

CHAPTER 3

JASON BOURNE'S CONSPIRACY AND ITS EFFECT ON HIS LIFE

In this chapter I will analyze the depiction of conspiracy as seen through *The Bourne Identity*. I hope to gain profound knowledge about that way clearly by firstly examining the way of main character participate in conspiracy. After having fundamental background of main character's way, then through studying his way more intensively is intended to reveal the effect to the main character's life as the part of the conspiracy. Inside this analysis process, I use Conspiracy and Conflict theory to support the analysis in order to expose the way of main character participate in conspiracy and to reveal the effect to the main character's life as the part of the conspiracy, then corroborate it with some Islamic perspectives as the reflection of the real life.

3.1 Conspiracy Theory in the Participation of Jason Bourne

The story of *The Bourne Identity* is delivered using third-person point of view. This story mainly told about the escaped of Jason Bourne and Marie St. Jacques from shadowy group that was sent by the most famous criminal called Carlos the Jackal and the most dangerous covert group called Treadstone Seventy-One. Both of them are trying to catch or even to kill Jason Bourne for what he has done in his past.

conspiracy itself mainly consists of covert activity. Every step that the conspirators took must be covered in order to maintain their complex strategy ran as good as their calculation. The conspirator obviously used secrecy as their main rule because by running the strategy out of public attentions, it makes the strategy work without get any barrier because no one knows the existence of the plan.

When Jason Bourne became the deadly agent that exists in Medusa, he started to take the attention of those who are controlling Medusa behind the scene. Those who have authority to create powerful secret group to aim their most valuable target by creating a life weapon are the men who give their attention to Jason Bourne as the lethal weapon of Medusa.

“Four of us, yes, and the man named Webb. Five men were killed. It was during that terrible journey back that I thought I understood why the rumors might be true--that he was the highest-paid recruit in Medusa. (Ludlum 235)”

During his time in Medusa, he usually called Delta. After he killed a double agent named Jason Bourne in Tam Quan on March 25, 1968, he changes his name into Jason Bourne. Because they are the member of covert group, almost all of the Medusa members did not give their real names because the false identities were guaranteed them. The way secret agent's life was shadowy and undercover. They must trust anyone carefully because no one lives in shadowy and undercover can accept everything without know the reason can be trusted or not (Tenet xvi). Jason Bourne is concealing his identity and put it on secret which means he has familiarity with the life of secret agent. This way is indicated that Jason Bourne was the man who was trained to join in secret group and participate in any secret

out from his shelter. Jason Bourne learned anything about Carlos as much as possible and he focused all of his attention only on Carlos. All of Jason Bourne's efforts were to learn anything about his target which made him become an assassin who has characteristic as a professional killer. It showed from the way he could speak in any different languages and appeared with a lot of different appearances. He did all of that ways in order to deceive his target and attract Carlos to come in front of him.

“Yes. He spent months learning everything there was to learn about Carlos, studying every file we had, every known and suspected assassination with which Carlos was involved. He pored over Carlos' tactics, his methods of operation, everything. Much of that material has never seen the light of day, and probably never will. It's explosive--governments and international combines would be at each others' throats. There was literally nothing Bourne did not know--that could be known— about Carlos. And then.... (Ludlum 280)”

From the quotation above, it can be seen that when Jason Bourne agreed to accept the secret duty, at the same time he started to be part of specific conspiracies. Everything he did was to focus on his target and tried to become a mirror of his target. Jason Bourne realized that he must be a professional assassin to get Carlos attentions because he was also the most famous assassin in Europe. The way he learned everything about Carlos also indicated that he tried to be an assassin that every steps he took was not going to reveal his real identity and become a barrier for him, because he knew that Carlos was an assassin that totally clever and slick who can easily recognized his trap if he was not carefully. From that explanation, I argued that successful conspiracies requires intelligence, careful planning, and organization, and those in the majority were often unwilling to admit that members of other groups could possess such traits (Gordon 3).

Jason Bourne with his effort to become a perfect decoy in all ways, he presented the implementation of conspiracy to erode Carlos' stature. He used the combination between secrecy and openness to conceal his real purposes. By concealing it, Jason Bourne realized that in order to plant a conspiracy for his specific target, he must be invisible person. He believed that every single strategy that required stealth during the implantation was the better way than acting without using stealth. The way Jason Bourne concealed his activities to avoid barriers if the enemy knew his present was implied in Intentionally Invisibility. It is a desire to prevent others from knowing the existence of itself, its actions, its artifacts, or its plans (Barkun, "Chasing Phantoms" 3).

Furthermore Jason Bourne started his undercover mission by accepting several lists of target that became his steps to close on Carlos. He increased underworld attentions to himself as the most professional assassin with a lot of targets and he assassinated them all in short time. Several targets with a tight security around them still could not stop Jason Bourne to finish his job. He took several orders from those who could pay him and the target that can increase his reputation. His reputation spreads around the world, from the way he assassinated some targets such as a banker in Madrid and Sheikh Mustafa Kalig in Oman. Over thirty-eight killings could be directly attributed to Jason Bourne and his list of target was accomplishment. He is a professional assassin with a lot of targets and everyone with amount of money could use his service to eliminate their target.

"It is. He's a professional assassin--that is, a trained expert in wide-ranging methods of taking life. That expertise is for sale, neither politics nor personal motivation any concern to him whatsoever. He's

indicated that conspiracy could be used in any aspects of life and also as a tool to drive an attention to keep away from the truth. From the Cain's activity which deceived everyone attention and from Barkun's explanation stated above, the conspiracy belief it could be planted for all people in order to maintain the purposes to be accepted by those who were the target.

If Cain used his complex strategy to deceive the deadly assassin with a lot of experiences, everyone who had a chance to do the same also needed a complex strategy because conspiracy was able for everyone. According to Gordon which had similar argument with Barkun, he says that conspiracy was able in everywhere and can be planted to everyone. In our daily life, conspiracy was able to disguise public attention in order to lead them for the purposes that the conspirator wants especially through entertainment media such as political thrillers, murder mysteries, science fiction, and other genres and for audiences of all age (5).

3.1.4 Jason Bourne Planted the Specific Conspiracy

The role of conspiracy that showed from Cain's strategy always leads the target to believe in the reality that the substantive was deceitful. Cain showed the desire to maintain the target perceptions toward his strategy and he made Carlos really think that his position was in danger. Carlos with all powers he had in Europe, he instructed all his personnel to hunt and catch Cain. He ordered his men to capture Cain alive.

“I want him,” whispered the silhouette. “He was never real, and that's his crime against me. Tell the old men that if any find him, get word

excepted the creator itself called The Monk as known as David Abbot. Only him who knew the entire conspiracies strategy that existed in Europe. There are several important people in Treadstone 71 did not know who was Jason Bourne as known as Cain exactly. Clandestine organizations sometimes kept secrets from their own members by creating an internal hierarchy associating rank with levels of knowledge (Barkun, "Chasing Phantom"4).

David Abbot presented the event conspiracy that only restricted members in the Treadstone 71 had permitted to know the whole strategy. He knew that his strategy could be uncontrolled during the operation if he could not maintain the recruitment of his members carefully. Secret societies requires elaborate modes of recruitment in order to filter out spies, informants, and agents' provocateur, and to make sure that those admitted have the requisite degree of commitment (Barkun, "Chasing Phantom" 4). Jason Bourne could maintain almost all of his undercover parts in three years because not more than two persons in American agency recognized him. Almost all people in American secret agency thought that Jason Bourne or Cain was the real assassin that become the next deadly assassin in Europe.

3.2.1 Conflict Behavior In Bourne's Effect In The Conspiracy

Not all conspiracies can be achieved the target as good as the concept. There are some conspiracies that unsuccessful during the process and the result actually back to the conspirators. Because the combination between secrecy and openness is very important in conspiracy, to run those combination as the good as

fought two enemies simultaneously in elevator and then he defeated both of them. He faced his own conflict that he created to trap his target. Here, Bartos said in his book about conflict, it is defined as a situation in which actors use conflict behavior against each other to attain incompatible goals and/or to express their hostility (13). It means that Carlos was expressing his hostility to Jason Bourne because he used to threaten Carlos in Europe. Carlos sent his best army to catch Jason Bourne alive because he wanted to kill Jason Bourne by his self. The first effect of conspiracy in Jason Bourne's life was facing a lot of Carlos' armies that try to bring him to Carlos.

3.2.2 Symbolic and Physical Injury In Bourne's Suffering as the Most Wanted Person

After Jason Bourne realized that there were a lot of assassins was sent by a powerful person to catch him. He ran to avoid the assassins and tried to find an alternative way in order to disappear from the assassin attention. When Jason Bourne was trapped in a room that there was a professor presents his topic and Jason Bourne used the time of professor presentation to run from the assassins. He used the time of the changing topic, when the topic's slide was changing, the room became dark. Jason Bourne used that time to escape from the assassins. However, he got barriers that made him cannot escape easily from the rooms. He knew that his first alternative way was failed and then he chose an extreme alternative way. There was no way out for Jason Bourne without took hostage

from that room as a guarantee to be not shot by the assassin. Jason Bourne kidnapped a woman called Marie St. Jacques; she was a Doctor in economics.

“Be quiet. Just do as I say and you’ll be fine. I have to get out of this hotel and you’re going to help me. Once I’m out, I’ll let you go. But not until then. Come on. We’re going in there (Ludlum 64).”

From the statement stated above, it is clearly that Jason Bourne kidnapped a woman and used her as a hostage for him to escape from the hotel. He used his last alternative way to escape and he forced the woman to always follow his instruction even it is very dangerous. Jason Bourne did not have any choice except kidnapped the woman. Because an alternative way was one of the actions that the decision maker can choose from an outcome comprises all the consequences of that action (Bartos and Wehr 15). At the same time he made other person also felt the suffering of his conflict.

During the escape of Jason Bourne, when Marie St. Jacques tried to escape from Jason and she met with the Zurich Police, she did not realized that her life was in danger because the Zurich Police actually was Carlos’ armies who would kill her after she gave information about Jason. However, Jason Bourne saved his hostage from Carlos’ armies and then they became friends. Jason Bourne and Marie St. Jacques lived together and in that friendship. Marie tried to help Jason to remember his memory again. After they escaped from the assassin that was sent by Carlos, Jason Bourne read the France newspaper which the main report was the assassination of Howard Leland the France Ambassador on August, 26. Howard Leland had been killed by a single shot from a high-powered rifle fired from a waterfront window. Jason Bourne tried to remember the reason why he was in the

place of Howard Leland before the ambassador death. Because he remembered that on August, 26, he was saved by a fisherman in Mediterranean Sea. Although he remembered that he probably as a contract killer, but he knew that he was not killing Howard Leland.

“It wasn’t six months ago, and because it wasn’t, I couldn’t have killed him.” He told her everything, save for the few brief moments when he thought he would never see her again (Ludlum 149).”

From the quotation stated above, the assassins that might be able to kill Howard Leland only Jason Bourne or Carlos, both of them were the assassins that already spread their reputation in Europe. However, Jason Bourne obviously remembered that on August, 26, he was saved by fisherman in Mediterranean Sea and in his back there were two bullets. It was impossible for him to be in different places simultaneously. Here, Jason Bourne faced the next effect of conspiracy for his life. He realized that the information on newspaper was calumny and it also would give him a new conflict during his escape from Carlos’ armies. Because the conflict that Jason Bourne faced not only in physical terms but also in nonphysical term.

Like what Bartos and Wehr said about Symbolic injury, on the other hand, weakens the opponent by inducing fear, shame, or guilt through actions such as jeering or using derogatory names (23). Carlos used it to Jason Bourne in order to do what he did not wish to do. There was a way to reduce the opponent’s power by giving or spreading a threat of violence, because to reduce the opponent’s power was not only by a physical threat.

The effect of conspiracy to Jason Bourne's life was not only stop in the death of Howard Leland. Marie St. Jacques who chose to help Jason told him that she had a friend in Canada that was able to help Jason. Marie said that her friend named Peter could help them. After that, Marie called Peter and she asked a help to Peter. They agreed to have a call in afternoon, but when Marie called Peter in afternoon, Marie was shocked because her best friend was killed. Bourne and Marie realized that Peter was killed because he tried to help Marie.

“They killed him. They killed him! My God, what did I do? Peter! (Ludlum 177).”

The conflict that Jason Bourne had with Carlos actually was more complicated than he expected. Unexpected accident in the death of Peter was the evidence that Carlos not only wanted to kill Jason Bourne as known as Cain, but also he would kill everybody who helped Jason Bourne. Carlos realized that everyone who tried to help Jason became one of his targets too, because those who helped Jason Bourne were the Jason Bourne's properties or tools that able to use as a threat for Carlos.

Here Carlos used severe physical injury that showed by hurting or killing his opponent or destroying his property that might be able to become threat in future for him (Bartos and Wehr 23). Jason Bourne at the same time realized that he could not make other people felt in danger because of his present. His life was totally in danger. He got the result from the conspiracy that he tried to plant for Carlos. He was able to make other people's life in danger.

3.2.3 Incompatible Goal In Bourne's Chief Betrayal

During the escape of Jason Bourne, there was a person who knew everything about him. The Monk was the person who knew everything about Jason Bourne. He was also the person that created a decoy called Cain. When people in Treadstone 71 confused which one was the most dangerous and needed to be hunted between Cain and Carlos as the most deadly assassins in Europe, David Abbot as know as The Monk played his role. During the discussion, The Monk always tried to convince others to think that Cain was more dangerous than Carlos and led everyone attention only to Cain.

The Monk who was the creator of mythical assassin called Cain, the person who can help Cain and tell everything to Cain about the conspiracy strategy, but The Monk did contradictory when Jason Bourne could not finish his task. The Monk realized that when there was no further information about Carlos from Jason Bourne. It indicated that Jason Bourne failed to finish his mission and it would become a problem. The Monk believed that Jason was death and disappeared from the world, but everything was changed when The Monk heard that Jason was still alive and he sent amount of money from his bank account that actually belonged to Medusa.

“Let's say it was rather unusual for you not to say anything. I mean, who at that table knew more about Medusa than you? But you didn't say a word, and that started me thinking. So I objected strenuously to the attention being paid this assassin, Cain. You couldn't resist, David. You had to offer a very plausible reason to continue the search for Cain. You threw Carlos into the hunt (Ludlum 287).”

From the quotation stated above, it seemed that the failure of Jason Bourne became a problem for David Abbot. He felt that he would pay everything for the

Jason Bourne's mistake. According to Bartos and Wehr, they said that if there were two different purposes at the same place and it was logically impossible for both purposes to be reached simultaneously if each party had their own desire to get a better result than other (14). From that statement, David Abbot looked like a person who did not want to get a problem from the Jason Bourne's failure. He tried to seek a safety place for his own by avoiding Jason Bourne as the best agent.

The life of Jason Bourne became more complicated than he expected because there were a lot of bad things happen surround him. During his escape from the assassin that was sent by Carlos, at the same time secret people in America were trying to catch him down. Because the conspiracy strategy that was planned by David Abbot as known as The Monk was totally failed, no one knows why the strategy was failed, they did not know about Jason Bourne's amnesia. What they know about Jason Bourne was he became a dangerous person. During the amnesia Jason Bourne was believed to be a dangerous person because he broke so many protocols and it made everyone in Treadstone 71 wanted to catch him. Then, they knew that Gordon Webb was the Jason Bourne's brother who worked for American Government in Vietnam. They tried to him for the information about Jason Bourne.

“He not only broke all the rules we each set down for ourselves--no matter what--but he sunk into the pits. He reeks; he is Cain. We've used the name Delta so much--not even Bourne, but Delta— that I think we've forgotten. Gordon Webb was his brother. Find him. Kill him (Ludlum 309).”

From the quotation stated above, the Americans were trying to capture Jason Bourne through his brother Gordon Webb. The Americans did not realize that Jason Bourne got amnesia and they thought that he was a real threat for them, because he was not only on the trail of Carlos but they believed that Jason also on the trail of them. Because of that, the Americans tried to stop Jason Bourne who became uncontrolled. The conflict between Jason Bourne and the Americans were the conflict that according to Bartos and Wehr, it was the behavior that helped the party to achieve its goal that was incompatible with that of the opponent or that expresses its hostility toward him or her (22).

Jason Bourne at the same time, he needed to escape from two different powerful sides that tried to kill him. His life was in danger and he cannot walk to everywhere without worried about the assassins that want to kill him.

3.2.4 Decision Making Process and Noncoercive Conflict Action In The Bourne's Awareness of His Negative Past

After all of the conflict Jason Bourne was faced, he realized that he cannot run all over the world with the most important person in his self. He knew that there are two sides between Carlos and American who tried to punish him because of his negative past. He felt worry about the risk that he got every day after he cannot remember his past. He tried to remember the reasons that made Carlos and American want to kill him; he also tried to convince Marie St. Jacques that their life is full of risk and he asked Marie to leave him in order to save her life.

“I’m a man they call Cain. I’m wanted by governments--by the police--from Asia to Europe. Men in Washington want to kill me because of what they think I know about this Medusa, an assassin named Carlos wants me shot in the throat because of what I’ve done to him. Think about it for a moment. How long do you think I can keep running before someone in one of those armies out there finds me, traps me, kills me? Is that the way you want your life to end? (Ludlum 313)”

It seemed that Jason Bourne was presenting an argument that lead Marie’s attention to the risk of being an assassin target. He showed that there are no good choices for Marie to follow him.

It indicated that Jason Bourne played an important role in the theory of rational decision making, because he was showed to the Marie St. Jacques about the risk to become his girlfriend and he used instrumental rationally as one of the rational decision types to prevent Marie for not going any further with him. Jason Bourne’s decision-making process was “rational,” because he reached his decision through lengthy deliberation during which he considered a number of possible actions, considered the likely consequences of each action, evaluated each set of consequences, and chose the action with the most desirable consequences (Bartos and Wehr 20).

Moreover, the choice to be a fugitive was seen in the eyes of Marie St. Jacques. She tried to convince Jason Bourne that she will never leave him alone even there are a lot of assassin looked for their death. Marie St. Jacques was disappointed with the way of Jason Bourne looked the problems and took conclusion that she was not ready to face the problems. He thought that Marie St. Jacques was too weak to face it. Because of that Jason Bourne forced Marie to leave him and let him carry the problems alone. However, Marie St. Jacques

the activities that Jason Bourne cannot recall. He did not recall that he was the man who played the highest event conspiracy to Carlos and he also did not realize that his chief was betrayed him. Jason Bourne got the result which came from the negative activities and they were given by those who were not trustworthy.

Here Allah always reminds and forbids human being not to engage any negative activities because it never gives good results. Because when Allah forbids something, there must be negative effects in conducting it. When men are not following Qur'an, they will encounter negative effects in life, like Qur'an says in Surah Al-Jathiyah "He hears the signs of Allah rehearsed to him, yet is obstinate and lofty, as if he had not heard them: then announce to him a Grievous Penalty! 45;8" (Qur'an). The consequences of disobeying Allah's command are always badness and disadvantage for those who are acting contradictory to Qur'an like what Jason Bourne faced during his escape from the assassins.