

# INTRODUCTION

Literary Work is a phenomenon of a picture of life representing from time to time. A life written in a literary work is the result of an author's view. Literary work becomes a media for the author to portray the condition of the community. It is the same as Sumarjo's statement that literature is an experience of human life, thought, feeling, ideas, and faith in a form of real picture by using language as a media (Sumarjo3).

Jon Krakauer is a journalist and a man from America. One of his works is *Into the Wild*. Jon Krakauer writes *Into the Wild* which tells about a young man is named Christopher Johnson McCandless who has been died of poison in Alaska. Originally, McCandless's life is written by Jon Krakauer through an *outside*

magazine the edition of January 1993 along 9000 words. Jon Krakauer is interested to retrace McCandless's life, then creates a book, and publishes it in 1996. McCandless is young man who chooses to live freely and leaves his family by living in nature. It tells about his experience when his father was very disappointed that he could not be his father's hope, but Jon Krakauer chooses to be a writer and climber. He had an ambition like McCandless as well as a love for nature and the outdoors. He too spent some time in the wilderness alone and climbed mountains. Krakauer is quoted as saying about his own adventures that I got away with it. Chris didn't. That's the only difference.

“In trying to understand McCandless, I inevitably came to reflect on...the grip wilderness has on the American imagination, the allure high-risk activities hold for young men of a certain mind, [and] the complicated, highly charged bond that exists between fathers and sons.”  
(<http://www.jonkrakauer.com>)

*Into the wild* will be a source of this research which concern on the character of Christopher Johnson McCandless. An educated young man who has achievement of the study. He does just not have the good ability in his study but also he has a good behavior, humble, idealistic, and he can think wisely. After his graduation from Emory University, McCandless who is in his young age, 22 years old, decides to leave his family and begins a life with his own way that is having an adventure in a free nature. With his new way of life, he left leaves about his wealthy sincerely.

McCandless bravery is fueled by family circumstances which full of falsehood, and also human life is too relying on material. In his new journey of life Chris met with many new friends and gets many worth experiences. He does

Sartre said “Existence precedes essence” (24). It explain that man first of all exists, encounters himself, surges up in the world and defines himself afterwards. So man is nothing else but that which he makes of himself. That is the mayor concept of existentialism.

Based on the explanation above, the research would analyse a novel *Into The Wild* by Jon Krakauer, which will focus on a character Christopher Johnson McCandless, a young man who chooses to live freely. The analysis in this novel will apply theory of existentialism as a main theory and a new criticism as a supporting theory which will explain character and characterization of Christopher Johnson McCandless.

Based on the background of the study above, the problems of research will be formulated in two following questions:

1. How is Christopher Johnson McCandless described in novel *Into the Wild*?

2. How is Christopher JohnsonMcCandless show his existence described in novel *Into the Wild*?

### 1.3 Objectives of the Study

In the connection with the problems of statement above, the research aim to find out:

1. To description of Christopher Johnson McCandless's character in novel *Into the Wild*.
2. To know how he show his existence in novel *Into the Wild*.

## 1.4 Scope and Limitation

To get a focused discussion, the study will be limited to the novel written by Jon Krakauer entitled *Into the Wild*. The study focuses on the main character in the novel. To answer problem of statement above, McCandless character becomes the most important point to analyze. Therefore, the scope of this study is focusing on the novel in which McCandless choose to freedom. The existence of McCandless becomes the scope of this study.

## 1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give valuable contribution theoretically and practically. Theoretically, it hopes that this study can be helpful for readers in order to understand the content of the novel *Into the Wild*, and how the existentialism theory is applies in this research. McCandless's freedom can also

Practically, it hopes that this study can be used as reference, especially for students of English Literature in Islamic State University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya who analyze this novel or other novel by using existentialism theory. For literary scholars or other people who are mostly interest in literature, this research becomes a comparison for other researchers, although this can be debatable to be more perfect by using another existentialism theory with the difference experts. Since this study concern to someone who tries to escape from the pressures of life and choose to live freely, it is also hoped that this research will be helpful for common people to understand their existence in the world by being a unique person, brave to think differently and having freedom to decide choices through the life experience and Jean-Paul Sartre's life philosophy.

In conducting this research, there are some methods which are used. Those are research design, research data, data collecting and data analysis.

To answer the first and second statement of the problem above, the research uses library research by using some books and other references like articles, journals, and websites relate to the subject that will be analyzed. This study uses descriptive qualitative research methods which explaining the result of

## 2. Source of Data

### 3. Method of Collecting Data

- Preparing novel entitled *Into the Wild* as the main data
- Collecting the data from the novel by reading comprehensively and repeatedly to get a valid data
- Selecting the reference that is related to novel that can support the search data

[illegible]

## 1.7 Definition of Key Term

- Freedom : It is thus not limited to a specific “faculty” of the will; rather, it is a general power of choice and self-determination, evident in a range of behaviors and actions that lends existence its human character (Michelman 183).

Self-Reliance : Intelligent, imaginative independence, freedom  
whereby one has the courage,enthusiasm to think, to

