

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Human is created by God to do activities in the world. They have a lot of characteristics to complete each others. There is a wise utterance, “People in the world can not live without love”, and those words are familiar in a life. Everyone who lives in the world has the is own special. It is just like love. Generally, they look it as necessities in their life.

Love in Oxford (2008:262) defined as strong feeling of deep affection for someone. Love is a remedy for an ancient wound inflicted on us by the gods, who divided us in two as a punishment for our arrogance. Since those primordial times, each of us is only half of himself or herself, searching relentlessly for completion Aristophanes (in Amir, 2001:7)

Plato (in Amir, 2001:7) love is desire for the perpetual possession of the good (Plato, 1951:86). Everything in this definition is innovative and interesting. First, love is desire already articulates a fundamental presupposition, to wit, that human beings are basically acquisitive. Second, desiring always implies a desire to have what is good. Since Plato believes that everything, not just human beings, strives for the attainment of some good, the entire universe seems to be continuously in love (Plato in Amir, 2001:7).

Hope has been described as spiritual power which is providing a sense of meaning and purpose to life (Averill in Kinghorn et al, 2004:118). Hope has also been identified as an essential component of the unique human capacity to respond to adversity with the potential for personal growth and achievement (Carson and Fehring in Kinghorn et al, 2004:118). According to Kinghorn and Gamlin, 2004:120), hope is multidimensional in character and dynamic in nature and that it provides an energizing force which allows individuals to survive at their current life situation and also provides the opportunity for personal growth.

Hope is defined as the perceived capability to derive pathways to desired goals, and motivate oneself via agency thinking to use those pathways. Higher hope consistently is related to better outcomes in academics, athletics, physical health, psychological adjustment, and psychotherapy (Snyder et al, 2002:249-275).

Other things that influence the raise of hope are mental pressure of life pressure. *If I Stay (2009)* novel is the novel which tells about hope. This novel is written by Gayle Forman. She was born on June 5, 1970 in Brooklyn, New York. She attended elementary, middle, and high school in her hometown. After she finished attending college, she became a journalist for *Seventeen* Magazines, reporting on adolescents and social-justice issues. Later she transferred to be freelance journalist, working for more than 7 magazines at a time. Forman officially became an author when she and her husband, Nick Forman, traveled worldwide in 2002.

During her travels she wrote *You Can't Get There From Here: A Year On the Fringes of a Shrinking World.*, published in 2005. She wrote her next novel, *Sisters in Sanit*, In 2007. The book was based off an article she wrote for *SeventeenMagazines*. Every two years a new book was published: *If I Stay* in 2009, *Where She Went* in 2011, and in 2013, *Just One Day* and *Just One Year*. In 2002, her first daughter, Willa Forman was born. Soon after, the parents traveled to Ethiopia and adopted their second daughter, Denble. Now, the Formans live in New York. She is currently working on another novel (unknown name) and she hopes to publish it soon.

If I Stay novel (2009) is a hopefully novel by author Gayle Forman. The story follows one day in the life of seventeen year old Mia Hall, who has been critically injured in an accident that took the lives of her parents and younger brother. As Mia has and out of body experience that enables her to observe all that is happening around her, she reflects on her. She is faced with the decision of whether she wants to flight to live let go. When the novel opens, an inch of snow has fallen overnight. Schools in Mia's Oregon hometown are closed for the day. Mia, her father(who is middle school English teacher), and her younger brother Teddy are home for the day. Her mother takes the day off from work, and the family sets out on a day trip.

Mia, a serious cellist and classical music lover, is blissfully listening to sonata when a truck hits the family's car, killing her parents

immediately and seriously injuring Mia and Teddy. Immediately following the accident, she is unconscious from a traumatic head injury; Mia begins having an out of body experience through which she is able to observe herself and everything around her without feeling pain. Initially, she believes that she is dead.

Mia and Teddy are rushed to a local hospital. Then, Mia is flown to a trauma center in nearby Portland, where she undergoes surgery and is placed in the Intensive Care Unit. Her grandparents and other relatives arrive, as well as her best friend Kim. Eventually, Adam her boyfriend drops in to see her.

As the hours pass, Mia goes back and forth between observing what is happening around her and reflecting on her life up to this point. Her memories include being present at the birth of her brother, her father's transformation from a hard rocker to a teacher, her friendship with Kim, her love for music and the cello, her ambitions to become a great cellist and falling in love with Adam. Mia hears a nurse say that the young girl's life is not in the hands of the doctors or the machines. It is Mia herself who is in control of whether she lives or dies. Mia begins to consider what her life would be like if she stays.

Eventually, she determines that although having her die will hurt those who love her, they will recover. It is too difficult to think about living in a world where she has suffered so much loss. However, before she can let go, Adam arrives and puts headphones over her ears, allowing

her to hear a piece of music by her favorite cellist *YoYo Ma*, whose concert they attended on their first date. This causes Mia to think about not only what she has lost, but also about what might still be ahead of her. She summons all of her strength to squeeze Adam's hand, signaling her choice to live.

This study was chosen because the researcher would like learn more about literature. By studying the literature science, the researcher can think creatively and be able to transmit the idea or notion of the researcher as well as add to knowledge. The researcher also can sense what was felt in writing a work of literature. For further research, the researcher chooses the objects of study in the novel *If I Stay* by Gayle Forman. Studying the novel, the researcher can understand the characters in each characterization in the novel.

Based on the story of novel *If I Stay*, it has a lot of values that teach us something really important. There are four reasons that make the researcher analyze this novel. The first reason is the novel tells about the story based on the tragedy about Mia Hall and her families. Mia as a Cellist and classical music lover has a big ambition to join in the bigger college in New York. But she must continue to play her cello. She tries hard and practices everyday. She is an optimism girl.

The second reason is *If I Stay* tells about an interesting life of musician family who live in Oregon hometown which is a very popular

place nearby Portland. It can be proven by of a lot of people who visit there because there is a famous cellist, she is Mia Hall.

The third reason is the story gives many values of life. It is about optimism, family, love and ambition of the girl in keeping her hope. Mia also believes that there is always an ease on every trouble because God is always with us.

The last reason is the present the researcher is a student in Department of English Education of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta from Teacher and Training Faculty. This study is necessary to add insight and insert more knowledge to her professional competence as teacher later.

Based on the reasons above and the meaning or message that we can find from the story. The researcher is interested with Mia's individual psychology, so the researcher already focus on hard effort of Mia to try continue her live although she lost her parents and her brother. The story gives knowledge to people that Mia do not give up easily in achieving the hope. If there is a will of course there is a way. So a power or motivation is needed in life. It likes a statement of Adler (in Feist 1985:64):

Individual Psychological insists on the fundamental unity of personality: All apparent dichotomies and multiplicities of life are organized in one-self consistent totally no definite division can be made between mind and body between conscious and unconscious or between reason and emotion. All behavior is seen in

relation to the final goal of superiority or success. This goal gives direction and unity to the individual.

Therefore, the researcher wants to analyze LOVE AND HOPE REFLECTED IN GAYLE FORMAN'S IF I STAY NOVEL (2009): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.

B. Problem Statement

The researcher proposes a problem statement in this study. The problem statement is "How is love and hope of Mia as the main character in *If I Stay* novel?"

C. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses on the research in analyzing Love and Hope toward character Mia in Gayle Forman's *If I Stay* Novel (2009), and analyzes it by using an Individual Psychological Approach.

D. Objective of the Study

Conducting the research, the researcher formulates the objective of the study, as follow: To analyze Love and Hope of Mia as the main character in *If I Stay* novel by using an individual psychological approach.

E. Benefit of the Study

The researcher expects this research to be useful for other by deciding the benefits of study into two, they are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and influence of knowledge to the academic reference. It can be also as a

reference for other researchers who want to conduct further research and particularly the literary studies on this *If I Stay* novel.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is expected to enrich knowledge and experience for the researcher in literary studies and for other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

F. Paper Organization

The research paper organization of “*Love and Hope Reflected in Gayle Forman’s If I Stay novel(2009): An Individual Psychological Approach*” consists of five chapters which are presented as follows: Chapter I is introduction, which consists of the background of the study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and paper organization. Chapter II concerns with the Literature Review consists of the underlying theory, which elaborates the notion of an Individual Psychological Approach, basic assumption of Individual Psychological Approach, theory of love and hope, and previous study. Chapter III is Research Method, which consists of type of study, type of data, data source, technique of data collection, and technique of data analysis. Chapter IV is Data Analysis; it presents six basic principle of an Individual Psychological Approach and signifies the use of the novel, and discussion. Chapter V contains conclusion and suggestion.