

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Study

Literature was derived from the Latin word *litteratura*, "writing formed with letters". The word literature has many names, including literature (English), *Literatur* (German), and *littérature* (French). From the perspective of a layperson, the word literature concerns a work that promotes the beauty of language. And literature is a work of creative imagination that contains an intent and purpose described by the author. In other words, literature as a work of imaginative and creative writings where conveys the author's imagination in various forms such as poetry, novels, and films. It also has a deep understanding and as a form of author's creativity in exploring and processing the ideas that exist in his mind (Bressler: 1994). In literature, there are descriptions of various events, psychological features, and various dynamics of problem solving. All of the conflicts raised in literary work provide awareness of readers or literary lovers if it can occur in real life and experienced by readers or literary lovers.

The use of the word literature often refers to written works. Although it is often considered a written work, it is not identical with written language. Literature is everything that is written or printed (Wellek and Warren: 1993). Sometimes, the term of literature is used to describe spoken material. There are some genres in literature such as poems, novels, films, and so on.

One of the literary genres that have much interesting is film. Film is one of the literary genres that is audiovisual to convey a message to a group of people. The message delivered is diverse, such as education, entertainment, and information. Film is considered as a powerful communication medium for the masses as the target because the nature is audio-visual, which is a vivid picture and sound. With pictures and sound, movies can tell a lot in a short time. When watching a film, the audiences seem to be able to penetrate the space and time that can tell the life and can even influence the audience. Takes a thought and a technical process in filmmaking. The thought process is the form of a search for ideas and stories that are worked on, while the technical process in the form of artistic skills to realize all ideas and stories into films and ready to be watched.

In addition to diverse literary genres, ways of analyzing literary works have also various kinds, one of the ways is psychoanalytical literature. Psychoanalytical literature is the way or method in the analysis of the literary works based on human psychological behavior or a method of treatment against psychological or emotional illness (Cohen: 1971). In 1984, a psychoanalyst and professor of psychiatry at Weill Cornell Medical College which most widely known for his psychoanalytic theories on borderline personality organization and narcissistic pathology, Otto Friedman Kernberg introduced the concept of malignant narcissism to psychoanalytic literature. Kernberg outlined the features of malignant narcissism psychological syndrome comprising four extremes symptoms: 1) narcissistic personality disorder, 2) antisocial behavior, 3) ego-syntonic sadism, and 4) paranoid.

The phenomenon of malignant narcissism can be seen in *Divergent*. The film was directed by Neil Burger and released in Indonesia on March 20, 2014. The duration is 139 minutes. *Divergent* is produced by the studio Lionsgate Films / Summit Entertainment. *Divergent* stars Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Ashley Judd, Miles Teller, Ansel Elgort, and Kate Winslet.

Human in the legal ages will be classified into five factions according to the characters. The five factions are Candor (honest), Erudite (genius), Amity (has a pacifist nature), Dauntless (a brave character), and Abnegation as a selfless helper. Divergent is a term for people who are not included in the 5 factions because Divergent has many kinds of prominent personalities and is believed to be a threat to the five factions. Before entering a faction, a person must pass a faction determination test (aptitude test) when sixteen years old. Beatrice Prior or better known as Tris (Shailene Woodley) is one of the people who will through the test. But when undergoing the test, Tris felt something was wrong. As it turned out, Tris's results were classified as a balanced level between the Abnegation, Dauntless, and Erudite, which showed that she is a Divergent. A woman named Tori (Maggie Q), an examiner of the test, told her to keep her identity as a Divergent, because apart from being different. Divergent is considered to be very dangerous and will harm other factions. After the situation, Tris must fight to be accepted in the Dauntless she is always proud of. She tried to pass the courage test that could threaten her life at any time. The surprising fact is when Tris knows that one of the instructors, Four (Theo James), is also a Divergent. Tris and Four are still trying to survive amid the political competition

who want to get rid of the Divergent. Especially upholding justice from Erudite (led by a genius and dangerous woman, Jeanine Matthews (Kate Winslet)) who tried to make her faction as the biggest faction.

There is a cooperation between Erudite and Dauntless because Erudite which is a group of genius people needs a lot of human energy to be controlled and used as puppets in achieving their goals. Erudite and Dauntless leaders have their way of leading and using the people they need. Just like where their faction is, Erudite leader uses genius and cunning ways to make all the people believe without showing her true self, while Dauntless leader will act cruelly and at will in commanding the initiates. They believe that leaders must have and be able to control the people based on where their factions are whether it is cunning or merciless cruelty.

For instance, the context of malignant narcissism can be seen in Eric as one of the leaders in the Dauntless faction. Eric was described as a sadistic and didn't like weak and rebellious people. When the battle between initiates began, Eric didn't only want to see the stronger one but the one who can survive to the end.

"How long do we fight for?" Last jumper.

"Till one of you can't continue. New rules, no one concedes," Eric said.

Besides, there was a scene where one of the initiates gave up when fighting and wants to stop because she felt unable and has been battered. Eric stopped the fight because of the initiate said gave up. But after that, Eric pushed the initiate to the brink and gave three options to the initiate.

“You’ve got three options. Hang there and I’ll forget your cowardice. Fall and die or give up. But if you give up, you’re out,” Eric said. The three choices gave by Eric, none of them can be considered as humanizing. Eric tends to destroy and dehumanize others, especially the trainers and it shows the characteristic of a sadistic person.

Behaviors shown by leaders who want to dominate all factions in genius, cunning, cruel, and confident ways of possessing power make the story interesting and tense so the audiences’ emotion drifts into the film. This raises the questions for the researcher on how to find malignant narcissism personality disorder which shown from the utterances and behaviors of the leaders and the reasons being malignant narcissists.

The encouraging things to do the research make the research important to do because it can provide the answers to the way of malignant narcissism realized in *Divergent* and reasons being malignant narcissist with the title **Malignant Narcissism in *Divergent* Directed by Neil Burger.**

B. Problems of The Study

In relation to the background of the study, the problems of the study can be formulated as follows.

1. What are the characteristics of malignant narcissism in *Divergent* directed by Neil Burger?
2. How is malignant narcissism realized in *Divergent* by Neil Burger?
3. Why is malignant narcissism portrayed in *Divergent* in the way it is?

C. Objectives of The Study

In relation to the problems of the study, the objectives of the study as following:

1. to describe the characteristics of malignant narcissism in *Divergent*.
2. to investigate the malignant narcissism realized by the characters in *Divergent*,
and
3. to explain the reasons of malignant narcissism portrayed by the characters in *Divergent*.

D. Scope of The Study

It is important to limit the scope of the study to analyze the data to get a clear and satisfactory result. The data of the analysis were taken from the *Divergent* movie directed by Neil Burger. The study of narcissism focused particularly on the characteristics of malignant narcissism in *Divergent*, the way malignant narcissism realized by the characters and the reason being a malignant narcissist. Furthermore, there are four characteristics of malignant narcissism syndrome that discussed.

E. Significances of The Study

Findings of this research are expected to give theoretical and practical significances.

1. Theoretically,
 - a. the findings add up new for students in theories of literary and psychology, and

- b. will be useful as references for further analysis especially about movie and malignant narcissism.
2. Practically, findings of the study are expected to
 - a. develop and to increase knowledge about all the aspect of malignant narcissism and the reason being malignant narcissistic,
 - b. to be reference materials and in conducting research, and
 - c. to be references and guidelines for further research to become better future research.

