

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

“Literature is writings in which expression and form, in connection with ideas of permanent and universal interest, are characteristic or essential features, as poetry, novels, history, biography, and essays” (Random house Webster’s unabridged dictionary, 1986). Literature transforms and intensifies ordinary language and it deviates systematically from everyday speech. Literature consists only of certain rather specialized “form, selections and collections of language” (Moody, 1971:2). Novel, which the thesis writer wants to analyse, talks about human life and her interaction with society in fiction form.

When someone talks about literature, he/she cannot avoid talking about novel. “Novel is a fictitious prose narrative of considerable length and complexity, portraying characters and usually presenting a sequential organization of action and scenes” (Random house Webster’s unabridged dictionary, 1986). The thesis writer chooses novel because she likes to read novel, especially novel about love and loyalty. Novel, which the thesis writer wants to analyse, talks about love, loyalty, passion and sacrifice. Reading novel means that the thesis writer can know deeper about characters’ feeling because novel usually tells about feeling of the characters thoroughly. Because novel can describe the characters deeply so the thesis writer chooses novel to be analyzed.

In this thesis, the writer chooses Yukio Mishima. The original name of Yukio Mishima is Kimitake Hiroaka. He was born in Tokyo. Later he changed his name into Yukio Mishima so that his anti-literary father wouldn't know what he wrote. Kimitake Hiroaka adopted the pen name of "Yukio Mishima" to hide his age. "Yukio" comes from the word *yuki*, which is Japanese for snow and Mishima is a town which known for its view of the snowy peaks of Mt. Fuji. (<http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/3705/mishima.html>). The name Yukio can loosely be translated as "Man who chronicles reason."

(<http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/mishima.htm>). He uses name Yukio Mishima when he wrote his first novel at thirteen years old.

He was the first of three children born to Azusa and Shizue Hiroaka. Azusa Hiroaka, Mishima's father, was a government official, while his mother Shizue was the daughter of a school principal in Tokyo. At the time of Mishima's birth, Mishima's parents were living with Jotaro and Natsuko Hiroaka, Mishima's paternal grandparents. Jotaro Hiroaka came from a family who had once been farmers, but he rose to be a senior level civil servant in the Japanese government. His wife, Natsuko Hiroaka, came from a family who had descended from samurais. Her paternal grandfather was a member of the aristocracy in Japan called a "daimyo". Mainly his paternal grandmother, who hardly allowed the boy out of her sight, raised Mishima. Natsu ruled Mishima's childhood with an uncompromising, overprotective hand. Spending practically all of his days alone in his room, Mishima was remarkably introverted and considered a "frail, girlish child." His parental grandmother gives big influence toward his life. It is also will influence almost all of his works in the future. From this biography, the thesis writer can see the influence of his parental with his future life and also his works.

Yukio Mishima who is considered by many critics as the most important Japanese novelist of the 20th century, is prolific writer. He was three times nominated for the Nobel Prize for literature. As a writer Mishima drew inspiration from pre-modern literature, both Japanese and Western. (<http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/mishima.htm>).

Mishima's first novel was published in his school paper while he was thirteen. Later, with the help of Fumio Shimizu, a teacher at the Gakushuin School, his first long work "*The Forest in Full Bloom*" was published in a magazine called "Bungei Bunka". This was 1941 and he was sixteen years old. In 1944, Mishima had his first major work "*The Forest in Full Bloom*" published in Tokyo.

His first novel, the semi-autobiographical "Confessions of a Mask" (1949), contained deep homoerotic and masochistic undercurrents. It dealt with his discovery of his own homosexuality. The largely autobiographical work

reflected Mishima's masochistic fantasies. His preoccupation with the body, its beauty and degeneration, marked several of his later novels. Mishima wished to create for himself a perfect body that age could not make ugly. However, Mishima's Confessions of a Mask was well received by Japanese and international audiences and Mishima received permission from the Japanese government to travel abroad. During his wanderings, he continued to write and engage in conspicuous relationships with men. KINKAKUJI (1956, The Temple of the Golden Pavilion) was based on an actual event in 1950. It depicted the burning of the celebrated temple of Kyoto by a young Buddhist monk, who is angered at his own physical ugliness, and prevents the famous temple from falling into foreign hands during the American occupation. The Sound of Waves (1954) has been filmed several times. It won the Shinchosha Literary Prize. The story is set in a remote fishing village, and tells of a young fisherman, Shinji, who meets on the beach a beautiful pearl diver, Hatsue, the daughter of Miyata, the most powerful man in the village. Silk and Insight (1964) dealt with lost ideals, but this time the story was set in the world of silk textile manufacturing. It was based on a real strike that took place in 1954. The central characters are an old-fashioned factory owner, Komazawa, and a manipulating political operator, Okano. The first part of the four-volume novel, Spring Snow (1968) is set in the closed circles of Tokyo's Imperial Court in 1912. It was followed by Runaway Horses (1969), The Temple of Dawn (1970) and Five Signs of a God's Decay (1971).

In his plays, Mishima showed his interest in the traditional Japanese theatre and Western themes. Among his dramas, written for the Western style theatre, are Rokumeikan (1956), which deals with a ball given for the Emperor's birthday, Tenth Day Chrysanthemum (1961), Madame de Sade (1965), an effort to see Marquis de Sade through women's eyes, The Fall of the House Suzaku (1967), and My Friend Hitler (1969). Mishima also wrote several Kabuki pieces. His last work, The Moon Like a Drawn Bow, was performed in 1969 at the National Theatre. The play ended with scene of a seppuku. Mishima is considered to be in his time the only living author who is

talented enough to write Kabuki plays in traditional style. (<http://www.us-japan.org/lit/mishima.html>)

At the height of his career, after having achieved international and local fame, considerable wealth and a certain degree of reputation, Yukio Mishima committed ritual suicide. At the age of 45, Mishima ended his own life by performing a Japanese suicide rite known as seppuku or hari-kiri. Many critics and Mishima followers have speculated on the reason for his suicide. Some claim the author was a radical, who lived in search of ideal beauty, and in his eyes death was the penultimate form of beauty and only in death, it become complete. Others, still believe his suicide was a political act intended as a protest against the Japan's post WW II constitution, which he believed had stolen the soul of traditional of his homeland. Whatever reason lay behind his suicide, Mishima's legacy lies in his tremendous body of work and yet the 25th anniversary his death, which falls on November 25th, will be remembered quietly in Japan. No Japanese writer before or after his death has received the extent of international attention and admiration given upon Mishima

Regarding the facts that the thesis writer has mentioned above about Yukio Mishima – his great works and his great style of writing, the thesis writer is curious to know more about Yukio Mishima and his works. The thesis writer chooses Mishima because as a novelist, Mishima gained the respect of both postwar and prewar writers. Like no other novelist before or after him, Mishima captured the changing sentiment surrounding Japan's step into modernism and the country's steady embrace of Western ideals. She also sees that Yukio Mishima has given many contributions to Japanese from his writing. Because of that, his death day become an important day in Japan. It happens to give respect toward Mishima who has given many contributions to Japan. Nobel Prize winner, Kawabata Yasunari once said, "Mishima has extraordinary talent, and it is not just a Japanese talent but a talent of world scale. It is the kind of genius that comes along perhaps once every 300 years. As far as talent goes, Mishima is far superior to me" (<http://www.us-japan.org/lit/mishima.html>).

Yukio Mishima's novel, Thirst For Love (Ai No Kawaki, 1950) could foremost be viewed as a passionate love story. This novel was written under the influence of the French writer Francois Mauriac. (<http://www.kirjasto.sci.fi/mishima.htm>). This love takes an interesting turn at the very end of the story, where more is learned about the main character, Etsuko, a middle age woman who recently had been widowed by her husband, Ryosuke. Yukio Mishima wrote this novel in the year 1950. This post-war time was a very difficult one for Japanese. Through this emotional examination of the different characters, Yukio Mishima is showing the darkest side of the human psyche. He is also, through an overstatement of human weakness, examining the possibility of what could happen as a result of letting weaknesses such as jealousy, paranoia, and fear take over love, reason, and respect. Tales of obsessive love such as this existed before Thirst For Love and have been abundant, too, decades after the novel was published. The idea of human weakness is infinite and constantly explored, and in this example Yukio Mishima allows us to experience the why and how of such powerful emotions. His grasp on the character of Etsuko and other characters in terms of their development, as well as the beautifully narrated descriptions of emotions and events, make Mishima's story of obsessive love a stand-out and surely worth the read. Thirst For Love is translated by Alfred H. Marks.

Thirst for Love is a bright portrait of sexual torment with intense jealousies and frustrations steaming just beneath the surface. One of the reasons why the writer chooses this novel is because Thirst for Love is one of his works, which can describe the character's emotion well, such as in Etsuko. From all of the works written by Yukio Mishima, the thesis writer is most interested in Yukio Mishima's Thirst for Love. Specifically, she is interested with woman's problems and it's goal to define a new way to solve her problems. Therefore, she chooses to analyze Yukio Mishima's Thirst for love.

Considering that this novel talks about main character and her struggle, the thesis writer chooses Etsuko's sadism as the topic of her study. There are many topics, from which this novel can be used to analysed this book, but the thesis writer chooses a topic about Etsuko's sadism. The writer chooses this

topic because when she reads this book, she sees that the main character suffers psychological problem. After the writer collects the data about mental disorder, she finds out that Etsuko suffers sadism. The writer also finds in some critics of this book that Etsuko suffers mental disorder. She finds that Etsuko likes to torture someone in this case Saburo. Because of this symptom, the writer takes this topic to be analysed. This topic is very interesting to be analyzed because the main character there in the novel is facing psychological problem and how she makes relationship with other people. How she gets her sadism as the impact of her past life with her death husband. The content of this novel can be divided into two parts. The first part tells about her life in the present time and how she bears her problem and how she makes relationship with other people, whereas the other part tells about her life in her past time with her husband. Because of that, the thesis writer wants to analyze the symptoms and the causes of Etsuko's sadism.

1.2. Statement of the problem

After the writer reads this novel, she finds the main character, Etsuko, suffers sadism. In this thesis, the writer wants to know what the symptoms of Etsuko's sadism are and what the causes of it are.

1.3. Purpose of the problem

From this analysis, the writer wants to find out the symptoms of Etsuko's sadism and the causes of it.

1.4. Importance of the study

From this analysis, the writer can see that sexual sadist person can make big problem toward him/herself and toward other person. Sexual sadist person can kill someone as one of symptoms of her/his sadism. From study about sadism, the writer hopes that people who read this thesis can know what the symptoms and causes of sadism. The writer also can see that past life of someone can give big influences toward her/his present life no matter it is good or bad. There are some people be a murderer or survivor because of her/his

past life. The writer also wants to introduce this author and this book because she sees that this author and also his works never be analyzed in this Faculty of Letter's students. So there will many people especially students of Petra Christian University in Faculty of Letter read this book or Mishima's another works and learns more about this book or his another works.

1.5. Scope and limitation

There are many topics, which can use to analyze this book but the writer wants to scope her analysis in symptoms and causes of Etsuko's sadism toward Saburo, the eighteen-year-old farmhand. In this analysis, the writer limits the character in main character, Etsuko because by limiting the character in Etsuko as the main character, the writer thinks that it has been able to answer all the questions, which relate with the topic.

1.6. Methodology

The thesis writer collects the data by using library research and internet research. She uses the previous works and the other critics about Yukio Mishima that relate with this topic. This is important because from critics, she can know what the other person's critic about Yukio Mishima and his works. She uses Internet and library research to get the critic and previous works. She collects all of the data step by step. She will keep the data if she finds the new data and thinks that it can be used as the source. In searching the data, she only uses the data, which match and relate with the topic because not all of the data will be appropriate for the topic. The thesis writer uses the psychological approach utilizing sadism mental disorder and its related theories that will support the causes and symptoms of Etsuko's mental disorder. The writer needs this theory because she thinks that she cannot decide that Etsuko suffers sadism without any theories, which support her analysis.

1.7. Organization of the Thesis

This study is divided into four chapters. Chapter one is an introduction. It contains background, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, important of the study, scope and limitation, methodology and organization of

the study. Chapter two is related review of literature. It consists of psychological theory. Chapter three is analysis of data and chapter four is conclusion of the study based on the analysis on chapter three.