

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

The Alchemist is a novel by Paulo Coelho, first published in Portuguese with a title O Alquimista in 1988. This novel has been translated into English by Alan R. Clarke in 1993, and published by HarperCollins Publishers. It has been translated into 56 languages as of September 2012. *The Alchemist* is an allegorical novel. This novel contains 192 pages. The main character in this novel is Santiago, the shepherd boy from Andalusia. Overall, this novel tells the story about Santiago who travels from Andalusia to Egypt to find treasure.

Paulo Coelho was born on the 24th August, 1974 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He is a famous author. He began the first career as an author in 1982. Some of his famous novels are *The Pilgrimage* (1988), *The Alchemist* (1988), *The Valkyries* (1992), *By the River Peidra I sat down and Wept* (1994), *The Fifth mountain* (1996), *Manual of Warrior of Light* (1997), *Veronica Decides to Die* (1998), *The Devil and Miss Prym* (2000), *Eleven Minutes* (2003), *The Zahir* (2005), *Like the Flowing River* (2006), *The Winner Stands Alone* (2008), *Aleph* (2010), *Manuscript found in Accra* (2012) (<http://www.gradesaver.com/author/paulo-coelho/>).

The Alchemist tells about the Andalusian boy (Santiago) who takes a journey to Egypt. He is a shepherd boy that wants to change his life. He dreams that he finds treasures around in Pyramids at Egypt.

From that dream, he decides to go to Egypt to get his treasures. Because he is from a poor family, the only way to go there is to be a shepherd. A journey is never as easy as imagined, he finds a lot of obstacles. He meets a lot of people that teaches about life and anything.

A journey that is taken seriously will give good results. He manages to find his treasure, and it's not in Egypt but in Andalusia where he begins his journey. But he got something more important than just a treasure trove that is a spiritual journey, the journey that teaches about the deeper meaning of life.

Some people who give positive responses are Bob Corbett. He likes the novel because the book is written beautifully, gently but profound. This novel tells the importance of seeking the meaning of life itself (<http://www2.webster.edu/~corbetre/personal/reading/coelho-alchemist.html>). Other person who likes this book is Lamski Kikita, she liked this book because it crossed boundaries of books, creates his own world. In addition, this book also reminded him of his dream and inspired her to continue his dream (<http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/30571376>). And the third person is Becky. She liked this book because it is very entertaining and inspiring. She revealed that this book has a story with magical elements but contains more wisdom (<http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/31926581>).

Not everyone responded positively to a work, there are also some negative responses. The following are some people who give a negative response. Marte Patel is one person who does not like this book, he does not like this book because the story is written in the form of nonsense. In addition, ideas or issues in the lift in this book are not clearly mixed (<http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/31926581>). Another person who does not like this book is Clint. He does not like this book for the reason this book is written in the style of a fairy tale that sucks for him (<http://www.goodreads.com/review/show/4797927>). And the last person is Christopher, he does not like the idea of this book because the reasons presented in this novel are not rational.

The paragraphs above have shown some responses of the reader about the novel, both positive and negative responses. It does not seem fair if researcher do not write down the reasons why researcher chose this novel as my research material. There are some reasons why the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel. First reason is because the researcher is interested in the story of philosophy, adventure and spirituality. And all of that has been reflected in the story in this novel. All of these lessons are reflected in every trip Santiago from Andalusia to Egypt, either stated or implied. Second reason is because the major character is a simple shepherd boy who is able to achieve his dream for most people is probably impossible. That is a great concept in this novel that everyone can dream but not everyone do their utmost to realize

his dream. Another reason the researcher is interested in analyzing this novel is the novel can bring researcher to the past is when the Andalusian era still prevail. This is very interesting, because the researcher can know the history of that place.

This book is an international bestseller. It has been sold at least 30 million copies in 56 different languages. This book has become one of the best-selling books in history and setting the Guinness World Record for most translated book by a living author.

Based on the illustration above about spiritual journey experienced by Santiago, researcher is interested in analyzing the novel with the tittle : **SPIRITUAL JOURNEY IN PAULO COELHO'S NOVEL *THE ALCHEMIST* (1993) : AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY APPROACH.**

B. Previous Study

In this study of this novel, the researcher is not the first to examine this novel. There are some who have examined this novel previously; here are some of these people.

Oktavida Wijayanti analyzed *The Influence of Setting towards Santiago's Characteristics as seen in Paulo Coelho's The Alchemist*. That study was conducted in 2007. Her study focused on the intrinsic element of main character in this novel, that is Santiago.

Another study is from Nuri Aprillia Ramadhona, she is a student from University of Indonesia. Her title of the study is *Analysis of persuasion*

strategies ad identity of Santiago's character in The Alchemist novel : an approach of critical discourse analysis. Her research focused on three points; strategies of persuasion practiced by persuaders in the narrative; power relations among characters; and Santiago's identity in the whole persuasive discourse. The research used Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) method proposed by Norman Fairclough and persuasion theory from Ehninger, Monroe, and Gronbeck.

The last research is by Umi Akhiriyah, a student from Ahmad Dahlan University : Yogyakarta. Her title of the study is *THE STRUGGLE OF SANTIAGO TO FIND THE TREASURE IN PAULO COELHO'S THE ALCHEMIST*. Her research intended to describe the intrinsic element of the novel and to describe the moral values revealed from the novel.

The difference of this present research from the previous research is the focus of the study that is, spiritual journey in the story of *The Alchemist* novel. The researcher uses individual psychology approach to analyze. Individual psychology is the most suitable approach to analyzing about the issue of spiritual journey. Researcher's title is *SPIRITUAL JOURNEY IN PAULO COELHO'S NOVEL THE ALCHEMIST (1993) : AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY APPROACH*.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement is the spiritual journey experienced by the major character in *The Alchemist* novel. The researcher will analyze the novel based on structural elements of the novel and spiritual journey experienced by the main character in this novel using Individual Psychological Approach.

D. Limitation of the Study

The researcher analyzes spiritual journey focused on Santiago as the main character of *The Alchemist* novel published in 1993 using Individual Psychological Approach

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze spiritual journey in Paulo Coelho's novel *The Alchemist* (1993) based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze analyze spiritual journey in Paulo Coelho's novel *The Alchemist* (1993) based on individual psychology approach.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The study is projected to give novel contribution and information to the larger body of knowledge, particularly in the literary studies.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of the writer and other students at Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or other universities interested in literary studies.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the researcher applied qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using individual psychology. The steps to conduct the research are as the following: 1) determining the type of the study, 2) determining data and data source, 4) determining technique of data collection, and finally, 5) determining technique of data analysis.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the research is Spiritual Journey in Paulo Coelho's Novel *The Alchemist* (1993).

3. Types of the Data and the Data Source

Object of the research is:

a. Primary Data

The primary data source is Paulo Coelho's Novel *The Alchemist*.

b. Secondary Data

The secondary data are taken from literary books or any information related to spiritual journey that support the individual psychology approach.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer used documentation as the method of collecting data in this research. The steps are as follows:

- a. Reading the novel repeatedly.
- b. Reading translation novel to get more understanding.
- c. Reading some related reference to observe the theory, data and information.
- d. Accessing the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- e. Making a summary about that novel.
- f. Drawing conclusion based on the data analysis.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique that is use for analyzing the data is descriptive qualitative method. It means that the researcher describes the text and content analysis to get the characteristic of the data to individual psychology approach analysis of the novel *The Alchemist*. Then the researcher interprets those data through the study.

H. Paper Organization

The researcher organizes this research paper in order to make it easier to understand. The first chapter is introduction, background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method paper organization. The second chapter is the underlying theory that consists of the notion of individual psychology theory, structural element of the novel and theoretical application. The third chapter deals with the structural analysis of the novel, which includes some elements such as, character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, theme, and style. The fourth chapter discusses individual psychology and its application in analyzing *The Alchemist* novel. The last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.