

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

This final chapter restates the research problems, reviews the major methods used in the study, summarizes the results, discussed the implications of these results, and presents recommendations for further studies.

The previous chapter presented that the study produced mixed data types through a survey questionnaire and in-depth interview in order to identify the influences of reading the *Harry Potter* series to the lives of the Indonesian readers. In this chapter, the findings of the study will be summarized pertinent to the research questions.

The first research question concerns about the respondents' understanding, responses, their perceptions and the effects of the *Harry Potter* series. As expected, the data indicated that most of the respondents can recognize and classified any resemblances of the characters in the series to themselves or to anyone in their circle of lives. It was interesting to find out that the respondents' acknowledged the fact that the series has influences on how it could help them in knowing their self to a better-self. The findings also showed that most of the respondents claimed that the characters in the series helped them in assessing or evaluating people in their surroundings.

The next research question is about the values that the respondents' gained during their time of reading and growing with the series. The respondents mainly mentioned about friendship, then followed by courage and bravery, and lastly

about love and family. While the rest of the respondents were mentioning a more universal moral values that is applicable to everyone.

The results on the last research question regarding the influences of reading the series through the years showed various feedbacks. Some of the feedbacks were about personal self-growth, motivation, applied values, or the side effect of the reading and growing with the series in their daily lives. To follow up, it can be grasped from the motivational and influencing side of the series that these respondents are inspired in term of motivation for academic and non-academic activities, a motivation from the struggles of the writer of the series, the nature of the characters, to pursue their dreams to visit the setting of the series as well as to be proficient to speak English.

Furthermore, it is thought-provoking that the in-depth interview provided the real-life exemplar of the influences of reading the series to the *Harry Potter* Generation. The interviewees are the people with a great and countless achievements and at the same time making and giving influences to their surroundings. The responses from the interviewees showed the significances the *Harry Potter* series can give to the Indonesian readers. With the varied personal background, achievements, education, until the career options these interviewees choose are representative enough to reveal the influences of reading the series through the years.

The results of the research can be summarized as follows: first, 15 out of 25 respondents were showing the positive feedbacks, taking from their responses towards the questions about the resemblance of the characters in the series to

someone in their real-life. Whether it is a resemblance of themselves, particularly family members, friends, teachers, lecturers or even the inspiring and the world figures. Others also resemble the nature of the characters, such as Hermione Granger, Luna Lovegood, and Harry Potter. In terms of helping the respondents to get to know themselves better, 18 out of 25 respondents were agreed that the series assist them to do a self-mirroring between the characters and themselves. Some were realizing their weaknesses from the strength shown by the characters in the series. In preceding the continuous effect of self-mirroring between the respondents and the characters in the series, 20 out of 25 respondents were confirmed that they were guided by the series to which character they prefer and wish to avoid in their real-life. The series also helped them to understand someone's shoes of behaving and decision making the people make while not being prejudice to others.

Second, the values that can be grasped from the series were various. Friendship was mentioned at least 14 times and the friendship between Harry Potter, Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley is becoming the icon. Courage and bravery were voiced 12 times and these values were arising from the battle between the good, Harry Potter and the evil, Lord Voldemort. Love and family were specified 13 times and the adequate reason behind this value are how Harry Potter continues his life with the love of his best friends and the sense of family from The Weasleys. Other respondents also noticed several particular values. Some of them were about the success that is not merely about miracle, but about hard work; being greedy is not the best option to be the greatest of all, that success

is achieved when it is done together; and living a life where we can share all aspects of life is a blessing, not to judge a person by what he or she choose to show on the surface, as well as to always believe in our own ability even when we doubt ourselves.

In describing the influences of reading the series to the Indonesian readers while growing up with it, some of the respondents were proposing that Harry Potter is a large “workroom”, lots of moral, psychological and emotional values; an option to remain imaginative, even in the monotony of real-life; a reminder of the importance of friends and family in life; a remembrance to keep the low-profile, daring, and consistency; a notice that sometimes things that currently look bad, not necessarily forever will be like that. These are few of the personal growth and influences the respondents can achieved from the series.

The series also gives influences in terms of personal self-growth, motivation, applied values, or the side effect. Some of them were: as an aspiration to have hunger towards knowledge; opens a way of thinking that everyone can make the slightest change if he or she wants to get involved in the change; a reminder that the joyfulness of childhood is in everyone’s; and as a token of love towards books, reading activities, a persistence of reading, building up reading habits.

In providing the motivation and inspiration for the respondents, the *Harry Potter* series were portrayed as an encouragement for both achieving in academic and non-academic activities and to finish a degree with a satisfying grade; to stay consistent and live the choices we made, and do the best in hopes of producing

something good and beneficial to those around us in the end; as a stimulation to work harder to find a way out if there is a problem and to dare to get out of the comfort zone and accept the challenge.

In terms of the influence that J.K. Rowling gave to the readers, it is mentioned that the struggles she encountered give another spark to the respondents. Some of them describing that she gave motivation for the readers to write their own story, a reminder of one of the first figures that instigate the readers the most to never forget the dream of becoming a reliable story writer. While the *Harry Potter* series helped the respondent to adapt to the new environment where being part of the global culture; a motivation to master the language ability (English) well from the very beginning; and as an eagerness to pursue a dream.

Harry Potter's name resonates across the world, enchanting young and old readers alike, and almost everyone has at least heard of the boy wizard who attends Hogwarts. *Harry Potter* has long since found itself a permanent staple in the Indonesian reader's heart. We can garner valuable insight from tracing these paths between the series and its function as well as the impacts on the Indonesian readers. Reading *Harry Potter* is not only informs, reinforces, and expands our horizon, but we can also begin to conceptualize the power behind such a cultural force as *Harry Potter*. With that understanding, we can better confront and create a world worth living in. Besides, *Harry Potter* offers us a way to articulate the importance of children's literature.

Literature inspires us, captures our imaginations, and helps us picture the world we live in. *Harry Potter* took the world by storm in a way no other piece of literature has done before. These stories didn't affect only one person; they hold true for a great many readers of *Harry Potter* in Indonesia. The series inspired so many children to read more, to love reading.

Obviously, there is something about *Harry Potter* that sticks with its readers, long lasting impacts over time, and an emphasis on the plurality in terms of amount of people. It boils down to *Harry Potter*'s ability to get underneath a reader's skin and affect change within them. From J.K. Rowling, to its everyday readers, the *Harry Potter* series not only captures the imagination of its readers but also creates a timeless impact. It cultivates their analytical and literacy skills and ties them to value based on their observations and interpretations. In so doing, the *Harry Potter* Phenomenon takes flight from the textual spaces into our own.

There is an indefinable quality that makes the series distinctive that cements itself within the imaginations and hearts of so many readers across the globe, particularly Indonesia. And yet, if we take the time to look closely at the series and the ways that it engages with, impacts, and speaks to the cultural moment, we gain not only a sense of the literature itself, but also a sense of the value of children's literature on influencing the culture and society, as well as other important matters. For its readers, *Harry Potter* isn't just a book or a series; it's a way to understand not only the world they live in, but the one they want to live in. *Harry Potter* is "the boy who lived" and he lives up to his namesake.

Despite the end of the series, *Harry Potter* continues to live on through its readers that have come to love the series.

The findings from this research mainly provide insights to the discussion about the influences of reading the *Harry Potter* series on the lives of the Indonesian readers. By identifying the influences of this particular series, it is also possible to indicate other literary works' influences on the Indonesian readers or to other precise readers. This suggests the need to introduce the reading habit or the literary culture to the younger generations. In this way, it is expected that Indonesian readers can be empowered in habituating the reading practice and tendency as well as the appreciation towards literary works.

There is a clear requirement for more extensive longitudinal studies to be undertaken. There is also a need for similar studies to this one to be undertaken amongst one particular reader to test the findings obtained in the present study. Such studies should further investigate the real-life influences of reading a literary work and the importance to identify the opportunities and challenges facing the practical implementations of reading English literary works for Indonesian readers.

