

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Humans are created in the world and faced with many kinds of needs; those are needed to survive. These needs are various and arranged from lower needs to highest needs. The lower needs should be fulfilled before the highest needs to be satisfied. They are need for food, drink, safe, love and belonging, esteem, and self-actualization. Human should show their abilities, capacities, and talents to get self-actualization as the highest needs.

Maslow's self-actualization is born to create one's talent, capacities. It involves of human's potential, accept one and other in their society as unique individual and using a problem centered approach to situation (Maslow in Huffman and Vernoy, 1987: 493). Self-actualization is one of fundamental needs in humanistic psychological theory. This needs is part of hierarchy needs in humanistic psychological theory. Humanistic psychology views human as active creature with freedom. They are able to choose and develop a life-style (Hjelle & Ziegler, 1992: 440). They have desire to develop their potential reaching the goal in life (Zimbardo and Rich, 1980: 27).

John Grisham is the author of numerous novels that concerns with psychology problem especially of self-actualization in his literary work. Self-actualization becomes a good resource and inspiration for them to write

a story. John Grisham was born on February 8, 1955 in Jonesboro, Arkansas. He was graduated from Mississippi State University and Ole Miss Law School. He finished his law degree in 1981 and afterwards practiced law for about ten years, specializing in criminal defense and personal injury litigation.

He started to work his first book *A Time To Kill* in 1987, *The Firm* in 1991, *The Pelican Brief* in 1992, *The Chamber* in 1994, etc. *The Pelican Brief* is written by John Grisham in March of 1992 and published by Doubleday Publishing Company and Warner Bros has made a film based on the novel in 1994 ([http:// www.digitaltermpaper.com /a/1088.htm](http://www.digitaltermpaper.com/a/1088.htm)).

*The Pelican Brief* is a story about Darby Shaw as the major character who is a law student in Tulane. She wrote a brief named *The Pelican Brief*. It is a theory to explain the murder of two the Supreme Courts. Ace International terrorist named Khamel killed them but the master of that murder is still a mystery. She suspects the President's good friend as the murderer. He was a businessman. He is trying to manipulate the result of a judgment before the Supreme Court. It is all mentioned in Darby's brief. Her brief incurs a big risk. She has to lose her beloved and her friend. Her experience pushed her to show her talent, ability, and capacity to shuffle the murderer to the prison. Darby is helped by a reporter at Washington post namely Gray Grantham in raking up the murder case.

As of the explanation above, the writer analyzes John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief* novel and the title is: **"Self-actualization in John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief*: A Humanistic Psychological Approach."**

## **B. Literature Review**

Before researcher analyzes it, she has read other papers that are relevant with her analysis. First is a study of John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief* researched by Enny Krisetyaningsih. Her research paper is entitled "The Struggle for Justice and Truth in John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief*: A Marxist Approach". Second is Iza Isnaeni, her research entitled "Comparison Between Novel and Movie Version in John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief*": Structural Analysis Approach.

The literature reviews above show that the study of the novel using Humanistic Psychological Approach has not been found, so researcher is interested in completing the study of the novel using A Humanistic Psychological Approach.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of the research the writer proposes a problem statement. The problem of this research is "How is self-actualization of Darcy Shaw reflected in John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief*?"

## **D. Limitation of the Study**

The limitation of the study is how self-actualization of Darby Shaw as one of the major character in John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief* is viewed from Humanistic Psychology Perspective.

## **E. Objective of the Study**

Dealing with problem statement above, the objectives of the research are as follow:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the novel.
2. To analyze the novel based on humanistic psychological approach.

## **F. Benefit of the study**

The result of this research is expected to give some benefits as follows:

### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

It gives contribution to the larger body in knowledge particularly study on John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief*.

### **2. Practical Benefit**

It gives deeper understanding in literary field as references to other researchers in analyzing the novel especially based on humanistic psychological approach.

## **G. Research Method**

### **1. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is John Grisham's *The Pelican Brief* that is written in 1992, published by Doubleday publishing company, New York, contains 432 pages and 45 chapters.

### **2. Type of the Data and the Data source**

The data are classified into two categories, primary data and secondary data. The primary data are taken from the novel it self, while the

secondary data are taken from the other data, which have relation with the research, the underlying theory and other materials concern to the analysis.

### **3. Technique of the Data Collection.**

The method of data collection in this study uses the library research by selecting both primary and secondary data.

### **4. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique of data analysis that is used is descriptive in which the writer makes some interpretations of the novel dealing with the character from the major character which researcher wants to analyze using humanistic psychological approach

## **H. Research Paper Organization**

In order to make the research easier to follow, the research paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which contains the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of humanistic psychology, major principles of humanistic psychology, and theoretical application. Chapter III is structural analysis, this chapter explains the structural elements of the novel, and it consists of characters and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme. Chapter IV is humanistic psychological analysis that consists of the hierarchy needs of Darby's personality based on Abraham Maslow's humanistic psychological

analysis, need for self-actualization and discussion. Finally, the researcher presents conclusion and suggestion in the chapter V.