

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter consist of background of the study, previous study, limitation of the study, problem statement, object of the study, benefit of the study and, paper organization. Background of the study consist explanation about

A. Background of the Study

Paper Towns novel by John Green is young adult fiction and mystery novel. *Paper Towns* was published by Dutton Books, on October 16, 2008. It was the third novel by John Green, and the second novel was made into a film after *The Fault in Our Stars*. This novel tells about a senior high school named Quentin or Q. He likes the most popular girl in the school named Margo Roth Spiegelman. They were neighbors since childhood, but they had very different characters. Margo is a brave girl, who has a high curiosity, and Q is opposite of Margo's character.

The story of the search for Margo, who disappeared after his 11 revenge together, began when Quentin saw Woody Guthrie's poster from the window of Margo's room. He said that "*Margo's parents just said this morning that she sometimes leaves clues,*" And at the same time Radar, an Omnictionary editor, discovered that Woody Guthrie was "*A folksinger, 1912 to 1967. The about the working class. 'This Land Is Your Land. 'Bit of a Communist. Um, inspired Bob Dylan. '(p. 64).*" Then Q, Radar and, Ben went to Margo's bedroom. Although they had to bribe Margo's sister, Ruthie, for five dollars in order to go to Margo's room and see the Poster up close. After succeeding in Margo's room, there are hundreds vinyl records from all musicians in the world except Woody Guthrie. But then found someone singing the song, the cover was a picture of Woody Guthrie. On the Margo track list encircling "Walt Whitman's Niece". He is a poet from nineteenth century. Ben found a Walt Whiteman poem book *Leaves of Grass*. Q starts reading the part that is highlighted. There is a section in the

bottom green line in the *Song of Myself*. He read it many times but nevertheless understood the meaning. Q kept him reading the poem. He also decided to do what was written in the poem, unscrew the door. He let go of Margo's door and didn't get any clues, and finally the clue came from the door of his own room. A piece of paper takes him to an abandoned old building. But he still didn't get anything there. Until finally he found a room in the building, and on one wall there is a large map and leads to Agloe. Agloe is a paper town that only has one building. And start the twenty-one hour adventure to Agloe with Radar, Ben and Lacy.

At the end of the story, after their long journey to find a Margo who ran away from home, they realized that Margo was not a miracle at all. She was just a girl like them. All the adventures in this novel take place in Orlando, Florida. Especially subdivisions and pseudovision place. Pseudovision is a term for a subdivision or part of a city that has not been completed and left behind, such as Holen and Agloe which only exist on the map. Margo has a character that can make people around him feel she is not a human figure, but a miracle and her figure made Q fall in love with him.

McLeod (2017) said that "Behaviorism refers to a psychological approach which emphasizes scientific and objective methods of investigation. The approach is only concerned with observable stimulus-response behaviors, and states all behaviors are learned through interaction with the environment."

B. F. Skinner or Burrhus Frederic Skinner, a psychologist from the United States published a controversial book titled *Walden II*. This book tells the story of human behavior and their free will. He is a behaviorist who believes that human behavior is influenced by the environment. He has the greatest influence. He even created a special school called "Radical behaviorism". This school focuses on psychological education rather than mental states. Radical behavior Skinner carrying the concept of unique behaviorism, because this concept is not attached to the psychology. The

main topic of Skinner's approach is to show the relationship between environment and behavior.

Margo's misbehavior was first visible when she was little when she and Q found a dead body in the park. Margo loves adventure, sometimes she goes to Mississippi with leaves alphabet clues in Ruthie's soup bowl, her sister, following the circus, and other silly things. Although she is very famous in her school, Margo is an introvert teenager. Almost all her brilliant ideas she designed by himself, like when she and other children throw Orlando houses with toilet paper. Margo's Misbehavior made him far from her parents, even Margo's behavior makes them feel ashamed. Margo often came out at night through her bedroom window and used a tree near it to get off and go nowhere. As a girl, Margo does a lot of things that girls do not do it usually. She has a very different mind and hard to guess. Her love of adventure continues until the end of high school when she is nineteen years old.

Margo felt that no one would understand how she felt, the problems she was carrying on her shoulders alone. Being a child means to be devoted to both parents, but what if we feel surrounded by love that we don't want? It's the same as feeling in prison. We look free outside, but not from the inside. Many people will give a solution by talking to other people, friends, or people we trust. But what if there isn't someone you trust. Margo feels that everything around her is fake, can be torn like a paper. Doing misbehavior or abnormal things become a sedative. And she did not realize it until it was rooted into an arrangement and sequence of various problems and also the reason she wanted to leave.

Parents should give attention and affection to children, but what if they give it wrong. What if they are one parent who cannot become a parent. Examples such as; if Margo has a lot of thoughts and problems she will keep it to himself, trying not to depend on others and looking for his own solution. But when all she thinks about is piled up too much, she will expect advice from someone she calls parents. She does not want to be entertained,

lectured with reassuring sentences, but an understanding, if she is tired. But what if the response of parents even cries blaming him for the problems they face. A problem Margo has never touched. She will feel frustrated, disappointed, and look for another escape. And the escape was not someone else but a new home.

Children like Margo are like birds in a cage. Get entangled with bars that are hard to break. But what happens if only once the bars are opened? She will fly. Maybe at first she wouldn't fly too far, because she didn't really understand the world outside the cage. But she will not come back again, and maybe forever. It is like detective Warren's talk that likens Margo like a helium balloon that is tied up, if one day the rope breaks, the balloon can fly away. The difference with Warren's theory is that if one day the balloon runs out of money, it will come back again. She will remember if she has a family somewhere after staying long enough in a place she calls a new home.

The feeling of being imprisoned is like food that is expired. If it reaches its maximum limit, it will break and flap. She could not calm down her feelings constantly, until she needed a medicine that had been taken would feel the effect forever. The medicine is not an act of suicide but is looking for an actual home. Where the compilation has crazy ideas and feelings that it wants to apply, no one is commenting on it. She is free, as she wishes.

For each person the feeling of freedom is different. Even someone who is as perfect as Margo. Instead of hoping for a new place surrounded by many friends, wealth, and attention, he chose to live in a grocery store Agloe himself. He changed to 120 different degrees of Margoo. But he was happy there, because that's the best for him. He didn't need to worry if his father would suddenly come and scold him to go home. Or if the people around him comment on how they look shabby with curly lips and short hair. Because of that he named himself as a paper girl.

John got inspiration about *Paper Towns*'s novel when he first traveled with his friend while still in college. They searched for a city name "Holen". Even though they had traveled around South Dakota, they had not found a trace of the city. Until they ask someone who lives there and says if Holen is just a paper city, which only exists on the map.

This study provide new thesis about Misbehavior by Margo Roth Spiegelman. The different between this research and previous studies was; this research had analyzed what were factors and causes of an 18 year old teenager did Misbehavior in her period.

B. Previous Studies

There are four previous studies about the novel and the issue. The first research was conducted by Michaela Stašáková from Tomas Bata University. She analyzes the relationship between three adolescent girls in John Green novel; Margo, Alaska and, Will. Her research resulted in a new thesis that three girls from John was as support for male protagnists. The second research by Rasih Ratnaningtyas entitle *The True Meaning of Margo Roth Spiegleman's Decision to Leave the Town as Seen in John Green's Paper Towns (2008): Psychological Approach*. There are two results from te study that she did. The first is description of Margo, and the second is the reason she schose to leave as an final decision. The Third research is from Universitas Muhammadiyah of Surakarta (2016) by Emik Trisafitri. The result of her study was that revenge usually can be the best way for people. When they have purpose to take revenge, they will makes plans to do their revenge. They do not care whether it is right or wrong. The fourth research is conducted by Emma Dunder. She studied the Maniac Pixie Dream in John Green Young and Adult novels. She found that The Maniac Pixie girls in *Looking for Alaska* and *Paper Towns* perpetuate stereotypical gender roles and thereby help maintain a glorified image of the muse.

There are similarities and differences between this study and the previous studies. The similarities in this study also analyzed the data using a descriptive qualitative method, and the primary and secondary resources are similar too. The difference is the theoretical statement that taken by the author. This study using a behaviorist approach, but the previous study using different theoretical statement.

C. Limitation of the Study

This study only focus on Margo Roth Spiegelman's misbehaviors in her adolescent period.

D. Problem Statement

Researcher finds two problems to be analyzed in this study:

1. What are indications of Margo's misbehavior?
2. What is factor that make Margo's misbehavior?

E. Objective of the Study

There are three objectives in this study. Objective of the study describe what we expect to achieve by the research. Usually in an objective of the study, it produce a hypothesis or a statement of the final result.

1. To identify the indications of Margo's misbehavior in *Paper Towns* by John Green.
2. To describe how Misbehavior depicted in *Paper Towns*.
3. To reveal the Relation between Margo's Personality and Misbehavior

F. Benefits of the Study

This study will investigate the factors and causes why a child doing misbehavior. A child who does not get what they wahnts, will usually do the misbehavior to get their wish. This research will provide a new thesis on misbehavior by Margo Roth Spiegelman, a female character in John Green's novel *Paper Towns*. Skinner, an American behaviorism, developed a

behaviorism idea called "Radical Behaviorism". Skinner said that "Radical Behaviorism, however, takes a different line it does not deny the possibility of self-observation or self-knowledge and its possible usefulness, but it questions the nature of what is felt or observe and hence known."

1. Theoretical Benefit

This research is able to provide information and data about how misbehavior in Margo Roth Spiegelman character in Paper Town by John Green. It also provide factors and causes why she has a misbehavior.

2. Practical Benefit

Practical is applied from theory. This research can be recommendation in the class as a controversial issue from adolescent teenager problems.