

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Red Queen is a novel by Victoria Aveyard and published in 2015. This novel has a focus on kingdom story, and the novel delineates the story on nine characters. The story has a setting in Norta during summer. The story takes place in Stilts (a small village), Summerton, and the capital, Archeon. The theme of this novel is a struggle of the proletariat against the bourgeoisie to fight for their right as a part of the society they live. This novel is focused on the story of a girl.

Red Queen tells the story of Mare Barrow, a 17-year-old, who lives in a world divided by the blood of red and silver. The Reds are the commoners, while the Silvers are the rulers with the power to manipulate elements. Mare Barrow lives in a small village, Stilt, with her parents and her younger sister while her brothers are conscripted and fighting for the Silvers in an ongoing war in Lakelanders. As she is 17, she has prepared everything and is ready to be conscripted. However, one night, she faces a bitter truth. Kilorn Warren's employer was found dead, meaning he was no longer an apprentice, and people with no job would be sent for conscription as soon as they became 18. Mare Barrow knows Kilorn is never ready to be sent to the war. After hearing the news, she decides to help Kilorn escape his fate. However, they have to pay a high price to escape this situation. Knowing there is no way for her to get much money in a short time, Mare Barrow decides to ask her sister, Gisa, for help. In order to help them both, Gisa takes Mare with her to

Summerton, where Silvers spend their time during summer. Sadly, they did not succeed in their plans, and Gisa broke her finger. Mare, who was behind all of this, felt sorry for what had happened. She then ran away. Finally, Mare and other characters fall into conflicts and ends with a good ending for Mare Barrow as the main character in the story.

Red Queen is one of literary product in the form of novel. The novel serves as a communication tool system so that it can provide messages to others. In literature, the novel contains a structure. The structure is the element that constructs a perfect unity in literary works (Klarer, 2005; Gill, 1995) . It is the unity of the elements that create the story to be unified. Structural in the novel is the integrity of the elements in fiction. In fiction, it is not only a combination or arrangement of things and things that can stand alone but things that are mutually building and interrelated.

There are two elements in fiction. According to Nurgiyantoro (2010), the elements that make up literary works are intrinsic and extrinsic. *Intrinsic elements* make up the work fiction from within (formal), in the form of themes, messages, characterizations, plots, and settings. Burroway (2000) stated that extrinsic elements are elements that make up a work of fiction from the outside (informal) that can help, find out and analyze it, in the form of cultural background, religion, and education of the fiction writer. Klarer (2005) states that if what is to be examined is a work of fiction, what must be studied and observed is the part that composes the work of fiction, such as the theme, message, storyline, place,

characterizations, and point of view. This element is an element that forms a work of fiction from within and forms a work of fiction into a complete work.

The term *character* can refer to the individual in the story. In other words, the character in the story also refers to the unity of interests, emotions and moral principles that construct the character. In other words, the character describes the person's behaviour or nature in the story. Stanton (2007) said that dialogue and behaviour are the most important things in analyzing the character. In good fiction, every word and action determines not only the plot but also a manifestation of the character. This theory clearly states that dialogue, action, and comments a verbal representation of humans or have the most important dominance in literary works to create some interactions of characters around it. With this character definition, the writer tries to analyze the character in this study in the novel *Red Queen*. Moreover, Wellek and Warren (1989) stated that characterization is to understand how the actions and attitudes of characters change or develop. Developing characterization is having permanent changes in some aspects of character, i.e. personal changes or developing for a change of life, changes in actions and feelings.

This research and other researchers have focused on characterization and character in some novels that are mostly well-read. This research presented the analysis of the latest literary work, which was a novel from the popular one. This study centers on the structure of the novel, and it is especially on character and characterization. Selden (2015, p. 78) stated that structure analysis in literary work has a view of language to grasp the reality study of it (novel). Literary work also represents what

happens in the society (Kasih and Strid, 2020). From this statement, the structure analysis, which refers to the structuralism approach, sees literary work from intrinsic elements. Through this study, the characterization of major characters in *Red Queen* novel is chosen as this topic has never been examined and delineated by other researchers. Finally, the study entitled *An Analysis of Characters and Characterization in the Red Queen* novel by Victoria Aveyard became the focus of the study.

1.2 Research Questions

In the present study, the writer intends to focus on:

How are major characters characterized in the *Red Queen* novel?

1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the research questions above, the objective of this study is to reveal major characters' characterization in the *Red Queen* Novel.

1.4 Uses of the Study

The study is expected to have function in both theoretical and practical uses. For theoretical uses, the current study provides information and descriptions of characterization of major characters taken from a novel. For practical uses, the writer hopes that this research will give more understanding about characterization and it will contribute to the development of literary study. Further, through this study, hopefully the reader will be reminded of how important the characterization of a person in real life is.

1.5 Scope of the Study

In order to limit the discussion, the writer focuses on giving explanations about character and characterization in *Red Queen* novel. This study applied structuralism approach which focuses in intrinsic element of character. The theories of character and characterization from Burroway were chosen as the main theories to support the analysis.