

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a work of imagination created from expressing a person's expression, creativity, ideas and perspective. According to Ellis (1989), literature is the verbal expression of people and one of the main means of transmitting culture. The results of depicting these various expressions and ideas will produce a literary work. The definition of literary work by Pradopo (1994) is as the picture of the world and human life, the main criteria that is putted on the literary work is 'truth', or everything that wants to be pictured by the author. Literary works are known in two forms, namely fiction and nonfiction. Types of fictional literary works are prose, poetry and drama. Meanwhile, examples of nonfiction literary works are biographies, autobiographies, essays and literary criticism. These various types of literary works can be packaged in more modern media, such as novel, movie, and music.

The researcher is interested in analyzing fictional literary work in the form of movie because it is a very real depiction medium and easy to understand due to the audio-visual presented in it. According to Hornby (2006), a movie refers to a series of recorded moving images with sound that tell a story and are shown in a cinema. Movie can effectively communicate its intended message, entertains its audience, and leaves a lasting impression.

Apart from that, the movie also contains art and social criticism in it which can be depicted through every scene. One of the social criticisms of a movie is about someone who experiences depression because of things that happen in their life. According to Beck and Alford (2009), depression is a psychological disorder characterized by emotional, cognitive and personal behavioral deviations. People with depressive disorders may feel sad, lonely, have low self-esteem, and tend to withdraw from their environment. In this case, the researcher chose a movie entitled "*The Fault in Our Stars*" as a research subject. This movie is an American movie directed by Josh Boone and produced by Marty Bowen and Wyck Godfrey. The script for this movie was written by Scott Neustadter and Michael H. Weber based on the novel "*The Fault in Our Stars*" by John Green. *The Fault in Our Stars* is a tragic love story. The movie tells the story of a teenage girl named Hazel Grace Lancaster who suffers from thyroid cancer which spread to her lungs, so she needs a breathing apparatus and an oxygen tank wherever she goes. After a long time, her parents began to realize that the battle against cancer was slowly making Hazel depressed. Therefore, Hazel's mother urged her to join a support group for cancer patients. There, she met Augustus Waters who had lost a leg due to bone cancer. Then they both fell in love with each other. This movie depicts the psychological conflict of a person suffering from this deadly disease. However, both Hazel and Augustus have the desire to survive, do something for themselves, and dream of being remembered even after they have left this world.

Movies contain various elements as components so that the audience can be entertained or understand the meaning of each scene. The elements of a movie include plot, setting, character and theme. One of the movie elements that will stir the audience's emotions is character. The stated from Kertajaya (2010), character is the hallmark of which is owned by an object or individual. Characteristic is genuine and rooted in the personality or individual objects, as well as an "engine" that drives how an act, behave, say, and respond to something. Each character will display a different characterization and reflect their personality, just like in real life. Personality is the dynamic organization of psychophysical systems within an individual that determine the person's characteristic behaviors and ways of thinking (Allport, 1961). Personality is the topic of this analysis, where the researcher will analyze the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie, namely Hazel Grace Lancaster who is also the narrator of the movie. This main character experiences a lot of stress both physically and mentally.

Hazel Grace as the main female character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie is a great figure where she always fights for her life even though she knows that she is seriously ill. She has love and dreams, and a feeling of not wanting to be restrained. This is seen by the researcher as a form of defense for a woman who does not want to be considered weak by circumstances, as reflecting an issue of feminism. According to Ritzer (2003), feminism is kind of critical social theory which included in social context, political, economic, and history that is facing by unjust people. A similar opinion was also

expressed by Ratna (2005) that feminism is the concept generalization of women. This is a critical of social theory which have the purpose is to obtain women right. In this case, the researcher wants to use feminist theory to support the results of research regarding Hazel Grace Lancaster's personality. Feminist theory is an extension of feminism into a theoretical, fictional, or philosophical discourse.

In this research, the researcher analyzes feminism based on philosophical discourse, in which the researcher will applies existentialist feminism theory by Simone De Beauvoir. Panza and Gale (2008) stated that existentialism itself is a philosophical concept that allows people to live truly human lives in an absurd and meaningless world. Meanwhile, an existentialist belief according to Beauvoir is absolute freedom of choice and the consequent responsibility contained in that freedom, emphasizing that one's projects must arise from individual spontaneity and not from external institutions, authorities, or people.

The researcher had found similar research in previous studies. Many previous researchers have carried out analyzes based on psychological aspects of the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie and also in other literary works. Meanwhile, a feminist theory has been carried out in research for other literary works. However, until now no researcher has combined or used psychological and feminist theory in one study to analyze personality in the *The Fault in Our Stars* movie. Based on the explanation above, the researcher is interested in conducting research on the analysis of the main

character in a movie using two theories entitled "**PERSONALITY ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS* MOVIE BASED ON PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECT SUPPORTED BY FEMINIST THEORY**".

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, this study will try to analyze the following questions:

1. How does existentialist feminism theory play a role in the psychological condition of Hazel Grace Lancaster as the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie?
2. What is the personality of Hazel Grace Lancaster as the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie based on psychological aspect supported by feminist theory?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research questions, the objectives of this study are:

1. To explain how existentialist feminism theory play a role in the psychological condition of Hazel Grace Lancaster as the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie.
2. To find out the personality of Hazel Grace Lancaster as the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie based on psychological aspect and feminism theory.

1.4 Significant of the Study

This study is considered to have theoretical and practical significance for readers.

a. Theoretical Significance

This study will increase knowledge about literary works. Apart from that, it also provides insight that psychology and feminism can be linked in the analysis of literary works, especially in analyzing the personality of a character. This research could be a review of psychoanalysis and feminist representation in literary works.

b. Practical Significance

This research is useful for:

1. The readers

This research is expected to provide an overview of the personality of the main character in *The Fault in Our Stars* movie based on psychological aspect supported by feminist theory. Besides that, it is hoped that readers can understand that movies as a form of fiction can be used as material for scientific research using related real theories. Therefore, through this research, the researcher wants to convey that the story in a movie can be closely related to social life in the real world.

2. The researchers

The results of this research are useful as a reference for analyzing the personality of characters in a movie. Analysis of the main character in

The Fault in Our Stars movie using psychological and feminist approaches will increase knowledge in the field of literary psychology which is related to gender theory.