4

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Design

This research used a descriptive qualitative method to see how the main character's identity,

Nora Seed, keeps being re-formed. As Creswell (2007) states, qualitative research is the best

method to use when the research aims to explore an issue. As this research analyzed a novel,

textual analysis is a suitable method. According to Lockyer (2008), textual analysis is a

research method that examines the content and meaning of a text, as well as its structure and

discourse. Textual analysis is suitable for this research because the data are in phrases and

sentences from the novel. The theory used by the researcher in researching identity re-

formation in this book is from Chiranjeevi (2023). Chiranjeevi states that in literature,

individual experiences, traumatic events, or self-realization are re-formed to influence the

process of identity formation of the character. Moreover, Chiranjeevi also claims that some

aspects: personal gender, ethnicity, race, sexuality, individual characteristics, experiences,

social roles, and cultural background, are often used to influence the identity formation process

which is the focus of the research.

Procedures of Data Collection

The data for this research consists of excerpts from the novel, including phrases and

sentences extracted directly from the text. The data are organized into three sets. The initial

data set comprised phrases and sentences about Nora Seed's activities in *The Midnight Library*.

The activities are defined by Nora's experiences, traumatic events, and self-realization. The

second data set is derived from phrases and sentences of the context before her death, in other

words, before she met the library. Finally, the third data set is captured from phrases and

sentences of the re-formation of Nora's identity after entering the parallel universe.

Procedures of Data Analysis

The data analysis procedures follow the research question. The first step in analyzing the

book is identifying Nora's identities in each universe of nine universes. Second, the identities

are categorized chronologically into three parts based on her regrets, passions, and perfection.

The last step is constructing Nora's identity re-formations.

Rayyany Aulia Zein, 2024