CHAPTER 1
INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

God creates human with all perfectness; specific nature, integrity, passion, etc, and the universe is the place where human can be more creative in a matter of perfect creation among any other living creatures. Human excellence also teaches them to think about reaching some spirit and passion in order to get everything that they want and choose, but human always has their limitation to keep struggling whether the spirit goes down or feeling desperate. It indicates that human needs temporary break from their obsession before they continue it. Within that empty time of breaking, some human will find a place or people to share what is in their mind, which is the time when another 'imaginary world' is created by human to escape from reality.

As a passionate being, human would share what they want as they live in a social life. To reach happiness in all cost by manifesting their mind to reality is the idea. When it comes to dead end or stuck, human will find a way to run away from reality until they can move on again. Some human will imagine to live in someone else's imaginary world which can fulfill their passion, obsession. However, someone else's imaginary world can only be found in every human mind as in their imagination place to live temporarily.

The different background of human being in solving the emptiness of time will lead them to some choices. It could be sharing to other human, imagining

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their own passion within their own mind, getting crazy when they cannot control or committing suicide probably is the worst case of what they were thinking. The differences between human thought can be their choice of their way of thinking in order to solve what they experience. The vivid example from the phenomenon is found inside the novel that is going to be analyzed in this research, entitled *Coraline*.

Neil Gaiman is the author of the novel. He is categorized as one of the postmodern authors. His works are noted for a high degree of allusiveness, that makes this sort of allusiveness serve to situate Gaiman as a strong authorial presence in his own works (Smith). Gaiman is the author of *New York Times* bestselling novels '*Neverwhere*' (1995), '*Stardust*' (1999), the Hugo and Nebula Award-winning '*American Gods'* (2001).

Coraline is one of Gaiman's novels that is classified as a science-fiction story.It is proven by some science-fiction awards that he has won. The novel was originally published in 2002. The main character in the story is a girl. Gaiman's intention is writing the novel for young readers, but he stated in his blog that the novel is originally considered too frightening for children. His postmodern character affects Gaiman's works which has anti-mainstream genre. The imaginary world in science fiction itself acts as the setting and the main topic of the novel.

Coraline begins with the story of her parents' moving to a new flat, she has to adapt again with the new house, neighbours, even dealing with new find a door that leads her to imaginary world that she might wish for. That different setting, gives her dream and her expectation becomes more real and come true. However,

when Coraline is getting comfortable to be in her imaginary world, she is offered by her mother from Coraline imaginary world to join her. At that time she realizes that she is in trouble with the condition that the other mother offers her to.

As the story continues, it is inferred from the story that it is good to have passion or spirit to have an obsession of having happy life. The readers can learn a lot of things that human have to be more careful with their passion.

The most basic interesting thing when it comes to *Coraline,* is the employment of the unusual anti-mainstream genre, which is the unusual setting as it plot found in the novel. In this novel, Gaiman roughly divides the settings exactly into two contradictive parts. One of them is the reality setting which includes Coraline's expectations that doesn't happen as she expects at the time Coraline has to move to her new house which brings her to new setting of her real world. The second part brings the reader to surreal world that Coraline start to imagine her other world or as imaginary world itself. The development of Coraline characteristic is also obscurely exposed. Gaiman has successfully create two negating characteristic on one character. On the setting of Coraline reality, Gaiman produces unsatisfied girl because of the disappointments of her present life which later will bring Coraline to experience her imaginary world that can fulfill Coraline unsatisfied reality. After Coraline return to her reality, Gaiman successfully managed Coraline disappointments and lead Coraline next level of personal development

The reason why the writer chooses this particular novel is because the novel gives science fiction phenomenon perspective that is still rare to be discussed in

academic paper, as well as the uncommon characteristic of the author in refusing the usual genre (anti-mainstream). The writer is personally interested in this novel because it shows that human should manage their obsession. It is good to have an obsession, but human has to be aware and know when they have to give it a break before it goes down to a wrong path. The novel explains particular change on humans' way of thinking, how human deals with his/her dislike and how the human can resolve the conflict which leads into character development. This simple yet strong reason is the most interesting object that can be founding the novel. So that, the writer decides to analyze the novel focus on that problems. New Criticism theory will be applied by the writer for this study.

1.2. Statement of the Problems

The writer will discuss these two main points to be analyzed in this study

1. What motivates Coraline to experience her imaginary world?

2. How does Coraline resolving her conflicts in her imaginary world?

1.3. Objective of the study

Regarding to the statement of the problems, the aims of the analysis of the

1. To analyze what motivates Coraline to experience two settings

2. To analyze how Coraline can help herself to go through her difficulties in her live

1.4. Significance of the study

The contribution of this study is to notify the reader how our motivation and intention of human mind can lead to unconscious mind in choosing imaginary world as way out of unsatisfied desire.

By using the novel *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman as the main data, the writer will analyze what Coraline has experienced and what her motivation is. The study will also give a perspective of why and how human can escape or run from their reality, how they can manage the conflict in their life, and how the human can develop their selves after manage the conflicts.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation will be applied in analyzing the novel *Coraline*, a novel by Neil Gaiman. The study will focus on the event concerning the main character who experiences the imaginary world which will be further developed from the beginning until the end of the story narrative. The narrative will affect the writer in reaching what caused the motivation of the main character in experiencing the imaginary world. The motivation that leads the main character, the setting, the characterization will affect the conflict inside the plot will be the main keywords to be analyzed.

The writer will only be concentrating on the data and narrative development which are taken from the novel and other sources that can support the arguments of the analysis.

1.6. Theoretical Background

In analyzing the novel, the writer will apply intrinsic approach by M. H. Abrams. Analyzing using intrinsic criticism means New Critics believed their interpretations were based solely on the context created by the text and the language provided by the text (Tyson 148). The analysis will be focused on the formal elements of the literally work itself, these particular elements are the substance that differs literary works from another work and act as an important element to make that literary works becomes a literary works. These elements are the one that is factually found inside the literary work, the formal elements are images, symbols, metaphors, rhyme, meter, point of view, setting, characterization and plot and so forth, which, because they form, or shape, the literary work are called its *formal elements.* (Tyson 137). But the writer only chooses three of those elements, there are characterization, setting and plot The reason why the writer only chooses those three element; there will be changed characterization by the main character because of the two different settings which leads the writer to the plot.

1.7. Method of the Study

The main object to be analyzed in this study is the novel *Coraline* by Neil Gaiman. The the data will require reliable and accurate information concerning the topic. Regarding on that fact, in order to maintain the analysis of the topic, the writer will add some sources in this study.

Close reading will be the first method use by the writer. It will be done by reading the novel itself. The writer will read and scan the novel to discover the major foundation related to the problem. After it is completed, the next method used is data collecting. The writer will gather data and inputs that are related to the novel. Reviews and critics about the novel will also be a helpful source on the analysis. Library research is one method that will also be conducted since many of its sources are accomplished through elaborate studies, such as books of literary theory and critics. The other information is also gathered by browsing some sites of the internet that are related to the topic of the study.

The writer will use descriptive and qualitative method in conducting the analysis. It means that the data are going to be analyzed in words and images instead of number. The analysis itself is also conducted and focused not on the quantity of the numbers, but rather on the deep conception towards concepts that are studied empirically (Semi 31)

The analysis will be start from the characteristic of the character, after that the writer will be describes the settings in the novel which lead the main character experience the imaginary world. The last analysis will be describes the plot where the main character will resolve the conflict.

1.8. Definition of the Key Terms

Motivation	a bridging between the character and the conflict for how the characters behave, what they say, and the decisions they make
Imaginary world	a cloning of our world and of our mental universe. It is another setting of human world creates to express and to fulfill the unsatisfied reality
Conflict	A state of mind in which a person experiences a clash of opposing feeling or needs in their everyday life. Conflict can bring into positive and negative effects, depend on how particular human know how to deal with it and take something from it as a lesson
Setting	A place where something is positioned or where events take place. The place and time at which a character is represented as happening
Character	the point inside the story become the function of the character. The authors are usually made the characters to represent

human aspect based on the ordinary real life person. The richness of the story in order can be deliver to the reader is the responsibility of the character inside the novel.