

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes briefly about the five sub-chapters which are important to be explained in this study, such as, the background of the study, the statement of the research problem, the objective of the study, the significances of the study, and the scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the Study

Currently, using technology can help the whole activities in human life. Human needs technology to assist their daily activities, for instance, to run the electric train. However, it also gives negative impact on earth. The earth has a lot of pollution, radiation, and contamination oxygen. These environment problems seize the authors' attention to write it in the literary works. Today, many new authors create a new world on a story which telling about nature destruction in a novel. Dystopian novel is one of the genre which describes the representation of the ecology in the literatures. The dystopian authors usually tell about the portrayal of dystopian as the setting of time and place (Basu et al, 2013: 4).

For twenty years ago, dystopian novels popped up as a new genres in the literay work. In earlier, no one showed the interesting of this genres. However, many writers have an interest to create and write the dystopian novel for ten years ago. The awakening of the dystopian novel by the best-selling *The Hunger Games* in 2008, *The Maze Runner* in 2009, *The Divergent* in 2011. These are many the dystopian novel which success in attracting the readers today. Not only those title of dystopian novels, but also in the middle of the twentieth century have ever

appeared the dystopian novel which has been written by George Orwell (Setyorini, 2016: 100).

Based on *The Hunger Games*, *The Maze Runner*, and *The Divergent*, we can know that the society which is described in dystopian novel is always under the government controls. The government as the primary regulator has the authority to set the government's rules in arranging the citizen's life. However, the government just leave the citizens survive in the destruction environment. Being anxiety is normally felt by the citizens who live under the government pressure. They really have a care with their behaviour not to break the rules (Utopia and Dystopian, 2016).

According to Keith Booker, she argued that the dystopian literature alienates the readers by showing the evils beyond the text. It is already existed in modern society "through shocks of recognition in a different context" (176). The dystopian literature often describes the young-fighter protagonist who lived on the dangerous environment. Young adult dystopian literatures have the characteristic that a protagonist usually encounters a challenging event and the protagonist must defeat any challenges as part of maturation and adolescence search for identity. Frequently, the dystopian writers compose cruelly, greedily, and voraciously situation in the story. Furthermore, related to the setting and time, in the modern dystopian literature frequently shows in the story about *post-apocalyptic*. *Post-apocalyptic* often describes the world from the bad-perspective which many catastrophes are happened, such as, Warfare, Zombie attack, and Spreading virus out.

Dystopian novels usually blow up the problem appearing in the society and places the young protagonist as the system breaker. Not rarely, the citizen in dystopian novel have a life which like relying on the technology, creating the new organism, being a consumerism. Dystopia is commonly describing the place and the condition of the society which illustrating the destruction places and the cruel government who always show a fear and terror of the existing world for the citizen. The citizen, as the slavery of the government without proper salary, must complete what the government's goals and desires. The oppression to the society is often happened by an authoritarian government, it makes a result that the civil loss their liberty and have an unsustainable environment (Adams, 2010).

The main preoccupation of the dystopian fantasy is devastating the environment greedily. The dystopian authors are often writing the degradation of environment because of pollution, landfills pollute, deforestation and other writers' imagination, such as, avalanches, quakes, tidal waves, storms, and wildfires. However, the other authors create the scenarios about fight to get the authority of the government or to get the high caste in society, which causes the environment degradation. The nature which describe in the dystopian literatures is commonly illustrated as the damage nature and young-fighter protagonists try to understand how to survive in the challenging situation and places (Setyorini, 2016). For instance, in the *Divergent* novel, the protagonist lived in the damage nature. However, she can find the way out to escape from her origin places. Furthermore, depend on the setting place and time, dystopian literatures frequently illustrates

about *post-apocalyptic* world a type of world-changing events, such as, world war, aliens coming, zombies plague, asteroid rain (Basu et al, 2013).

According to the setting place and time, the writer finds a novel which described the harsh environment as the setting of places and the advance-technologies era as the setting of time in the novel. The novels titled is *Red Queen*. It is written by Victoria Aveyard. The novel was released on February 10, 2015. The writer has many reasons why this novel is going to be analyzed. It is because *Red Queen* is depicting the bizarre world, sheer inventiveness, and getting social justice by young protagonist's struggle. It can be proven that this novel is included in the categorized of the dystopian novels. That is not only included in the categorize of the dystopian novels but also it included in the young-adult literature. Moreover, this novel success getting award in Goodreads appreciation in 2015. The appreciation for selected writer and book depends on the readers' polling in Goodreads website (Goodread, 2015)

Additionally, the novel also uses everyday languages to deliver the writer's meaning through the narration and the characters' dialogue to the readers. The author is smart to put the suspense in each chapter keeping the reader still feel the curiosity. These two reasons cause the ideology inside the text can be clearly reached by the reader.

Although the author does not write her ideology obviously about keeping the environment in this novel, he/she still implies a message about caring the nature around us by illustrating the drying river which making the rural people starving.

The phenomena are related to the main purposes of the ecological literary text that is to encourage the readers having the new perspective about the nature. The ecological literary text is to persuade the readers keep the environment.

Mare Barrow is one of the main characters who lived in Stilts. The stilts are a city where the red descendant growing up. The Stilts is one of the cities which place in a country named by Archeon. In Archeon, there are two clans who existing, Silver and Red clans. Silver clans is the representation of upper-class citizen and red clans is the representation of lower-class citizen. Some of the silvers can control the plants or animals, moreover, they can control the water and read human's mind. However, red descendant does not have the super power. They are often seen as inferior, insignificant, and not special. Regarding with some reasons, Mare take a decision to leave stilts where the representative of nature destruction. She chooses it because she wants to destroy the wall separating red and silver clans.

In stilts, Mare just lives in a house located on the river edge. When summer coming her family can see the fresh green forest in Silvers place, mare always dreams about escape to silver places. From their house, the capital palace can also be seen. It is so glorious and beautiful. Someday, she comes to the capital to recognize something strange and unexpected inside herself. As the result, she can produce the electricity. The astonishment information is directly hearing by the king and queen of silvers. Immediately, mare was being caught and put her in prison. The silvers king and queen command to the soldier hiding the information and keeping mare away to the citizen. Over the time, Mare gets help from her new silvers' friends. Then, Mare choose to help the class of revolt fighting for the

equality of reds. However, she teases the dangerous games when the heavy storm coming.

In *Red Queen*, Victoria Aveyard also creates the two different worlds in the story, Archeon and Stilts. The portrayal of Archeon district has the better life than the place is named by Stilts. Between Archeon and Stilts, there are a heavy crystal wall which has damage the environment. Growing up in the different environment condition, Maree and Cal as main characters in the story have their way to survive in nature.

The writer of this study analyzes *Red Queen* because it depicts the nature as the central issues. This study uses Greg Garrad's theory of Ecocriticism. Garrad has the concept of the relationship between literature and physical environment. Ecocriticism concerns in the nature and culture. The word "culture" is expressing the traditionally controlled to the human-created phenomena. Moreover, Ecocriticism has different typified from other critical theory approaches. Usually, the literary theory just analyses the relations between the authors, the literary works, and the surrounding. Most of the literary theory translating the word "surrounding" is just a society. However, in the Ecocriticism perspectives the term "surrounding" might means the entire world, included the nature and the place of human-animal live at. An Ecocritical thinking in the analyzing of the literary text might disclosed, for instance, anthropocentrism or separation from the natural world, especially the binary opposition of the culture against environment as a serious challenge dualist hierarchy (Garrad, 2004).

In this novel, the dominant tropes based on Garrad's concept are four tropes. The first subject is eco-Marxism. It is identified the problem which appears on the society. It is happened because the system of exploitation between the high-class and the lower-class (Garrad, 2004: 28). The second is Pastoral. It is characterized by the distinguish of the town and country otherness of a crushed present and a perfect past (Garrard, 2004). The third is Wilderness. Wilderness text is often telling about the character's motive to run away and go back to the nature. The fourth is Apocalypse. It is described about the depiction of doomsday and the destruction of the human life. In apocalypse text, the nature will be smashed by earth quakes, storm, and heavy rain. The role of the imagination is pastoral to this metaphor for it implies that very fate of our world "hinges on the arousal of the imagination to a sense of crisis" (Buell, 1995: 285).

Beside explaining about the dystopian literature, the main concern on this thesis is about the ecology. Ecology deals with the study of organism in their natural home interacting with their surroundings. Simply put that ecology is about the surroundings or environment. The environment consists of other living organism (biotic) and physical (abiotic) elements. In dystopian literatures, Ecology in dystopian literature is the interconnection across the historical, political, human, technological and natural that is created from those interconnections (13). Ecology in this study is analysed using Garrad's concept in ecocritism. To analyse the ecology in dystopian literatures ecocritically, the writer uses some dominant tropes namely eco-Marxism, pastoral, wilderness, and apocalypse.

1.2 Statement of the Research Question

Deciding research problem based on the issues of this novel, there is one question in the analysis of the text:

1. How is the representation of ecology using Garrad's ecocritism concept, such as, eco-Marxism, pastoral, wilderness, and apocalypse, represented in the novel?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objective of the study is to answer the question stated in the statement of the problem. That is correlated with the ecological issues, especially comparing the representation of the environment in urban and rural area in a young adult dystopian novel. Here is the following objective of the study :

1. Describe the representation of ecology using Garrad's ecocritism concept, such as, eco-Marxism, pastoral, wilderness, and apocalypse represented in the novel.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is supposed to deliver the theoretical and practical values. Theoretically, the result of this study will contribute to the structural concept of human that the future of the nature depends on the culture and the value of society especially how close the relationship of human with the nature in a text. Beside practically, the main points of this analysis is to make the readers having a

consciousness that the nature need to be kept by the human. Then, this research practically will capable of being further inspiring reference and be applied in analyzing a literary work.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the study

This novel has many things that are needed to be discussed by using an Ecocriticism theory. The focus of this analysis is the ecological issues which illustrate in Victoria Averyard's *Red Queen* using the Garrad's Theory of Ecocriticism. The writer also examines how the portrayal of interaction between young adult protagonist and the ecology in Victoria Averyard's *Red Queen* is. That is becoming the significant point to describe the representation of ecology. Therefore, the limitation of this study is about the representation of ecology described in eco-Marxism, pastoral, wilderness, and apocalyptic in *Red Queen*.