CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The psychological aspect of humans has always been a source of inspiration for authors in their literary work. "This critical 'back to the future' includes a growing interest in human psychology as a useful tool for literary critics who have developed a renewed concern for, among other things, literary character" (Knapp, 44:1). In their literary works, the authors will show the readers some certain actions and decisions which the characters made. In this study, it will analyze the courageous acts which will lead into Oliver Blue's character development. Rice writes the adventures of Oliver Blue and the choices he made based on the struggles which happened in his life.

Morgan Rice's novel titled *The Magic Factory* revolves around the character named Oliver Blue. Oliver Blue, in the novel, is a child who has always been bullied and abandoned since a young age. These events derive him to have several self-doubts and also insecurities about himself. Although feeling that way about himself, he is an exceptionally talented child in invention and inventors. As the story progresses, he meets Armando Illstrom, one of his favorite inventors, in the magic factory itself. From that point onward, lots of events happen in the novel and Oliver Blue who used to be a child who has self-doubt and insecurities gain and build his courage and thus developed him as a character who is bold and brave at the end of the story.

Based on that, we will see the development of Oliver Blue as a character. Oliver Blue's character development by analyzing through his courage building becomes the center of this study. Character development itself is the process of how a person changed from their previous character to another character. From the research written by Richard M. Lerner and Kristina Schmid Callina, Berkowitz (2012: 249) stated that character development may be compromised of several distinct features of individual-context relations and also involves interpersonal relations which reflect "a public system of universal concerns about human welfare, justice, and rights that all rational people would want others to adhere to" (Lerner and Schmid Callina, 2014: 324).

Character development has attracted the attention of readers of literary works, especially those of novels. Thus, the writer of this study is attracted to the courage building which develops the character of Oliver Blue. This novel, *The Magic Factory*, contains about the journey of Oliver as a character as he experienced the past difficulties into shaping him as a hero. In particular, this novel talks about how Oliver will gain confidence and also courage into confronting the problems which he faces. The writer is really interested in analyzing Blue's growth in courage as it will be a crucial step in his development as a character: from a child who is bullied for enjoying the things he loves to becoming a hero who will save the world from danger.

This study is intended to figure out the main content of the novel which becomes the writer's main interest. In general, the main interest from the novel for this study is Oliver Blue's character development. In particular, the main interest is

the courage building of Oliver Blue in the novel. In order to figure out these main interests, the writer applies two methods for the study. They are qualitative method and also contextual method.

In qualitative method, the writer interprets the text in the novel as the source of the information for this study. To obtain the data for the discussion, the writer read the complete text of the novel, which is close to close-reading. With close-reading, the writer read the text as it is and how it is implied. It is considered to be part of library research. For the contextual method, this study adopts Alfred Adler's concept of individual psychology. According to Adler, the attempt to overcome the feelings of inferiority by compensating with experiences is part of human nature. Furthermore, a person's choices are entirely his because human is a unity. This can be seen in Oliver Blue as he builds his courage and does so based on his difficult past, which caused him to feel inferior.

For the discussion itself, it comes into three stages. They are the cause of Oliver's courage building, the progress of his courage building, and also the impact that appeared as he gained his courage. The discussion itself results in the ability of Oliver Blue to confront his past difficulties and experiences as they are the causes for his courage building, his ability to build his courage in the progress, and also his ability to gain impact as he builds his courage. This study is expected to be beneficial especially for any readers of English novels.

1.2 Research Problems

There are problems that are interesting to analyze from Morgan Rice's novel *The Magic Factory*. The writer is mostly interested in the problems that surround our main character. The problems are the following:

1) Does Oliver Blue's past difficulties and experiences with his bullies cause the courage building within him in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*?

2) How does Oliver Blue's courage building progress in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*?

3) What is the impact which happens to Oliver Blue as he builds his courage in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

There are several objectives that are needed to finish this research. The objectives are identified as the following:

1) To describe Oliver Blue's past difficulties and experiences with his bullies which causes his courage to build in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*.

2) To describe how Oliver Blue's courage building progress in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*.

3) To describe the impact which happens to Oliver Blue as he builds his courage in Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*.

1.4 Previous Studies

For this research, the writer found it difficult to find previous studies about Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory* since the work is relatively recent. Albeit that, the writer found a certain interview with Morgan Rice, the author of the novel,

which is conducted by Rose and Reviews in 2015. In that interview, Rice stated that the reason for writing the stories is to inspire and empower readers by her literary work. She also stated that the big part of her novel is the internal and external journey of the characters, the rise and fall and rise again, the vulnerabilities, and the struggles to overcome the vulnerabilities.

There is also an article about the novel *The Magic Factory* which is published in Morgan Rice's site. It is stated that *The Magic Factory* is a series filled with not only magic, but also love, humor, heartbreak, tragedy, destiny, and a series of shocking twists. Morgan Rice published this novel as a series called "Oliver Blue and The School for Seers" with *The Magic Factory* as the first book for this series.

There are also some other studies which tackle about the character development in general which occurs to a character of a certain literary work. It can be seen from "The Character Development of Neville Longbottom in the *Harry Potter Series*" (2012) by Alvanita. In that research, it is said that Neville's character changes as the story elapses due to his willingness to change for the better and his development is changed due to the three aspects: cognitive, active, and psycho-motoric.

In another study from "Character Development of Nathaniel from Jonathan Stroud's *Bartimaeus Trilogy: The Amulet of Samarkand"* (2012) by Delia Arnindita Larasati, it is stated that the character of Nathaniel develops his character from an ordinary little boy to an ambitious boy because of the past which he experiences. Onto developing his character, there are four stages which happens and they are

Nathaniel as a childish boy (first stage), Nathaniel as a curious boy (second stage), Nathaniel as a vengeful boy (third stage), and then Nathaniel as an ambitious boy (last stage).

Another thesis written by Danang Sudibyo entitled "Personality Development of the Main Character in the Movie: *The Shawshank Redemption*" (2018) explains the development which happens to Andy Dufresne. It is said that his character develops from weak to the most influential person in the prison. Danang based his research with Carl Rogers' theory of personality and how Andy Dufresne achieved his character development is through self-actualization.

In "The Significance of the Hero's Journey in Siddhartha's Character Development as Seen in Herman Hesse's *Siddhartha"* (2020)*,* Adelia Damayanti and Achmad Munjid state that Siddhartha goes through two major changes, meaning that it comes from an individualistic to a wise person and from someone persistent and thirsty for knowledge to someone flexible. They believe that this result shows because twelve out of seventeen stages of the hero's journey theory which is proposed by Joseph Campbell occur within the character. Not only that, there is also other reason that aid the development of Siddhartha's character and there are three factors: the number of trials, Siddhartha's self-realization, and the threshold guardian.

"Character Development of Florentino Ariza as seen in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's *Love in the Time of Cholera"* (2013) by Mala Hernawati discusses about how Florentino changed from an innocent man to an indecent man. It is stated that

the reason why his character develops is because of lovesickness and environmental temptation. Into analyzing the character, they use Claudius Galen's Four Temperament Theory that classifies human's temperaments into four categories: Choleric, Sanguine, Phlegmatic, and Melancholy.

In Donald Biskin and Kenneth Hoskisson's "Moral Development Through Children's Literature" (1974), it is stated that authors are developing a systemic method for determining the stages of moral development of story characters. They are using Kohlberg's stages of moral development which started from stage 0 onto stage 6. In that research, it is also stated that Kohlberg believes that children acquire knowledge by psychologically acting upon the environment they are involved in.

With these previous studies, the difference between this research and those studies can be concluded. In this research, the writer aims to analyze the courage building which will help Oliver Blue, the main character from *The Magic Factory,* develop his character, not specifically analyzing the character development. Not only that, this study also wants to point out the relation between Oliver's past experiences and difficulties with his courage building. Differing from the other previous studies, this research adopts Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology onto analyzing the character. Thus, this research will mainly focus on figuring out the courage which builds within Oliver Blue into helping his character development.

1.5 Scope of the Study

In this study, the scope emphasizes on the courage building which happens toward Oliver Blue, the main character of Morgan Rice's *The Magic Factory*. This study is focused on how the courage building affects the character development of Oliver Blue. This study analyzes the matter by using Alfred Adler's theory of Individual Psychology through his concepts: inferior to superior and human as a whole unity. This thesis shows that courage building is possible to develop Oliver Blue's character.

1.6 Organization of the Writing

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

> In this chapter, the writer will discuss the background of the study, research problems, objectives of the study, previous studies, scope of the study, and also the organization of the writing.

CHAPTER 2: THEORY AND METHOD

> This chapter contains the theories and methods which will be used for the research. They will be divided into three sections: intrinsic elements, extrinsic aspects, and research methods. In the first section, it will be divided into three sub-chapters which contains of character and characterization, setting, and conflict. In the second section, it will discuss about the detailed explanation of individual psychology of Alfred Adler and also the concepts of individual psychology which consists of inferior to superior and human as a

whole unity. In the third section, it will discuss the research methods which are used for the study.

CHAPTER 3: DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the writer will get into details about the discussion of the topic about Oliver's Blue courage building as a character development. The first part will discuss about the intrinsic analysis of the story and in this part, it will talk about Oliver Blue's character and characterization, conflicts experienced by Oliver Blue, and setting of *The Magic Factory*. In the second part, it will talk about Oliver Blue's courage building background, Oliver Blue's courage building progress, and also Oliver Blue's courage building impact.

CHAPTER 4: CONCLUSION

This chapter contains the conclusion of the discussion's result about the research.