CHAPTER IV

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.1 Research Findings

The research finding shows the multiple personality disorder experienced by the main women characters Ashley Patterson. Along the story, she change her personality into new personality which is totally different from her own original personality. She sometimes alter as Toni Prescott and Allete Peters. Further, this part will discuss the different personalities of Ashley and her multiple personalities as it found in the novel.

4.1.1 The character of Ashley Patterson

In the novel *Tell Me Your Dreams* by Sidney Sheldon, Ashley Patterson was the main character. She was a woman who worked in Global Computer Graphics Cooperation and she was workaholic. In the first chapter, the author gave the introduction of hers characterization and how she looks like.

*She turned to study herself in her bedroom mirror. She was looking at the image of a woman in her late twenties, nearly dressed, with patrician features, a slim figure, and intelligent, anxious brown eyes. There was a quite elegance about her, a subtle attractiveness.* (Page.2)

In the quotation above, I could figure out Ashley performance. She was either young or middle age woman. By the words *in her late twenties*, I guess she was about twenty-seven until twenty-nine years old. Further, *nearly dressed, with*
*patrician features* means Ashley was good-looking person. She was smart but frequently worried about something (*anxious brown eyes*).

The story started by showing the characterization of Ashley Patterson as an independent woman but anxious. She felt that someone always followed her silently without know who is it. She felt uncomfortable and always got nightmare.

*Someone was following her. She had read about stalkers but they belonged in a different world, violent world. She had no idea who it could be, who would want to harm her.* (Page.3)

Another quotation;

*Ashley placed the dishes on the table and sat down. She picked up a fork, stared at the food for a moment, and shook her head in despair. Fear had taken away her appetite.* (Page.3)

Those quotations clearly described the situation of Ashley that is worried about the stalker. There is something inside hers which make she became not brave. She was kind of person who could remind some bad memories. Ashley was too afraid to face the terrible reality of her past.

*Ashley remembered the screaming arguments between her mother and father when she was a little girl. They had terrified her. Her parents always fought about the same thing, but try as she might, Ashley could not remembered what it was. She had blocked it from her mind.* (Page.8)

In Ashley’s life, she had only her father. She had no neither sister nor brother and her mother was die when she was child. Her father, Dr. Patterson, was so overprotective especially someone who close with her. Shane Miller, for example, Ashley’ office friend who which tried to get closer to Ashley. Shane
Miler was thirty years old man, earnest with pleasant personality. But without clearly reasons, her father did not like him. It can be seen in the dialogue below;

‘Yes, Shane, showed it to me.’

He (Ashley’s father) frowned. ‘Shane? Your boss?’

‘He is not my boss. He’s – he’s one of the supervisor.’

‘It’s never good to make business with pleasure. Ashley. You’re seeing him socially, aren’t you? That’s a mistake’

(page. 8)

‘... where we are? Oh, yes. Going out with Shane Miller is a mistake. A big mistake’.

Another guy was Jim Clearly. He was Ashley old friend when she was in high school. He is Ashley’s boyfriend and they love each other. He was handsome and amusing guy but that was not enough to make Ashley’s father allow him to be her boyfriend. Thus, Dr. Patterson brought Ashley in London to continue her study.

‘How can you love him? He’s a goddamned football player. I’m not going to let you marry a football player. He’s not good enough for you, Ashley.’ (page. 9)

“How from now on, you keep your goddamned hands off my daughter; do you understand?” (page. 11)

“If I see you around here again, I’ll break every bone in your body.” (page. 10)

From the brief description about the character of Ashley Patterson, I assumed that Ashley became fragile and reclusive person because her terrible life in the past time. Her parents always fight thus it made her childhood was not good enough even Dr. Patterson –her father- was a famous doctor. Ashley had no brother or sister. No one could be her friend for sharing. She became very closed. Ashley occupied herself doing her job as employee in Global Computer Graphics Cooperation.
4.1.2 The character of Toni Prescott

The story of Toni Prescott was started by showed the reader a verse of song. It was her favorite song when she was child. Her mother was going to be mad if she heard Toni sing that.

*Toni Prescott knew exactly why she liked to sing that silly song. Her mum had heated it. “Stop singing that stupid song. Do you her me? You have no voice anyway.”* (page. 15)

Toni worked in the Global Computer Graphics Cooperation and the fact she did not really like the kind that job. Toni was described as unorganized girl. She had her own world. She enjoyed her life by spent much time in café or club. Toni was born in London and in some line authors emphasize it by saying that Toni spoke with English accent.

*She was twenty-two years old, impish, vivacious, and daring. She was half smoldering, half firecracker. Her face was puckishly heart shaped; her eyes were a mischievous brown, her figure alluring. She had been born in London and she spoke with a delightful British accent.* (page.15)

From those quotations, the reader can imagine how Toni looks like. She must be a beautiful, attractive and enthusiasm woman. She was never idle but always busy doing. Another things about Toni, she love sport especially winter sport. It was different with Ashley who did not like sport, further she hated winter.

*She was athletic and love sport, particularly winter sports; skiing, and bobsledding and ice-skating.* (page. 15)
There was interesting fact in Toni’s life, she love art especially song. Toni seems like to be an artist because in lines, the author wrote that Toni felt alive if she was around people, singing, and dancing and the audience were yelling her. It explained why little Toni love to sing as song. Toni wanted to show her mother that she could sing and that is true.

......She had a beautiful voice, sultry and sensuous and at some of the clubs, she would go to the piano and play and sing and the patrons would cheer her. That was when she felt most alive (page. 16)

...“Do you know you’re a fantastic singer, Toni? (page. 16)

... Toni would go to the piano and play and sing. The customer loved it. When Toni tried to pay her dinner bills, the owners say, “No, this is on the house. You’re wonderful. Please come back again.” (page. 17)

... He sat down. “you have a remarkable talent, young lady. You’re wasting your time fooling around in places like this. You should be on Broadway. (Page. 17)

Those quotations support that Toni was a good singer. She spent her time to visit nightclub in Cupertino. Sometimes she went to San Francisco and stayed in the restaurant and clubs that had music bars. She really had exciting nightlife.

Toni Prescott began her love story from internet. Someone introduced her chatting program in the internet that made Toni may talked with people around world. Amazingly, her life was change. Toni used her time to go online and explore various chat rooms. In this part of story, I could be analyzing how Toni chooses her friends. Because of she is smart and attractive, she just not talking to anyone. She always asked about what the man doing before decide to stay or cut
him off. Toni Prescott was difficult to find comfortable person. She thought that they were not good enough moreover seems aggressive. I found an interesting fact that Toni Prescott hated a doctor.

“Tell me about yourself, Hans.”
“I’m a DJ in Amsterdam at a great club. I’m into hip-hop rave, world beat. You name it.”

“Why don’t you let me cheer you up? What are the chances of our meeting?”

“Ta ta.” She exited the chat room (page. 20)

“I’ve been waiting for you to check you back in, Toni.”
“I’m here. I’m dying to know all about you, Paul.”
“I’m thirty-two. I’m a doctor at a hospital in Johannesburg. I—“.

Toni angrily signed off. A doctor! Terrible memories came flooding through her. ..... (Page. 20)

You’re right. I’m beautiful. I’m exciting and I’m single. What do you do, Sean?”
“I’m a bartender, I—“.

Toni ended the chat session. (Page. 21)

.... “I’m worth waiting for, luv. Tell me about yourself. What do you do?”
“I work at a Pharmacy. I can be good to you. Do you do drugs?”

“Sod off.” (page. 71)
The pieces of dialogues illustrated the process of Toni Prescott to know other people. It showed us that she was kind of selective person. Jean Claude Parent is the only one person who could stay talking with her longer. He lived in Quebec city and had a jewelry store. In one moment, Toni met him in Quebec. It was great moment for Toni and the beginning of her horrible life.

4.1.3 The character of Alette Peters

Alette Peters was a third character in this story and she was a girl. In this case, the author was not show her character as much as Ashley and Toni. Her characterization also different; she was quite shy person. Alette loved painting and she was a great artist. She was born in Roma and like she like everything about it. Brief descriptions about Alette were displayed in quotations below.

Alette Peters was twenty-years old. She could be plain-looking, attractive or stunningly beautiful, depending on her mood or how she was feeling about herself. But she never simply pretty. Part of her charm was that she was completely unaware of her looks. She was shy and soft-spoken, with a gentleness that was almost an anachronism. (page. 25)

She had spent endless hours at St. Peter’s Basilica, the Vatican Museum and the Borghese Gallery, enjoying the timeless works of Raphael and Fra Bartolommeo and Andrea delSarto and Pontormo. .... She wanted desperately to be an artist. (page. 26)

In his novel, Sheldon described all of the main characters as beautiful woman and so does Alette. Unfortunately, she was old-fashioned. It might cause of, Alette
spend much time to visit ancient place and thought that she had been born in sixteenth century.

There is one thing, which disturbs Alette’s life. She had negative thinking to others. Alette looked like as nice and please girl but in her mind, she had a lots sarcastic comments. It was called manic-depressive symptom.

_She was manic-depressive. She suffered from anomie, a feeling of alienation from others. Her mood swings always caught her unaware, and in an instant, she could go from a blissful euphoria to a desperate mystery. She had no control over her emotions._ (page. 26)

The readers assumed that Alette was unconfident person, because in some dialogues showed that she always refused praises. In fact, it was part of manic-depressive symptom, which makes the victim less of her belief to people. Alette thought that they were not honest so that she also had bad feelings about them. It felt someone else saying that and it was spontaneously. The following quotations were Alette’s dialogue in the novel.

_The woman said gratefully, “Dear, if I had a daughter, I’d want her to be exactly like you.”_  
_Alette squeezed her hand. “That’s such a great accomplishment. Thank you.” And her inner voice said, if you had a daughter, she’d look like a pig like you._ (page. 27)

... they stopped in front of a Department Store. Betty was admiring a dress in the window. “isn’t beautiful?”  
“Lovely.” Alette said. _That’s the ugliest dress I’ve ever seen. Perfect for you._ (page. 27)
In normal life, Alette was kind, sympathetic, enjoyed helping people. She was a volunteer in the church and she went there every Sunday morning. But in her dark side, horrifying things came in her mind.

... Alette would imagine people on the street having heart attacks or being struck by automobiles or being mugged and killed.

Richard Melton was the first guy who made Alette comfort with. Richard was an young artist, about late twenties and look intelligent. He realized that Alette looked intently thus, he tried to start conversation with her. Surprisingly, she perceived nicely without any awful thinking.

_The artist nodded toward the painting he was working on._

_“What do you think?”_

_‘Bellissimo. I think it’s wonderful.’ And she waited for inner voice to say, For a stupid amateur. But it didn’t happen. She was surprised. “it’s really wonderful.”_ (page.30)

_“Where do you live?”_

_“In Cupertino.” Not –it’s none of your business or wouldn’t you like to know?- but “in Cupertino”. What’s happening to me?_ (page. 30)

_.... Can I buy you lunch? Café De Young has preety good food.”_

_Alette hesitated only a moment, “Vabene. I’d like that.” Not – You look stupid or I don’t have lunc with strangers, but – I’d like that. It was a new, exhilarating experience for Alette._ (page. 31)
Because Alette was born in Rome, I found some Italian vocabularies such as *Blessimo, non facia la stupid, vabene, dispice* and so on. Moreover, the author emphasized that her Italian accent was perfect. I took a note for Alette Peters that she also had bad experience with her mother. Her mother never gave support and said Alette only waste her money to buy paints. In this case, I tried to look the relation between the three characters in this story. All of them had terrible memories when they were children and it affects to their attitude. Clearly, explanation about the characterization of Ashley Paterson, Toni Prescott, and Alette Peters relating with Freud Psychoanalysis theory would be presented in the discussion.

4.2 Discussion

*Tell Me Your Dreams* was written by American writer, Sidney Sheldon, in 1998. It was Sheldon’s sixteen novel and like his previous novel, Sheldon tells us about mysterious story. The main character in this novel was Ashley Patterson, a daughter of a famous doctor named Steve Patterson. Ashley was beautiful girl, smart and workaholic. Two more character were Toni Prescott, an outgoing singer and dancer, and shy artist Alette Peters. The story moved between Ashley, Tony and Alettes’ life. Their characterization was different and they had their own destiny even they worked in the same place at Global Computer Cooperation. They had their own way to enjoy their life.

In the beginning chapters, readers will think that this story consist of three woman characters. In fact, the real character was only Ashley Patterson as the
main character. Ashley was described as women who suffer Multiple Personality Disorder because of the childhood trauma. This is a condition in which a person display multiple personalities known as alter egos or alters. The alters have own pattern perceiving and interacting with the environment. In this novel, Toni and Alette were the alters of Ashley.

The fact of Ashley multiple personality disorder was revealed when she suspected as five murder cases. The victims were men and three of them had relation with her. They are Jim Clearly as Ashley boyfriend in high school, Dennis Tibble, her officemate, and Deputy Sam Blake as investigating officer. The two others, Jean Claude and Richard Melton were Toni and Alette close friend. However, Ashley was free because she was influenced by her unconscious mind (by her alter) when killed them. The story was ending by Ashley cure treatment and finding the cause of her multiple personality.

As previous explanation, Multiple Personality Disorder was a symptom that causes someone has more than personality. This symptom also knows as Dissociative Identity Disorder. The alters have different characteristic with their source. The multiple personality disorder happened if people had traumatic experience in their childhood. It was frightened memory so they could not face that. Then, they create a new personality called alter which hope the alter can protect or solve their problems. It was unconscious therefore their real personality will not know what the alters did, (Sheldon’s note, 1999).

Ashley Patterson suffered Multiple Personality disorder because the traumatic occurrence in past. She obtained childhood abuse from both of her
parents. She got sexuality insulting from her father and poorly her mother never gave love and always getting mad. Further, she had no either brother or sister, thus no one can be her friend for sharing. When she could not perceive the situation alone, naturally she built the other personality.

In the chapter twenty-five, the doctor treated Ashley by giving hypnotize therapy thus the alter could talk to him. The therapy worked, Ashley was talking to him as Toni. Tony explained the reason why she created.

*It was in London. She was in bed. He sat down next to her and said “I’m going to make you very happy, baby.” And began to tickling her, and she was laughing. And then ...he took her pajamas off, and he started playing with her. “Don’t my hands feel good?” Ashley started screaming. “Stop it. Don’t do that.” But he wouldn’t stop. He held her down and went on and on...* (page. 305)

*Dr. Keller asked, “Was that the first time it happened, Toni?”*  
*“Yes.”*  
*“How old was Ashley?”*  
*“She was six.”*  
*“And that’s when you were born?”*  
*“Yes, Ashley was too terrified to face it.”* (page.305)

The previous quotations were Ashley’s story told by Toni. The situation occurred in her childhood; she pushed her own terrible memories into the consciousness. Ashley ran from her anxiety and finally built the self-protection inside her. In the sentence *she was six*, it could be a clue that Toni born when Ashley was six years
old. Therefore, Toni was six years longer than Ashley.

The same situation were happen frequently thus Toni’s control toward Ashley’s unconscious were stronger. As the time goes by, five men did the same thing as her father did. She wanted to struggle but had no bravery. At this time, the alter Toni came, give protection and kill them. In this case, the unconscious had a role and when it was back to conscious, Ashley did not know at all.

The second alter was Alette Peters and she also born by the Ashley traumatic experience. The story moved on by told readers about fact that her father did sexuality insulting to little Ashley. It continued when Ashley family moved to Rome. The worse thing happened when for the first time Ashley was raped by her father.

Ashley’s face changed, and it was Alette sitting in the chair. She said, “We moved to Rome, where he did research at Policlinico Umberto Primo.”

“And that’s where you were born?”

“Yes, Ashley couldn’t stand what happened one night, so I came to protect her.” (page 305-306)

Once again, little Ashley could not receive it, she was mad but she could not express her feeling. Her mother did want to listen and accused she lied. Ashley was anxious and she create new alter. Alette was born in Rome when Ashley was eight years old; she was very young to get those horrible things.

From the descriptions and explanations above, It may well understand that Multiple Personality Disorder had physically powerful relation with the traumatic experience in childhood. The reasons why it was occur mostly when someone is
child because children did not automatically respond to look toward their problems yet. They still could not decide which one is the best way to do. Some children who get depression and stress easily will solve their problem by creating new personality. They believe that the alters are able to cover and protect them. This psychology disorder is as known as Multiple Personality Disorder.

According to Freud (2010;31) psychoanalysis explain that human personality divided into three parts namely the Id, Ego and Superego. Human attitude is the result of those things. From the Freud’s Iceberg Diagram, they are part of both conscious and unconscious mind. The id is the only component of personality that is present from birth and it includes of the instinctive and primitive behaviors. The basic principle of Id relates with happiness, finding bliss and satisfaction but ignoring risk and avoiding difficulty. Freud believes that, the Id is the source of all physic energy and motivation to fulfill the human needs spontaneously.

To equal the position of id in someone personality, the ego is need. This second component is responsible for dealing with reality. Ego works as reality principle. it means that in fulfilling the human needs, ego based on the objects which faced in real life. In this case, ego has a role as guide thus people will avoid the bad things. Because of ego is the only component, which has relation with outside world (conscious), ego has function as decision marker and part of self-defense. The third component in human personality is superego. Superego is the component of inner-self, morality, and it is linked to society norm. it provides guidelines for making judgments. By superego, people will know about good,
bad, correct and incorrect things.

In simple explanation, Id is the primitive motivation that must get satisfaction, ego has control id as a duty and superego is conviction. Those are have their own place inside each person and it cause various feelings such as happy, sad, restless, stress, etc. if those components are not able to balance, a person will become disorder personalize.

In Sheldon’s novel, Tel Me Your Dream, was showed the psychology problems of the main character, Ashley Patterson. The problem was happened as result she could not balance out hers Id, Ego, and Superego. Relating with the multiple personality faced by Ashley, it can be seen as factor which caused of her psychology abuse. From the previous explanation, the multiple personality disorder happened because traumatic experience in childhood. This traumatic that cause the imbalance of three personality component namely Id, ego and superego. The victims of multiple personality disorder spend half of their lives by doing everyday activities unconsciously. This happens because when the alter takes over the major personality spontaneously would be under his control.

Then, I tried to make relation between Ashley personality disorder with those Freud’s theory. In her normal life, Ashley did her activity with the control of id, ego and superego inside her. Actually, Ashley could control them as long as she did not obtain the treatment he that is reminiscent of the childhood trauma. When finally she got sexuality abuse from some of men in the story, her Id could not accept it. By this situation, her ego took the role. Ashley’s ego to fight and protect herselfs by turning the character Toni Prescott as her alters. Toni did the thing
that could not be done by Ashley like became a murder. In the other hand, Ashley realized that she should forget and forgive the treatment that had acquired from his father. Her superego tried to make her as a nice woman by build the alter Allete peters. In this mechanism by Alette superego is as something that reminds Ashley to distinguish between good and bad actions. However, from the whole story, it could be understand that Toni was dominant to control Ashley life. Therefore, it could be summarize that the main personality component which dominant in Ashley multiple personality disorder was ego and it described as the ego defense mechanism.

The ego’s defense mechanism was a mental process, which purposed to decrease anxiety. This process present in someone personality to cover ego from superego criticism and unaccepted motivation from Id. Relating to the story, we can see that Ashley tried to cover herself from the fact of sexuality insulting which cannot receive of moral value in her superego. In the other side, she had big motivation from her Id to struggle or against her father treatment and further she wanted to take revenge by killed each man who raped her. After she killed, she said: “You want do this to anyone again (page 308) or;

”Do you promise to never do that again? Well, we’ll make sure”. She picked up the broken glass…. (page. 311)

Both of those quotations described that Ashley Id motivations was happening when she controlled by her alter and the ego could not overcome that. Thus is one of ego’s defense mechanism.
In this case, the defense mechanism which used by the author to describe his main character include, refusing, isolating, sublimation and repression. Firstly, the repression is the basic defense. It was happen when little Ashley got sexuality insulting from his father. Further, she also raped by him. Her defense form as screaming and tried to keep away from him.

_Ashley started screaming. “Stop it. Don’t do that.” But he wouldn’t stop. He held her down and went on and on..._ (page. 305)
_Ashley was sobbing and tears running down her cheeks_ (page. 306).

Secondly, Ashley fortified herself by refusing or obstructing the bad things that will be happen. In this defense, she built another personality inside her that aimed to protect. She believe that the new personality or alter could solve her problems and they could do what she could not. For example, Ashley mother always said that she had bad voice and avoided her to sing. Then Toni Prescott present and through her, Ashley could be a singer and dancer. Another case happen when Ashley mother criticized her hobby in painting, thus by her Alter, Alette Paterson, she became a great artist.

Thirdly was isolating and it was one way to move emotion from terrible memory. Poor Ashley got terrible experience in her childhood and it influenced until she grew up. She was reclusive and inclined to occupy herself in her daily routine. She known as workaholic had no time to enjoy. Ashley kept away from every men who tried to get closer. The traumatic personality, include Ashley, did everything to ignore and delete their bad experience by isolating their self from environment.
The last ego’s defense was sublimation. It was the defense, which changed the entire unaccepted stimulation such as, anger, revenge, and hate in better response. In the end of story, Ashley had done this sublimation by following some psychology therapy and finally she made peace to both of her alters. Ashley, however, became stronger, stiff, better person and she was ready to face her life. This novel had a lot morality value and message that the traumatic experiences in someone childhood is very influence when they come adult. Children who always forbid by parents, they will difficult make decision. Similar to the character Ashley Patterson, she suspected Multiple Personality Disorder because of sexuality insulting by her father. It made unbalanced from her three personality components; id, ego and superego. The result was she became sadist and cruel killer.