

CHAPTER I

“INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Humans have dependably been social creatures and in need of companions. The presence of others as partner is critical for human. But, in certain occasion, human has to live by himself. It is such an emergence condition when human has to survive life without others. In this case, he has to fulfill his needs as a survival for life. In order to survive, problems comes in life. Although the problems might be hard and difficult for him to deal with, but he has to continue his life to become better. Therefore, what people have to do is struggling to deal with the problems and difficulties (Weiner, 1985:548).

One of literary works which well-presents human survival on the challenge of isolation is *The Martian*. *The Martian* is a novel by Andy Weir, telling about Mark Watney's struggle for life with Mars. The novel starts with an astronaut, Mark Watney trapped on Mars in third place (Ares 3) human mission to the planet. Actually, NASA sent six astronauts to Mars. Unfortunately, there was sandstorms of Mars raging on them. As the team moved from the Hab to the MAV, the Hab satellite communication dish was blown through the air and its antenna wire punctured Watney's EVA suit and cut into his side. Watney went out. Trusting him to be dead, the left of the team came back to Hermes, abandoning Watney on Mars with no way to communicate with the ship or with NASA. Being left by himself, Watney searched out all properties in Hab to use to survive in Mars. He kept on fighting for thousands of millions of miles away so that the signals he sent could get to Earth. NASA and the international team of scientists were working together to bring Mark back to Earth, the team must do everything possible to get him back safely, otherwise the rescue mission would fail.

”According to the above explanation, the literary works are the same significance in the sense of an understanding of human existence with his mental and inner problems.” Since literature is an exposition of human mental life, it can be said that literary works have a connection with psychology. Literary works and psychology have the same research object, that is, human being. According to Adler (in Ryckman 1985: 95), individual psychology is a science that seeks to understand “experiences and behaviors of each personality should be a useful guide and ultimately influence the changes to healthier psychological behavior.

“Adler in Feist (1985:64) states that Individual Psychology insists on a fundamental unity of personality. “All clear dichotomous and multiplicity of life arranged in one self consistency at all. There is no definite division between mind and body, between conscious and unconscious or between reason and emotion. All behavior is seen in relation to the ultimate goal of superiority or success. This goal gives direction and unity to the individual.

”*The Martian* is interesting novel to analyze based on some reasons. First, it has unique story, that is a story of astronaut Mark Watney, who was stranded on Mars after a mission failure led the crew and NASA to assume he was dead. Using his background in botany and engineering, Watney must find a way to survive until he can contact NASA and they can arrange a rescue mission.” The story maybe is not real, but science, knowledge, and technology is real. It became a intensely personal and underworld life.

Second, human is challenged not only by disrupting the acts of kindness and happiness they see, but also with the same cruelty, cruelty, violence, and struggle of life. The situation of life struggle made by Andy Weir is very successful. *The Martian* speaks of the struggle of Mark Watney for life with Mars. Watney used knowledge, science, ingenuity, and creativity to survive. The novel clarifies that, although Watney's scientific

background in botany gave him a critical knowledge base to work on, his ability to survive depended more on his ability to plan ahead, to creatively develop solutions to his problems, to tolerate risk, and his determination to do all he can to stay alive.

Third, the researcher thought that this novel represents literary work function as a guidance in real life. Because by reading this novel, readers can take what has happened as a lesson to face the real life. Rene Wellek and Austin Warren in *Theory of Literature* give their opinion about literature and its relation with the real life that is: “*Literature is social institution, using as its medium language, a social creation, but furthermore, literature ‘represents’ ‘life’; and ‘life’ is, in large measure, a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been objects of literary imitation*” (Wellek and Warren, 1977: 94). It means that life in literature can be a representation of real life, which is in a society that may be found by the author. With the creative process, writers who cannot be separated from society in the process of making literature will create a new life by his language and point of view about the phenomenon into a literary work. For example, as can be found in the character of Mark Watney, it is quite true that basically every human will defend his or her life wherever and whenever he is, even though he / she should be responsible for the greater risks that he faced.

In order to analyze Mark Watney’s struggle for life in *The Martian*, the researcher uses psychological approach. The use of psychological approach is due to the fact that psychology can shape people’s mind to recognize the problem as a challenge not as a destiny. All things human face are not as complicated as they imagine. People can solve all the problems if they see them from the positive way. In this case, psychology has an important role to create a positive way of thinking (Cohen, 1971:348). In this study, the researcher uses Individual Psychology by Alfred Adler. “Adler theory is focused on the individual theory of personality.” His theory can be used to reveal the basic motivation that

moves other motivation.”His theory of six major concepts in personality can reveal the reason and the effect why people do something (Adler in Lindzey and Hall, 1978:118).

“The researcher chooses Andy Weir’s *The Martian* as the object of the research because this novel has never been analysed before by other researchers.”The researcher thinks that this novel is very interesting to be analyzed. It is a unique novel which offers a story of the main character’s survival for life using science.”Therefore, to get better understanding of the personality of the character, the researcher applies Alfred Adler’s Individual Psychology.”Based on the background of the study, the researcher will make a study entitled “**THE STRUGGLE OF MARK WATNEY FOR LIFE IN *THE MARTIAN* BY ANDY WEIR**”.

B. Formulation of Problems

“Based on the above background, this research focuses on the main character’s struggle for life reflected in *The Martian* novel written by Andy Weir, thus problem is formulated as follows:

1. How “is the” struggle of Mark Watney for life reflected in Andy Weir’s *The Martian*?
2. What is the main character’s motivation in his struggle for life?

C. Scope of Study

To limit the study of the research, the researcher focuses on analyzing the character of Mark Watney and his effort to survive for life in Mars reflected in Andy Weir’s *The Martian*. The researcher confines the analysis from psychological point of view especially Alfred Adler’s Individual Psychology.

D. Research Objectives

The objectives of this research will be as follows:

1. To describe how the struggle of Mark Watney for life reflected in Andy Weir's *The Martian* is.
2. To describe the main character's motivation in his struggle for life is.

E. Benefits of the Study

The results of the research will provide the following benefits.

1. This research is expected to contribute knowledge, accurate and scientific information about individual psychology and positivism.
2. This research is expected to be the foundation and input to inspire the next research.
3. This research is expected to inform the readers to know more about novel.
4. The study on this novel is also hoped to give benefits to the readers of their works, grasp the moral value illustrated within the characters as well as give better understanding on Andy Weir's typical way of writing.