1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a personal expression of feeling including experience, idea, motivation, confidence in the concrete description by using language. Taylor (1981:1) says, “literature like other arts, is essentially an imaginative act, that is, an act of the writer’s imagination in selecting, ordering and interpreting life experience”. According to the quotation, we can understand life through literature.

Generally, literature may be classified into four categories or genres: prose, fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction prose. This paper has focus on prose fiction, particularly on novel. Novel according to Nugriyantoro (1995:4) “the novel as a work of fiction offers a world, world of idealized models of life, imaginary world, that built through intrinsic elements such as event, plot, character (characterization, setting, point of view and others, all of which, of course, also be imaginary).”

Character is an important element of novel. Roberts (1985:131) says, “In fiction, a character may be defined as a verbal representation of human being. Through action, speech, description and commentary, author portray characters who are worth caring about, rooting for and even loving, although there are also characters people may laugh at, dislike, or even hate.”

One of the novel that shows about human obsession is “Perfume: the story of a murderer” by Patrick Suskind. Patrick Suskind was born in Ambach, near
Munich, in 1949. Patrick Suskind is one of greatest author. His first novel, *Perfume* became an internationally acclaimed bestseller. Almost every novel of him is best seller. Perfume is one of this fascinating novel that was published in 1985. The genre of the novel is fiction story and the scope is thriller story. The novel has been adapted into a movie in the same title that is Perfume, and produced in 2006.

This novel tells the story of Grenouille who is born into the slums of 18th century France. Despite being separated from his mother at birth and segregated from society for having no bodily odour but he has a special gift from God, that he can smell everything in the world. Grenouille is the only one human who has the best sense of smell. But, the amazing gift causes a big disaster in the Grenouille’s life. He was obsessed to make the best perfume because he had ever smelled a virgin girl’s aroma. Then he murdered 25 virgin girls to take their body fragrance. The virgin girls died improperly. Their clothes, hair and head skins were lost, and then he took their body odor to make perfumes.

The writer chosen this topic as object of this paper because the characters of this novel is unusual and the other important reason is, this novel tell us about psychological issues that we need to learn as humans who live in society so that we can apply the knowledge to get harmonious life with one another. We can learn from anything because nowadays a novel is made not only for entertainment but also for people to learn through another person’s thought, this is called studying psychology from a literary work. The writer used theory of psychoanalysis by Sigmud Freud, to try understand Grenouille’s personalities.
According to Sigmud Freud, personality is composed of three elements: id, ego and superego. Id includes instinctive and primitive behaviour as the source of all psychic energy. It is based on pleasure principle which strives for immediate gratification of all desires, wants and need. Ego is based on the reality principle and it understands that desires and needs are not always can be fulfilled. Ego controls Id to aware about the real world. While superego is the aspect of personality that holds entire moral standard and ideals that people acquire from families and society. When ego and superego can not control influence of a bad childhood memory and denied desire, id will be control on entire mental and behaviour to be impulsive and cruel as happens on the leading character of novel Perfume who can not control his id because he was obsessed to make the best perfume so he kills 25 virgin girls to take their body fragrance

1.2 Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, the problem discussed in this paper are:

1. How is the leading character’s id portrayed in Patrick Suskind’s novel Perfume?
2. How is the leading character’s ego portrayed in Patrick Suskind’s novel Perfume?
3. How is the leading character’s superego portrayed in Patrick Suskind’s novel Perfume?
1.3 Scope of the Study

The scope of the study only focuses on the leading character’s id, ego and superego portrayed in novel *perfume*.

1.4 Objective of the Study

1. To describe the leading character’s id in Patrick Suskind’s novel *perfume*.
2. To describe the leading character’s ego in Patrick Suskind’s novel *perfume*.
3. To describe the leading character’s superego in Patrick Suskind’s novel *perfume*.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This paper was written to answer the curiosity of the writer towards the problems found in Perfume: the Story of a Murderer, not only for the interest in studying but also for the interest in understanding people. This paper will add a reference for students in English Department in analyzing literature with psychology as an approach. This paper will broaden the knowledge of the novel’s readers about the leading character in Perfume: the Story of a Murderer, and is to make people understand the characters in this story and then be able to apply it in everyday life.

1.6 Method of the Study

The writer uses library research for the method of the description in this paper. The writer research by reading, writing and describing it is done by reading some book and gathers information from internet.