

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the introduction of the research which is divided into five sub chapter. They are background of research, statement of problem, purpose of research, significant of research and organization of writing.

1.1 Background of Research

A hero is someone who has a power to help people. He or she comes from the common life and change into supernatural wonder. The supernatural wonder is the world that they have never expected but somehow the adventure leads them in facing a lot of challenges they must face. The victory is being a goal in their adventure. The better changes they have during the adventure gave them a power that needed in winning the final battle. The secret power they had is called boon, the boon will be used by them as great power in facing enemy. In other word, the hero is someone who being a chosen one to have an adventure and power to help the other (Campbell, 1949).

The concept of hero which could be presented in someone's character shows that the heroism must be related to the character. The character which plays as hero commonly following the basic pattern called monomyth. The monomyth pattern explains the hero begins in the ordinary world, and receives a call to enter an unknown world of strange powers and events. The hero who accepts the call to enter this strange world must face tasks and trials, either alone or with assistance. In the most intense versions of the narrative, the hero must survive a severe challenge, often with help. If the hero survives, he may achieve a great gift. In other word, the hero is going to facing some changes of phases in his life whether he will like or not. Therefore, the character which has a relation with the pattern or probably exactly alike plays as a hero character (Campbell, 1949).

The lifetime of character is surely caused changes in his life such as environment, condition and characterization like appearance either mentally or physically. The way to find out the changes of character's life is shown by the plot of story. Plot is a timeline shows the phase by phase that leads the reader to understand the storyline well. The organization of phases that contains the changes of every elements of fiction especially plot. It seems like plot as a main element to decide how the narration brings the story in a way (Nugriyantoro, 2007).

The most related fiction element to plot is character. The character is one of literary elements that becomes a part how the story alive. The act, thought, feel of character and the image seen by other character are called characterization. Characterization is a good component in fiction, it roles as a way to understanding the role of character in depicting the detail about character. What character does, feel and think is become something like expression that the writer wants we know about his feeling too. Character is exists in every kinds of literary work especially in novel. The role of character could be different in one and other. Briefly, it helps a reader to understand and making sense of the behavior of characters through their description processes (Nugriyantoro, 2007).

The concept of hero that must through a lot of phases indicates that it is related to the plot and characterization. These phases are making the changes of character's life. It could be the act, thought, feel, appearance, environment and surely life. The change of life is found in two novels written by Christopher Paolini entitled *Eragon* published by Paolini LLC in United States in 2002 and *His Majesty's Dragon* written by Naomi Novik published by Del Rey in England in 2006 presents the characters of dragon rider. The dragon rider in two novels shows the concept of hero in the ways to proven that they also has been through the life changes. The dragon rider characters plays as a main character. Starting in the ordinary life they had to the struggle of life they should been through. The new life of character has been through is away from what they had before. Somehow, the change of characterization surely happens.

The research based on several topics which has a relation that shown competitive references supporting the research itself. The thesis by Tabackova (2008) presents the relation with the object of research, *Eragon*. The influence of medieval literature on the Contemporary Fantasy Novel: *Beowulf* and *Eragon* was discussed the important role of medieval literature in developing the fantasy novel in contemporary era like *Eragon*. The research shows the quality of *Eragon* as fantasy novel deserve to be an object of research. The difference thing with the research located in the object that being researched. If Tabackova's research pairs *Eragon* with *Beowulf* and this research pairs it with *His Majesty's Dragon* one. However, Tabackova's research has been given a contribution in case of researching two big works that famous in classic and contemporary era.

The other thesis from Texas State University by Reams (2015) presents the topic of characterization with the title of research is Characterization of Fiction. The topic discussed the complicated and complexity of characterization in fiction as the evident of fiction which has an ability to present the great art through the characterization of character. The topic also has a relation with the main topic in characterization which the writer tries to discuss. The characterization research like this one is very helpful and gave some an example way how to figure it out the character itself.

The last thesis written by guomundsdottir (2012) entitle *Dragon and "the other" in Modern Fantasy* was a research discussed the existence of Dragon in Modern fantasy increases the fantasy value of the modern fantasy work. The dragon itself proves the strength of cultural believed by people even in nowadays. The relation linked by the character of dragon that being a main character in these two novels *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*. In other words, the research is really helpful and gave some contribution in this research which has the same topic in discussing.

This research deserves to being a research as first, become a new research which will compare the two characters related to myth, folklore and culture in two fantasy novel *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*. The

second, *Eragon* has achieved an award in selected audio books for young adults in 2004 by American Library Association and the novel has come out for being movie with the same title that published in 2006. The third, *His Majesty's Dragon* has won in Locus Award for best first novel and Compton Crook Award for the best first English language novel of the year. However, this research will try to find out the comparison between the characteristics of dragon and dragon rider in *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*. The writer using the comparative literature as an approach to finding and discussing the similarities in the characteristics of the characters.

The both novels has the similarities in the case of heroes character which shown by the dragon rider. Hence, the condition of the characters is away from the same. There is a similarities in the storyline of heroism but in the field of the way of acting, the way of thinking, appearances and point of view, then made the differences are the interesting one to be studied. However, the dragon rider characters here are the complicated things to be classified based on their comparison.

The similarities of topic in two novels are showing that the writer conveys the feelings wanted to be shared with. Every single part of the change life they had was really good to indicates how they have grown so far. The way of discussing about comparison could be conducted by comparative literature approach. The study could be explained in brief that comparative literature is the comparison of one literature with another including the spheres of human expression. This study shows us that similarities could become a bridge between two different objects but has similarities in both of them. Based on the explanation above, that comparative literature is definitely talk every single part of literature and the thing that being compared could be in any kinds of form (Bassnett, 1933).

The form of how the characters deal with the problem is also influenced by their characterization. The characterization contained what have done by character in form of attitude, reaction, characteristics,

expression, act and everything which mirroring of the character itself. It means that characterization includes in topics of literary analysis and could be being compared with another one obviously. The similarities found will be as a line to relate each part especially the change of life.

In this study, researchers tried to discuss and find an invention that focuses on aspects of the change of life experienced by a hero. What we generally know is that a hero experiences a pattern in which his life changes drastically since he is destined to become a hero. It's just there are two novels that together present the figure of a dragon rider with the same pattern, but there are several aspects that distinguish the results of the life changes they experience from the pattern of heroism. Therefore, this research was made which wanted to find a discovery which is related to what differences possessed by this character that makes it different from one another. The main topic that will be the topic of comparative search is life change in the way of thought, life change in the way of action and the last is life change in problem solving response. The problem solving response put in different part of life changes because it has its own field that more intended to the psychological terms rather than characterization. So, the researcher thought that problem solving has the correlation in the change of life but more to psychological field specifically.

Finally, the change of life that includes so many aspects of the life of dragon rider characters makes the writer interested to analyze these similarities from *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*. The writer's hope is to understand how the heroes reach out the top of heroism concept and what kinds of changes they had to face, also how they solve it. At last, this research entitled "The Change of Life of Dragon Rider Characters in *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini and *His Majesty's Dragon* by Naomi Novik" is conducted.

1.2 Statement of Problem

The problem in this research placed in storyline of characters and how the dragon rider face the changes that impacts on personal figures shown either mentally or physically. The change of life in this case refers to all changes happened in the life of dragon rider. It could be in life commonly such as situation, place, environment, problem, personality and appearance. The writer wants to understand the comparison between the change of life that experienced by the dragon rider characters in *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*. It means that the characterization will be used as way to analyze. Moreover, the psychological aspects in the way of solving the problem between the dragon rider characters in two novels are going to specialize analyzed.

Briefly, to make this research could be specified, it focuses on three problems:

1. What changes in life are experienced by dragon rider characters in *Eragon*?
2. What changes in life are experienced by dragon rider characters in *His Majesty's Dragon*?
3. What similarities and differences between the changes of life of Dragon Rider Characters are in *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*?

1.3 Purpose of Research

This sub chapter will mentioned the purpose of the research based on the statement of problems above, the purposes of this research are:

1. To tell the change of life experienced by the dragon rider characters in *Eragon*.

2. To tell the change of life experienced by the dragon rider characters in *His Majesty's Dragon*.
3. To compare the changes of life of the dragon rider characters in *Eragon* and *His Majesty's Dragon*.

1.4 Significance of Research

Theoretically, the significance of this research is to find out the characteristics of dragon and dragon rider in *His Majesty's Dragon* and *Eragon*, then, those characteristics will be analyzed by the comparison analysis. The comparison analysis will be applying comparative literature theory and also describe it by qualitative writing method. The research tries to compare not only a character but also the culture involve.

Practically, it has significance for the readers to understand the similarities of the characters and then could adding the reference of comparative literature research in literature field. The science could not being a science without being proven. The method and theory could not being used without any practice used it or any research applied it. This sub chapter will be mentioned the significance of the research relates to the background, problems and purposes of the research, the significances of this research are:

1. To be reference for those who are interested in enriching the literary knowledge.
2. To enrich our knowledge about heroism.
3. To enrich our knowledge about problem solving.
4. To be reference for English Department in enriching the material of comparative literature analysis.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

This sub chapter presents the definition of key terms of this research. They are divided into six points as follows,

1. Hero is a person who comes from usual life. He/She suddenly fated to become a hero and facing adventures and obstacles until he/she saves the people. “The call to adventure is all about booting the Hero out of their comfort zone. In this stage, they are generally confronted with a problem or challenge they can't ignore.” (Campbell, 1949).
2. Characterization shows the expression, feeling, thinking, acting and appearance of the character. The characteristics of person could be identified by his characterization. “The characterization of character could be found by several aspects such as the narration which describes the image or reflection of character, surface details of dress or appearance, character’s action like what they do, character’s speech like what they say or how they say it, character’s consciousness like what they think or feel”. (DiYanni, 2001).
3. Novel is one of literary works that shows so many aspects of life. The reflection of life is really found in this literary work such as character, society, myth, culture and also language. “Novel is as a fiction that describes a world, contains life style that is idealized, imaginatively, former tough some of its intrinsic points like events, plot, setting, character and characterization and point of view.” (Nugriyantoro, 2007).
4. *Eragon* is the first book in *The Inheritance Cycle* by American fantasy writer Christopher Paolini. *Eragon* was the third-best-selling children's hardback book of 2003, and the second-best-selling paperback of 2005. It placed on the *New York Times Children's Books Best Seller list* for 121 weeks and was adapted as a feature film of the same name that was released on December 15, 2006. (Wikipedia).

5. *His Majesty's Dragon*, published in the UK as *Temeraire*, is the first novel in the *Temeraire* alternate history/fantasy series by American author Naomi Novik. It was first published in 2006. It won the 2007 Compton Crook Award for best novel in the Science Fiction/Fantasy genre during 2006 by a first-time author. (Wikipedia).
6. Dragon rider is a mythological character which imaged by a man who rides a dragon. “The tradition of dragon-slaying, despite being thousands of years old in story, is being supplanted in modern adaptations of the medieval fantasy by a different narrative, that of the dragon-rider.” (Sheridan, 2009).

