

## CHAPTER II

### LITERARY REVIEW

The research data is analyzed using some theories. The writer explains about the theories that are going to be to analyze Stephen Hawking as the main object in *Travelling to Infinity*. In analyzing this object, the writer use Biographical criticism as the main theory. The researcher uses the biographical criticism to understanding about the author's life and to find out the answer of the statement of problem in previous chapter.

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

In doing this research, the writer wants to make easy in investigating some problems of this research absolutely it needs a literary criticism. Those are kinds of literary criticism such as interpreting, analyzing, investigating, and evaluating works of literature. First, literary criticism improves your general reading skills, giving you more tools to help solve problems of understanding as you read. Second, literary criticism can help you in college by giving you more ways to respond to what you read. Third, literary criticism supports the development of critical thinking skills and the last for all those reasons, literary criticism can help you develop your skills as an independent thinker and reader (Gillespie 6).

Charter defines with literary interpretation, if anything goes, and then nothing comes of it. The more it seems like madness, the more need there is to have method in it. Refers to a characteristic any theory must have if it is to be

considered truly scientific. This concept enables on to identify many fields of study, in addition to those of natural sciences, as incorporating rigorous criteria for the truth value of their findings (19).

In the first instance, a theory must attempt to explain something. Its proponents may believe that it does this successfully but others may not. Jonathan Culler, an eminent popularizer of literary theory, has made a useful distinction. To count as a theory, has made a useful explanation not be obvious, it should involve a certain complexity (Culler, 95).

Furthermore, many theorists have been primarily concerned with phenomena rather than literature. For example psychoanalysts with the human mind, Marxist with the human existence in a capitalist society and Biography with author's life and etc. it has often been of only secondary importance to them whether a text they are considering can be deemed to be literary or not. Which may resemble each other in many ways, but which must be identified differently (Charter 15).

The scope of literary theory provides a starting point for those readers who wish to find out more about the main trends and concepts, strategies and practitioners, terms and texts within a given theory. A key figure in literary theory provides short biographies of some of the most influential theorists of the twentieth century. These short lives are told, for the most part, through bibliography, through institutional affiliations and specific contributions to theory. Reading with literary theory offers a variety of theoretical readings of literary

texts designed to demonstrate techniques of application as well as to suggest how different theories yield different results.

## 2.2 Biographical Criticism

Gillespie defines biographical criticism assumes that there is a relationship between a writer's lives and work and that we can understand the Literary work better as we understand its creator better. Knowing something about the author, we can seek connections between personal and artistic growth, even linking particular stories, plays, or poems to particular incidents, people, and historical occurrences in an author's life (25).

Warren and Wellek proposed that biography as an account of person's life usually published in the form of book or essay, or in some other form, such as film. A work is biographical if it covers all of a person's life. As such, biographical works are usually non-fiction, but fiction can also be used to portray a person's life. Biography is principally the story that describes about the life of some figure in certain duration of time. In this case, biography of the author in his or her literary work will sometimes be reflected in the story. The author may appear to works or give influences through the characters (67).

A biography is commonly a work of nonfiction, the usual subject of which is the life of an individual. Starting in the 20th century, it can be said one of the oldest forms of literary expression, the biography still typically seeks to re-create in words the life of a human being as understood from the historical or personal perspective of the author by drawing upon all available evidence, including that















Hawking will be the important thing as the main source to find the correlation of Jane and her novels also her experience life was reflected through her novels.

#### 2.4 Review of Related Study

The writer has found that there are some students who had used the biographical criticism

Most of Maya's poems have analyzed by some students from university, such as Krisna and Solestiyo are the English Department student in Petra Christian University, they have analyzed three of Maya's poems in their *Black Power in Maya Angelou's Still I Rise, Phenomenal Woman and Weekend Glory*. Their research tried to find out what ways Black Power is revealed in Maya Angelou's three poems. The analysis showed there are differences of ideas of Black Power in each poem. Those are the way to survive in the society, the way to express someone's thought, and the ability to accept one's identity as a Black Woman.

The second research that analyzed about Maya's poem is research from Dian Rahmawati from State Islamic University (UIN) Syarif Hidayatullah. She has analyzed Maya's poems in her *The Image of Woman in Three Poems of Maya Angelou* (2011). She used Feminist criticism to analyze those poems and the result is she described the image of Black Woman reflected on those poems which Black Woman are independent, strong, brave, confident, outspoken, explicit, honest, and mysterious.

This research has similarity with two researchers above which analyzing about Maya's poems, but they also have difference. In Krisna and Sulisty's research, they analyzed about Black Power reflected in Maya's poem and Dian's research, they analyzed the image of Black Woman reflected in Maya poem using feminist criticism. While, in this research will analyze Stephen Hawking's Biography reflected on the novel by his wife Jane Hawking using Biographical Criticism.

There also a research analyzed a literary work through biographical criticism. It is the research by Primiaty Natalia Sabu Kopong, a student from Udayana University. She has analyzed a novel using biographical criticism in her Biographical Approach to analysis of Virginia Woolf's Novel: *To the Lighthouse*. She analyzed the relationship between the events happened surrounded her life with the content of the story in her novels. The result is she describes the position of woman in Virginia Woolf's life time that reflected in her novel. Primarity's research has similarity with this research which both of them uses biographical criticism as main theory and the differences are it used a novel as the research object while this research will use the selected poems of Maya Angelou.