

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter the researcher elaborates background of the study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization.

### A. Background of the Study

Literature in teaching and learning activities, we often hear the term literature. the human creature creates a language to show expression and also to reveal the beauty to the lover of itself or the reader turn into a word called Literature (Kurniawan, 2012). That is the reason that makes the literary work become deeply enjoyable stuff from the value and aesthetic side. The beauty of literary work can be seen from how the author draws and build a fantastic story of human life, nature, adventure, or from great diction the writer chooses to fill the empty space of the literature (Kurniawan, 2012).

Literary works actually have several types. Julien Bonn (2010) states that poetry/poem, writing or non-writing fiction, dramatic, and broadcast compositions, audiovisual such as television programs, short movie, and films are includes in literary work. Literary work is a form or result of human thought which tells about how to deal with life and the following things such as feelings, ideas, and problems that faced throughout life. Among those types, the prose is the genre easy to be analyzed because in every line we can catch the detailed information about every important thing that appears in prose. A kind of prose is called a novel.

The novel is the most popular fictional literary work in community. An author creates a story plotting with full of imagination which is very interesting to read. The novel is a relatively long work of narrative fiction, usually written in prose, and which is usually published as a book. All genres have been considered to have "a continuous and comprehensive history of about two thousand years", [1] with their origins in classical Greece and Rome, in the romance of medieval and early modern, and in the tradition of the Italian renaissance novels. (Since the 18th century, the term "novella", or "nouvelle" in German, has been used in English and other European languages

to describe a short story or a short novel.). The Tale of Genji by Murasaki Shikibu (1010) has been described as the first novel in the world. The spread of printed books in China led to the emergence of classical Chinese novels by the Ming dynasty (1368-1644). Parallel European developments occurred after the invention of the printing press. Miguel de Cervantes, author of *Don Quixote* (the first part of which was published in 1605), is often cited as the first significant European novelist in the modern era. [2] Ian Watt, in *The Rise of the Novel* (1957), suggests that modern novels were born at the beginning of the 18th century.

*The Lightning Thief* is an American fantasy-adventure novel based on Greek mythology, the first young adult novel written by Rick Riordan in the *Percy Jackson & the Olympians* series. The manuscript was sold in an auction to Miramax Books, an imprint of Hyperion Books for Children and thus Disney Publishing (succeeded by the Disney Hyperion imprint).

The novel charts the adventures of modern-day twelve-year-old Percy Jackson as he discovers he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and the Greek god Poseidon. Percy and his friends Annabeth Chase and Grover Underwood go on a quest to find Zeus's stolen lightning bolt and prevent a war between the gods Zeus, Poseidon, and Hades.

Rick Riordan is the *New York Times* bestselling author of over twenty novels for young readers, including the *Percy Jackson* series, the *Kane Chronicles*, the *Magnus Chase* series and the *Trials of Apollo*. He is also the author of the multi-award-winning *Tres Navarre* mystery series for adults. For fifteen years, Rick taught English and history at public and private middle schools in the San Francisco Bay Area and in Texas. While teaching in San Antonio, Saint Mary's Hall honored him with the school's first Master Teacher Award. While teaching full time, Riordan began writing mystery novels for grownups. His *Tres Navarre* series went on to win the top three national awards in the mystery genre – the Edgar, the Anthony and the Shamus. Riordan turned to children's fiction when he started *The Lightning Thief* as a bedtime story for his oldest son. Today, eighty-six million copies of his books are in print in the United States, and rights have been sold into more than 37 countries. Rick Riordan now writes full-time. He lives in Boston with his wife and two sons. *The Lightning Thief* was published in July 2005. The

book has sold over 1.2 million copies in the subsequent four years, appearing on The New York Times children's Best Seller list and being listed as one of the Young Adult Library Services Association's Best Books for Young Adults, among other awards. It was adapted into a film named *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* released in the United States on February 12, 2010. This novel is followed by *The Sea of Monsters* and spawned two sequel series and the extended universe of the Camp Half-Blood chronicles. The *Lightning Thief* (Percy Jackson and the Olympians) in 2010, *The Titans Curse's* (books 3) in 2008, and *The Lightning Thief* in 2006.

This research primarily aims to find out What are the moral value reflected in *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* Novel and therefore How Existentialism affected main character in his lifedescribed using existentialism perspective as well. The researcher raise the issue of moral value because moral value is important element that everyone need to learn when reading a novel. Then, the existentialism approach is the most suitable approach to conduct and find out the problem statements of this reseach. The function of this research is to point out that literary works may be used to reflect the author's personal experiences in life.

## **B. Problem Statement**

Based on the explanation above the research focuses on the problem

1. What are the moral values in *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* Novel?
2. How are the moral values reflected in *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* Novel using existentialism perspective?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

The objective of research such as following:

1. To find out the moral values in *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* Novel by Rick Riordan
2. To find out how does the moral values *Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief* Novel by Rick Riordan reflected using Existentialism persperctive

#### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The researcher focus to analyze Moral Value Reflected In Percy Jackson And The Olympians: The Lightning Thief (2005) By Rick Riordan viewed by Existentialism Perspective.

#### **E. Benefit of the study**

The result of this study is expected to give some practical and theoretical significance:

1. Theoretically: The researcher expects that this study could be a reference for the readers to know about characteristics of existentialism Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief Novel
2. Practically:
  - a) For Readers  
This research is expected to provide some information on knowledge about existentialism
  - b) For College Student  
The researcher expects this study can be a reference for next researchers who are going to conduct a research about existentialism