

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Fiction (from the Latin *fictio*, “a shaping, a counterfeiting”) is a name for stories not entirely factual, but at least partially shaped, made up, imagined (Kennedy and Gioia 66). While, according to Abrams says that fiction itself is “any literary narrative, whether in prose or verse, which is invented instead of being an account of events that in fact happened” (94). He simplified fiction as a synonymously with novel. Abrams also said that the term “novel” is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose (190). In this research, the writer choses novel as an object because by reading novel or other literary works can improve the reader’s interpretation. One commonly held idea about reading literary a literary work is that its meaning lies buried somewhere within it, waiting to be unearthed. This reasoning suggests that a clever reader has only to discover the author’s intent to find out what a story or poem means (Kirszner and Mandell 7). Therefore, the function of reading literary works can hone the reader’s knowledge what the story talk about.

Furthermore, in the novel, there are some genres which classified into some categories. Genre of literature itself is going to develop and follow up its periods. It means that literature always develop either from the works or the theories. Then, the writer chooses young adult fiction as the object of novel in this research. Young adult

fiction or young adult literature is fiction written, published, or marketed to adolescents and young adults (wikipedia). Most teens choose novels that publishing companies market as young adult literature, as well as novels that are marketed for the adult audience. In recently years the young adult genre has evolved, become more sophisticated, more inclusive, and has gained more widespread popularity.

Young adult literature offers some of the best in contemporary literature. It's almost impossible to read a book like John Green's *Looking* literature and those who write for the readers. Many are well over the usual 200 to 300 page length. This trend may be the result of the *Harry Potter* phenomenon, which has hooked readers of all ages. While young adult literature has traditionally been a smaller sales market compared with children's and adult books, publishers also recognize that more teens today frequent bookstores, and they are making a bigger effort to capture them. Young adult literature offers a window through which teens can examine their lives and the world in which they live. Unlike classical texts, young adult literature addresses modern day issues, peer pressure, family relationships, sexuality, bigotry and racism, and it connects teens with the pop culture world in which they live.

From young adult fiction were born the sub-genre. One of sub-genre in young adult fiction is dystopian. Young adult literature is like the body of dystopian fiction. According to oxford dictionary, the term dystopia is "an imagined place or state in which everything is unpleasant or bad, typically a totalitarian . . . ". Thus, dystopian fiction itself is often classified as science fiction which is the novel is usually set in a future time, with technology more advanced than today. It can be characterized by

authoritarian governments or social control of the population

(<http://www.jochenenglish.de/misc/dystopianfictionddat.html>). According to literary scholar, Gregory Claeys states the concept of dystopia arose in the 20th century in response to such world events as the First World War. As a counter to earlier fictional utopias (depictions of idealized societies that promise a glorious future), dystopian fiction instead satirizes utopian ideals or describes societies where negative social forces have supremacy.

Tapping into a long tradition in literature hallmarked by works such as Orwell's *1984* and Huxley's *Brave New World*, dystopian fiction seems to have found a home in the growing body of young adult literature. The rising popularity of dystopian fiction for teens has attracted even the attention of the *New Yorker* and the *New York Times* (Miller 2010). In the thesis of Julia Gerhard, she said that most dystopian novels depict the government as an absolute power: oppressive and domineering, controlling all spheres of life. The essential condition of this power is to be ubiquitous, to permeate every layer of society and regulate people, their actions and thoughts. Thus, in order to remain omnipresent and have total control over human lives, discipline is employed on all levels of society as the most crucial tool to establish supreme control.

Those situations are represented through the novel in this research. Because of the theme in dystopian novel, the writer takes the immense popularity of Suzanne Collins' novels in *The Hunger Games* trilogy. The novel has led to a resurgence in interest in dystopian fiction, particularly in the young adult genre. It was originally

published on September 14, 2008. The second novel is *Catching Fire* (2009) and the third is *Mocking jay* (2010). A film adaptation from the first novel, directed by Gary Ross and co-written and co-produced by Collins herself, was released in 2012.

Further, *The Hunger Games* is an annual televised event which is controlled by the Capitol as the despotic government. The Capitol keeps its citizens in line by separating them into twelve districts and reinforcing severe class separations. But their strongest tool to promote disunion and to discourage rebellion is the Hunger Games as the new laws to guarantee peace. Then, Katniss Everdeen as the main character in this novel lives with her mother and younger sister Prim in District 12, the poorest of the districts. Ever since her father's death, she has been the family provider that takes over whole thing to feed her family. Moreover, Katniss has various characteristic or traits which make her character grow or develop.

Therefore, the writer is going to take one of the intrinsic elements in this research. It is about character and characterization. According to Kennedy and Gioia, character is an imagined person (or thing) who inhabits a story (47). While, characterization is the process by which the writer reveals the personality of a character. So the author presents details that give the reader clues about a character's personality. The purpose of characterization is to make the character believable. In the novel, Katniss denotes her affectionate to Prim and her mother in some things. It is one of her characteristic in the novel and it can be seen through her thought, speech, reaction and others that will be explained more detail.

Besides that, by knowing Katniss' characteristics automatically know her actions as proof of her characteristics. She mostly shows her struggle along the novel. She has to strive against each other tributes in the games to survive until the end. Not only about that, but she also strive to face many obstacles, traps and unfair thing from the Gamemakers (the controller during the games). Thus, the writer will present some striving processes of Katniss that leads her to achieve her goals. On other hand, Katniss has reflected some characteristics that exist in Islamic teaching. They are such as loving and caring to others, brave to taking the risk of something and striving in attaining a goal.

Islam is a universal religion that accept various differences and loves peacefulness. The name of Islam itself has instituted by Al-Quran. According to Hockey, Islam is a way of life that covers all aspects of living. Its principles govern personal, social, political, and economic thought and action with no aspect neglected (86). It means that Allah as the Creator has already determined everything of human's need long away before the universe is created. Muhammad (may peace be upon Him) is the Prophet who received his first revelation from Allah through Jibril. The revelation continued for 23 years, and they are collectively known as Al-Quran. All of the Islamic teaching is covered in that magnificent book which becomes the guideline for human being. Not only as the guideline, but also Al-Quran becomes a progression that reflected in any parts of world (Shaikh 1).

In his journal, Rishi argues that Muslims believe that Al-Quran is the final world of Allah for the humanity since the message in the previous divine books

Gospel and Torah has been altered over time. Every surah in Al-Quran, specifically an *aayah* full of message and it relates in human's life. Human exactly has the goals that push them to reach all of it. One of the basic goal of human is to keep survive. Human will endeavor to fulfill anything they need. But, they cannot reach what they want by their selves, sometimes they also need help of other humans. Brady said that, ". . . the human being are possible within individualism but so are the opposites that human beings are social creatures, always on the look out for what they can do to help others (78). Then, people who will holder when they are down just their family than others.

Family is concerned with only a limited and particular aspect of familial relationships-when loyalty is specifically invoked and spoken of, and, accordingly, what can be drawn from the use of loyalty in this institution in explicating the emotion (Connor 58). They are like angels that Allah sent to complete human's life. The truly family will help each others, so human has to give the best in order they do not feel disappointed. They might be the greatest motivation behind their success and also the biggest spirit when they felt down. But, human has to measure their ability in all parts of reach something, because everybody has different abilities. Ability is like transportation which directs human towards their purpose; better condition.

He has a succession; before him and behind him, protecting him by God's command. God does not change the condition of a people until they change what is within themselves. And if God wills any hardship for a people, there is no turning back; and apart from Him they have no protector (Al-Quran, Ar-Ra'du; 11).

The *aayah* above has thought human about a willingness from their selves to change to be better. A willingness comes from positive things. The important one is human must have positive thinking to Allah. They have to believe that Allah never examine someone beyond his capacity. Allah will always stay with people that has positive thinking with Him. So, that is why people must have a mindset that nothing is impossible for them if they have a willingness. But, willingness without striving will be nothing. Allah decrees “Say: Allah will see your works and so will His Messenger and the believers; then you shall be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the visible, and He will inform you of what you were doing” (At-Taubah; 105).

The surah above thought human to strive and find anything that is gifted by Allah on this earth. It also refers to human that they have to do their best with their maximal effort because it will be calculated by Allah. Avoid some negative things such as lazy, do nothing, and just waiting for miracle without any effort. Allah has created the earth and everything of the content is for human. But, they have to try and strive to get many advantages from the earth. Prophet Muhammad (may peace be upon Him) also suggests human to strive. He asserts that the best food is from human’s hard work itself. The Prophet said, “Nobody has ever eaten a better meal than that which one has earned by working with one's own hands. The Prophet of Allah, David used to eat from the earnings of his manual labor” (HR. Bukhari, verse 2027).

Another *aayah* states, “O human, you are working hard towards your Lord and you will meet Him” (Al-Quran, Al-Insyiqoq 06). Therefore, human has to strive

in order to fulfill their needs towards get themselves closer to Allah Swt. It is reflected by Prophet Muhammad, *Peace be upon Him*, who had been working hard as a merchant and also herdsmen. Not only as a worker for household expenses, but also he shows his strive in all parts.

Striving is one of important thing to get the goal in this life. According to oxford dictionary, strive is make great efforts to achieve or obtain something. When human has given the maximum effort, they will get the best result. Although, the result is not always appropriate with they want, sometimes. But, they have to believe that Allah accepted a little bit of strives. “Then whosoever has done good of an weight of an atom shall see it. And whosoever has done evil of a weight of an atom shall see it”, said Allah in surah Al-Zilzalah: 7 and 8. From the surah, human can learn that Allah never forget a little bit of kindness and badness. It is like a quote “when there is a will, there is a way”. It means when someone has willingness to attain something, Allah will show a way to get it. But, Allah may be not show the way when she or he does not want to strive. Therefore, all of the illustration above related in the daily life. It happens in human’s life that forms positive characteristics in their selves. Not only in the human’s life, but also those characteristics can be seen in the fiction works like *The Hunger Games* novel.

Moreover, choosing *The Hunger Games* novel as the object is because some reasons. First, the focus of this research has connection with theme in young adult fiction. Primarily, the focus is centered on a young lead character and the reader experiences like emotions, situations, and the like through this character and is able to

see how these problems or situations are resolved. Second, Katniss's character in this novel is so contrast than others. She shows up her affectionate to her family that become motivates her to striving in order be alive. She not only think about herself, her happiness but also think the others. Wheres, in the second novel just focus on her resistance to the totalitarian leaders President Snow and President Coin. Then, in the third novel is more open out the symbol of Mocking jay itself.

1.2 Statement of The Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the writer is interested to formulate the problems as follows:

1. How is Katniss Everdeen's character and characterization described in the novel?
2. How is the striving processes of Katniss Everdeen to reach her goals?

1.3 Objective of The Study

Dealing with the statement of the problem above, this research has two objectives that are formulated as follows:

1. To describe character and characterization of Katniss Everdeen in the novel.
2. To find out the striving processes of Katniss Everdeen to reach her goals.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

In order to prevent non-relevant problems, the study will be limited to the first novel *The Hunger Games*. The research focuses on the main character of Katniss Everdeen. The scope of the research is upon the character and characterization

1.6.1 Data Source

The primary data source of this research used the novel itself *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins which is the first novel from the others trilogy. The secondary source is from Alfred Adler's individual psychology theory. It uses to answer the second statement problem.

1.6.2 Data Collection

The research follows the following steps of data collection. First, the writer uses close reading to get well understanding of the whole story in the novel itself. Then, selecting and collecting the data in form of narration and conversation from the novel related to the problem. After that, classification the data dealing with the statement problems. The last, the writer categorizes the data into source of character and characteristics. The writer also categorizes the data into source of individual psychology.

1.6.3 Data Analysis

Analyzing the data source in two ways. First, describes the character and characteristics. Second, find out the striving process in reaching the goals. After that, analyzing the data classification in three steps. First, using new criticism theory then go ahead with characterization theory by M. J Murphy. Second, using individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler. The last, making conclusion based on the result of data analysis.