

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Research

Literature is art works written by human that used to pleasure themselves. Indeed, they could use it to procure knowledge for life. It can prepare themselves to confront their problem regarding some particular perspectives. Literature commonly tells about human life under some circumstances and how they survive through it. Thus, literature is not only for enjoyment but also for a lesson to human being. The effects of survival to the human are diverse from one to another. It is based on the choice of what they take, whether not to survive solely to take care of the good traits or to survive but become heartless. In another case, human could survive and carefully protect their purest of heart. Thus, human and survival cannot be separated. In any forms, a human survives under several difficult times in their life.

This study concentrates on looking further into the issue of sibling rivalry. Sibling rivalry is a competition among siblings of the same or diverse gender. Sibling relationship as the closest bond that stands from individuals with minimum differences can get into serious disputes. They tend to have any tendency that triggers a competition. Arguments between siblings are sometimes triggered by trivial things such as contend for toys or parental attention. In Darwinian notion, they contend over a more significant matter, surely life resources. This research aims to uncover the motives underlying the sibling

rivalry. The hypothesis running through this thesis is human motive engender sibling rivalry.

This research concerns on sibling issue is significant in American literary research because family is one of the principal social objects. Individuals grow up from their family environment as their closest social life. Thus, family is the initial environment as a place for an individual to develop their personality traits. Family is commonly shown as a social object that protects and cares for its members. However, in the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky*, the family is shown as an environment that directly attempts family members, especially siblings, in the context of natural selection in order to survive the hardship of life. This is something that is seldom shown about a family. Therefore, the author wants to raise this issue because family is crucial in the social system. The issues that discuss family, especially siblings, will always be a topic that requires to be understood.

Sibling rivalry requires a study because it is commonly seen from the point of view of psychological analysis. Furthermore, Mitchell (2003) states that there has been no place for sibling problem in the psychoanalytic superstructure. Historically, the lateral dimension in psychic life has been seen largely as a move away from the more important vertical, or parent-child relationship. Therefore, the writer wants to study this topic to explain sibling rivalry from the perspective of literary Darwinism in which siblings are seen as separate individuals who want to survive. The writer would like to attempt human motives and survival of the fittest

theory into the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky*. This thesis would like to reveal the issue of sibling rivalry regarding the motives the human has. Thus, this thesis would like to uncover how humans deal with the human motives they have and see where it leads them.

John Shors is an American writer. In his works, he shows the contrast of life in society. Shors emphasizes the strength of the story into the characters one another, then executes them with social issues and offers the readers the essence of the nature that can survive and run the issues solidly. Shors loves to travel to the country where his story takes place that encourages him to perceive the culture of the setting. His interest in the country that he visits later builds up his desire to prepare a story; a few of them is a history of that country. Shors also has an interest in human being. When he travels, he is often impressed by the characteristics of the people from the state. Perhaps, that is the reason why Shors emphasizes the strength of his story into his characters. His novel entitled *Beneath a Marble Sky* (2014) has become "Book of the Year" named by ForeWord Magazine. Shors wrote seven stories, namely *Beneath a Marble Sky*, *Beside a Burning Sea*, *Dragon House*, *The Wishing Trees*, *Unbound*, *Cross Currents* and *Temple of The Thousand Faces* have won multiple awards, and have been translated into twenty-six languages.

The story of the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky* is set in Agra, an ancient city in India. It is narrated by the second children of Mughal Emperor (Shah Jahan) named Jahanara. This novel commonly shows the rivalry among siblings to

contend for power inherited from their parents. It precipitates the death of their populace and even the death of their sibling. The characters in the novel evolve from children to adult, then from innocent to sinful. The writer sees that the rivalry among the siblings is something that we can perceive as human nature to contend for life resources. The writer believes that Darwinian notion can explain the case.

Shors shows how human can evolve to become a heartless one to keep survive. The kinship among the characters could not stop bloodshed while attempt to contend for power, or in this case for a chair of a throne. All characters in the novel plan to keep survive a bit longer or at least to keep regenerate. Their blood remain exist in the earth to later on against the superior that is taking power. He also shows the natural selection by a war of two races with diverse purposes of life and requirements. The diversities between them trigger a war. As a result, the weakest ones confronts the death of their soldier in a substantial amount, meanwhile the strongest ones take control over the empire. This phenomenon we can easily perceive in the understanding of natural selection of the survival.

Human motives within the human psyche are what the writer wants to concern among the siblings. At the end of the novel, Shors emphasizes Jahanara's preparation for her grandson, the only male in her descent, to oppose the cruel emperor that is her little sibling to win their previous sibling rivalry. In the fact that the siblings' most common principle is to compete against the opponent sibling for the source of power, the writer would like to entitle this research

as **Sibling Rivalry in Literary Darwinism Perspective as Seen in John Shors' *Beneath a Marble Sky*.**

1.2 Identification of Problem

John Shors' *Beneath a Marble Sky* presents Darwinian issues in a range of families, particularly on sibling problems. Anthropologists designate siblings as the minimum difference from one to another. In sociology literature, siblings are in the range of family that is the social object that reputedly protected an individual. However, in *Beneath a Marble Sky*, siblings are presented as individuals who can kill their brother or sister. There are several human motives in literary Darwinism explain about the competition of siblings in the social environment. By attempts the concept of theories into the novel, the writer would like to uncover the motives that encourage the sibling to oppose their siblings instead of protecting them.

In most cases of sibling analysis, the scholars reveal the issue of a sibling in a passive context. There, the siblings have several issues limited in their thoughts but not in an extreme behavior. The sibling issue is commonly means as the occurrence of inappropriate feeling and thoughts, but in the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky*, the issues have been in the desire to kill. Shors represents the sibling issue in a deep envy and extreme way. Moreover, the issues of siblings are commonly discussed in the context of psychological analysis. Yet, in *Beneath a Marble Sky*, Shors reveals the issue from literary Darwinism context. Accordingly, the writer would like to uncover the motives of sibling rivalry from

Shors' presentation in the story.

1.3 Scope of the Research

This research focuses on analyzing of how Literary Darwinism explains the human motives that encourage these siblings to compete. Human motives are the factors of sibling rivalries in certain aspects. The siblings discover their desire to compete and survive occurs because of their human motives. The limitation of this research lies in the fact that the writer only analyses the three older siblings. The two younger siblings are not fully explored and attached to the case of sibling rivalry.

1.4 Research Questions

The writer will pose some questions to guide the writer in doing the research to focus on the analysis. Therefore, some questions as follows:

1. How are human motives represented in *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors?
2. How do the siblings deal with their human motives?

1.5. The objective of the Research

This research aims to examine how human motives explain sibling rivalry in the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. Using the Literary Darwinism perspective, we might see what are encouraged the siblings to see one another as an opponent although they share the same blood. Furthermore, by observing a particular incident, human will always be encouraged to several actions based on

their human motives. The writer hopes this research will be functional for the other researcher and enrich the literary study, particularly about literary Darwinism.

1.6 Review of Related Studies

The first is an article published in 2012 entitled *Darwin and 1860 Children's Literature: Belief, Myth or Detritus* by Ruth Murphy. In this article, Murphy shows how Darwinism influences three children works of literature after the publication of *Darwin's Origin of Species* (1859), they are; *Margaret Gatty's Parables from Nature* (third series; 1861-64), *Charles Kingsley's The Water-Babies* (1863) and *Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* (1865). Murphy divides his notion into several subtitles and then investigates it point by point. The author's attainment in the article is to show how the publication of Darwin's theory triggers the three mentioned writers to respond to the approach in the form of children literature. Main shortcomings in the article are the frequency of using some technical terms that commonly refer to another literary theory that confuses the reader whether the author discusses another approach or not. Meanwhile, the view that is mentioned is solely Darwinism. In some paragraphs, the author also explains notions that are not related to the sub-title above it. The author commonly divides the title's views into four subtitles but did not grant a smaller point on subtitle one another. The affect is the texts become hard to perceive since the author did not outline notions that will be shown in the subtitle one another. After all, this article underpins the writer research since the theory is

the same. The additional knowledge the writer gets after reading this article is beneficial for expanding the writer's perception.

The second is a thesis by Peter Grauholt Hansen and Jens Kirk published in 2018 entitled *Gripped by Humbert Humbert: A Literary Darwinist Reading of Vladimir Nabokov's Lolita (1955)*. In this article, Hansen attempts to discuss the theory of evolutionary psychology in the novel *Lolita*. At the end of the thesis paper, the research question is answered that literary Darwinism can explain the popularity of *Lolita*. *Lolita* become popular to Humbert because *Lolita* gains evolutionary psychology from the shape of Annabel, for Humbert Humbert. So that is why Humbert Humbert feels that *Lolita* is an incarnation from his lover in the past named Annabel Leigh. The author's attainment is he can explain the research in detail and scrutinize so that the reader can perceive the text well although they only read the mentioned novel's synopsis. The author also has an excellent capability of vocabulary and sentences. The thesis is quite well so that the writer is challenged to discover the shortcoming in the thesis paper. Although in some paragraphs, the author is a bit too deep to explain some topic that is a bit not relevant to the main issue. This thesis paper grants a lot of knowledge to the writer since it focuses on evolutionary theory. This thesis paper has opened the writer's eyes that an approach could be seen from many sides to understand well to the theory. This thesis paper is detailed and rich of workable knowledge and high capability of vocabulary. It will underpin the writer's research for a better version.

The third is a thesis by Mathias F. Clasen titled *Darwin and Dracula: Evolutionary Literary Study and Supernatural Horror Fiction (2007)*. In this thesis, Clasen convinces that evolution happens not only biologically but also psychologically since it propounded that, "human mind, no less than the human body, is a product of evolution by natural selection" (2007:1). Clasen describes how Dracula can portray himself as a monster that fears human or the reader by gathering the things human fear today and in the past (preceding). Clasen attempts to see the horror in the evolutionary psychology perspective. Clasen also explains about evolutionary psychology and biology in his thesis. It introduces the diversity between these types of literary Darwinism to the writer explicitly. The author describes the theory and analysis well. The author's attainment is he can avoid unrelated sentences. It prepares the text become compact and obvious. There is a lot of underpinning knowledge the writer discovers in the thesis that helps the writer's research.

The fourth is a thesis by Nika Göthovà titled *Darwin and his 'On the Origin of Species' as a part of the evolution of thought in nineteenth-century Britain (2016)*. The author puts her notions outlined. It prepares her text become organized. Since its title is *Darwin and his On the Origin of Species as a part of the evolution of thought in the nineteenth century Britain*, the content is suitable with the title. It does not focus on analyzing literary work intensely. In a part of the theory, the author only explains her opinion to Darwin's book but does not profoundly talk about the approach. It has the effect of making the writer become a bit confused. After all, this thesis grants some reading that might provide

another perspective to the writer.

Based on the mentioned related studies, we could perceive the literary Darwinism notions in the diverse realms. However, the notions of literary Darwinism in sibling rivalry have not been discussed yet, as long as the writer is doing the search and research on the related studies. Therefore, the writer discovered the blank in the previous related studies. They do not discuss the literary Darwinism notions in sibling realm. Based on that fact, the writer would like to use that knowledge to underpin the research that the writer engaged concerns the sibling rivalry.

1.7 Theoretical Framework

The writer uses Literary Darwinism to analyze the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. Literary Darwinism uses Darwin's notion to formulate the basis of literary theory then interprets literary texts. At the same time, Gottschall states that literary Darwinism is a method to perceive the nature of literature from an evolutionary perspective (2005:17). Literary Darwinism discusses the aspects of literature and read it in terms of science. On the other hand, Carroll states that literary Darwinism focuses on human nature, especially the typical characteristic of human species (2011:4).

Literature portrays human and its alteration through periods. Literary work itself is hit by evolutionary since some genres are not sufficient time after time and the regeneration is always happening. Since literature is a product of the human mind, Clasen (2007) premises that the human mind, no less than the

human body, is a product of evolution through natural selection. Therefore, literature could be discussed as the object in terms of literary Darwinism. The theoretical basis is the natural selection which reveals the endurance of every form of existence in the range of an environment. An environment accommodates several living organisms that struggle to have a life. That living organisms could be seen separately as an individual and could be interpreted by using evolutionary theory. Clasen explains that evolutionary theory is divided into two categories that are evolutionary biology and evolutionary psychology. Evolutionary biology is a concern on the physic; meanwhile, evolutionary psychology is a concern on the psyche. We could use both of them to interpret a species to reveal their endurance facing evolution. Evolutionary notions lie in the development of human physic, psyche, soul, and mind. Except for the growth of human physic, others could not be seen with eyes but could be seen by mind.

Human Motives

According to Joseph Carroll (157: 2011), human has motives for doing every deed. On Carroll's *Human Nature*, he propounds there that motives are basic life goals. Human behavior depends on their requirements as an individual to survive. As an individual, Carroll propounds twelve basic motives, they are:

- Survival.
- Finding a short-term romantic partner.
- Finding or keeping a spouse.
- Gaining or keeping wealth.

- Gaining or keeping power.
- Gaining or keeping prestige.
- Obtaining education or culture.
- Making friends and forming alliances.
- Nurturing/fostering offspring or aiding other kin.
- Aiding non-kin.
- Building, creating, or discovering something.
- Performing routine tasks to gain a livelihood.

These mentioned motives commonly exist in the psyche of the human being as an individual.

Furthermore, some motives emerge in a group of individuals, as a social creature, that called as social dominance motives. They are; (a) Constructive Effort, (b) Romance, (c) Nurture, (d) Subsistence, and (e) Dominance. These five motives are distributed between male and female. Constructive Effort encourages both male and female, Romance (discovering mates) and Nurture (take care for offspring and relatives) encourage the female protagonist. Subsistence (doing work routine to procure a living such as food, place) encourages the male protagonist, and Dominate encourages both male and female protagonists.

Survival of The Fittest

Survival of The Fittest is a theory propounded by Herbert Spencer. This theory discusses about the main shortcoming of the Neo-Darwinian narrative.

They are; (a) The paradox of organized death, (b) The paradox of Accumulating Complexity, (c) Mutual Cooperation marks living system, and (d) Living systems invest in diversity and avoid uniform fitness by sexual reproduction. Except for the last-mentioned main shortcoming of Neo-Darwinian narrative, they reveal the paradox or non-paradox phenomena of the nature in the sibling rivalry.

The first main shortcoming of the Neo-Darwinian narrative is the paradox of organized death. The relentless struggle for survival imagined by Darwin is challenged by the fact, long-neglected, that much of the most basic nature of the individual - including genetically inherited nature - is sacrificed for various self-inflicted processes engendered by apoptosis and other means. An individual cannot develop and survive unless a large number of its human motive chooses to be lost or destroyed periodically and under certain circumstances. Human motives with inappropriate aim annihilate themselves for the good of the individual. In many social individuals, weak males refrain from reproduction, and altruistic human even sacrifice themselves, for the good of the species.

The second main shortcoming is the paradox of accumulating complexity. The idea is an obvious feature of evolution is a factor of increasing complexity - from prokaryotes to human culture. For example, bacteria have never undergone mass extinctions that have visited other more complex forms of life; indeed, a more complex creature is a more fragile creature. Who can better survive global challenges, the errors of the oceans, and biodiversity other than mammals? Survival of the fittest is the driving force of evolution and its measure of success.

How could the survival of the fittest drive evolution into more complex, but more fragile, fads and organisms? The Darwinian explanation for the evolution of complexity has been explored in detail.

The last main shortcoming of the Neo-Darwinian narrative used in this research is the mutual cooperation marks living system. This idea means that the individual is an ecosystem. Thus, the environment around them attempts the fitness of the individual ecosystem. So, it is not just the fitness of the individual's inherited genes. In other words, a basic individual is a group of several elements of nature. Thus, the fittest individual expresses the fittest collective of interacting nature, within a single body.

Sibling Rivalry

Siblings Rivalry is a concept of psychological theory by Sigmund Freud. This concept concerns a condition among siblings that might trigger some conflict if parents do not respond well. The term sibling rivalry itself was mentioned for the first time by David M. Levy in 1941. Sibling rivalry is a kind of competition that occurs in the sibling relationship. This competition is aimed to get attention, love, and other aspects that can be gained from parents. It exists in every family with a kid more than one. Commonly, the kids compete when they are in the age around five to eleven years old. The kids feel that their siblings have the potential to be an opposition that can grab the attention of their parents. Some factors might trigger the conflict among the siblings. The example of sibling rivalry in the literary work is when Cain or the firstborn son of Adam kills his brother, Abel

because Cain feels that Abel has competed with him. At the same time, he could not do what Abel do at the same level then, he regards his sibling as a threat in his life.

1.8 Methods of the Research

In conducting the research, the writer applies library research methodology. There are three steps in conducting this research. First, the writer collects the data from the references as in the bibliography. Second, the writer analyses the data using the theory and the novel. Third, the writer presents the result of the analysis.

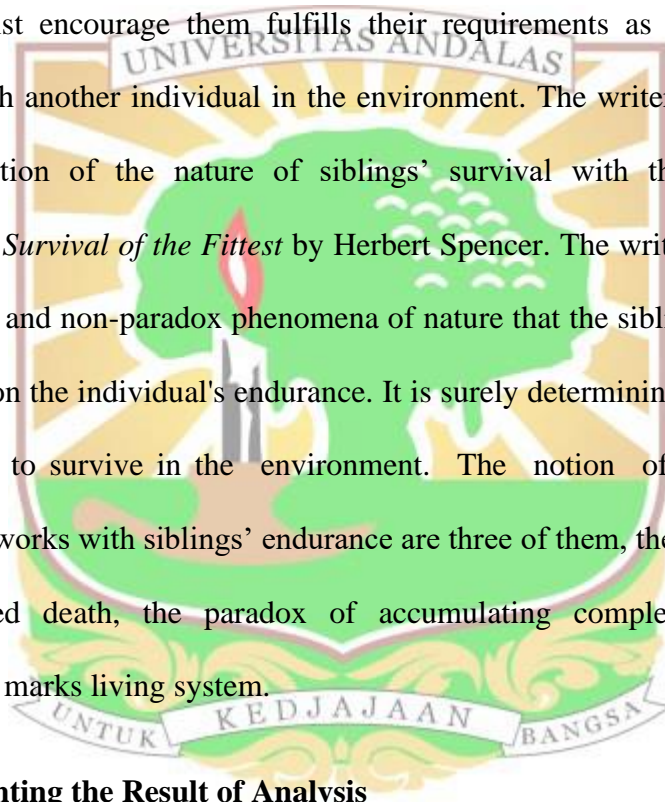
1.8.1 Collecting Data

The writer applies library research methodology to discover primary and secondary data. The writer attempts to divide the data into two kinds: the primary data and secondary data. For primary data, the writer uses the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. In secondary data, the information is taken from some books related to the literary Darwinism. The writer also uses library methods, reading books, articles, YouTube, and browsing the internet.

1.8.2 Analyses the Data

In analyzing the data, the writer applies some steps. First, the writer reads the novel entitled *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors more than five times to get a deeper understanding. Second, the writer reads another thesis, books, and articles related to the topic, and the theory that the writer chooses to analyze the

topic. In analyzing the data, the writer applies literary Darwinism. The writer uses human motives theory in literary Darwinism to attempt the theory into the novel. In human motives theory propounded by Joseph Carrol, human being naturally has several human motives as a social creature, they are; nurture, romance, constructive effort, and dominance motive. The writer identifies these concepts of theory in the novel *Beneath a Marble Sky* by John Shors. Thus, the writer discovers the motives that engender sibling rivalry. The siblings' mentioned motives exist encourage them fulfills their requirements as an individual and contend with another individual in the environment. The writer then explains the characterization of the nature of siblings' survival with the Neo-Darwinian narrative in *Survival of the Fittest* by Herbert Spencer. The writer focuses on how the paradox and non-paradox phenomena of nature that the siblings have could be significant on the individual's endurance. It is surely determining the endurance of the siblings to survive in the environment. The notion of *Survival of the Fittest* that works with siblings' endurance are three of them, they are; the paradox of organized death, the paradox of accumulating complexity, and mutual cooperation marks living system.



1.8.3 Presenting the Result of Analysis

In presenting the result of the analysis, the writer uses descriptive research. Bogdan and Biklen (1982) said that: “Qualitative research is descriptive, the collected data in the form of words or picture rather than numbers. The written result of the research contains quotation from the data illustrates and substantiate

the presentation” (28). The analysis is present into four chapters; the first chapter consists of the introduction of sibling rivalry issue and the notions of literary Darwinism; the second chapter consists of the intrinsic elements of the novel; the third chapter is the main analysis of **sibling rivalry in literary Darwinism as seen in John Shors’ *Beneath a Marble Sky***. The thesis statement definitely is human motives engender sibling rivalry, and the fourth chapter is the conclusion of the analysis from the previous chapters.

