CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is part of human life. Literature is the result of human thinking about life and dealing with feelings, ideas, thoughts, emotions, imagination, and problem. Literature is one of the most creative and universal means of communication the spiritual emotion and intellectual concern of mankind. Little stated that literature may fairly be regarded as the chief art of mankind (1). Literature can also be considered as a social control to find the same perception on evaluating a moral distortion in human life. In getting better understanding the human life and problem, a literary work is a complete thought, because it conveys moral love, education, happiness, obsession, or hatred (Veronika 1).

Literature teaches how to appreciate the other's feeling by reading and knowing the literature work. The sense of appreciation will not directly arise such feeling, but must be sensitive. A good literature adds to the understanding of life in the world around. In literature, the human values will be found, their thoughts, problems and conflicts. Little says that this is because of its culture. It contains the records of people values, their thoughts, their problems, and conflicts in short, their whole way of life (1).

Literature has some forms of literary works, such as novel, drama and poetry. Novel is one of the most popular literary works. Novel is a work of fiction written in a narrative prose and usually in the form of a story. Novel is an

exploration of human action and reaction. According to Richard Taylor says novel is normally a prose work of quite some length and complexity which attempts to reflect and express something of the equality or value of human experience or conduct (46).

In other words, a novel is long prose works with a great amount of detail on every page. Moreover, a novel represents the fictional narrative of life and experience (Holman 354).

One of the literary works that is a novel which has reflection of experience human life is a novel *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult. Jodi Picoult is one of the popular novelists. Jodi Picoult born May 19, 1966. She is an American author. Jodi Picoult grew up in Nesconset, New York. She received an Award of Bookseller in creative writing from Princeton and a Master's degree in education from Harvard. She lived in New Hampshire with her husband and three children. Jodi Picoult studied creative writing with Mary Morris at Princeton, and has two short stories published in seventeen magazines while still a student. She has a series of different jobs following graduation: as a technical writer for a wall street brokerage film, as a copy writer at an ad agency, as an editor at a textbook publisher, and as an 8th grade English teacher before entering Harvard to purpose a master's in education. She married Tim Van Leer, whom she had known at Princeton, and it was while she was pregnant with her first child that she wrote her first novel, Song of the Humpback Whale (1992). Jodi Picoult is the bestselling author of fifteen novels: Songs of the Humpback Whale (1992), Harvesting the Heart (1994), Picture Perfect (1995), Mercy (1996), The Pact (1998), Keeping

Faith (1999), Plain Truth (2000), Salem Falls (2001), Perfect Match (2002), Second Glance (2003), My Sister's Keeper (2004), Vanishing Acts (2005), The Tenth Circle (2006) Nineteen Minutes (2007), Change of Heart (2008) both of which debuted at number one on the New York Times bestseller list and her newest novel, Handle with Care (20009) (Http://www.jodipicoult.com).

The Work of Jodi Picoult who becomes the subject of the study is *Handle with Care* which tells a story of anxiety a mother named Charlotte. *Handle with Care* tells about a woman named Charlotte who is looking forward to having a child from her second husband. Her effort is done through fertilization by the help of a friend, a doctor. Piper Reece, her friend and obstetricians Charlotte is a person who knows exactly how they strive for it. Charlotte anxiety arises when Piper discovered her unborn baby girl suffering from *Osteogenesis Imperfecta* (OI) Type III. It is a disorder of the bone, a condition where the bones in the body is very fragile due to a lack of collagen. This disorder makes the child later will easily break a bone, either because of slipping or falling. Even when sneezing though. The child was later named Willow. Charlotte anxiety as a mother to the life and future of Willow is very natural. Therefore, Charlotte demanded friend named Piper to seek compensation for negligence as a gynecologist. It was all done for the future of willow.

In the novel Jodi Picoults *Handle with Care*, there are many psychological problems, especially anxiety problems on the main character, the researcher to be interested in analyzing this novel. The researcher is interested

because want to know how far the level of anxiety suffered by the main character, Charlotte, as a mother whose son sufferers brittle bones or Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI). Therefore, the researcher conducts a research with thesis title "MRS. CHARLOTTE'S ANXIETY AS A MOTHER IN JODI PICOULT'S NOVEL *HANDLE WITH CARE*".

1.2 Statement of Problem

Based on the background above, the researcher comes to the statement problem as follow:

- 1. What kind of anxiety Charlotte as experiences in *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult?
- 2. What are the causes of Charlotte's anxiety in *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult?
- 3. What are the effect of Charlotte's anxiety towards her personality (character)?

1.3 Objective of the Study

According to the statement of the problems, the objectives of the study would be follows as:

- To convey the kind anxiety of Charlotte's experiences as a mother in *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult.
- 2. To know the cause of Charlotte's anxiety in *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult.

3. To know the effect of Charlotte's anxiety towards her personality (character)

1.4 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is about the main character in *Handle with Care* by Jodi Picoult. The anxiety of the main characters. She has a daughter named Willow who suffers from brittle bone syndrome. This study focuses on Charlotte's Anxiety. The analysis of anxiety is necessary to use anxiety theory to support the data analysis and use new criticism as additional theory. Meanwhile, the limitation is the analysis of these studies only focus on Charlotte and her anxiety in *Handle with Care* novel based on Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis theory.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This research is expected to give a good understanding and deep impression to student who wants to analyze about anxiety, through a literary work. Therefore, through this research, the readers can see and know about the issue about anxiety depicted by Charlotte to her daughter Willow.

And the researcher hopes this research can contribute as a reference for the reader who wants to know more about the kinds of anxiety and there are a lot of interesting issues that can be analyze in *Handle with Care*. Beside, this research expects this thesis will give contribution to the readers in appreciating the literary works especially to Jodi Picoult's works including *Handle with Care*.

1.6 Method of the Study

The research is considered as a descriptive qualitative method. This research is based on the comprehension of main character in *Handle with Care*, which is evaluated from psychological approach specially psychoanalysis theory. The collected data is analyzed using the related theories or approaches, such the organization of personality and anxiety on Sigmund's Freud.

The main instrument of the research is writer herself through deep reading the novel, underlining the text that is related to the explanation of anxiety. The researcher collected data from many sources the books, thesis, journals, articles, books references, blogs, and source in internet that relevant with this research that support this study to improve the knowledge.

The researcher collects the data with some steps. The first, the researcher read and understands the sentences which relate to the cause of a mother anxiety in psychoanalysis theory. And also researcher searches some secondary data to support the analysis of Charlotte character and the anxiety of Charlotte. The research follows the following steps:

- Reading the novel several times and determining the setting that would be analyzed to get well understanding on the whole story.
- 2. Taking notes of the related information both primary and secondary data.
- 3. Arranging the data into several groups based on its classifications.
- 4. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis.
- 5. Making conclusion based on the result of data analysis.

1.7 The Organization of the Study

The research organized into four chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction which is the background of study, the statement of the problem, objective of the study, the scope and limitation, significance of the study, the method of study, the organization of the study. The second chapter deals with review of related literature and related theories. The third chapter deals with the analysis of Mrs. Charlotte's anxiety as a mother in Jodi Picoult's novel *Handle with Care* and the research ended in fourth the consists of the conclusion of the research entitled.

1.8 Definition of Key Term

There are several key terms essential for use in this study. Key terms must be defined to provide a more easily understood explanations in this research.

They are:

- 1.8.1 Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI): A genetic disorder that causes a person's bones to break easily, often from little or no apparent trauma. OI is also called "brittle bone disease." OI varies in severity from person to person, ranging from a mild type to a severe type that causes death before or shortly after birth. There are four well-known types of OI.

 These types are type I, II, III and IV (https://www.genome.gov).
- 1.8.2 Anxiety: Anxiety is a multisystem response to a perceived threat or danger. It reflects a combination of biochemical changes in the body, the patient's personal history and memory, and the social situation. As

far as we know, anxiety is a uniquely human experience. Other animals clearly know fear, but human anxiety involves an ability, to use memory and imagination to move backward and forward in time, that animals do not appear to have. The anxiety that occurs in posttraumatic syndromes indicates that human memory is a much more complicated mental function than animal memory. Moreover, a large portion of human anxiety is produced by anticipation of future events (http://medicaldictionary.thefreedictionary.com/Psychological+anxiety)