

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Killing is the act of killing something or someone (Killing, 2019). Meanwhile silent is doing something without making any sound or noise. So it can be concluded that silent killing is the act of killing secretly that causes someone die without anyone else knowing or realizing it. This case also includes criminal crime. There are many techniques of killing. One of them is silent killing. This study is related to the issue of silent killing. It is a technique of killing which allows the murder to kill the target victims so quickly so that they die before realizing it. Based on the case of the study, silent killing is committed by one person. He is Igor as the main character. He killed the victims by using different silent killing techniques. The victims did not even realize when Igor killed them. Igor's killing skill was not in doubt. He mastered various killing techniques because he used to be a member of the military.

One of the crimes that often occur in society is killing. The most common type of crime in society is murder (Murder rate, 2019). There are various murder rates around the world. The highest homicide rate country is El Salvador. It locates in western Central America. The homicide rate in El Salvador is 61.80 per 100,000 people. It is the first country of the highest murder rate in the world. The rate of high homicide in this country is marked by significant delinquency and the youth gang. On the other hand, there are some factors of homicide such as unemployment, inequality, drugs, firearms, the stereotypes of gender, the instability of politics.

The killing case is not only to be concerned by the police, the citizen, the society, but one of the novel authors who concerns about killing is Paulo Coelho. He comes from Brazil. He was born in Brazil in 1947 (Coelho, 2019). Paulo Coelho is the most successful novelist in the world. The work of the author is published around 170 countries. There were many books

translated into 80 languages and sold more than 100 million copies in the world. Moreover, Paulo Coelho was listed at the second number of 200 most influential contemporary authors by UK-based Company Richtopia. In addition, Paulo Coelho also was designated as a New United Nation Messenger of Peace.

One of the novels by Paulo Coelho is *The Winner Stands Alone*. The story of the novel is about Igor as the main character who is a Russian millionaire. He had a mission that he could kill if he had a good reason of it. His mission is about killing some people randomly as proof of his love. He proved his love by destroying the world in order to get the attention of his ex-wife. Based on the story of novel, Igor was a psychopath person. His behavior was abnormal because he killed some people without justification or excuse. Moreover, he did it more than one time. He ended someone's life by killing silently. His act was unnatural. His power was used for the inhumanity aim. He did it for his purpose. He wanted to satisfy himself without thinking about the life of human beings. He would do everything in getting his love back. He killed some people without feeling guilt.

Igor planned to kill some people to be his victims. He did it in order to prove his love to his ex-wife. He used different techniques of killing from one victim to another. Olivia Martins as the first victim is killed by Igor. She was twenty years old girl who sold hand-made jewelry at Cannes. Igor killed her by using sambo technique. It is killing art with one's bare hand. The second victim is Javits Wild. He was a movie producer. Igor wanted to kill him because Javits was a famous person. Igor wanted to kill a famous person in order to make Ewa realize his message. He killed Javits by using curare technique. It was used for South America Indian. The technique of curare caused paralysis certain muscles on Javits's body. The third victim is Maureen. She was twenty five years old and an ambitious film-maker. She came to Cannes in order to pursuit Javits. She wanted Javits to release her film. Igor killed her by using the blade. He has driven his blade inside her body. It causes her paralyzed. Then, she immediately died.

The novel of *The Winner Stands Alone* has positive and negative responses from the readers. The responses of the novel are taken from www.goodreads.com. The reader's positive response is that every character in the story was so delicately with such intricacy which described about their own goal. Especially the main character was so unique. It showed how people when doing something wrong could be delusional. The point of view in the novel was also interesting. It made easy to read the novel quickly. The reader argued that the novel was interesting to read.

The other positive feedback of the reader is about the style of the novel. The style was not boring so the reader could enjoy in reading this novel. As knows that Paulo Coelho was known as a well novel author. He mastered writing skills. The author illustrated the story that could make the reader to be interested. The story told about the same event from various perspectives. It related to the phenomena of life which described how the way humans think, never-ending desire for power, and various methods of killing. The reader thought that Paulo Coelho created the novel from social classes such as ordinary and extraordinary people, rich and poor.

The reader's negative response is that there were many characters in the novel which did not give a positive impact to the plot. The characters were miserable. Almost all of the characters were unhappy because there was no way at any situation for them to achieve their true happiness. The characters of the story were not interesting. It made some characters to be ignored by the readers.

The other negative response is about the plot of the story which is predictable. Before finishing in reading the novel the reader could predict the ending of the story. It made the readers to be bored to read. On the other hand, the setting of the novel was failed in telling a convincing story. The fantastic setting of the novel was squandered in order to give a memorable novel.

The material object of this research is *The Winner Stands Alone* novel. The novel is interesting. The characterization of the novel is rounded. The characters not only have a good personality but also a bad personality. For

example, Igor as the main character has a good physical quality. He is a handsome man. On the other hand, he also has a bad mental quality. The novel illustrates that he is a psychopath person who kill some people in order to prove his love to his ex-wife.

The setting of time in the novel is a very short period. The story happens within 24 hours period. It starts at 3.17 a.m. until 1.55 a.m. The setting of the place is at the Cannes film festival. It shows various aspects of life about the Cannes Festival such as the opulence of famous celebrities, fame, etc.

The plot of the story in *The Winner Stands Alone* novel is chronological. Every event in the novel from the beginning to the end takes place in chronological order. It can be seen from the novel itself. The story of the novel is not divided based on the chapter but based on the time. It doesn't make the reader to be confused in reading the novel.

Therefore, the reason of researcher chooses the novel of *The Winner Stands Alone* is because of its subject matter. The subject matter of the novel is about silent killing. The researcher is interested in studying it because there are some techniques of silent killing which illustrate in the novel. In addition, the subject matter of silent killing will be analyzed by using a sociological perspective. The reason of using a sociological perspective because killing phenomenon often occurs in society. Therefore, that is the reason of the researcher named this study entitled **“SILENT KILLING IN PAULO COELHO’S *THE WINNER STANDS ALONE* NOVEL (2009): A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE.**

B. Problem Statements

The problem statements of the study are as follows:

- a. What are the characteristics of silent killing in *The Winner Stands Alone*?
- b. How is silent killing illustrated in the literary work?
- c. Why is silent killing addressed by the author in the literary work?

C. Limitation of the Study

The researcher analyzes the issue of silent killing in *The Winner Stands Alone* novel by Paulo Coelho. The researcher uses the theory of sociology by Alan Swingewood, Diana Laurenson & Rene Wellek, Austin Warren in order to analyze this study.

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the research are related to the research questions:

- a. To identify the characteristics of silent killing in *The Winner Stands Alone*.
- b. To describe the illustration of silent killing in the literary work.
- c. To show the author's reason of addressing silent killing in the literary work.

E. The Benefit of the Study

The benefits of this research include theoretical and practical benefit:

1. Theoretical benefit

The research discusses the issue of silent killing in Paulo Coelho's *The Winner Stands Alone* which is studied by using sociology theory so the reader can get information or knowledge about it. In addition, the study also can be a knowledge source about the theory of sociology. It can use as guidance for the next researchers in conducting the study who are interested in analyzing the novel.

2. Practical benefit

The researcher conducts this study as a partial fulfillment of the requirement in order to get the bachelor degree of education in Department of English Education.