CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Nowadays, many crime that victimizes children. One of the most common cases is sexual abuse. Child abuse occurs in a range of situations, for a range of reasons. For example are, the disharmony in the household, the low income of the family, or other supporting factors that can be trigger violence. Child sexual abuse has been part of history for centuries but it has not always been an acceptable subject of public conversation. For years, it was taboo in society to discuss any disturbing intimate details of family life and public knowledge about sexual abuse was minimal. Whittier in her book *The Politics of Child Sexual Abuse: Emotion, Social Movements, and the State* (2009) said that most people, if they knew anything about child sexual abuse, thought that it only happened among the poor and ethnic minorities. Awareness and public discourse about child sexual abuse did not occur until the late 20th century. People started to speak openly about child sexual abuse and take concerted action against it. Child sexual abuse was first widely exposed in the public eye in the early 1970s when feminists led an anti-rape movement and used child sexual abuse as one example of a repressive patriarchal society.

Child abuse as the sole form of emotional/psychological maltreatment is often the most difficult to identify and prevent. Child sexual abuse is a rather deviant behavior of adult to their children or child, this tendency is commonly related to ‘doing’ forces upon the child or children as victim of anger or disappointment of their parents. It may happen because parents are supposed to have power, strength
and authority upon the powerless children or child. They think they own their kids and they may do the way as they like.

In terms of statistics, according to NSPCC official statistics, published annually, show the amount of child sexual abuse recorded by authorities in the year. The problem is much bigger than shown in official statistics, as most crimes are not disclosed and/or reported. Most sexual abuse isn’t reported, detected or was prosecuted. Usually the victims don’t tell anyone that they’re being sexually abused. It’s a crime that is usually only witnessed by the abuser and the victim. 1 of 20 children in the UK, have been sexually abused. Sexual abuse includes any unwanted sexual activity, as well as criminal sexual activity with an adult, where physical contact took place. It does not include non-contact sexual abuse (such as flashing or saying sexual things) or "consensual" sexual activity between adolescents. 4.8% of 11-17 year olds reported contact sexual abuse at some point in childhood. 34% of 11-17 year olds sexually abused by an adult said nobody else knew about it. Over 90% of sexually abused children was abused by someone they knew. (http://www.nspcc.org.uk)

In Indonesia, one example of the case occurred at the Jakarta International School. In The Sydney Morning Herald World news article published that there is a parent who reports to police for children sexual abuse case at the Jakarta International School. Dewi, who is mother of AL, a victim of children sexual abuse is reported JIS to the police because of the attitude to JIS which seems wash hands as the sexual abuse occurred to JIS. AL has contracted herpes and a bacterial infection allegedly as a result of two anal rapes by members of the schools outsourcing cleaning staff in February and March in 2014. They are alleged to have attacked the boy during school hours when he went to the toilet near his classroom. The issue of
child sex assault is rarely aired in Indonesia, but coverage since the attack has prompted suggestions that it's a growing problem.

The symptoms of the psychological impact of sexual abuse including guilt, anxiety, depression, interpersonal isolation, somatization, shame, low self-esteem, self-destructive behavior, post-traumatic stress reactions, poor body imagery, sleep disturbance, suicide, nightmares, anorexia or bulimia, criminality in adulthood, relational and/or sexual dysfunction, compulsive behavior like alcoholism, drug addiction, gambling, over eating, over spending, and sexual obsession or compulsion. Since children sexual abuse are a kind of mental/emotional abuse, and because that can induce post-traumatic stress reaction, or even post-traumatic stress disorder. Adults with abuse histories also present with physical problems more frequently than those who have not experienced abuse. (Retrieved from http://www.academia.edu/1048617/Introduction_to_psychology_regarding_to_child_sexual_abuse)

Children who have been sexually, psychologically, or physically abused often experience emotional problems that can affect their academic performance and social skills. As adults, victims of abuse may experience difficulty maintaining healthy relationships and productivity at work. According to Freud (Walgito in Pengantar Psikologi Umum, 2004: 78) instinct distinguished from two categories, namely the instinct for life and instinct to die. Instinct for life cover hunger, thirst, and sex. This is a strength instinct creative and manifests called libido. Instead, the instinct to die is strength destructive, which can be addressed to himself, such as self-harm, suicide, or directed to the outside as forms of aggression. Regarding anxiety, Freud (Walgito, 2004: 78) argues that there are three kinds of anxiety, namely objective anxiety, neuretik, and moral. Worry objective arising from fear of danger in real. Anxiety is
fear neuretik punishment for the expression of desire impulsive. Moral anxiety arises when a person violated moral norms that exist.

Psychology is a scientific discipline that fully struggling with the problems of man and humanity. Psychology is also the science that tries to explain, predict, and control the behavior of human mental. The particular combination of emotional, attitudinal, and behavioral response patterns of an individual is called personality.

In *Malice*, sexual abuse on children is being the main topic. Furthermore, the sexual abuse on children is interested to discuss in this thesis. *Malice* is the novel that portrayed the psychological impacts of sexual abuse on children through in leading character, Grace Adams. She is a woman who got sexual abuse from her closest family. The events which are befallen Grace Adams shown that each problem usually affected trauma to a person's personality. Grace Adams is the victim of several different kinds of abuse. She is a woman with a past full of deep, dark, hurtful secrets. She is described in the novel as "a stunning beauty", daughter of an influential lawyer. She has spent the last years nursing dying mother through her finals battle with cancer. On the night of her mother's funeral, she is brutally raped by her father and, after years of such repeated abuse, she snaps and kills him. At the age of 17 years old, she faced up her prison sentence because she murdered her father. After her release two years later, she rebuilds her life.

Novel and other literary works are not just discussing about social life and romance. It is not for entertainment only. Now, novels discuss more serious conflict, such as psychology. Through the novel, the reader can learn and understand the cases of psychology in the easiest way. Nurgiyanto in his book *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi* (2000:14) says that novel is basically a form of storytelling about life fragmentary human nature. Disclosure techniques are solid and between elements is an integrated
structure. Novels tell the extraordinary events of the lives of the characters. Good story will describe specific details considered necessary in order not to bore and reduce the tension levels.

1.2 Problems of The Study

In accordance with the title of this proposal some questions are arranged which act as the center of problems. Problems that the writer would like to analyze are:

1. How are sexual abuse on children and its impact portrayed in Danielle Steel’s *Malice*?
2. How does the leading character overcome the psychological impact of sexual abuse?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

Based on the formulation of a problem that has been established above, this proposal aims:

1. To describe sexual abuse on children and the impact portrayed in Danielle Steel’s *Malice*.
2. To describe how the leading character overcome the psychological impact of sexual abuse.
1.4 Scope of The Study

In this thesis I restricted my analysis in sexual abuse on children described in the novel “MALICE”. The problem will be limited to describing how the leading character, Grace Adams was sexually abused by her father, its impacts which could have a negative impact on psychological such as , and how she overcomes of that action on her psychology.

1.5 Significance of The Study

The significance of this study is to give more understanding about the relationship between literature and psychology. Malice adapts the psychological impact to the victim of sexual abuse as the theme of its novel and this study is expected to enrich readers knowledge about psychological problems found in a novel.

This thesis offers an understanding the knowledge of what literature is and the intention of the works content. The research would be useful for other people who are interested in learning aspects on literature, especially aspect psychology.