

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Sumardjo & Saini (1997: 3-4) state that literature is an expression of human personality in the form of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, spirit, beliefs in a form of concrete images that evoke charm with language tools. This is reinforced by Saryono (2009: 18) who states that literature also has the confidence to record all empirical-natural and non-empirical-supernatural experiences, in other words, literature is able to witness and comment on human life.

Forest Gump is a novel by Winston Groom's. Winston Groom's was a talented journalist and author. The novel was first published in 1986 by Doubleday Publishers. The novel has a total of 349 pages. Groom wrote Forrest Gump story in just six weeks. The novel was later filmed into a best-selling movie in 1994 and for circulation in America only. In addition, Winstoon later earned \$320 million from his novel writing work alone. Winston Groom did not expect that his novel could be successful when it was filmed. Some of the stories in Forrest Gump are excerpts from Groom's own experiences fighting in Vietnam. Winston Francis Groom Jr. was born on March 23, 1943 in Albama and died on September 16, 2020 in Fairhope at the age of 77.

Winston Groom also attended the University of Alabama, where he was a member of Delta Tau International Fraternity and joined the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps and was in Washington during turbulent times. He graduated in 1965. He served in the United States Army from 1965 to 1967, including serving in the Vietnam War (from 66-67). He also wrote many works of nonfiction, on a variety of

topics including the American Civil War and World War I. Groom's earliest ambition was to become a lawyer like his father. However, instead of becoming a literary editor in college, he chose to become a writer.

The novel raised in this study is *Forrest Gump* by Winston Groom, which tells the story of a man who was categorized as an idiot by the people around him since birth. His father died before he was born. Forrest, is an only child who lives alone with his mother. When he first entered school, Forrest was enrolled in a regular school but only until the first grade and the following year was enrolled in a special school (SLB). Forrest was 13 years old at the time, but his body quickly grew taller. Entering elementary school, Forrest met a girl named Jenny Curran who lived with her evil father. Since that meeting, they became close friends who were always together until Forrest fell in love with Jenny. One of Forrest's strengths was his fast running.

During high school when his friends bullied him, Jenny asked Forrest to run, he ran until he entered the American Football field. This made the coach of the University of Alabama team interested and immediately chose him to be part of his team. Successful with American Football and his studies, he was then selected to be part of the American Army and sent to fight in Vietnam. Then Forrest received news that his mother was ill and needed him. Forrest decided to return to Alabama to see his mother, but she had to leave him forever. Since his mother's departure, Forrest felt sad and Jenny met him unexpectedly.

At that moment Forrest asked Jenny to marry him, but Jenny refused. Not knowing what to do, Forrest decided to travel around America for 3 years. He became very famous and was on television and had a large following because he was considered an inspiration. Forrest realized that he was not going to find someone just

by running, so he went home to Alabama. When he got home, he received a letter from Jenny with his home address. He immediately rushed to meet Jenny and it turned out that Jenny had a child whom she named Forrest who was her biological son. Jenny also tells him that there is a virus in her body and the doctor can not do anything about it. Finally Jenny asked to marry Forrest and Forrest agreed. After going through happy things, Jenny finally left him for good.

In the novel *Forrest Gump*, researcher are interested in analyzing the patience of the protagonist. The word patience itself is defined as a calmness, self-control, and willingness or ability to tolerate delay. People who are impatient will be more likely to overreact to a behavior that can make themselves stressed. Patience may be a word that we often say to others and yet do we understand enough about this word. Patience is a word that refers to the value of patience, which is one of the positive values (virtues) believed by the general public.

Research conducted by the UHAMKA team produced the concept of the psychology of patience to explain behavior in accordance with the value of patience (El Hafiz, et al, 2013). The psychology of patience is a concept that refers to a person's competence. The competence is the individual's ability to carry out the value of patience in everyday life. This concept of the psychology of patience is the ability to restrain emotions, thoughts, words, and behavior. In addition, the conditions of this competence are that restraint is done actively, is an initial response, has a good purpose, and obeys the rules, failing to meet these conditions, then the restraint shown by the individual cannot be assessed as patience competence. Several other studies have also shown the role of patience competence in positively influencing life.

Several studies have been conducted including how the role of patience competence in increasing emotional maturity in adolescents (EL Hafiz, Al Maududi, & Amalina, 2015). Other research show that the competence of patience also makes a significant contribution to the ability of adolescents to make efforts to overcome the occurrence of a conflict. Research conducted by El Hafiz, Al Maududi, & Amalina (2015) show that a person's religiosity can improve his ability to overcome interpersonal conflicts, but if individuals do not have good enough patience competence, this ability will decrease even though their religiosity remains high. This indicates that religiosity, which generally has a positive impact, will not be optimal if it is not complemented by competencies that are relevant to the situation, one of which is patience.

The series of research that have been carried out shows that the psychology of patience can be a concept for later intervention into a behavior. This is because one of the functions of theory is to control, in psychology what is generally controlled is behavior. Patience is also referred to as a trait of self-control or delayed gratification. Humans often face questions about patience in terms of deciding something to do in any field. In everyday life, this concept is also widely used by people when facing various psychological problems, such as facing stressful situations, facing problems, calamities or when experiencing angry emotional conditions.

The portrayal of patience in the novel is very interesting to the analysed since it relates to the human in the real world, the patience shown in the novel in positive which is believed to the beneficial to the society.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the above description, the research questions are formulated as follows:

1. What are the characteristics of patience found in the protagonist's in the novel *Forrest Gump* by Winston Groom ?
2. How is the patience portrayed through the protagonist's in the novel *Forrest Gump* by Winston Groom ?

1.3 Objective of the Problem

This research aims to analyze the types of patience towards the protagonist in the novel *Forrest Gump*. And this research has two main objectives that will be discussed as follows:

1. To find out the characteristics of patience found in the protagonist in the novel *Forrest Gump* by Winston Groom.
2. To find out of the portrayed of patience in the protagonisti n the novel *Forrest Gump* by Winston Groom.

1.4 Scope of the study

This study focuses on Winston Groom's novel *Forrest Gump*, which certainly has the values of patience portrayed in the novel. This study focuses on the characteristics of patience in the novel. There are several characteristics of patience portrayed in the novel, namely sincerity and perseverance. All characteristics of patience in the novel reflected by the characters will be analyzed in depth in chapter IV of this study.

1.5 Significance of the study

There are two significances of this study. Theoretically, this study is interested to analyse about patience in the novel *Forrest Gump* written by Winston Groom. because is very important in our real life dealing with other people who has different perspective or character. The protagonist patience can be a moral lesson which shows us that. Practically, this research aims to provide information and has significance for everyone. With the value of patience portrayed in the novel, a person is able to control all actions that will have a negative impact on him.

CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Characters

Character is one of the most important elements that can be found in a literary work in the form of a novel or short story. The problem of characterization is one of the most important and necessary things in a work of fiction, because it is impossible for a work of literature without characters who move and eventually create a plot. In fiction, character can be interpreted as a representation of the human self. In addition, the author describes the character as a person who deserves attention, love, and support. In general, character can usually be seen as a distinctive value found in a person's personality that leads to an individual's actions in attitude, thinking, point of view, behavior and speech under certain conditions that distinguish a person from others. Each character has a different characterization and can cause conflict. Character is the quality of mind and soul that distinguishes one character from another. In addition, character is also a basic element in human beings that shapes a person's psychological character and makes him behave according to himself and the values that match him in different conditions.

Grolier (1977: 291). says characterization is the unique characteristics of fictional forms such as short stories, novels, plays, and narrative poetry. Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that character is a character, trait, basic thing in a person as a differentiator between one individual and another. Especially in novels, characters in a literary work are created by the author to convey his ideas and feelings about something that happens in this world. Characters have the power to dominate the whole story in a literary work. The author can take the character

through many problems in different situations. Abidin (2012: 33). says that character comes from the Greek *kasairo* which means blueprint or basic format. Based on the origin of the word character is considered as a set of conditions possessed by a person.

There are several theories that propose a definition of character. According to Majid and Dian (2012: 12), character is "character, nature, or things that are very basic in a person. Character is innate, heart, soul, personality, character, behavior, personality, nature, temperament, and disposition. Character is not inherited, but something that is built continuously day by day through thoughts and deeds, thought by thought, action by action. The term character according to Robberts Stanton in his book *An Introduction to Fiction* (1965: 17) can refer to individuals in the story. In other words, character or story also refers to the union of interests, emotions and moral principles that make up the character or in other words describes the behavior or nature of the story. In analyzing character, Stanton said that the most important thing is dialogue and behavior. Thus it can be concluded that character is an individual's innate nature, character and behavior that is expressed in everyday life.

2.1.1 Types of Character

2.1.1.1 Protagonist

The protagonist is the main role that is the center or center of the story. The protagonist is also the good guy and the resolver of a conflict. The protagonist is also in control of the story. The main character is not always one but can be two or more. The character that appears is always from the positive side so that the protagonist displays what the audience or reader expects. By having a good character, the

protagonist is very influential for the audience or reader in acting and behaving well. The protagonist is a good figure who is often used as a benchmark for the audience, readers, and listeners to enjoy the storyline. The protagonist is also the one in control of solving all the problems in the story. Issues related to the people around him, his environment, and himself. The protagonist serves as the plot builder in a story. He usually has certain goals and faces many conflicts throughout the story. According to Siswanto (2008: 144), a protagonist is a character whose character is liked by readers. Usually, this kind of character is a good and positive character, such as generous, honest, humble, defender, clever, independent, and loyal friend.

2.1.1.2 Antagonist

The antagonist is the opposite role of the protagonist, as he or she is often the enemy that causes the conflict in the story. The protagonist and antagonist must allow for conflict, and the conflict must develop to a climax. The antagonist must have a strong and contradictory character to the protagonist. The antagonist is the bad guy who creates conflict. The antagonist is a character who hinders or blocks the goals of the protagonist, who is the main character in the story. With the presence of an antagonist, the conflict in the story will become stronger and more developed. According to (Nurgiyantoro, 2007: 179), said that the antagonist may be called in opposition to the protagonist, directly or indirectly, physically or mentally. According to Wahyuningtyas and Santosa (2011: 4), this character is usually described as a character with a bad and negative character, such as: vindictive, liar, arrogant, envious, showy, and ambitious.

2.1.1.3 Deutragonist

Deutragonist is a form of characterization other than protagonist, antagonist, and tritagonist in a story. Gagan Raj (1990: 47) and JA. Cuddon (1998: 271) have similarities in defining it. A deutragonist is an actor who is often the same as an antagonist. So it can be said that the deutragonist is a character who can help or complicate the protagonist.

2.2 Patience

Patience is a vital mortal virtue in relation to our faith, our right of free choice, our attitude towards life, our humility, and our suffering. Moreover, patience will not be an obsolete attribute in the next world. (Maxwell, 1979). Patience, self-control, persistence, moderation and diligence, among others, are virtues necessary to exert will and help individuals overcome psychological or situational limitations that might prevent them from achieving the goals they set (Steutel, 1999; Szutta, 2020).

A patience person is not one who will wait forever and allow others to take advantage, but rather one who knows the right moment and the balance between rushing into a decision and waiting too long. Self-control, patience, perseverance, and moderation, as virtues that make up willpower, are necessary to live a balanced life (Szutta, 2020).

To be able to achieve this state, patience must be practiced along with kindness, acceptance and tolerance (Grossman, 2015). Rational humans who possess these pro-social behaviors become highly trustworthy, and one of the ingredients for developing this attitude is patience (Anomaly, 2017; Anomaly & Jones, 2020;

Bowles & Gintis, 2011). Libermen et al. (2007) suggest that when people have enough time to make decisions and thus exercise patience, they are more likely to adhere to moral standards than if decisions are made very abruptly following only reactionary actions and emotions at the time. Patience is personal. Patience is a great achievement. Patience is a great strength (Ashton, 1973).

As Szutta (2020) stated, the virtues of will-power, self control, perseverance and patience – when combined with the virtues of compassion, kindness, humility, generosity, honesty and justice – contribute to doing good in the world. If combined with jealousy, extreme competition, greed, vanity and selfishness, they can achieve evil things community.

This study will adopt the patience proposed by Szutta as the grant theory. The researcher argues that the theory is relevant to this study. However other theories proposed by other experts will be adopted to support the analysis of this study.

2.2.1 Characteristics of patience

According to Szutta's theory (2020), in terms of its characteristics, the characteristics of patience include two things, namely perseverance and sincerity. Which will be discussed in this chapter.

2.2.1.1 Perseverance

Perseverance is a continuous effort to achieve a certain goal without giving up until achieving success. Perseverance is often described as the success of someone doing something through a methods of repeated. Perseverance is very important in human life. With perseverance, human life will always be in process to achieve the goals to be achieved. Perseverance will make a person survive in difficult

times, so diligent people will be more careful and wise. People who have a diligent nature will not easily get bored and give up in achieving what they want.

2.2.1.2 Sincerity

Sincerity it can be interpreted is acceptance. It is only insincerity that makes one's life difficult. In other words, humans only let things happen instead of accepting. In Sincerity there is living energy. In Sincerity there is also empowerment, so by living life sincerely, someone appreciates something more instead of counting everything. In terms of relationships with fellow humans, Sincerity is giving help with sincerity.

Meanwhile, sincerity means honesty or willingness. People who have sincerity, do not complain easily in doing everything, they will do it to the end wholeheartedly and willingly so that it makes everything easy. Usually someone who has a sincere attitude tends to have a very tough personality. Someone who is sincere in doing everything will tend to be liked by many people. Sincerity can be associated with good intentions in helping.