as well as intellect.

The way of depicting characters can be divided into analytical and dramatic. There is also an analytical method that distinguishes it into the telling method "explanation" and showing and there is also a method that distinguishes it into discursive, dramatic, contextual, and mixed methods. The next method is the dramatic method. In this method the author allows the characters to express themselves through their own words, actions, or deeds (Sayuti , 2000). Of course, this method requires a longer space or a longer time than to describe directly. However, the advantages of the dramatic method are more lifelike and invite the active participation of readers in the story.

C. Psychological Trauma in Perspective of Abnormal Psychology

Abnormal psychology is concerned with abnormal behavior. Basically, the concepts of normality and abnormality are vaguely defined (Kartini, 1989). This is because the habits and normal behavior of one community group may be different from other community groups. So, what is considered normal in one particular group of people is not necessarily the same as normal in another group.

According to (Kartini, 1989) normal behavior is how a person's attitude towards life is in accordance with the pattern of the community group where the individual is located, so as to achieve a satisfying interpersonal and inter social relationship. Normal personal criteria with a healthy mentality such as: sense of security, self-evaluation and insight, having the right spontaneity and emotionality and so on.

Trauma is an experience that destroys a sense of security, ability, and self-esteem, causing psychological wounds that are difficult to fully heal (Supratika, 1995). So that if someone experiences trauma to something, the sense of security and comfort becomes disturbed or even disappears in living daily life. Trauma can also be a psychological wound that is difficult to completely remove, which means that even though the trauma level has subsided, it will follow for life.

According to (Mendato, 2010) there are four main processes mechanism for trauma, namely (1) the occurrence of events, (2) trauma, (3) stress response to traumatic events, (4) PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder). First, the mechanism of trauma begins with the event. Events interpreted as harmless will not trigger trauma. Events that are interpreted as dangerous and cannot be resolved can

trigger trauma. Second, if the event is interpreted as dangerous, it will cause trauma. Trauma arises when a person is unable to cope with the events that occurred. Third, the emergence of a stress response to a traumatic event. If trauma occurs, stress responses will appear as a form of adaptation to the traumatic event experienced.

In general, the response that appears will still be considered normal. However, if these responses are not handled properly, they can lead to a disorder called PTSD. Fourth, the presence of PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder) is a true disorder of trauma. As the name implies, someone who has PTSD can be interpreted as abnormal. Usually, the stress response to trauma will be referred to as post-traumatic disorder or PTSD if it is not managed properly then PTSD can appear years after the traumatic event has passed (Mendato, 2010).

In general, (Mendato, 2010) divides trauma into three categories: (1) physical trauma, (2) post-cult trauma, and (3) psychological trauma.

1. Physical Trauma

Physical trauma is a physical injury that is dangerous to safety caused by physical changes, such as kidney removal, fractures, severe bleeding, severed hands and feet, and others. Trauma in this sense is used in a limited way and is relatively unknown to the general public. Physical trauma consists of two kinds, namely: penetrating trauma and blunt trauma.

According to (Mendato, 2010) penetrating trauma is a type of trauma in the form of filling the skin or other body parts with an object. Examples: filled with knives, hit by bomb fragments, shot by bullets, pierced by arrows, and other.

Blunt trauma is a type of trauma caused by blunt objects. For example, hit by a fist, hit by a motorbike, and getting hit.

2. Post-Cult Trauma

Post-cult trauma is a severe emotional problem that arises when members of cults or new religious movements (e.g. the Garden of Eden sect, Ahmadiyah sect, and others) experience feelings of being uninvolved or uninvolved (Mendato, 2010). This trauma occurs when a person enters into a cult group and does not experience the feeling of being involved or belonging to the group. So that the person feels a conflict within himself between choosing to believe in his group or leaving the group because it is not in line with his thoughts.

3. Psychological Trauma

Psychological trauma is a psychological injury that is usually caused by an extremely stressful or life-threatening event. This is the most popular and frequent type of trauma. Patients who experienced psychological trauma were the most. According to (Mendato, 2010) the word trauma, usually means psychological trauma.

According to (Mendato, 2010) the types of events that can cause trauma are very diverse. Based on a person's involvement with the event, traumatic events can be divided into three different types, namely (1) impersonal trauma, (2) interpersonal trauma, and (3) attachment trauma.

a) Impersonal Trauma

A traumatic event experienced does not involve the sufferer's feelings with others. The patient has a personal connection to the occurrence. Natural

catastrophes, such as earthquakes, tsunamis, storms, hurricanes, floods, and other natural disasters, as well as disasters involving humans and technology, such as nuclear power plant radiation leaks, gas stove explosions, and so on, are examples of traumatic events. Accidents, such as road collisions, near drowning, and falling from trees, to name a few (Mendato, 2010).

b) Interpersonal Trauma

Interpersonal trauma is a traumatic event that involves the feelings of the sufferer, involves the patient or people close to the sufferer, as a victim, perpetrator, or eye witness. Here are some of its forms, namely dangerous or chronic illness or injury, violence in all its forms, loss or death of a close person, betrayal by people who have been trusted, war, and crime (Mendato, 2010).

c) Attachment Trauma

The most emotional type of trauma is attachment trauma, also known as developmental trauma. When circumstances are regarded by the victim as threatening their desire for connectedness to others, this trauma happens. This type of trauma is most commonly experienced throughout childhood. The victim's trauma was created by the treatment of one of the victim's close friends. Physical and psychological violence by close people, sexual violence against children by close people, rejection of the presence of children or children being abused, neglecting their emotional needs, neglecting their physical needs, and being forcibly separated from other people are all examples of events that can cause attachment trauma (Mendato, 2010).

D. Post- Traumatic Stress Disorder

If the four responses aren't addressed correctly, it might lead to a condition known as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). There are three types of PTSD: (1) recalling a traumatic event, (2) avoidance, and (3) physical disorders appear (Mendato, 2010).

1. Recalling a Traumatic Event

Recalling a traumatic event has two forms, namely: replaying in thoughts or flashbacks and having nightmares. This repetition of traumatic events makes a person traumatized and overshadows that person's life (Rahayu & Satriawan, 2020). A significant physical and emotional response is usually present during the recollection process. Headaches, uncontrollable shivering, elevated heart rate, feeling cold, and other physical reactions can occur after recalling. Emotional reactions to situations can include severe terror and numbness (Mendato, 2010).

2. Avoidance

The first type of avoidance is the avoidance of places, activities, people, and objects that are associated with traumatic events. Decreased general individual response and persistence avoidance of anything that reminds a person of trauma (Rahayu & Satriawan, 2020). The second type is to hold on to trauma-related thoughts, emotions, or feelings, as well as a sense of estrangement from others (Mendato, 2010).

3. Physical Disorders

The body responds automatically to the possibility of danger, exhibiting symptoms such as irritability, cold sweats, difficulty sleeping, lack of

concentration, body cooling, elevated heart rate, fast breathing, urge to urinate, and others (Mendato, 2010).

E. Memory Disorder

Memory is an individual's ability to receive or store, and reproduce the information (Baihaqi, Sunardi , & Heryati , 2005). The ability to absorb, store, and replicate these impressions is related to the ability of human memory. Excessive memory, impaired or decreasing memory or lost memory are all examples of memory problems (Baihaqi, Sunardi , & Heryati , 2005). In detail, these memory disorders include hypermnesia, amnesia, and paramnesia.

1. Hypermnesia

Hypermnesia is an overabundance of memory in which a person can vividly describe events (knowledge or impressions gained). It can happen at certain times or during certain situations that are linked to feelings or emotions (Baihaqi, Sunardi , & Heryati , 2005).

2. Amnesia

Amnesia is a disorder in which a person loses memory, either partially or completely, and for a short or long period of time. It can be caused by physiological or psychological factors. Damage to memory and storage is the cause of organic amnesia. The cause for the recall while in psychological amnesia is encountering hurdles or problems. People who are suffering from this can lose their identity in severe cases. It could be for current events (a few hours or days) or events that have been going on for a long time. It can be retrograde (covering events that occurred before and after the amnesia) or anterograde (covering events

that occurred after the disruption that triggered the amnesia) (Baihaqi, Sunardi , & Heryati , 2005).

3. Paramnesia

Paramnesia is a false memory (memory illusion) due to distortion recall, including (a) *deja vu*, (b) *jamais vu*, (c) *fausse reconnaissance*, and (d) *confabulation*.

- a. *Deja vu*: have seen something even though you haven't (feeling you remember something, even though it's the first time you've met). In reality, we can sometimes predict what will happen next.
- b. *Jamais vu*: occurs when we are unable to recognize a situation that is actually or familiar. In other words, once something has happened, it either becomes new or defies recollection.
- c. *Fausse reconnaissance*: erroneous re-introduction, assuming his acknowledgment is right when it is not.
- d. *Confabulation*: a term that refers to a false or unrealistic memory that a person tells unconsciously to fill the void in memory. Confabulation information is unconscious, created, incorrect, or altered from the reality he experienced, yet the sufferer believes in the truth (Baihaqi, Sunardi , & Heryati , 2005).

CHAPTER III

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In chapter III, the research results and discussion of this research are presented. The object analyzed is a novel entitled *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart. The results of the research on the psychological trauma of the Cadence Sinclair character in the novel *We Were Liars* used the psychology of abnormal trauma from Mendato. The discussion of the research results is adjusted to the formulation of the problem and research objectives. The results of the existing research are then displayed with quotes taken in the novel *We Were Liars* as well as the results of the author's analysis of these quotes. The results of the study are described in the discussion chapter.

A. The Causes of the Trauma Experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*

1. The Accident that Causes Trauma Experienced by the Main Character

Trauma is often the result of great emotional and psychological stress, usually due to a related event or experience. However, what is meant by trauma is trauma as a disease or trauma to a person's physique. A traumatic event can lead someone into the worst mental health disorder. According to (Durand & David , 2007) defines a traumatic event is a situation where someone experienced, witnessed, or was confronted with an event where there was the threat of actual death or serious injury. The event may also have involved a threat to someone's physical well-being or the physical well-being of another person. Traumatic events that can be experienced directly include assaults, serious accidents, a

natural disaster such as an earthquake, personal assaults, and abuse. Traumatic experiences that are closely related to the victim's life will allow the person to experience PTSD (Istiadah , et al., 2020). The explanation below is about the cause of the trauma that Cadence experienced was an experience that caused her to almost die from the fire that occurred on the island of Clairmont with her friends "The Liars". The Liars consists of Cadence, Johnny, Mirren who is a cousin, and Gat who is the nephew of Cadence's aunt's boyfriend. The Liars are a group of young friends who label themselves as "The Liars" and spend time on the Sinclair family's private island. Their togetherness was destroyed by the great disaster that befell them on the island of Clairmont. The explanation below focuses on the causes of Cadence's trauma.

The cause of Cadence's trauma was an accident that occurred during her fifteenth summer vacation on Beechwood Island. The accident makes Cadence lose part of her memory. Cadence only remembers a small part of the incident and the memory she also got from her mother's explanation.

"I must have swum out far. There are big rocks in off the shore, craggy and black; they always look villainous in the dark of the evening. I must have had my face in the water and then hit my head on one of these rocks." (Chapter 12 Page 32).

The only cause of trauma to Cadence was an accident that occurred during the fifteenth summer vacation. In the summer of the fifteenth, Cadence believes that her accident occurred when she sank into the sea and hit her head on rocks. Cadence's hard impact can also cause Cadence to experience trauma and memory loss.

Cadence's memories depicted in the novel are in harmony with Cadence's mother's explanation. From Cadence's memory and her mother's explanation, it can be concluded that what happened to Cadence was the cause of the trauma she experienced. As quoted below, Cadence's mother describes Cadence's condition when she was found curled up and half-drowned.

“Mummy found me on the sand, curled into a ball and half underwater. I was shivering uncontrollably. Adults wrapped me in blankets. They tried to get me warm at Cuddledown. They fed me tea and gave me clothes, but when I didn't talk or stop shivering, they brought me to a hospital on Martha's Vineyard, where I stayed for several days as the doctors ran tests. Hypothermia, respiratory problems, and most likely some kind of head injury.” (Chapter 12 Page 32).

In the quotation, Cadence is found curled up half-submerged. In this quotation, it is clear how Cadence's condition was when the incident occurred. When the incident occurred, Cadence was immediately rushed to the hospital to get treatment from a doctor. After a few days, the doctor gave the test results. One of the doctor's diagnoses showed that Cadence had a head injury. The head injury that the doctor meant was caused by the impact that occurred when Cadence sank into the sea. Cadence's serious accident is the cause of the trauma.

After the accident, Cadence felt pain such as vomiting, weight loss and several other horrors that Cadence experienced. This allowed Cadence to return to treatment and post-accident tests. Cadence is again faced with a series of further tests to find out more about what damage was done to Cadence's body.

“The pain started six weeks after my accident. Nobody was certain whether the two were related, but there was no denying the vomiting and weight loss and general horror. Mummy took me for MRIs and CT scans. Needles, machines. More needles, more machines. They tested me for brain tumors, meningitis, you name it. To relieve the pain they prescribed this drug and that drug and another drug, because the first one didn't work and the second one didn't work, either. They gave me prescription after prescription

*without even knowing what was wrong. Just trying to quell the pain.”
(Chapter 13 Page 33-34).*

In the quotation above, Cadence underwent a series of tests including an MRI and CT scan. This is done to find out what is happening in Cadence's body. In addition to conducting tests, the doctor also prescribed several drugs to relieve some of the pain that Cadence was feeling.

From several tests performed by Cadence, doctors finally gave the final diagnosis. Doctor's diagnosis quotation as below.

*“There were so many appointments I can't even remember them.
Eventually the doctors came through with a diagnosis. Cadence
Sinclair Eastman: posttraumatic headaches, also known as PTHA.
Migraine headache caused by traumatic brain injury.” (Chapter 13
Page 34).*

From the quotation, the doctor gave a diagnosis to Cadence. Cadence was diagnosed with post-traumatic headaches and her headaches were caused by a traumatic brain injury. Cadence's traumatic brain injury is believed to have been caused by an impact on sea rock. This is the cause of the trauma experienced by Cadence.

Before Cadence sinks into the sea, there is an incident that traumatizes Cadence. The incident that caused Cadence to be traumatized was the fire on Beechwood Island. A fire broke out in the southern part of Beechwood Island. Clairmont is on fire, and there's no one to help. Cadence tried various ways to save her friends who were trapped in Clairmont but she couldn't. Until Cadence could see firefighters coming from the Vineyard and Woods Hole to try to put out the fire she had started. She, Johnny, Mirren, and Gat burn Clairmont.

“I remember this now, in a rush that hits me so hard I fall, and I plunge down, down to rocky rocky bottom, and I can see the base of Beechwood Island and my arms and legs feel numb but my fingers are cold. Slices of seaweed go past as I fall. And then I am up again, and breathing, And Clairmont is burning.” (Chapter 58 Page 151).

In the quotation, Cadence recalls that she was hit by a rushing wave. In fact, Cadence drowned on the beach and had an accident on the head that hit sharp rocks at the bottom of the beach and made her experience amnesia due to the impact that occurred. However, it all started when Cadence was confused about how to save her friends who were trapped in Clairmont. Cadence uses various ways to save her friends. But all was in vain and her friends died tragically in the flames that burned Clairmont. The events that Cadence witnessed made her helpless and the quiet screams of her friends made her sick. Everything that happened, she believed that something happened to her was that she was one of the main actors in the tragedy. She felt a little guilty for depriving her family of her main gathering place.

After knowing the cause of the trauma experienced by Cadence. Cadence's mother engages in a conversation with Cadence. The conversation explained the doctor's diagnosis of the cause of Cadence's trauma.

“Why doesn't anyone talk to me about it?” I repeat. “Because of your—because of—” Mummy stops, looking for words. “Because of your pain.” “Because I have headaches, because I can't remember my accident, I can't handle the idea that Clairmont burned down?” “The doctors told me not to add stress to your life,” she says. “They said the fire might have triggered the headaches, whether it was smoke inhalation or— or fear,” she finishes lamely.” (Chapter 73 Page 185-186).

In the quotation, it is noted that the doctor forbade to remind Cadence of what happened in the summer of the fifteenth. It is known not to bring back past trauma. Same with quotation below.

In addition, there is strong evidence of the cause of why the accident happened to Cadence. The quotation below explains that Cadence could have an accident sinking to the bottom of the beach.

“When help finally arrived, Miss Eastman was found on the tiny beach, half underwater and curled into a ball. She was unable to answer questions about what happened and appeared to have suffered a head injury. She had to be heavily sedated for many days following the accident.” (Chapter 80 Page 201).

From the quotation, Cadence was found in a slumped state and suffered a head injury. This can happen because she is trying to save her friends who are trapped in Clairmont's house. She tried her best to save The Liars but she was too late. The huddled state in the quote means that Cadence is shocked to see her friends die tragically before her eyes. So that he unconsciously stumbled into the beach.

After being explained again, there is a significant explanation of the cause of the trauma experienced by Cadence along with a more detailed explanation from the doctor who treats Cadence.

“Cadence Sinclair Eastman had no memory of the events surrounding the fire, no memory of it ever happening. Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally. These same doctors advised Cadence’s mother to stop explaining the tragedy if Cadence could not recall it herself. It was too much to be told of the trauma fresh each day. Let her remember in her own time. She should not return to Beechwood Island until she’d had significant time to heal. In fact, any measures possible should be taken to keep her from the island in the year immediately after the accident.” (Chapter 80 Page 202).

From this quotation, it is clear what causes Cadence's trauma. After having an accident in the summer of the fifteenth, Cadence develops selective amnesia. Meanwhile, the doctor diagnosed that the migraine headaches that occurred in

Cadence were caused by a feeling of deep sorrow and guilt over the death of her friends. This causes Cadence to be physically and mentally fragile. The doctor also gave advice so that what happened to Cadence in the summer of the fifteenth was not recounted in order to recover from the trauma experienced by Cadence.

2. The Social Conditions that Causes Trauma Experienced by the Main Character.

The psychological trauma that Cadence experienced was very diverse. Some of the traumas Cadence endured include: her parents' divorce, family conflict, and denial to the death of her friends.

a. Parent Divorce

It is undeniable that divorce often happens all around us. According to (Nurani, 2017) states that divorce is a family condition in a messy and disharmonious state. So that the child needs more love and encouragement for the loss of the parent. The occurrence of divorce makes children become victims and cases of parental divorce can cause trauma to children.

“Dad announced he was leaving and departed two days later. He told my mother he wasn't a Sinclair, and couldn't try to be one, any longer. He couldn't smile, couldn't lie, couldn't be part of that beautiful family in those beautiful houses. Couldn't. Couldn't. Wouldn't.” (Chapter 2 Page 5)

At the beginning of the story in the novel *We Were Liars*, the conflict that caused Cadence's trauma was narrated by the author. The quotation tells of Cadence's father insisting that he wants to leave Cadence's mother Penny and declaring that he is no longer part of the Sinclair family. Before this incident happened there were many things that made Cadence's father decide that. As in the story that the Sinclair family is a respectable and honorable family. There are

many rules that must be followed in the family. This is the cause of the divorce between Cadence's mother and father. Cadence's father thought that this was not suitable for him and decided to divorce and leave Cadence and his mother and go with another woman.

After her father's decision to leave Cadence and her mother, Cadence tries to explain the pressure she feels for what her father says as follows:

“Then he pulled out a handgun and shot me in the chest. I was standing on the lawn and I fell. The bullet hole opened wide and my heart rolled out of my rib cage and down into a flower bed. Blood gushed rhythmically from my open wound, then from my eyes, my ears, my mouth. It tasted like salt and failure. The bright red shame of being unloved soaked the grass in front of our house, the bricks of the path, the steps to the porch. My heart spasmed among the peonies like a trout.” (Chapter 2 Page 5).

In a quotation from the novel, Cadence describes how she felt when her father decided to leave her and mummy. Cadence's description of the pain was excruciatingly painful, where she was so badly injured that it felt like she had been shot in the chest. The meaning of the choice of words is that the departure of her father deeply hurts Cadence's heart and feelings. All the feelings that she tries to describe are felt by the reader. From the various feelings contained in the novel *We Were Liars* the departure of someone's father who means a lot to Cadence. This can trigger stress that causes a traumatic reaction. No teenager is normal after being abandoned, either temporarily or permanently. Either in a limited range or without limits. Losing is never easy. Losing changes everything to be no longer the same as it used to be. Losing is so painful.

The passing of Cadence's father left her sad and heartbroken. When Cadence was still struggling with her grief, Cadence's mother told her to remain normal.

“Mummy snapped. She said to get hold of myself. Be normal, now, she said. Right now, she said. Because you are. Because you can be.” (Chapter 2 Page 5).

With an unstable and depressed mood. Cadence was constantly pressured by her mother to act normal and ordinary. The attitude of the mother who keeps forcing Cadence to hide her emotions makes this a source of stress that ends up traumatizing her and comes into conflict with herself.

Besides that, on one occasion a conversation took place between Gat and Cadence. In the conversation between Gat and Cadence about God, Cadence explains how the circumstances she faced after her father's departure. She asked God to be given protection and care for what she was experiencing. However, Cadence felt she was trying hard on her own to get ahead in life.

“When things are bad, I’ll pray or imagine someone watching over me, listening. Like the first few days after my dad left, I thought about God. For protection. But the rest of the time, I’m trudging along in my everyday life. It’s not even slightly spiritual.” (Chapter 8 Page 21).

In the quotation above, Cadence is silently suffering because of her father's passing. She had many hopes that God would grant her. Cadence wants someone who can take care of her, listen to her, and protect her like her old father figure. It was this image that Cadence wanted, God returning her father to her little family. The father's decision to leave Cadence and her mother made Cadence very hurt and suffering. It was this suffering that made Cadence experience protracted sadness that traumatized her.

In addition to having a conversation with Gat about her father, Cadence also got into an argument with her mother. This was caused by Cadence's mother who asked about Cadence's goods. Cadence's mother asked about the items and

seemed to suggest to keep them. However, Cadence still wants to donate everything she owns with the reason that the objects get the best place. Cadence's mother felt that Cadence did all this because she still refused to feel sorry for the grief that had befallen her.

“Don’t you want to keep these?” She reaches out and touches my cheek. I pull back. “I want the things to find a better home,” I tell her. “I was hoping you would feel different when we came back to the island, is all.” “You got rid of all Dad’s stuff. You bought a new couch, new dishes, new jewelry.” “Cady.” “There’s nothing in our whole house that says he ever lived with us, except me. Why are you allowed to erase my father and I’m not allowed to—”. (Chapter 27 Page 74-75).

In the quotation above, Cadence's mother asks about the things that Cadence has that are memories with her friends. Cadence wants to donate all of these items with the reason to get the best home. However, Cadence's actions were considered by his mother as a rejection of what had happened to her friends. This spread to the discussion about the mother throwing away all of Cadence's father's belongings, which caused them to decide to separate. Her mother's actions made Cadence very hurt. Coupled with the mother throwing away all of her father's belongings, this action made Cadence feel that her mother was not satisfied with hurting Cadence's heart by separating but by erasing everything until nothing was left.

b. Family Conflict

A family is a place for someone to be able to grow well. The family environment has a great influence on a person's physical and mental health. Although no family is perfect, some families cannot carry out their proper functions for one reason or another. Problems that often occur include power and the highest position. The problem of the highest position in a family that often

competes shows a high social class. It is possible to engage in debate on this matter. This has become something that usually happens among the high class (Rahayu, 2021). This family problem will then have an impact and become a cause for welfare. In addition, troubled families tend to create a negative atmosphere and cause mental health to decline.

One of the causes of trauma experienced by Cadence is due to family conflict. Here are some quotes below.

“I’d love to help with whatever you want to change, Dad.” “Oh, please,” snapped Mummy. “Only yesterday you were saying how busy you are and now you’re helping remodel the Boston house?” “He asked for our help,” said Bess. “He asked for your help. You cutting us out, Dad?” Mummy was drunk. Granddad laughed. “Penny, relax.” “I’ll relax when the estate is settled.” “I’ll relax when the estate is settled.” “You’re making us crazy,” Carrie muttered. “What was that? Don’t mumble.” “We all love you, Dad,” said Carrie, loudly. “I know it’s been hard this year.” “If you’re going crazy it’s your own damn choice,” said Granddad. “Pull yourself together. I can’t leave the estate to crazy people.” (Chapter 37 Page 98-99).

The quotation describes a heated family conflict due to fighting over an inheritance. In the family there are often heated debates just because of inheritance issues. This is certainly often witnessed by all family members, including the young children in the family. It is this conflict between siblings that makes the family atmosphere uncomfortable. Cadence and her friends often see how Harris uses the wealth he has to control her daughters. Harris' daughters are so dependent on the inheritance that anything will be done to get it. This is what makes every meeting a quarrel between brothers and sisters. The constant conflict in the Sinclair family makes the liars angry.

“The aunties got drunk, night after night,” Johnny mumbles, as if it’s hard to choke the words out. “And angrier, every time. Screaming at each other. Staggering around the lawn. Granddad did nothing but fuel them. We watched them quarrel over Gran’s things and the art that hung in Clairmont—but real estate and money most of all. Granddad was drunk on his own power and my mother wanted me to

make a play for the money. Because I was the oldest boy. She pushed me and pushed me—I don't know. To be the bright young heir. To talk badly of you as the eldest. To be the educated white hope of the future of democracy, some bullshit. She'd lost Granddad's favor, and she wanted me to get it so she didn't lose her inheritance." (Chapter 59 Page 154).

In the quotation, the main family conflict that Cadence faces is that she has to watch the many fights and disagreements carried out by adults on Sinclair's private island. This kind of atmosphere makes a person's mental condition will be disturbed if she has to be faced with conflicts like this at any time. Johnny and Cadence talk about the events that led to the fire. In recalling the events before they planned the fire on Clairmont Island. It starts with the aunts getting drunk and fighting all summer long with the aim of fighting over inheritance and using their children as tools to grab Harris' attention. Everything the parents did could not be separated from Harris who only instigated them by making them fight against each other. Of all the memories of events that occurred in this family circle that caused Cadence to experience trauma. It is the struggle for power, wealth, and greed of the family members that makes Cadence and the others feel sick and want to let go of all that is a struggle by carrying out the big act of burning the island. Cadence felt that what had always been a division was wealth and inheritance and that made Cadence very uncomfortable.

There are many ways that aunts can do to get an inheritance from Harris. Not only ending in the struggle for an inheritance but many scheming things are also done by aunts by using their children to get Harris' attention. Penny always uses Cadence as a tool to melt Harris' heart for the sake of her pleasure which is

getting an inheritance. This is what makes Cadence seem depressed. It is this greedy attitude that makes Cadence hate her family.

“Just remind him that you care,” said Mummy. “And that you’re a good person. Well-rounded and a credit to the family.”

I complained. Writing the letters seemed false. Of course I cared. I loved Granddad and I did think about him. But I didn’t want to write these reminders

of my excellence every two weeks.

“He’s very impressionable right now,” said Mummy. “He’s suffering. Thinking about the future. You’re the first grandchild.”

“Johnny’s only three weeks younger.”

“That’s my point. Johnny’s a boy and he’s only three weeks younger. So write the letter.”

I did as she asked.” (Chapter 60, Page 155).

One of the many tactics the Sinclair sisters use to compete with one another is to pit their children against each other for Harris' admiration and favor. They knew they had to play with her image of the family as a line of successful, glamorous, well-adjusted people, and they used Johnny, Cadence, and Mirren to perpetuate that image for Harris, even if it involved lying about their lives. The quotation describes that Penny, Cadence's mother, used Cadence to get Harris' attention. Penny kept pressing or forcing Cadence to always write sweet things for Harris to impress her grandfather. This made Cadence constrained, she felt that what her mother ordered was something that should not be. She wanted to write something to her grandfather Harris without any coercion from anyone and with a specific purpose. Cadence just wanted to express her concern for her grandpa purely because she wanted to.

The events continued even shortly after Tipper's death. Tipper has brought the family together, and without her, her daughters are fighting over her possessions. The aunts took turns supporting Harris, but instead of working they kept fighting.

“But they were quarrelsome. They no longer had the glue of Gran keeping them together, and they fought over their memories, her jewelry, the clothes in her closet, her shoes, even. These affairs had not been settled in October. People’s feelings had been too delicate then. It had all been left for the summer. When we got to Beechwood in late June, Bess had already inventoried Gran’s Boston possessions and now began with those in Clairmont. The aunts had copies on their tablets and pulled them up regularly.” (Chapter 60 Page 156).

The quotation in the novel shows that without the influence of Tipper, who views wealth as something to be shared with others, the aunts only focus on the family property. In addition, the aunts who dedicate their love to their parents are not only sincere but there is a value that they must pay later in life. The most disturbing aspect of the rivalry between the aunts that plagues Cadence is that they no longer have a reason to be together and love each other because of their opinions of their future possessions and inheritance.

Tension also builds up as they gather in front of all the family members.

“Carrie had started a jewelry boutique with her trust and ran it for a number of years until it failed. Ed earned money, and he supported her, but Carrie didn’t have an income of her own.

Bess was raising four kids on her own. She had some money from her trust, like Mummy and Carrie did, but when she got divorced Brody kept the

house. She hadn’t worked since she got married, and before that she’d only been an assistant in the offices of a magazine. Bess was living off the trust money and spending through it.

And Mummy. The dog breeding business doesn’t pay much, and Dad wanted us to sell the Burlington house so he could take half. I knew Mummy was living off her trust.” (Chapter 60 Page 156).

A family member's conversation made Cadence realize how much aunt needed Harris' money. All of Harris' daughters live on inheritance money. So, when Harris suggested he donate the money to Harvard, he made a veiled threat to his own children. So, Cadence realized that Harris set up this system himself to maintain control over his daughter even as an adult. Conversations between family members and constant bickering about inheritance make Cadence think

more critically about the Sinclair family's finances and how these finances greatly affect family dynamics and create a division between one another. This is very disturbing for teenagers, including Cadence.

After a conversation with family members, Cadence and Penny get into an argument over the Windemere house. Cadence felt that the argument she was making was correct other than that she didn't want to get involved in the game her grandfather made.

*“No. You should stand up to him. Tell him to stop manipulating all of you. He’s only acting like this because he’s sad about Gran, can’t you tell? Can’t you help him? Or get a job so his money doesn’t matter? Or give the house to Bess?”
(Chapter 63 Page 163).*

The quotation shows exactly how Cadence's attitude and feelings are. Cadence is quite irritated by the actions of the all-powerful Harris and it's like a spark when it comes to his daughter's arguments about money and possessions. Cadence felt that Harris was too good at manipulating his daughters. Like when a private conversation with Bess ended in tension and seemed to force them to argue about who would get the inheritance from the Sinclair family. From the quotation, it is clear that Cadence could see through Harris's manipulation and would not want to play the same game as her mother did.

Every day wasn't a day without a fight like that night when Cadence and Gat went into the kitchen to get some snacks. There Cadence hears the voices of Carrie, Penny, and Bess, who are drunk and arguing in the kitchen. They fight over inheritance, as quotation below.

“It was the aunts coming into the kitchen, their speech slurred and hysterical. “This is why people kill each other,” said Bess bitterly. “I should walk out of this room before I do something I regret.” “You don’t mean that,” said Carrie. “Don’t tell me what I mean!” shouted Bess. “You have Ed. You don’t need money like I do.” “You’ve already dug your claws into the Boston house,” said Mummy. “Leave the island alone.” “Who did the funeral arrangements for Mother?” snapped Bess. “Who stayed by Dad’s side for weeks, who went through the papers, talked to the mourners, wrote the thank-you notes?”. (Chapter 66 Page 170).

The scene in this quotation is also a pivotal moment in Cadence's memory of her fifteenth summer on the island, for while The Liars witnessed much of the bickering between their aunts, at this moment they overheard the women's intimate and unfiltered conversation. Aunts compete to present different versions of themselves in public, and that even extends to the conversation at dinners and family gatherings, only when they're truly alone are they truly honest with each other. Hearing all these conversations is very disturbing and affects Cadence's mindset about her family being fake.

c. Denial to the Death of Her Friends

Death is a necessity for living beings. Everyone believes that one day they will die. But strangely, the incidence of death has a different effect on each individual. A person's reaction to death is greatly influenced by the manner in which death occurs. However, many other experts have stated that the type of death affects a person's experience or reaction to grief (Silverman, Range , & Overholser , 1995).

Grief over the death of someone or something loved is the most challenging mental health problem that often occurs. According to research (Fiedman & Kilpatrick , 2013) the death of a loved one - especially if it happens suddenly -

can be a traumatic experience. In fact, not a few of those people feel guilty if their words or behavior caused the death.

The same goes for Cadence, rejection of the death of her friends is a response to the trauma experienced by Cadence that comes naturally. This condition makes Cadence unconsciously reject the painful reality that her friends died during the accident.

*“I texted Mirren a few times. Called and left her messages that later I was ashamed of, they were so lonely and needy. I called Johnny, too, but his voice mail was full. I decided not to call again. I didn’t want to keep saying things that made me feel weak. When Dad took me to Europe, I knew the Liars were on-island. Granddad hasn’t wired Beechwood and cell phones don’t get reception there, so I began writing emails. Different from my pitiful voice messages, these were charming, darling notes from a person without headaches.”
(Chapter 14 Page 36).*

The quotation describes how sad Cadence's condition is. While in Colorado and temporarily away from Beechwood Island. Cadence often misses the liars in the summer. Her memory was all about her friend, the liars. Until her decision to contact the liars seemed like a stupid thing to do for someone with a breakdown. She keeps sending the liars texts that sound sad and lonely. From the SMS she sent, it can be seen that the picture seems to describe her current feelings. Lonely and sad after being abandoned by her friends and leaving only herself alone. Then with a reality that she has not yet accepted, she imagines by reenacting stories with the liars.

The events that occurred in the summer of the fifteenth saw Cadence receive intense treatment from doctors. The doctor who treated Cadence gave the diagnosis that she had PTHA. As a result, she cannot remember the events of the

summer of the fifteenth. It made her always ask about what really happened to her mother.

“I used to ask Mummy when I didn’t remember the rest of summer fifteen. My forgetfulness frightened me. I’d suggest stopping my meds, or trying new meds, or seeing a different physician. I’d beg to know what I’d forgotten. Then one day in late fall—the fall I spent undergoing tests for death-sentence illnesses—Mummy began to cry. “You ask me over and over. You never remember what I say.” “I’m sorry.” She poured herself a glass of wine as she talked. “You began asking me the day you woke in the hospital. ‘What happened? What happened?’ I told you the truth, Cadence, I always did, and you’d repeat it back to me. But the next day you’d ask again.” “I’m sorry,” I said again. “You still ask me almost every day.” It is true, I have no memory of my accident. I don’t remember what happened before and after.” (Chapter 18 Page 49).

In the quotation, Cadence's selective memory allows her to live in denial of her friends' deaths and the unpleasant circumstances surrounding their deaths. After continuing to find out about what really happened, Cadence's mother was annoyed with Cadence's attitude that kept asking about the accident. After commenting on the denials that Cadence kept on making Cadence subconsciously modify her memories. This is done by Cadence to avoid a painful reality.

After that incident Cadence decided not to ask again about the fifteenth summer and the accident that happened to her. This is done by Cadence to look after her mother. However, this really torments Cadence's mind, who always has to suppress her emotions when faced with her past, as seen in the quotation below.

“Cadence?” Mummy is leaning over me. I reach and clutch her hand. “Be normal now,” she whispers. “Right now.” “What?” “Because you are. Because you can be.” Okay. Okay. It was just a tree. Just a tree with a tire swing that I loved a lot. “Don’t cause a scene,” whispers Mummy. “Breathe and sit up.” I do what she asks as soon as I am able, just as I have always done. Aunt Carrie provides distraction, speaking brightly. “The new garden is nice, when you get used to it,” she says. “There’s a seating area for cocktail hour. Taft and Will are finding special rocks.” She turns the boat toward the shore and suddenly I can see my Liars waiting, not on the dock but by the weathered wooden fence that runs along the perimeter path.” (Chapter 23 Page 64).

In the quotation, Cadence exhibits unusual behavior on her return to the island of Beechwood. When that happened, Cadence's mother immediately suppressed the response that Cadence would show to continue to act normal. Cadence was constantly trying to suppress the feelings that were tormenting her by acting normal like the others. This elicited a backlash from Cadence reviving the imagination of the liars to maintain a comfortable and intimate experience on the island of Beechwood.

Cadence's imagination continued to grow as she was on the island. There is a quotation where the quote describes how Cadence continues to deny the accident that occurred in the fifteenth summer.

“Cady?” Gat whispers. I turn my face to look in his eyes. “Yeah?” “I thought I might never see you again.” “What?” He is so close we could kiss. “I thought I might never see you again. After everything that happened, then when you weren’t here last summer.” Why didn’t you write me? I want to say. Why didn’t you call, all this time? Why didn’t you write me? I want to say. Why didn’t you call, all this time? “(Chapter 26 Page 73).

Explanation of the quotation, that Cadence refused if her friends died in the accident of the fifteenth summer. The conversation with Gat illustrates that Cadence slightly blames her mind on the liars. In fact, this thought does not want to happen to her friends. It is this refusal that underlies Cadence to live the fantasy of her friends and assume they were not killed in the event.

Denial to the death of her friends makes Cadence more imaginative by presenting her imagination as if her friends were on the island with her. Those imaginations came with Cadence's feeling that she didn't want her friends to disappear and only herself.

"I get my laundry basket from Windemere and head to Cuddledown. Mirren meets me on the porch, skipping around. "It's so amazing to be on the island!" she says. "I can't believe I'm here again!" "You were here last summer." "It wasn't the same. No summer idyll like we used to have. They were doing construction on New Clairmont. Everyone was acting miserable and I kept looking for you but you never came." (Chapter 31 Page 80-81).

The quotation shows that Cadence isn't really sure if Mirren and her friends are with her on the island. But that wouldn't bother Cadence, because Cadence only had herself to trust. What Cadence does is believe what she believes. Although in the quotation Cadence unknowingly shows that she really wants to be on Beechwood Island with her friends like before, the atmosphere created is not as warm as it used to be even though she believes the liars are now with her. This is because she believes that the liars are with her but reality and her subconscious say that it was before the accident that killed the liars.

After being on Beechwood Island for a few days and creating an imaginary get-together with the liars. Cadence has a pretty surprising project. She intends to donate some items with the aim that the items get the right home.

"I tell about giving the things to people who can use them, finding the right homes for them. I talk about charity and questioning Mummy's materialism. I want Johnny and Mirren to understand me. I am not someone to pity, with an unstable mind and weird pain syndromes. I am taking charge of my life. I live according to my principles. I take action and make sacrifices." (Chapter 31 Page 84).

The attitude of rejection and self-blame can be seen from Cadence's decision to carry out a charity project through donations of her property. Through her obsession, Cadence gives away her possessions with the intention of being a punishment for herself who thinks she is not a comfortable home. The quotation describes how Cadence began to realize that her decision was a form of shameful self-pity that was selfish.

After telling about a charity project she was doing, Cadence began to fantasize about chatting with the liars. The conversation she developed herself imagining that the liars were talking about death. Like the quotation below.

“Do you guys ever plan out your funeral?” I ask. “What do you mean?” Johnny crinkles his nose. “You know, in Tom Sawyer, when everyone thinks Tom and Huck and what’s-his-name?” “Joe Harper,” says Gat. “Yeah, they think Tom, Huck, and Joe Harper are dead. The boys go to their own funeral and hear all the nice memories the townspeople have of them. After I read that, I always thought about my own funeral. Like, what kind of flowers and where I’d want my ashes.” (Chapter 45 Page 120).

In the quotation, the conversation that Cadence created seemed to repeat the past in order to be better than the reality she couldn't accept. The conversation seemed to explain that Cadence wanted to turn back the past for the better and the tragic incident never happened. The imagery Cadence describes is an imagination she creates as a form of self-blame for the ridiculous idea that kills the liars. In this quotation, in her subconscious Cadence seems to imagine the past if they all became good children and did not rebel against their own families they would be remembered as heroes for their families not criminals.

Cadence's imagination was running wild. Cadence is strong enough to resist the death of the liars. Returning to Beechwood Island is not a sign of self-forgiveness. But returning to Beechwood Island fosters a sense of denial about what happened that summer of the fifteenth and as if it had never happened to the liars.

“LIFE FEELS BEAUTIFUL that day. The four of us Liars, we have always been. We always will be. No matter what happens as we go to college, grow old, build lives for ourselves; no matter if Gat and I are together or not. No matter where we go, we will always be able to line up on the roof of Cuddledown and gaze at the sea. This island is ours. Here, in some way, we are young forever.” (Chapter 45 Page 122).

In the quotation, Cadence's imagination of liars is so great. There are imaginations and flashbacks that Cadence says. How Cadence unknowingly tells the reader that her life with the liars was so beautiful before the accidents of the fifteenth summer night. The imagination is like what Cadence hopes for her friends. It is clear in the quotation that Cadence doesn't care if this is real or just a fantasy, what she wants to believe is that liars will always be in the Cuddledown. This wild fantasy is a symbol of rejection that is clearly shown by Cadence.

The fantasies that Cadence created continued to develop according to what she wanted. Apart from the fantasies getting wilder, Cadence continues to be like someone who feels she has to find and believe whatever is in her brain. Like when Cadence found out about her accident to Johnny. Actually, Cadence knew what had happened but she rejected her own memories so she looked for another explanation that was none other than the result of her own imagination.

*“He told me I don’t know the real him.” “Could be true.”
“He doesn’t want to discuss my accident. Or what happened
with us that summer. He wants us to act normal and like
nothing happened.” (Chapter 47 Page 125).*

In the quotation, there is a statement from Cadence that Gat does not want to talk about Cadence's accident when asked by her. In reality, it all depended on Cadence herself. The liars she displays are just imaginations, while she must accept not deny constantly what really happened. The liars he created didn't tell Cadence about the accident because Cadence refused to believe the harsh reality.

There is plenty of evidence of how Cadence was so tormented by all the facts she couldn't accept. The reality includes the deaths of the liars whom she cannot yet accept and believe. It can be seen in several quotes that Cadence feels

regret for her life and feels excruciating pain with the reality that until now she did not believe it.

“Don’t you see I would rather be hurt by Gat than be closed off from him?” I say, sitting up. “I’d a million times rather live and risk and have it all end badly than stay in the box I’ve been in for the past two years. It’s a tiny box, Mirren. Me and Mummy. Me and my pills. Me and my pain. I don’t want to live there anymore.” (Chapter 50 Page 132).

In this quotation, it can be concluded that Cadence regrets the fact that she is still alive while the liars die tragically. The incident made Cadence feel sad and the grief she had made her even more out of control. Cadence has always been in the same circle, namely rejection of the events that killed her friends. She didn't want to have to live alone while her friends didn't and that made the pain worse.

Cadence's imagination of the liars grows as she feels sad and guilty. This is found in the quotation at a time when Cadence was in pain and couldn't be with the liars. She described that the liar went when she was sick and met a lot of people. seen in the quotation below.

“They never go anywhere. Ever. Never see anyone. Now while I’ve been sick, they went everywhere, saw everyone? “Downyflake,” I say. “That’s the name of the doughnut shop.” “Yeah. They were the most amazing doughnuts,” says Johnny. “You hate cake doughnuts.” “Of course,” says Mirren. “But we didn’t get the cake, we got glazed twists.” “And Boston cream,” says Gat. “And jelly,” says Johnny. But I know Downyflake only makes cake doughnuts. No glazed. No Boston cream. No jelly. Why are they lying?” (Chapter 51 Page 134-135).

Cadence in the quotation clearly hasn't come to terms with what really happened. The fact that happened in the quotation is actually a reality, that the liars don't go anywhere because they all have actually reached immortality, which is dead and only lives in their imagination. The meaning of when Cadence was sick, they even left was an illusion, the real meaning when Cadence survived the

accident and got sick her friends did not survive the incident. However, Cadence refuses to believe this and chooses to believe her own mind.

The same can be seen in the quotation below. Cadence only believed what she wanted to believe.

“I need you to tell me what happened before my accident. And after. You always say nothing important—but something must have happened to me besides hitting my head during a nighttime swim.” “Uh-huh.” “Do you know what it was?” “Penny said the doctors want it left alone. You’ll remember in your own time and no one should push it on you.” “But I am asking, Mirren. I need to know.” She puts her head down on her knees. Thinking. “What is your best guess?” she finally says. “I—I suppose I was the victim of something.” It is hard to say these words. “I suppose that I was raped or attacked or some godforsaken something. That’s the kind of thing that makes people have amnesia, isn’t it?”. (Chapter 55 Page 144).

In the quotation, Cadence is actually asking her own mind with her imagination about what happened to the accident that happened to her. The quotation is clearly a big rejection that Cadence experienced and of course it is related to the deaths of her friends. However, Cadence certainly can't accept this, if Cadence is ready with the reality she has to accept, of course, Cadence can remember it herself without help from anyone. In fact, Cadence in the quotation still refuses that she is still looking for excuses for what happened to her like she was the victim of a crime. In fact, she was the originator of a crime that became the source of the deaths of her friends.

In the quotations below, Cadence again asks about the accident she had in the summer of the fifteenth, as follows.

“Because I have headaches, because I can’t remember my accident, I can’t handle the idea that Clairmont burned down?” “The doctors told me not to add stress to your life,” she says. “They said the fire might have triggered the headaches, whether it was smoke inhalation or— or fear,” she finishes lamely. “I’m not a child,” I say. “I can be trusted to know basic information about our family. All summer I’ve been working to remember my accident, and what happened right before. Why not tell me, Mummy?” “I did tell you. Two years ago. I told you over and over, but you never remembered

it the next day. And when I talked to the doctor, he said I shouldn't keep upsetting you that way, shouldn't keep pushing you." (Chapter 73 Page 185-186).

In the evidence cited above, Cadence insists on knowing what had happened on the night of the accident. Cadence also said that the pain she is currently experiencing does not mean she is not strong enough to face all of this. But the fact is quite the opposite, Cadence's subconscious actually knows what really happened, however, Cadence refuses to believe it and she is not strong enough to justify the incident. Even though her mother said that it had been two years since she told Cadence about all these facts Cadence still kept asking. This can happen because she refuses to believe it, especially believing that her friends were burned in the incident.

In addition, the rejection of the deaths of her friends was also seen when Cadence could not come to her friends' funerals.

"Cadence Sinclair Eastman was not well enough to attend. The following summer, the Sinclair family returned to Beechwood Island. They fell apart. They mourned. They drank a lot. Then they built a new house on the ashes of the old. Cadence Sinclair Eastman had no memory of the events surrounding the fire, no memory of it ever happening. Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally." (Chapter 80 Page 202).

It is evident in the quotation above that at the funeral the liars Cadence did not attend because of feelings of rejection that happened to her friends. It is undeniable that when a person loses the people closest to them, they give such a reaction. Like Cadence's case by showing the reaction that she can't remember the traumatic event because there is a refusal to justify it happening. Cadence's behavior that she can't remember past events even though her mother has told her

repeatedly but she still doesn't remember is a response that she subconsciously refuses to feel grief and this has been confirmed by the doctor who treats Cadence.

B. The Form of the Psychological Trauma of the Main Character in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*

1. Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Psychological Trauma of the Main Character

PTSD is divided into three main symptoms, namely recall of traumatic events, avoidance, and physical disorder. These three symptoms are present in Cadence Sinclair.

a. Recalling of Traumatic Events

Cadence Sinclair's terrible experience developed into post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD for short. There are three basic symptoms of PTSD, one of which is troublesome memory. Cadence experiencing the terrible incident as if it happened again, also known as a flashback, is a frightening sort of remembering. which can be seen in the following quotation:

“What I remember, from the summer of the accident: Falling in love with Gat at the Red Gate kitchen door. His beach rose for Raquel and my wine-soaked night, spinning in anger. Acting normal. Making ice cream. Playing tennis. The triple-decker s'mores and Gat's anger when we told him to shut up. Night swimming. Kissing Gat in the attic. Hearing the Cracker Jack story and helping Granddad down the stairs. The tire swing, the basement, the perimeter. Gat and I in one another's arms. Gat seeing me bleed. Asking me questions. Dressing my wounds.” (Chapter 18, Page 48-49).

From Cadence's statement, she was able to resurrect her memory prior to the accident. But the memory was vaguely visible in Cadence's head. The memory Cadence spoke of was of an incident that happened during the summer of the fifteenth. The memories described by this story quote are only a small part of the

events that happened long before the accident. Some of Cadence's stories of past events are buried beneath the suffering she endured. Her memory loss was partly due to the trauma she experienced. She could only remember a fraction of the events of her fifteenth summer. This is due to the feelings Cadence experienced without her realizing that she refused to remember the incident. This refusal left Cadence remembering only a small part of the events of that summer. This is common in someone who has experienced trauma in the past.

“I don’t remember much else. I can see Mirren’s hand, her chipped gold nail polish, holding a jug of gas for the motorboats. Mummy, her face tight, asking, “The black pearls?” Johnny’s feet, running down the stairs from Clairmont to the boathouse. Granddad, holding on to a tree, his face lit by the glow of a bonfire. And all four of us Liars, laughing so hard we felt dizzy and sick. But what was so funny? What was it and where were we? I do not know. I used to ask Mummy when I didn’t remember the rest of summer fifteen. My forgetfulness frightened me. I’d suggest stopping my meds, or trying new meds, or seeing a different physician. I’d beg to know what I’d forgotten (Chapter 18, Page 49).”

Cadence narrates the events from her memory in the quote. There were, however, some occurrences that she couldn't recall. Cadence's memory isn't as good as it could be. Cadence's trauma is immense, even if she only remembers a small portion of it. As a result, the recollection she recounted was not the correct one. This occurs as a result of trauma, which causes her to re-connect the erroneous memories. Furthermore, to be able to get these memories there are many things that have happened such as, despair and fear. This is what Cadence still has in her soul. She was unable to remember all the bitter events in the past that she had experienced. It made her sick and it was something she tried to forget. To stop blaming myself for everything that happened in the summer of the fifteenth.

“I find a pen and write down all my memories of summer fifteen. The s’mores, the swim. The attic, the interruption. Mirren’s hand, her chipped gold nail polish, holding a jug of gas for the motorboats. Mummy, her face tight, asking, “The black pearls?” Johnny’s feet, running down the stairs from Clairmont to the boathouse. Granddad, holding on to a tree, his face lit by the glow of a bonfire. And all four of us Liars, laughing so hard we felt dizzy and sick. I make a separate page for the accident itself. What Mummy’s told me and what I guess.” (Chapter 28, Page 76).

The same can be said about the previous quotation. Cadence tries to record all the events that happened during the fifteenth summer in this quotation. Cadence hadn't realized that the memory she had written down was fake. These memories she made without realizing it to cover the vulnerability of what had happened. The facts she was trying to get rid of. It was very clear that Cadence's trauma was still present and very vivid, causing her to fabricate memories that she believed to be true. Trust in the memory is what makes her feel better and is a diversion from events that are actually real. It is this way that Cadence does, despite the trauma she has a way of understanding what really happened to her at that time by writing down what her mother said and what she thought of herself on separate pages.

b. Avoidance

The second characteristic of PTSD is a constant desire to avoidance. Someone who has been through trauma, even to the extent of developing PTSD, is prone to avoidance. Furthermore, people with PTSD frequently avoid or refuse to interact with others. Cadence is mentioned as not engaging with others much in the novel *We Were Liars*.

“The Lives of Christopher Chant. That was the year you were eight. You wanted to read everything but you weren’t a good enough reader yet, so I read to you and Gat for hours and hours.” “What about Johnny and Mirren?” “They couldn’t sit still,” says Mummy. “Don’t you want to keep these?” She reaches out and touches my

cheek. I pull back. "I want the things to find a better home," I tell her. "I was hoping you would feel different when we came back to the island, is all." (Chapter 27, Page 106).

Cadence mentions in the quotation that she wants whatever she has in order to have a better home. Cadence's unconscious evasion is shown in the quotation. The idea she was trying to convey with the word "better home" was that she wasn't up to the task. It also demonstrates a sense of rebellion against excessive family riches, which formed the catalyst for the Sinclair family's rebellions. A better home can also be described well as a form of rejection of everything related to the traumatic event. Cadence's attitude without realizing it was a form of refusal to recall anything related to the traumatic events she had experienced in the summer of the fifteenth.

Cadence's trauma is caused by a variety of circumstances. Cadence was disturbed by the Sinclair family members' greed, which was one of the things that scared her. The beginning of a disaster involving the liars is the result of this avarice.

"I know it's not important if our people came over on the Mayflower. It's not important to be tall. Or blond. That is why I dyed my hair: I don't want to be the eldest. Heiress to the island, the fortune, and the expectations (Chapter 19, Page 53).

Cadence plainly refuses to be the eldest grandson and heir to the full Sinclair fortune in the quote above. Cadence was not interested in repeating everything her grandfather had said. Cadence dying her hair black is one that stands out as an avoidance. Cadence had had Sinclair blonde hair, which she had colored black. Cadence's refusal shows how strong Cadence is to be detached from everything related to the Sinclair family. Cadence's evasion is not without

reason but the many things she holds and wants to let go of the Sinclair's. The purpose of Cadence's evasion was that she didn't want to inherit everything from the greedy Sinclair family. She wanted to abolish the family symbol that made all family members blind to possessions. She doesn't want to be part of a greedy family and justifies any means to bring each other down.

c. Physical Disorder

The last symptom is the appearance of physical disorders. Cadence's physical disorder is a headache every time she remembers the trauma she has experienced.

“I hate my fucking hacked-up mind, how sick I am all the time, how damaged I’ve become. I hate that I’ve lost my looks and failed school and quit sports and am cruel to my mother. I hate how I still want him after two years.” (Chapter 32, Page 86).

In the monologue, it is told that Cadence really hates her damaged brain. When Cadence tried to remember the events that happened in the summer of the fifteenth, she always had a terrible headache. Cadence's headaches made her a different person. Cadence realized the difference after several events. Like when she wanted to remember what happened in the past, the pain in Cadence's head reappeared. The changes that Cadence goes through are physical symptoms when a person experiences PTSD.

2. Memory Disorder

Cadence's memory problems include amnesia and confabulation. The amnesia and confabulation disorders experienced by Cadence are as follows.

a. Amnesia

Cadence's ordeal had also left her with amnesia. Individuals who suffer from amnesia can lose their ability to recollect knowledge about events that occurred in the past. This usually happens after a distressing incident, such as witnessing a loved one's death. Individuals' information that is lost or unable to be remembered frequently involves unpleasant and stressful situations in their lives (Fauziah & Widuri, 2005).

In addition to experiencing a head injury that causes amnesia, the main character Cadence also experienced trauma. The trauma experienced by Cadence can be seen in the excerpt below. Cadence said she had no recollection of the events surrounding the summer fifteen fire. She did not even know that there had been a big fire on the island. Another thing the doctors explained was that it was known that Cadence's amnesia was influenced by trauma. This trauma occurs as a result of a feeling of grief so deep that she experiences amnesia. This grief occurred because of the fire that tragically killed her friends. Until now, she blames herself when her friends die tragically. From that feeling, she refused to remember all the events when the accident occurred. This can be seen from the following quotation:

"IF I GOOGLE traumatic brain injury, most websites tell me amnesia is a consequence. When there's damage to the brain, it's not uncommon for a patient to forget stuff. She will be unable to piece together a coherent story of the trauma." (Chapter 18 Page 48).

Based on the quotation above, it appears that the main character Cadence is looking for an explanation for the traumatic brain injury that befell her. This is

due to the diagnosis given by the doctor who treated Cadence which stated that the brain injury she suffered caused amnesia. Cadence's amnesia is classified as selective amnesia. Cadence's selective amnesia is a form of amnesia that includes disturbing special things that occur over a certain period of time. Selective amnesia caused by traumatic brain injury causes damage to the brain causing a person to lose her memory. As a result, the patient will not be able to recall memories of the trauma experienced before.

There are several quotations that show Cadence remembers nothing related to the accident of the summer of the fifteenth.

“It is true I have no memory of my accident. I don’t remember what happened before and after. I don’t remember my doctor’s visits. I knew they must have happened, because of course they happened—and here I am with a diagnosis and medications—but nearly all my medical treatment is a blank.” (Chapter 18 Page 50).

The quotation explains that it is true that Cadence cannot remember the events before and after the accident that happened to her. This was due to a violent impact when she drowned at Beechwood beach which caused Cadence to suffer a traumatic brain injury. This traumatic brain injury causes Cadence to lose her memory. The memories she lost covered only the particulars of the summer of the fifteenth and that incident made her memory loss. Same with her visits and encounters with doctors she doesn't remember at all. It is the effect of the injury that makes her memory like a blank sheet of paper.

Other quotes are evidenced below:

“Will it matter to them the way I can’t hold on to even basic facts surrounding my accident? I’ve lost so much of what we did together summer fifteen.” (Chapter 25 Page 69).

In this quotation, the main character re-explains that she lost so many memories in the summer of fifteen. The summer fifteen, as already described, was an event that occurred before the accident occurred. So, the main character tries to emphasize that she does not remember memories from the past. This explanation confirms that it is true that the main character has amnesia, which makes her memories disappear after an accident.

b. Confabulation

Confabulation is one of the illnesses of erroneous memory (memory illusions) or paramnesia. A false memory given by someone is known as confabulation. Confabulation is not a form of lying because it becomes a false memory in the mind of the sender.

“I make a separate page for the accident itself. What Mummy’s told me and what I guess. I must have gone swimming on the tiny beach alone. I hit my head on a rock. I must have struggled back to shore. Aunt Bess and Mummy gave me tea. I was diagnosed with hypothermia, respiratory problems, and a brain injury that never showed on the scans.” (Chapter 28 Page 76).

Confabulation is a false or unrealistic memory conveyed subconsciously by someone in order to cover a gap in her memory. Information that appears to be a sort of confabulation is unconscious, manufactured, incorrect, or differs from her current reality. Confabulation is a type of information that fills in the gaps in memory, not a sort of lying. It is evident what Cadence sends in order to cover and complete the forgotten event, as it is in the quotation above.

C. The Way Cadence Faces Her Trauma Experienced in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars*

The traumatic events that Cadence experienced were the accident that happened to her, the divorce of her parents, family conflicts, and the loss of her beloved friends. Cadence had an accident in the summer of the fifteenth when Cadence's head hit rocks while drowning. When the accident occurred, Cadence also witnessed her friends die tragically in Clairmont. Cadence also loses the integrity of her small family due to the divorce of her parents and the constant quarrels that occur in her extended family. In such a chaotic situation and conditions Cadence felt deep regret and traumatic wounds that made Cadence feel guilty.

A problem tends to interfere with one's life and to deal with that problem one needs a solution. In dealing with a problem, a solution to a problem is taken to overcome the problem. It's the same as what Cadence did to get out of the problems that caused her to become traumatized.

In adversity, most people want support from those closest to them, so does Cadence. There have been several attempts by Cadence to overcome the trauma she experienced. Especially when Cadence is traumatized by her parent's divorce. Cadence tries to deal with the trauma of her parents' divorce by spending the summer vacation on Beechwood Island with her friends, but the plan doesn't go well as she has to deal with other problems during the holidays. A family feud over the trust fund spoils the atmosphere of peaceful summer vacation. The fight that continues to occur makes Cadence try to find a way to reconcile with her

family. In finding a solution to this problem, Cadence invites her friends to change the situation.

“I said something about what if what if we could somehow stop being the Beautiful Sinclair Family and just be a family? What if we could stop being different colors, different backgrounds, and just be in love? What if we could force everyone to change? Force them.” (Chapter 72 Page 180).

The quotation involves a conversation between Cadence and Gat. The conversation covers Cadence's wishes for her family. Cadence has an idea for her family that involves the liars. The idea was about what if Cadence and the liars could turn her extended family into a normal family like most other families. This idea is none other than Cadence wants her family to be a peaceful family and not fight over inheritance issues constantly. From that conversation Cadence also asked the liars to agree and realize these thoughts.

“GAT AND I talked to Mirren and Johnny. Convinced them to take action. We told each other over and over: do what you are afraid to do. We told each other. Over and over, we said it. We told each other we were right. THE PLAN WAS simple. We would find the spare jugs of gas, the ones kept in the shed for the motorboats. There were newspapers and cardboard in the mudroom: we'd build piles of recycling and soak those in gasoline. We'd soak the wood floors as well. Stand back. Light a paper towel roll and throw it. Easy.” (Chapter 71 Page 181).

Cadence continues to convince the liars to take great action for a noble cause. Cadence tries to give the liars a strong push to agree with her point of view. Confirm what they don't know about the truth of the action. Cadence is very ambitious in the mission of reconciling her family because she feels and knows the feeling of losing a father. Cadence didn't want the rest of the family to go through the same thing as her. Then the liars began to devise a plan to burn down

the main house containing many important treasures, which Clairmont's parents fought over. So that there are no more fights that occur and they live in peace.

“The house was cold. It felt like something that deserved to be destroyed. It was filled with objects over which the aunts fought. Valuable art, china, photographs. All of them fueled family anger.” (Chapter 81 Page 204).

Clairmont was the largest house representing Grandpa's fortune, and it made a good target to inherit. Cadence and the liars thought that burning the house would reconcile their mother. It is the same with the quotation above, that the quarrels that have occurred so far are the result of all the property in the house. Mothers are always competing for it all and blackmailing the liars to get granddad's attention. This is certainly not something the liars want to do and see. All of this makes the liars sick of their mother's fake behavior. Therefore, this is the reason why the Liars will carry out this grand plan.

However, the plan that Cadence and the liars put together did not go as expected. The fires created by those the liars are beyond their control and their plans are beyond their expectations. In that fire, the fire quickly spread throughout the house and their exit was no exception. Gat, Mirren, and Johnny are trapped in a burning house. The only survivor of the fire was Cadence. Cadence was able to escape the burning house because Cadence was close to the exit. Cadence tries to help her friends who are still trapped in the house. However, the fire did not allow Cadence to enter other parts of the house. This situation forced her to save herself first. It's a stressful moment for Cadence when she realizes that instead of being the heroine, she's become the killer of the liars.

“I wanted so much for us: a life free of constrictions and prejudice. A life free to love and be loved. And here, I have

killed them. My Liars, my darlings. Killed them. My Mirren, my Johnny, my Gat.” (Chapter 82 Page 208).

Cadence felt guilty for the incident and blamed herself. Knowing the facts about the liars was a kind of intense pressure on her, which her mind was subconsciously trying to get rid of. From this situation, frustration or nightmares may arise as a result. Generally, someone who blames herself for triggering an accident will carry a burden on her. It is a thought about how one can come to terms with oneself, and how one can face judgment from the surroundings after committing a terrible accident. This situation brought an inconvenience that Cadence wanted to get rid of.

To overcome the uncomfortable situation, Cadence subconsciously tried to deal with the trauma. The memory is pressed into the subconscious part of the mind, which creates amnesia. It is this effort that allows Cadence to build opportunities to protect herself in the face of traumatic events.

“Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally.” (Chapter 80 Page 202).

Cadence wakes up and forgets the incredible disaster she has caused. The way Cadence deals with the trauma of the deaths of her friends is by suppressing her memories. This helped Cadence deal with unpleasant feelings about the accident. It was in this way that Cadence was able to deal with her trauma and it allowed her to move on with her life without being haunted by the memory of the accident.

In dealing with the trauma she experienced, Cadence turned the bad things she had into something more useful and acceptable to others. In this way, Cadence lets go of her regrets by making up stories. This way is the media to express her disappointment with the current situation.

After the accident that summer of the fifteenth, Cadence had no friends to share her feelings about her life, how she had to deal with her parent's divorce, fights, and memory loss. The only person close to her, she had was her mother, but their relationship wasn't on good terms, so sharing the pain wasn't an option.

“It is hardly glamorous the way Mummy and I quarrel now that Dad is gone. I wake to find her standing in my bedroom doorway, staring. “Don’t hover.” “I love you. I’m taking care of you,” she says, her hand on her heart. “Well, stop it.” If I could shut my door on her, I would. But I cannot stand up.” (Chapter 15 Page 39).

The quotation above describes Cadence's reaction to her mother, the way she resisted her presence, and the way they started fighting after her father left her. It was this situation that made Cadence think she had no one to share with. This made Cadence consciously want to remember the accident. It is this desire that arises that all the repressed memories in the subconscious part of the mind want to arise. To remember the event, Cadence's way of dealing with the traumatic event she experienced is through storytelling. Through making up stories, the repressed memories are unconsciously getting rid of little by little.

Prior to this, Cadence had never written a story. After the accident, Cadence tried to deal with her trauma by making some stories, and this became Cadence's behavior towards her current condition. It happened right after she returned from her summer vacation in Europe.

“Since I got back from Europe, I have been writing some of my own. Variations. I have time on my hands, so let me tell you a story. A variation, I am saying, of a story you have heard before.” (Chapter 26 Page 43).

This quotation can identify how Cadence dealt with her trauma by writing a story. She talked about when she started her writing activity. This is after the summer of sixteen in Europe. She went to Europe because her parents thought it might be good for her recovery after the accident. However, these efforts didn't really help her, instead of making her feel isolated because she prefers to spend time with the people she loves. Coming home from vacation, Cadence still had to stay home, so as noted above, she had time to write some stories. Cadence expresses her disappointment through these stories. She does not protest destructively but turns it into a positive form.

“The maiden befriended the beautiful children. She kissed them and took them on boat rides and brought them fudge and told them stories. Then she gave them a box of matches. The children were entranced, for at nearly sixteen they had never seen fire. Go on, strike, said the witch, smiling. Fire is beautiful. Nothing bad will happen. Go on, she said, the flames will cleanse your souls. Go on, she said, for you are independent thinkers. Go on, she said. What is this life we lead, if you do not take action? And they listened. They took the matches from her and they struck them. The witch watched their beauty burn, their bounce, their intelligence, their wit, their open hearts, their charm, their dreams for the future. She watched it all disappear in smoke.” (Chapter 79 Page 198).

In this excerpt, it is known this is part of the Cadence story. The story is about a witch and three beautiful children of the king. The story is actually a way that Cadence presents in dealing with her trauma. Cadence blamed herself for cajoling and letting the Liar die in the accident. It happened because she persuaded them to join her plan. She describes herself as a witch who gives matches to children who are depicted by the liar. She doesn't have anyone to share her deepest secrets with, so through stories, she can let go of her guilt. Even

though she was blaming herself, Cadence's way of controlling her was to express the facts in a kind way. However, the suppressed memories did not fully emerge. Then, the way Cadence deals with her trauma subconsciously take on another form.

As Cadence deals with her amnesia, she needs support from those around her, especially those closest to her. In this case, the closest ones are Mirren, Gat, and Johnny. Cadence presents her imagination as a form of self-expression to fulfill her wish to meet the liars. During her memory loss, Cadence was not informed that the Liar was dead. Her family has a concept of not constantly remembering things or people that are no longer in their life. Doctors also advised the family to let Cadence remember the accident herself. Therefore, as long as she couldn't spend time on the island, Cadence thought the Liars were still alive.

The imagination that Cadence presented after the summer of sixteen. Normally, every summer vacation was spent with the liar, but not the same for sixteen summers. Due to Cadence's recuperation, she is arranged to vacation with her father in Europe in the summer of sixteen. Changes in habit patterns make Cadence miss the liar. She doesn't like her vacation in Europe, so she keeps trying to contact the liars.

"I missed the Liars that summer. I texted Mirren a few times. Called and left her messages that later I was ashamed of, they were so lonely and needy. I called Johnny, too, but his voice mail was full. I decided not to call again. I didn't want to keep saying things that made me feel weak. When Dad took me to Europe, I knew the Liars were on-island." (Chapter 14 Page 35-36).

From this quotation, it is clearly illustrated that Cadence misses the Liars when she can't attend summer vacation with them. As previously mentioned, that

Cadence was unaware of the Liar's current state, she was pretty sure that the Liar was still together.

There was a new behavior that Cadence showed after a trip to Europe. She started giving away her possessions. Some of them were previously requested by the Liar.

“THE FALL AFTER the European trip, I started a project. I give away something of mine every day. I mailed Mirren an old Barbie with extra-long hair, one we used to fight over when we were kids. I mailed Johnny a striped scarf I used to wear a lot. Johnny likes stripes.” (Chapter 17 Page 45).

Then, she messaged the liars to let them know she wanted to give away her stuff. She thinks about unnecessary things that are better given, and this might attract the liars, so they will call her back. This method also cannot get the liar to contact her. Not only to the liar, but Cadence also gave her possessions to a homeless girl, to a public library, and to the industry with a Good faith. She thought that it was better to give things that could be useful to others than to keep unnecessary things to herself.

During this summer, Cadence had to hold back her feelings for the liar. This can be seen from the sentence "I don't want to keep saying things that make me feel weak". Even she needed the liars, she refrained from pleading for their attention. She was filled with confusion as to why the liars weren't responding to her, which made her keep thinking about them, and it made her miss them even more. This situation shaped her thinking that the liar was still alive.

Confusion haunted Cadence's mind from summer sixteen to summer seventeen. The imagination that Cadence displayed in the summer of seventeen where she was finally able to persuade her mother to go to Beechwood Island.

“She turns the boat toward the shore and suddenly I can see my Liars waiting, not on the dock but by the weathered wooden fence that runs along the perimeter path.” (Chapter 23 Page 64).

This quotation is a testament to Cadence's imagination springing up in the summer of seventeen when she reached the island. The Liars weren't waiting on the dock because they were just an image that only existed in Cadence's mind. The imagination is unconsciously formed after she goes through the days where she can't communicate with the liars and this is a form of Cadence in dealing with her trauma. Her imagination popped up once she reached the island because that's where Cadence's memories of the liar were mostly.

There is more evidence that Cadence is displaying the form of her imagination.

“AS USUAL, NO one is visible at Cuddledown until my feet make sounds on the steps. Then Johnny appears at the door, stepping gingerly over the crushed glass.” (Chapter 84 Page 215).

In this section, Cadence explains that the liar will not be seen in the house if Cadence is not around. Cuddledown itself is one of the houses on the island that is rarely visited after the accident.

Cadence's memory slowly recovered while she was on the island. Cadence's way of dealing with trauma contributed greatly to her progress. That imagination not only helped Cadence to meet the liars but also helped her let go of her guilt and anxiety about what she had done in the past.

“Yes, Alice came and got her, but you wouldn't leave, and finally she had to go without you. Granddad took off for the mainland. And then we decided about the fire.” “We planned it out,” I say. “We did. We convinced Bess to take the big boat and all the littles to see a movie on the Vineyard.” As Johnny talks, the memories form. I fill in details he hasn't spoken aloud.” (Chapter 70 Page 177).

In the quotation above, there is a conversation between Cadence and Johnny. From here, Johnny, one of the liars, talks about what happened before they burned Clairmont. This is proof that Cadence's imagination is slowly helping her remember the accident. This way, it doesn't hurt her. The truth actually comes from herself, but it is formed in the imagination that she creates.

Although Cadence's self-defense seemed to be regaining its memory, it also managed to convince Cadence that the accident wasn't one hundred percent her fault.

"I look at him. "I'm so, so sorry, my dear old Johnny," I say, feeling the tears well behind my eyes. "Not your fault," says Johnny. "I mean, we all did it, we all went crazy, we have to take responsibility. You shouldn't carry the weight of it," he says. "Be sad, be sorry—but don't shoulder it." (Chapter 84 Page 216).

After getting her memories, her imagination helps Cadence not to keep blaming herself. Imagination becomes a way that Cadence uses to release all repressed memories. After forming her imagination, she finally got the information and memories she had been missing. It is this way that helps Cadence to move on with her life and recover her memory without experiencing depression.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the researcher will put forward conclusions and suggestions based on the research questions, research results, and discussions that have been conducted. The conclusion is intended to summarize the analysis results of the previous chapter and make recommendations to provide information for further researchers interested in researching the same field.

A. Conclusion

The findings of this study in the novel *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart as presented in chapter IV above, the following conclusions can be drawn. First, the causes of the trauma experienced by Cadence in E. Lockhart's *We Were Liars* is divided into physical trauma as an accident and psychological trauma include parent divorce, family conflicts, and denial of the death of her friends.

Second, the form of psychological trauma in Cadence's character is divided into two, namely post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and memory disorders. PTSD is divided into three variants, namely recalling of traumatic events, avoidance, and physical disorder. The memory disorder suffered by Cadence's character is in the form of amnesia and confabulation, which is a process of memory reconstruction by filling in false memories that come from directions, statements, and reasonable guesses.

Third, is the way Cadence faces her trauma. The result of the statement problem found in Cadence's case is that she adapts the strategy to her trauma. She doesn't avoid things that remind her of trauma. Instead, she wants to do activities

and find out about the events that traumatized her. There are three attempts by Cadence to overcome her trauma. First, she decided to return to where her extended family lived. After that Cadence plans big things to save her family. The second is to try to turn a potentially destructive desire into a positive activity. Like releasing her regrets through making up stories. The third builds imagination to help Cadence not continue to blame herself and can help to move on with her life and recover her memory without experiencing depression.

B. Suggestion

The use of abnormal psychology in a literary work is able to reveal the form of character in the novel *We Were Liars* which is related to the psychological trauma that occurred. This information can be used to help readers evaluate themselves and build positive behaviors by providing further information and insight.

The novel *We Were Liars* still has various possibilities to be researched. Further research can be done from a variety of angles, such as literary reception or E. Lockhart's originality as an author. The results of this study. It is also hoped that it can provide input in conducting research activities regarding the psychological trauma of characters in other novels.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



Kuni Kama Liyyah was born in Banyuwangi on November 27th, 1998. She graduated from MA 1 Annuqayah Putri Sumenep in 2017. During her education in boarding school, she was active as a member of the OSIS as the head of the environmental and education division. During her High School time, she majored in language, and she has an interest in the world of literature. In addition, she is active in literary organizations and in the field of writing at boarding school. While at the boarding school, she also had achievements in the field of literature as a runner-up. She began her studies at Department of English Literature of UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in 2017 and finished 2021.

APPENDIX

	DATA	The Cause of the Trauma	The Form of the Psychological Trauma	The Way Cadence Faces of Trauma
The Accident	<p><i>“I must have swum out far. There are big rocks in off the shore, craggy and black; they always look villainous in the dark of the evening. I must have had my face in the water and then hit my head on one of these rocks.” (Chapter 12 Page 32).</i></p> <p><i>“Mummy found me on the sand, curled into a ball and half underwater. I was shivering uncontrollably. Adults wrapped me in blankets. They tried to get me warm at Cuddledown. They fed me tea and gave me clothes, but when I didn’t talk or stop shivering, they brought me to a hospital on Martha’s Vineyard, where I stayed for several days as the doctors ran tests. Hypothermia, respiratory problems, and most likely some kind of head injury.” (Chapter 12 Page 32).</i></p> <p><i>“The pain started six weeks after my accident. Nobody was certain whether the two were related, but there was no denying the vomiting and weight loss and general horror. Mummy took me for MRIs and CT scans. Needles, machines. More needles, more machines. They tested me for brain tumors, meningitis, you name it. To relieve the pain they</i></p>			

	<p><i>prescribed this drug and that drug and another drug, because the first one didn't work and the second one didn't work, either. They gave me prescription after prescription without even knowing what was wrong. Just trying to quell the pain.”</i> (Chapter 13 Page 33-34).</p> <p><i>“There were so many appointments I can't even remember them. Eventually the doctors came through with a diagnosis. Cadence Sinclair Eastman: posttraumatic headaches, also known as PTHA. Migraine headache caused by traumatic brain injury.”</i> (Chapter 13 Page 34)</p> <p><i>“I remember this now, in a rush that hits me so hard I fall, and I plunge down, down to rocky rocky bottom, and I can see the base of Beechwood Island and my arms and legs feel numb but my fingers are cold. Slices of seaweed go past as I fall. And then I am up again, and breathing, And Clairmont is burning.”</i> (Chapter 58 Page 151).</p> <p><i>“Why doesn't anyone talk to me about it?” I repeat. “Because of your—because of—” Mummy stops, looking for words. “Because of your pain.” “Because I have headaches, because I can't remember my accident, I can't handle the idea that Clairmont burned down?”</i> <i>“The doctors told me not to add stress to your life,” she says. “They said the fire might have triggered the headaches, whether it was smoke inhalation or— or</i></p>			
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	<p><i>fear,” she finishes lamely.” (Chapter 73 Page 185- 186).</i></p> <p><i>“When help finally arrived, Miss Eastman was found on the tiny beach, half underwater and curled into a ball. She was unable to answer questions about what happened and appeared to have suffered a head injury. She had to be heavily sedated for many days following the accident.” (Chapter 80 Page 201).</i></p> <p><i>“Cadence Sinclair Eastman had no memory of the events surrounding the fire, no memory of it ever happening. Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally. These same doctors advised Cadence’s mother to stop explaining the tragedy if Cadence could not recall it herself. It was too much to be told of the trauma fresh each day. Let her remember in her own time. She should not return to Beechwood Island until she’d had significant time to heal. In fact, any measures possible should be taken to keep her from the island in the year immediately after the accident.” (Chapter 80 Page 202).</i></p>			
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<p>Parent Divorce</p>	<p><i>“Dad announced he was leaving and departed two days later. He told my mother he wasn’t a Sinclair, and couldn’t try to be one, any longer. He couldn’t smile, couldn’t lie, couldn’t be part of that beautiful family in those beautiful houses. Couldn’t. Couldn’t. Wouldn’t.” (Chapter 2 Page 5).</i></p> <p><i>“Then he pulled out a handgun and shot me in the chest. I was standing on the lawn and I fell. The bullet hole opened wide and my heart rolled out of my rib cage and down into a flower bed. Blood gushed rhythmically from my open wound, then from my eyes, my ears, my mouth. It tasted like salt and failure. The bright red shame of being unloved soaked the grass in front of our house, the bricks of the path, the steps to the porch. My heart spasmed among the peonies like a trout.” (Chapter 2 Page 5).</i></p> <p><i>“Mummy snapped. She said to get hold of myself. Be normal, now, she said. Right now, she said. Because you are. Because you can be.” (Chapter 2 Page 5).</i></p> <p><i>“When things are bad, I’ll pray or imagine someone watching over me, listening. Like the first few days after my dad left, I thought about God. For protection. But the rest of the time, I’m trudging along in my everyday life. It’s not even slightly spiritual.” (Chapter 8 Page 21).</i></p> <p><i>“Don’t you want to keep these?” She reaches out and touches my cheek. I pull</i></p>	<p>A Social Conditions</p>		
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	<p><i>back. "I want the things to find a better home," I tell her. "I was hoping you would feel different when we came back to the island, is all." "You got rid of all Dad's stuff. You bought a new couch, new dishes, new jewelry." "Cady." "There's nothing in our whole house that says he ever lived with us, except me. Why are you allowed to erase my father and I'm not allowed to—". (Chapter 27 Page 74-75).</i></p>			
<p>Family Conflict</p>	<p><i>"I'd love to help with whatever you want to change, Dad." "Oh, please," snapped Mummy. "Only yesterday you were saying how busy you are and now you're helping remodel the Boston house?" "He asked for our help," said Bess. "He asked for your help. You cutting us out, Dad?" Mummy was drunk. Granddad laughed. "Penny, relax." "I'll relax when the estate is settled." "I'll relax when the estate is settled." "You're making us crazy," Carrie muttered. "What was that? Don't mumble." "We all love you, Dad," said Carrie, loudly. "I know it's been hard this year." "If you're going crazy it's your own damn choice," said Granddad. "Pull yourself together. I can't leave the estate to crazy people." (Chapter 37 Page 98-99).</i></p> <p><i>"The aunties got drunk, night after night," Johnny mumbles, as if it's hard to choke the words out. "And angrier, every time. Screaming at each other.</i></p>			

	<p><i>Staggering around the lawn. Granddad did nothing but fuel them. We watched them quarrel over Gran's things and the art that hung in Clairmont—but real estate and money most of all. Granddad was drunk on his own power and my mother wanted me to make a play for the money. Because I was the oldest boy. She pushed me and pushed me—I don't know. To be the bright young heir. To talk badly of you as the eldest. To be the educated white hope of the future of democracy, some bullshit. She'd lost Granddad's favor, and she wanted me to get it so she didn't lose her inheritance.” (Chapter 59 Page 154).</i></p> <p><i>“Just remind him that you care,” said Mummy. “And that you're a good person. Well-rounded and a credit to the family.” I complained. Writing the letters seemed false. Of course I cared. I loved Granddad and I did think about him. But I didn't want to write these reminders of my excellence every two weeks. “He's very impressionable right now,” said Mummy. “He's suffering. Thinking about the future. You're the first grandchild.” “Johnny's only three weeks younger.” 34 “That's my point. Johnny's a boy and he's only three weeks younger. So write the letter.” I did as she asked.” (Chapter 60, Page 155).</i></p> <p><i>“But they were quarrelsome. They no longer had the glue</i></p>			
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	<p><i>of Gran keeping them together, and they fought over their memories, her jewelry, the clothes in her closet, her shoes, even. These affairs had not been settled in October. People's feelings had been too delicate then. It had all been left for the summer. When we got to Beechwood in late June, Bess had already inventoried Gran's Boston possessions and now began with those in Clairmont. The aunts had copies on their tablets and pulled them up regularly.” (Chapter 60 Page 156).</i></p> <p><i>“Carrie had started a jewelry boutique with her trust and ran it for a number of years until it failed. Ed earned money, and he supported her, but Carrie didn't have an income of her own. Bess was raising four kids on her own. She had some money from her trust, like Mummy and Carrie did, but when she got divorced Brody kept the house. She hadn't worked since she got married, and before that she'd only been an assistant in the offices of a magazine. Bess was living off the trust money and spending through it. And Mummy. The dog breeding business doesn't pay much, and Dad wanted us to sell the Burlington house so he could take half. I knew Mummy was living off her trust.” (Chapter 60 Page 156).</i></p> <p><i>“No. You should stand up to him. Tell him to stop manipulating all of you. He's only acting like this because</i></p>			
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	<p><i>he's sad about Gran, can't you tell? Can't you help him? Or get a job so his money doesn't matter? Or give the house to Bess?" (Chapter 63 Page 163).</i></p> <p><i>"It was the aunts coming into the kitchen, their speech slurred and hysterical. "This is why people kill each other," said Bess bitterly. "I should walk out of this room before I do something I regret." "You don't mean that," said Carrie. "Don't tell me what I mean!" shouted Bess. "You have Ed. You don't need money like I do." "You've already dug your claws into the Boston house," said Mummy. "Leave the island alone." "Who did the funeral arrangements for Mother?" snapped Bess. "Who stayed by Dad's side for weeks, who went through the papers, talked to the mourners, wrote the thank-you notes?". (Chapter 66 Page 170).</i></p>			
Denial of the Death of Her Friends	<p><i>"I texted Mirren a few times. Called and left her messages that later I was ashamed of, they were so lonely and needy. I called Johnny, too, but his voice mail was full. I decided not to call again. I didn't want to keep saying things that made me feel weak. When Dad took me to Europe, I knew the Liars were on-island. Granddad hasn't wired Beechwood and cell phones don't get reception there, so I began writing emails. Different from my pitiful voice messages, these were charming, darling notes from</i></p>			

	<p><i>a person without headaches.” (Chapter 14 Page 36).</i></p> <p><i>“I used to ask Mummy when I didn’t remember the rest of summer fifteen. My forgetfulness frightened me. I’d suggest stopping my meds, or trying new meds, or seeing a different physician. I’d beg to know what I’d forgotten. Then one day in late fall—the fall I spent undergoing tests for death-sentence illnesses—Mummy began to cry. “You ask me over and over. You never remember what I say.” “I’m sorry.” She poured herself a glass of wine as she talked. “You began asking me the day you woke in the hospital. ‘What happened? What happened?’ I told you the truth, Cadence, I always did, and you’d repeat it back to me. But the next day you’d ask again.” “I’m sorry,” I said again. “You still ask me almost every day.” It is true, I have no memory of my accident. I don’t remember what happened before and after.” (Chapter 18 Page 49).</i></p> <p><i>“Cadence?” Mummy is leaning over me. I reach and clutch her hand. “Be normal now,” she whispers. “Right now.” “What?” “Because you are. Because you can be.” Okay. Okay. It was just a tree. Just a tree with a tire swing that I loved a lot. “Don’t cause a scene,” whispers Mummy. “Breathe and sit up.” I do what she asks as soon as I am able, just as I have always done.</i></p>			
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	<p><i>Aunt Carrie provides distraction, speaking brightly. “The new garden is nice, when you get used to it,” she says. “There’s a seating area for cocktail hour. Taft and Will are finding special rocks.” She turns the boat toward the shore and suddenly I can see my Liars waiting, not on the dock but by the weathered wooden fence that runs along the perimeter path.” (Chapter 23 Page 64).</i></p> <p><i>“Cady?” Gat whispers. I turn my face to look in his eyes. “Yeah?” “I thought I might never see you again.” “What?” He is so close we could kiss. “I thought I might never see you again. After everything that happened, then when you weren’t here last summer.” Why didn’t you write me? I want to say. Why didn’t you call, all this time? Why didn’t you write me? I want to say. Why didn’t you call, all this time? (Chapter 26 Page 73).</i></p> <p><i>“I get my laundry basket from Windemere and head to Cuddledown. Mirren meets me on the porch, skipping around. “It’s so amazing to be on the island!” she says. “I can’t believe I’m here again!” “You were here last summer.” “It wasn’t the same. No summer idyll like we used to have. They were doing construction on New Clairmont. Everyone was acting miserable and I kept looking for you but you never came.” (Chapter 31 Page 80-81).</i></p>			
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	<p><i>“I tell about giving the things to people who can use them, finding the right homes for them. I talk about charity and questioning Mummy’s materialism. I want Johnny and Mirren to understand me. I am not someone to pity, with an unstable mind and weird pain syndromes. I am taking charge of my life. I live according to my principles. I take action and make sacrifices.” (Chapter 31 Page 84).</i></p> <p><i>“Do you guys ever plan out your funeral?” I ask. “What do you mean?” Johnny crinkles his nose. “You know, in Tom Sawyer, when everyone thinks Tom and Huck and what’s-his-name?” “Joe Harper,” says Gat. “Yeah, they think Tom, Huck, and Joe Harper are dead. The boys go to their own funeral and hear all the nice memories the townspeople have of them. After I read that, I always thought about my own funeral. Like, what kind of flowers and where I’d want my ashes.” (Chapter 45 Page 120).</i></p> <p><i>“LIFE FEELS BEAUTIFUL that day. The four of us Liars, we have always been. We always will be. No matter what happens as we go to college, grow old, build lives for ourselves; no matter if Gat and I are together or not. No matter where we go, we will always be able to line up on the roof of Cuddledown and gaze at the sea. This island is ours. Here, in some</i></p>			
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	<p>way, we are young forever.” (Chapter 45 Page 122).</p> <p>“He told me I don’t know the real him.” “Could be true.” “He doesn’t want to discuss my accident. Or what happened with us that summer. He wants us to act normal and like nothing happened.” (Chapter 47 Page 125).</p> <p>“Don’t you see I would rather be hurt by Gat than be closed off from him?” I say, sitting up. “I’d a million times rather live and risk and have it all end badly than stay in the box I’ve been in for the past two years. It’s a tiny box, Mirren. Me and Mummy. Me and my pills. Me and my pain. I don’t want to live there anymore.” (Chapter 50 Page 132).</p> <p>“They never go anywhere. Ever. Never see anyone. Now while I’ve been sick, they went everywhere, saw everyone?” “Downyflake,” I say. “That’s the name of the doughnut shop.” “Yeah. They were the most amazing doughnuts,” says Johnny. “You hate cake doughnuts.” “Of course,” says Mirren. “But we didn’t get the cake, we got glazed twists.” “And Boston cream,” says Gat. “And jelly,” says Johnny. But I know Downyflake only makes cake doughnuts. No glazed. No Boston cream. No jelly. Why are they lying?” (Chapter 51 Page 134-135).</p> <p>“I need you to tell me what happened before my</p>			
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	<p><i>accident. And after. You always say nothing important—but something must have happened to me besides hitting my head during a nighttime swim.” “Uh-huh.” “Do you know what it was?” “Penny said the doctors want it left alone. You’ll remember in your own time and no one should push it on you.” “But I am asking, Mirren. I need to know.” She puts her head down on her knees. Thinking. “What is your best guess?” she finally says. “I—I suppose I was the victim of something.” It is hard to say these words. “I suppose that I was raped or attacked or some godforsaken something. That’s the kind of thing that makes people have amnesia, isn’t it?”. (Chapter 55 Page 144).</i></p> <p><i>“Because I have headaches, because I can’t remember my accident, I can’t handle the idea that Clairmont burned down?” “The doctors told me not to add stress to your life,” she says. “They said the fire might have triggered the headaches, whether it was smoke inhalation or— or fear,” she finishes lamely. “I’m not a child,” I say. “I can be trusted to know basic information about our family. All summer I’ve been working to remember my accident, and what happened right before. Why not tell me, Mummy?” “I did tell you. Two years ago. I told you over and over, but you never remembered it the next day. And when I talked to the</i></p>			
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	<p><i>doctor, he said I shouldn't keep upsetting you that way, shouldn't keep pushing you." (Chapter 73 Page 185- 186).</i></p> <p><i>"Cadence Sinclair Eastman was not well enough to attend. The following summer, the Sinclair family returned to Beechwood Island. They fell apart. They mourned. They drank a lot. Then they built a new house on the ashes of the old. Cadence Sinclair Eastman had no memory of the events surrounding the fire, no memory of it ever happening. Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally." (Chapter 80 Page 202).</i></p>			
<p>Recalling of Traumatic Event</p>	<p><i>"What I remember, from the summer of the accident: Falling in love with Gat at the Red Gate kitchen door. His beach rose for Raquel and my wine-soaked night, spinning in anger. Acting normal. Making ice cream. Playing tennis. The triple-decker s'mores and Gat's anger when we told him to shut up. Night swimming. Kissing Gat in the attic. Hearing the Cracker Jack story and helping Granddad down the stairs. The tire</i></p>		<p>PTSD</p>	

	<p><i>swing, the basement, the perimeter. Gat and I in one another's arms. Gat seeing me bleed. Asking me questions. Dressing my wounds." (Chapter 18, Page 48- 49).</i></p> <p><i>"I don't remember much else. I can see Mirren's hand, her chipped gold nail polish, holding a jug of gas for the motorboats. Mummy, her face tight, asking, "The black pearls?" Johnny's feet, running down the stairs from Clairmont to the boathouse. Granddad, holding on to a tree, his face lit by the glow of a bonfire. And all four of us Liars, laughing so hard we felt dizzy and sick. But what was so funny? What was it and where were we? I do not know. I used to ask Mummy when I didn't remember the rest of summer fifteen. My forgetfulness frightened me. I'd suggest stopping my meds, or trying new meds, or seeing a different physician. I'd beg to know what I'd forgotten (Chapter 18, Page 49).</i></p> <p><i>"I find a pen and write down all my memories of summer fifteen. The s'mores, the swim. The attic, the interruption. Mirren's hand, her chipped gold nail polish, holding a jug of gas for the motorboats. Mummy, her face tight, asking, "The black pearls?" Johnny's feet, running down the stairs from Clairmont to the boathouse. Granddad, holding on to a tree, his face lit by the glow of a bonfire. And all four of</i></p>			
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	<p><i>us Liars, laughing so hard we felt dizzy and sick. I make a separate page for the accident itself. What Mummy's told me and what I guess." (Chapter 28, Page 76).</i></p>			
Avoidance	<p><i>"The Lives of Christopher Chant. That was the year you were eight. You wanted to read everything but you weren't a good enough reader yet, so I read to you and Gat for hours and hours." "What about Johnny and Mirren?" "They couldn't sit still," says Mummy. "Don't you want to keep these?" She reaches out and touches my cheek. I pull back. "I want the things to find a better home," I tell her. "I was hoping you would feel different when we came back to the island, is all." (Chapter 27, Page 106).</i></p> <p><i>"I know it's not important if our people came over on the Mayflower. It's not important to be tall. Or blond. That is why I dyed my hair: I don't want to be the eldest. Heiress to the island, the fortune, and the expectations (Chapter 19, Page 53).</i></p>			
Physical Disorder	<p><i>"I hate my fucking hacked-up mind, how sick I am all the time, how damaged I've become. I hate that I've lost my looks and failed school and quit sports and am cruel to my mother. I hate how I still want him after two years." (Chapter 32, Page 86).</i></p>			

Amnesia	<p><i>“IF I GOOGLE traumatic brain injury, most websites tell me amnesia is a consequence. When there’s damage to the brain, it’s not uncommon for a patient to forget stuff. She will be unable to piece together a coherent story of the trauma.” (Chapter 18 Page 48).</i></p> <p><i>“It is true I have no memory of my accident. I don’t remember what happened before and after. I don’t remember my doctor’s visits. I knew they must have happened, because of course they happened—and here I am with a diagnosis and medications—but nearly all my medical treatment is a blank.” (Chapter 18 Page 50).</i></p> <p><i>“Will it matter to them the way I can’t hold on to even basic facts surrounding my accident? I’ve lost so much of what we did together summer fifteen.” (Chapter 25 Page 69).</i></p>		Memory Disorder	
Confabulation	<p><i>“I make a separate page for the accident itself. What Mummy’s told me and what I guess. I must have gone swimming on the tiny beach alone. I hit my head on a rock. I must have struggled back to shore. Aunt Bess and Mummy gave me tea. I was diagnosed with hypothermia, respiratory problems, and a brain injury that never showed on the scans.” (Chapter 28 Page 76).</i></p>			

<p>The Way Cadence Faces Her Trauma</p>	<p><i>“I said something about what if what if we could somehow stop being the Beautiful Sinclair Family and just be a family? What if we could stop being different colors, different backgrounds, and just be in love? What if we could force everyone to change? Force them.” (Chapter 72 Page 180).</i></p> <p><i>“GAT AND I talked to Mirren and Johnny. Convinced them to take action. We told each other over and over: do what you are afraid to do. We told each other. Over and over, we said it. We told each other we were right. THE PLAN WAS simple. We would find the spare jugs of gas, the ones kept in the shed for the motorboats. There were newspapers and cardboard in the mudroom: we’d build piles of recycling and soak those in gasoline. We’d soak the wood floors as well. Stand back. Light a paper towel roll and throw it. Easy.” (Chapter 71 Page 181).</i></p> <p><i>“The house was cold. It felt like something that deserved to be destroyed. It was filled with objects over which the aunties fought. Valuable art, china, photographs. All of them fueled family anger.” (Chapter 81 Page 204).</i></p> <p><i>“I wanted so much for us: a life free of constriction and prejudice. A life free to love and be loved. And here, I have killed them. My Liars, my darlings. Killed them. My</i></p>			<p>The Way Cadence Faces Her Trauma</p>
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	<p><i>Mirren, my Johnny, my Gat.” (Chapter 82 Page 208).</i></p> <p><i>“Her burns healed quickly but she exhibited selective amnesia regarding the events of the previous summer. She persisted in believing she had injured her head while swimming. Doctors presumed her crippling migraine headaches were caused by unacknowledged grief and guilt. She was heavily medicated and extremely fragile both physically and mentally.” (Chapter 80 Page 202).</i></p> <p><i>“It is hardly glamorous the way Mummy and I quarrel now that Dad is gone. I wake to find her standing in my bedroom doorway, staring. “Don’t hover.” “I love you. I’m taking care of you,” she says, her hand on her heart. “Well, stop it.” If I could shut my door on her, I would. But I cannot stand up.” (Chapter 15 Page 39).</i></p> <p><i>“Since I got back from Europe, I have been writing some of my own. Variations. I have time on my hands, so let me tell you a story. A variation, I am saying, of a story you have heard before.” (Chapter 26 Page 43).</i></p> <p><i>“The maiden befriended the beautiful children. She kissed them and took them on boat rides and brought them fudge and told them stories. Then she gave them a box of matches. The children were entranced, for at nearly</i></p>			
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	<p><i>sixteen they had never seen fire. Go on, strike, said the witch, smiling. Fire is beautiful. Nothing bad will happen. Go on, she said, the flames will cleanse your souls. Go on, she said, for you are independent thinkers. Go on, she said. What is this life we lead, if you do not take action? And they listened. They took the matches from her and they struck them. The witch watched their beauty burn, their bounce, their intelligence, their wit, their open hearts, their charm, their dreams for the future. She watched it all disappear in smoke.” (Chapter 79 Page 198).</i></p> <p><i>“I missed the Liars that summer. I texted Mirren a few times. Called and left her messages that later I was ashamed of, they were so lonely and needy. I called Johnny, too, but his voice mail was full. I decided not to call again. I didn’t want to keep saying things that made me feel weak. When Dad took me to Europe, I knew the Liars were on-island.” (Chapter 14 Page 35-36).</i></p> <p><i>“THE FALL AFTER the European trip, I started a project. I give away something of mine every day. I mailed Mirren an old Barbie with extra-long hair, one we used to fight over when we were kids. I mailed Johnny a striped scarf I used to wear a lot. Johnny likes stripes.” (Chapter 17 Page 45).</i></p>			
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	<p><i>“She turns the boat toward the shore and suddenly I can see my Liars waiting, not on the dock but by the weathered wooden fence that runs along the perimeter path.” (Chapter 23 Page 64).</i></p> <p><i>“AS USUAL, NO one is visible at Cuddledown until my feet make sounds on the steps. Then Johnny appears at the door, stepping gingerly over the crushed glass.” (Chapter 84 Page 215).</i></p> <p><i>“Yes, Alice came and got her, but you wouldn’t leave, and finally she had to go without you. Granddad took off for the mainland. And then we decided about the fire.” “We planned it out,” I say. “We did. We convinced Bess to take the big boat and all the littles to see a movie on the Vineyard.” As Johnny talks, the memories form. I fill in details he hasn’t spoken aloud.” (Chapter 70 Page 177).</i></p> <p><i>“I look at him. “I’m so, so sorry, my dear old Johnny,” I say, feeling the tears well behind my eyes. “Not your fault,” says Johnny. “I mean, we all did it, we all went crazy, we have to take responsibility. You shouldn’t carry the weight of it,” he says. “Be sad, be sorry—but don’t shoulder it.” (Chapter 84 Page 216).</i></p>			
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