

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Mars is one of the planets of the solar system that is close to the sun. It is from the ancient Greek god for war. The planet is called the red planet because it is red. The red color comes from rust color of iron-rich soil. The planet has two satellites, namely Phobos and Deimos. The planet is in orbit for 678 days with the rotation 24.62 hours and 678 days of the revolution. The planet is uninhabited because human to live here was impossible, but NASA tries to research Mars, so humans can live on Mars by sending advanced technology and astronaut.

Astronaut is a person who is trained to travel in a spacecraft. An astronaut must have a spirit to achieve its goals. Spirit is force within a person that is believed to give the body life, energy, and power. According to Adler, humans are conscious, which means that he was aware of all the reasons for his behavior, conscious of their inferiority, can guide his behavior, and is fully aware, the meaning of the whole practice then be able to actualize themselves. (In Mahpur and Habib, 2006: 35).

The spirit of astronaut is reflected in the novel entitled *The Martian*. This novel was written by Andy Weir in 2011 and published in 2015. This novel tells about an astronaut named Mark Watney who lives alone on Mars because he had an accident. The accident began when he and his crew tried to rescue MAV (Mars Ascent Vehicle) from the storm of Mars, but an antenna hit Mark, thus damaged its spacesuit and made him hurt. The crew who saw it thought that Mark was dead, so they left him. The accident made Mark think to look for ways to survive with his skill as farmer on Mars and looking for ways to communicate with NASA to help him.

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Based on the background story, the researcher wants to analyze *The Martian* novel by Andy Weir. There are several reasons the researcher wanted to analyze this novel. First, the author of the novel takes the reader to get to knowledge and science, and to know smart equipment of NASA. Second, the author tells the struggle of an astronaut to survive alone in Mars because when sandstorms occur, an astronaut named Mark Watney left by his crew because they thought Mark was dead when viewed from the conditions at the time. Third,

the author of this novel also tells the spirit and how Mark Watney survives in impossible conditions to repair communication and farming. The last reason, the author of this novel tells the struggle NASA and the members who cooperate with NASA in an effort to rescue Mark Watney on Mars.

Based on the above reasons, the researcher is interested to analyze *The Martian* novel using individual psychology by Alfred Adler. This theory consists of six aspects included of inferiority feelings, striving for superiority, fictional finalism, social interest, style of life, and creative power. The theory will be used to analyze the character of Mark Watney in *The Martian* novel by Andy Weir.

According to Adler "each person develops a unique style of life that is formed early and remains consistent through life, directed by goals for self-improvement." (Susan Cloninger 2009: 96). It is very suitable for describing the spirit of survival of Mark Watney who has a tough soul and unyielding spirit. This can be demonstrated by the constraints Mark to survive on Mars, he did move never previously suspected, for example, to communicate with the Earth and members Ares 3 previously he was desperate for a means of communication between Mars with Hermes severed but he did not give up, he tried to repair the communication tools. The communication tools will help Mark get help from Earth.

The spirit of survival and soul of Mark is a positive attribute and can be used as an example in dealing with the problems of life, especially with their lives. Many people will choose to die if in condition like Mark because they do not have spirit to survive.

The spirit and unyielding will not be enough to survive in Mars without science and technology because everything done by Mark is impossible can be done by people who have no knowledge, such as planting on Mars. He took oxygenators, activation filter CO<sub>2</sub>, filter water, etc. It embodies the spirit of survival with the soul of tough and unyielding. So the researcher wants to analyze THE SPIRIT OF SURVIVAL OF MARK WATNEY REFLECTED IN ANDY WEIR'S THE MARTIAN NOVEL (2015): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGY STUDY.

**B. Problem Statement**

Based on the background, the researcher has formulated the question as follows:

1. How is the character of Mark Watney analyzed using the theory of individual psychology?
2. How is the spirit of survival reflected in the *The Martian* novel by Andy Weir?

**C. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problem statement, researcher has formulated the goal of the study, as follows:

1. To analyze the character of Mark Watney with theory of an individual psychology.
2. To explain the spirit of survival reflected in the *The Martian* novel by Andy Weir.

**D. Benefits of the Study****1. Theoretical Benefit**

This research is expected to be useful for the reader to broaden thinking to solve problems that occur in the life of every individual.

**2. Practical Benefit**

This research is expected to be useful for the lecturer as a reference for teaching and is also expected to be useful for students who seek a reference to research. In addition this research is useful for the researcher to get bachelor degree in English education department.