

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

David Carter, in his book *Literary Theory* defines literature as every written text includes history and philosophy (17). This definition appears before about 1800. Moreover, Arnold says that literature is separating from its beauty qualities and could become educational source in our live (qtd in Carter 21). Basically, there are two things that become the core of literature arrangement. One of them is psychological that mostly inside the thought of the author which is relate with imagination and creativity process (Ratna 192). So that, literature could be called as kind of art. There are many forms of art, like the composition of music notation, harmonious color arrangement in a picture, material configuration in architecture, and also characterization composition inside drama, novel, and so on.... (Ratna 192).

Novel as fiction story means something that specially made, formed, created, and imagined (Tarigan 120). The same thing also explained by Gill in his book *Mastering English Literature*, if novel as a work of art is specially made and formed by the author (130). He also thinks if a novel exists because the author has been determined to take its elements inside a certain way (77). As a kind of prose, novel is written in a particular length (Eagleton 1), such as *Chosen to Die* by Lisa Jackson which consists of 470 pages.

According to her official web site *www.lisajackson.com*, Lisa Jackson is number one bestselling author of *New York Time* with more than 85 novels. Until 2016, she has already written for about 168 books, with more than 30 of it become best seller to her name. There are for about 20 million copies of her book around the world that are translated into 20 different languages (2010). Lisa Jackson not only has a lot of fans around the world that bring her up to become number one *New York Time* bestselling author, but she also has a gift in describing the setting of her novel and make it looks like real (Boling 1). Jackson novels is mostly has a genre which called romantic suspense. Though most her novels are included into romantic suspense genre, a theme like serial murder is also raised. Serial murder is the subdivision of murder

This subdivision is done by the same offender with many victims but in different time. Serial murder also has its own characteristic. Such as it is doing in different chance, there is cooling off period, and emotional cooling off period (Morton et al 8-9). There is interesting fact about serial murder which is related to psychopath. The reality is not all of psychopath becomes serial murder while many of serial murder are psychopath (Morton et al 14). In order to understand why someone becomes serial murder, we should look back at the childhood of the offender and also comprehend how his environments interact with him before finally shaped the behavior.

The behavior a person displays is influenced by life experiences, as well as certain biological factors. Serial murderers, like all human beings, are the product of their heredity, their upbringing, and the choices they make throughout development (Morton et al 11).

Anger is a motivation in which an offender displays rage or hostility towards a certain subgroup of the population or with society as a whole. On the other hand, Power/thrill is a motivation in which the offender feels empowered and/or excited when he kills his victims (18).

[illegible]

In United State, there are several cases about serial murder. Based on Beasley report about serial murder case in America, there is serial murder that the offender enjoys looking at someone dead. The offender is white male, 30 years old. His victims are female between 21 until 41 years old. He finds deep interest watching them died. He did it for about four years (400-401).

The next serial murder is done by a white male that has angry feeling to female. His live was started as drug abuse. He ever had a stable job. He has a wife, but his marriage is unhappy. At the age of 25 he killed three white females during two weeks period. His motive is seems to be factored by his difficulties of his last marriage (401-402).

However, a novel by Lisa Jackson under the title *Chosen to Die* is reflecting the case of serial murder in a form of literary work. Based on the previous explanation, the motive of serial murder which relates to psychological illness, this novel also delivers the same story. Bill Hicks as the serial offender is suspected to experience psychological illness that motivates him for killing many people.

Moreover, Johnson believes for someone who love mystery story and never read Lisa Jackson's book before, to start with this book is a good one. It will not make the reader feel sorry (1). Although the novel is 470 thick pages, the thesis writer get amazing experience in reading. The plot, character, and setting are working together in this novel well. It is so much entertaining for someone who loved mystery and thriller

1. Novel : is fiction story means something that is specially made, formed, created, and imagined (Tarigan 120). The same thing also explained by Gill in his book, if novel as a work of art is specially made and formed by the author (130). He also thinks if a novel exists because the author has been determined to take its elements inside a certain way (77).
2. Murder : is an unlawful action in order to make someone lost his life in the context of power, individual trouble, miserly, and even sexuality (qtd in Douglas 94)
3. Serial Murder : is subdivision of murder done by the same offender with many victims but in different time. Serial murder also has its own characteristic. Such as it is done in different chance, there is cooling off period, and emotional cooling off period (Morton et al 8-9).
4. Psychology : is the study of both biological and social science which concerned in the root of someone behavior and also social and environment that influence it (Warren and Wellek 7)