

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Human have different kind of experiences, including perception, imagination, thought, emotion, want, wish, and action. Thus, the realm of phenomenology is a variety of experiences. The experience does not only cover a relatively passive experience like in vision or hearing, but also in active experience such as running, hammering nails, or kicking the ball (Lorens 132). Those cases are much related to phenomenology theory.

Phenomenology is a psychological and philosophical practice that has become a central influence in European philosophy this century (Owen 1). Phenomenology theory has been developed into many kinds of literature such as novel, poem, drama, and prose. Here, the study focuses on one of literary works; it is a play entitled *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child*. This play is written by J.K. Rowling.

Joanne “Jo” Rowling, (known as J.K. Rowling), is a British novelist, screenwriter, and film producer best known as the author of the *Harry Potter* fantasy series. She was born in Yate, 31 July 1965, Gloucestershire, England. Rowling was working as a researcher and bilingual secretary for Amnesty International when she conceived the idea for the *Harry Potter* series while on delayed train from Manchester to London in 1990 (Smith 3).

Harry Potter series have become the best-selling book series in history and been the basis for a series of film over which Rowling has overall approval on the scripts and maintains creative control by serving as a producer on the final installment (Smith 20). This study uses *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child* play to be the object of this study. The book was released on July 2016 but the play was performed on December 2016. This play becomes the most popular and best-selling book in two days after it has been released. In *Cursed Child*, Rowling creates a new main character that is quite phenomenal, he is the son of the main character in the earlier story (Harry Potter), and his name is Albus. Unlike the stories that Rowling has described in the earlier stories which is the main character is so smart, strong, and wise, in this story the main character is described very inversely from the previous books.

Cursed Child tells the story of Harry Potter's son. Albus Severus Potter is the main character in this story, his friend is Scorpius Malfoy. It is friendship of two children from fathers who once has uneasy relationship. Both of them have to bear the burden of his father's reputation; Scorpius bears unfavorable image that sticks in the Malfoy family name, and Albus, besides his father's name, Harry Potter. This is the story of nineteen years after the events of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows and follows Harry Potter, now a Ministry of Magic employee, and his younger son Albus Severus Potter with many events.

The adventure begins from the first year at Hogwarts School. When the Sorting Hat shouts Slytherin, of course it makes Albus immediately feels excluded, since almost all of his extended family come from the red dorm or Gryffindor. Albus suffers at Hogwarts because of his skills are not good as his father, he is even dubbed as geeky. Friend he has is only Scorpius. Rose is Albus' cousin, after knowing that Albus gets along with Scorpius, their friendship becomes distantly apart because she thinks that Albus has chosen the wrong friends.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Magic is being bothered by the presence of Time-Turner; people in Hogwarts convince that the Time-Turner has been destroyed in the Second Wizarding War. Harry, Ron, and Hermione have already occupied the high position in the Ministry of Magic that time. One day, Harry gets a visit from someone he never thinks about, he is Cedric's father, and Albus hears their conversation about Time-Turner.

In addition, to consider the job, Harry also gives attention to his children. Hearing Albus does not feel at home at Hogwarts, Harry tries many times to persuade and motivate Albus, but basically the relationship between Harry and Albus is bad because Albus also feels disappointed with himself, and in the day before Albus go back to Hogwarts for undergoing its 4th year, the two of them fight, and Harry accidentally shouts the sentences that sometimes he wishes that Albus is not his son, and so do Albus shouts that to his father. Still hurt by his father's words, on the

Hogwarts Express, Albus determines to get Time-Turner, to prove that his father is not a heroic person, and rescues someone in the past.

There are some cases in *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child* which much related to phenomenology theory. The idea of phenomenology in J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter and The Cursed Child* reflect through the main character, Albus himself experiences some events in his school, Hogwarts. He meets with new friend and experiences some moments there. Meanwhile, the experiences are very influential to his character. Such as while he is recruited to Slytherin, become friends with Scorpius, and he is very ashamed with himself because people are expecting that he is the good boy like his father.

As a boy, Albus is affected by his environment and also the opposite (he is affecting the environment) through how he is experiencing the world. According to Ponty (qtd in Ilham), something is there because something is recognized. Thus an event or object exists in a reciprocal process that is dialogical relationship in which an object or objects affect events or other events (25). It means that phenomenology acknowledges that there is external reality as something that really exists, but it can only be realized through awareness that we all have.

Considering of explanation above, this study will reveal the influence of Albus experience to his character. Besides, it will involve new criticism theory since there are some characteristics of Albus which can be analyzed from the text. New

