The Man’s Struggle in Dealing With Life’s Conflict as Seen in John Green’s The Fault in Our Stars

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Abstract
The title of this research is "The Man’s Struggle in Dealing With Life’s Conflict As Seen in John Green’s The Fault In Our Stars". The problem of this research is focused on the problems of internal and external conflicts experienced by woman and man as the main characters. The purpose of this research is to find out the struggles of woman and man as the main characters in dealing with life conflicts described in the novel The Fault in Our Stars by John Green. This research is descriptive qualitative research. The technique used in this research is literature to obtain certain data by searching and collecting several books related to conflict analysis in literature, by quoting sentences or words that indicate conflict, and then describing them. In the main character conflict, there are two characters who are considered as the main characters because they dominate the whole story, they are Hazel and Augustus. The research uses the theory of conflict by Wallek and Warren (1956). Conflict into two parts, namely external conflict and internal conflict. Conflict with other characters in a story or conflict with social environment which is called external conflict. While the conflict that occurs in the heart and mind, in the soul of a character or character in a story is called internal conflict. The results of this research indicate that the development of the main character in the novel is influenced by situations, people, and feelings. At first, Hazel is a girl who likes to be alone, spending her time only at home, reading books and watching tv. She then becomes a girl who wants to share with others and have friends. Augustus at first is a boy who thinks and tries to handle everything on his own, he does not want to be pitied, eventually he realizes that he needs other people in his life and is grateful for what others do to him.

Keywords: Main Character, External Conflict, Internal Conflict, The Fault in Our Stars.
I INTRODUCTION

Literature is a sign system that has a different meaning using the medium of language. Literature reflect the society in an era can also be considered as a socio-cultural document, although the elements of imagination cannot be simply released, because it is impossible for a person to an author can imagine if there is no real underlying it. Studying literature is an interesting thing and never stopped while the literature was still being created. This is because literature has a fairly close relationship with life, especially the author and the reader. Literature is a form of life and wealth that cannot be priceless.

One of the literature which is a picture of human life which is poured in written form by the author with his imagination, namely novel. Novel is a form of literature that can speak freely about the life experienced by humans with various rules and regulations norms in their interaction with the environment so that in literature like a novel, there is a certain meaning about life.

Wallek and Warren (1956:276) defines the novel as the result of thoughts, appreciation, judgments and attitudes towards society created by the author. Novels are a reflection of life so from the novel there are also conflict like in real life. Conflict in everyday life is a very important event its presence is not desired to befall a person, whereas in a literature is not like that. The conflict in the novel is important part to build the groove structure. Conflict in a literature has become something that readers need as a his life experience.

Conflict is something dramatic, referring to the fight between balanced power and implies action and countermeasures. Conflict is divided into two, namely internal conflict and external conflict. Internal conflict is a conflict that occurs in the heart and mind, in the soul of a character or characters in a story. External conflict is a conflict that occurs between a character and someone who is outside himself, be it with the natural environment or with the human environment or other characters, Wallek and Warren (1956:124). This research is devoted to the main character conflict. The reason is that the conflict and the main character have a close and reciprocal relationship. Conflict is present as a shadow of the character’s life journey. The more twists the researcher provides, the longer the journey of life and the time span needed by the character to end the story. Conflict in the novel is an important part to build the plot structure.

The researcher choose the novel The Fault in Our Stars by John Green (2012) as the object of research for several reasons. First, this novel was inspired by a true story, where Green finally wrote this novel. At that time Green had worked at a National Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio for several months as a pastor. From the experience Green had while working in hospitals, he witnessed many children suffering from serious illnesses that could threaten their lives.

Green also meet a young cancer patient named Esther. Esther is a fan of books written by Green before The Fault in Our Stars was written. From that meeting they eventually became close friends. Starting from that, Green was inspired to write the novel The Fault in Our Stars. Hazel’s character was made like Esther. Many aspects of Esther appearance, illness, and personality can be found in the character Hazel in the novel The Fault in Our Stars. Second, the novel The Fault in Our Stars contains many main character conflicts to analyze. Third, the author of The Fault in Our Stars, Green is a best-selling novelist who is famous for his inspiring works.

The researcher chose the title The Man’s Struggle in Dealing With Life’s Conflict As Seen in John Green’s The Fault in Our Stars because the conflict experienced by the main character are conflicts that often occur in life, where humans cannot control their unstable souls, causing problems if they occur. cannot be controlled. Conflicts that occur between humans and their social environment are often caused by a lack of socialization between one another. Therefore, by knowing social conditions and their relationship in conflict, we can understand and position ourselves in interacting in society. Therefore, it is important to know the various conflicts that arise and occur from within humans.

An example of Hazel’s character conflict in the novel The Fault in Our Stars is that Hazel is a person who is too thinking. She often overthinks anything and that make it complicated with a mind of its own. This is one conflict in
him is the mind. While the example of the conflict that Augustus faced was the fear that was in her. Augustus is afraid of being forgotten by everyone close to him, when he is no longer in this world. Thus, he has a great desire to do something big in order to always in everyone's memory, this greatly influenced Augustus behavior in everyday.

II RESEARCH METHODS

2.1 Method of Collecting the Data

The method used in this research is qualitative method. Qualitative research is research that is descriptive and tends to use more analysis. Process and meaning are highlighted in this research. Qualitative research is research on descriptive research and tends to use analysis. According to Auerbach and Silverstein (2003:3) say that qualitative research is research that involves analyzing and interpreting texts and interviews in order to discover meaningful patterns descriptive of a particular phenomenon.

2.2 Method of Analyzing the Data

The data analysis method used by researchers in this research is descriptive. Descriptive method is a research method that tries to describe phenomena, events, events by describing the problem based on the actual problem. Creswell (2012:274) explained the purpose of descriptive method is to find a detailed explanation and description about the object of the research systematically. Descriptive is done by identifying data relating to external and internal conflicts of men in their struggle to deal with life's conflicts as seen in John Green's The Fault in Our Stars.

2.3 Technique of Collecting the Data

The data collection technique used in this research is library research as the basis for compiling research instruments. Based on the opinion of George (2008:5) library research is a technique to collect all the information needed by identifying and finding sources that provide factual information about the research. The sources that provide factual information in this research consist of primary sources and secondary sources. The main source in collecting data is the novel The Fault in Our Stars by Green. The novel consists of 25 chapters and 187 pages, first printed in 2012. Secondary sources in the form of books and journals obtained from searches on the internet. The data collection technique was done by reading the novel The Fault in Our Stars repeatedly to understand the contents of the novel well. Determine the characters to be analyzed to find out what problems are contained in the novel. Record important matters in primary sources to identify external and internal conflicts of men in their struggle to deal with life's conflicts as seen in John Green's The Fault in Our Stars.

2.4 Technique of Analyzing the Data

Data analysis can be done by grouping data, explaining it into a single unit, compiling it into a pattern, choosing which ones are important to research and making conclusions that can be told to others. Miles and Huberman say that any analysis involves a way of thinking. It refers to the systematic examination of something to determine its parts, the relationship between the parts, and the relationship to the whole. Analysis is research for patterns. Data analysis aims to simplify data into a form which is easier to read and translate. The data analysis technique used in this research from Miles and Huberman (1994) analysis technique which includes three components namely; data reduction, reducing data means summarizing, selecting important things, focusing on things that are considered useful. Data reduction, can be assisted by using electronic devices or by providing codes in certain sections. Data display, data presentation can be done in the form of descriptions, the most frequently used in data presentation is narrative text. Drawing conclusions at this stage the researcher draws conclusions from data that has been obtained since the beginning of the research.
III RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Man’s External Conflict Analysis

External conflict is a conflict that occurs between a character and someone who is outside himself, both with the natural environment and with the human environment or other characters, giving rise to differences of opinion on a perception or interpretation of something and also differences of opinion in responding to a problem. This research examines the external conflicts of the characters Hazel and Augustus in their struggle in dealing with life’s conflict as seen in Green’s The Fault in Our Stars by using the theory of external conflict analysis of Wallek and Warren.

In this research the analysis of external conflict of the main character is only in term of the conflict between the main character and supporting characters or conflict between individuals. The following quotation:

Hazel’s external conflict is started when Hazel’s mom wants her to attend support group, she wants Hazel makes a friend and socializes with the other but Hazel does not want to attend the support group because she feels bored with the group, she is watching America’s Next Top Model. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data:
Hazel: I refuse to attend Support Group.
Mom: One of the symptoms of depression is disinterest in activities.
Hazel: Please just let me watch America’s Next Top Model. It’s an Activity.
Mom: Television is a passivity.
Hazel: Ugh, Mom, Please.

From the utterance above, the sentences that show that Hazel only wants to watch America’s Next Top Model so she refuses her mom’s invitation to ask Hazel to attend the support group are I refuse to attend the Support Group and Please just let me watch America’s Next Top Model. It’s an activity. Hazel refused to come back to the support group, because Hazel felt that after several weeks of attending the support group, nothing attracted her there to stay at the meeting. The support group is held every Wednesday in the basement of a stone walled Episcopal church shaped like a cross. Hazel was bored when attending the support group, where she would meet people suffering from deadly diseases and strangely they still thought that there was still a chance to recover from their illness and live longer, even though they themselves knew their illness. Suffering is not an ordinary disease that is easily cured with medicine alone.

Hazel herself knows that there are many things that must be done by sufferers of this deadly disease to struggle to recover from cancer, not only implementing a healthy lifestyle or regular chemotherapy, but also having a strong mentality so that they can control themselves and their minds to keep the spirit to continue, struggle to heal and live life positively. Even though Hazel knew that, but it no longer affected Hazel. Hazel only thought of living her day as usual, which was spending all day in her room reading books and watching movies. Hazel seems to have resigned herself to the situation, Hazel thinks now or later, humans will also meet death.

However, the sentence that shows that Hazel’s mom still forces Hazel to be able to attend the support group is Hazel you’re a teenager. You’re not a little kid anymore. You need to make a friends, get out of the house, and live your life. From that sentence, we know that Hazel’s mom wants Hazel to be able to see how the world is out there, in order that Hazel is not too burdened by her illness. From the utterance above, there was a clash of thoughts between Hazel and her mom which caused an external conflict.

Augustus external conflict can be seen when he fights with his mom because he had started palliative chemo, and his mother did not allow him to go to Amsterdam. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data:
As we papproached the house, i could hear someone crying inside. I didn’t think it was Gust at first time, but then i heard a voice that was definitely a wisted version of his say, BECAUSE IT IS MY LIFE, MOM. IT BELONG TO ME. Green (2012:79).

From the utterance above the sentence that shows Augustus fighting with his mom is BECAUSE IT
IS MY LIFE, MOM. IT BELONG TO ME. The fight between Augustus's mom and Augustus happened because Augustus's mom did not allow Augustus to go to Amsterdam because Augustus himself was undergoing chemotherapy to cure his leg which still hurts even though it has been amputated, but Augustus was so adamant about leaving without heeding his parents' words. Augustus doesn't seem to care about his health anymore, he just wants to fulfill his heart's desire to go to Amsterdam even though his mom is very angry. If analyzed actually Augustus' mom just wanted her son not to go through his routine for chemotherapy. Augustus's mom wanted her son to recover from his illness, even though she had to argue with Augustus so he would not go to Amsterdam.

Every mom has love for her child. Mom just wants to see every one of her children okay. A mom does not want her child to be upset. Mom will feel more pain if they see their children are also sick, because mom’s who have given birth to us, mom’s who have cared for educated and raised us. This is what Augustus’ mom did to her son. Let each of us respect a mom and love them, let's listen to their heart's desire. Even if later we can't fulfill their request, at least say it to them in a low and soft voice, full of respect and affection, so mothers will also respect the decisions of each of us. Never leave a wound in their hearts, because in fact we as children also love them.

3.2 Man's Internal Conflict Analysis

Internal conflict is a conflict that occurs in the heart and mind, in the soul of a character in a story. In this research, the researcher wants to examine the internal conflicts of the characters Hazel and Augustus in their struggle in dealing with life's conflict as seen in Green's The Fault in Our Stars by using the theory of internal conflict analysis of Wallek and Warren.

Conflict occurs within a person for having to face obstacles that lie between desires and goals or dreams, and when the satisfaction of human desires is somewhat impossible to achieved that's when humans experience conflict. conflict from humans occur because humans have a limited capacity to satisfy most of her or his needs.Hazel is the main character in the novel The Fault in Our stars. He always appears in every scene and becomes the center of the story in play. She is a 16 year old teenage girl, she lives in Indiana with her parents. She is a thinking girl, so often thinking about many things makes her complicated with her own thoughts. Hazel is also a smart girl, she was diagnosed at the age of thirteen with thyroid cancer which had spread to her lungs.

Hazel’s internal conflict can be seen when she forced herself to go to support group to make her parents happy. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data :

I wanted to make my parents happy. There is only thing in this world shitter than biting it from cancer when you're sixteen, and that's having a kid it from cancer. Green (2012:3).

From the utterance above, it can be seen that Hazel feels only a burden to her parents and will destroy their parents' lives because she is sick, so when her mom told her to come to a support group meeting, Hazel complied even though she had to argue with her parents first. She felt guilty about something she couldn't control. Hazel thought that by joining the support group meeting her mom suggested, she had contributed to making her parents happy. If analyzed, being in Hazel's position is indeed quite difficult, where on the one hand she doesn't want to see her parents sad because they think about Hazel's condition, but on the other hand Hazel also can't avoid God's destiny that allows her to feel what is called cancer. So he just thought of doing what he could to make his parents happy, one of which was to obey the wishes of those who wanted Hazel to join the support group. In life we will indeed be faced with difficult and even uncomfortable situations, so that sometimes it makes people despair or disappointed with the situation, but one thing is for sure we need to surrender to God so that we may be given fortitude, patience and strength in living every day, experienced living conditions.

Augustus is a 17 year old teenager, he can be considered the main character, because he had a major influence on the novel The Fault in Our Stars. He met Hazel at a support group for youth with cancer. Augustus lost part of his leg due to he had an osteosarcoma the previous year and is believed to be cancer free, although he still has occasional relapses of pain in his legs. The same with Hazel, he also had an internal conflict.

Augustus internal conflict can be seen when he comes to the support group to
accompanying his friend Isaac, when in the support group, he introduced himself at the front of the room and explained a bit of his illness. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data :

*My name is Augustus Waters, he said. I’m seventeen. I had a little touch of osteosarcoma a year and a half ago, but I’m just here today at Isaac’s request. Green (2012:5).*

From the utterance above, the sentence that shows that Augustus introduced himself is *My name is Augustus Waters, I’m seventeen.* Augustus also said that he was present in that support group only because he had a friend in the group named Isaac. Augustus was here because he wanted to support Isaac, as can be seen from the sentence above, *but I’m just here today at Isaac’s request.* From the group meeting, Augustus could tell that the leader of the group was Patrick. In that group everyone who was present there shared their stories with each other, they listened to each other, then they supported each other through prayer.

3.3 The Psychological Analysis of the Main Characters

3.3.1 Desire

The desire of the main character Hazel is seen when Hazel wants Peter Van Houten who is the author of her favorite book to tell all the missing parts of her favorite book. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data :

*Mr. Van Houten, I understand from your email to Augustus that you are not planning to publish any more books. In a way, I am disappointed, but I’m also relieved: I never have to worry whether your next book will live up to the magnificent perfection of the original. As a three-year survivor of Stage IV cancer, I can tell you that you got everything right in An Imperial Affliction. Or at least you got me right. Your book has a way of telling me what I’m feeling before I even feel it, and I’ve reread it dozens of times. I wonder, though, if you would mind answering a couple questions I have about what happens after the end of the novel. I understand the book ends because Anna dies or becomes too ill to continue writing it, but I would really like to know what happens to Anna’s mom. Green (2012:39).*

The email that Hazel has send to Peter Van Houten above clearly explains that she seriously wants to know the answers to her questions about what happens after the end of her favorite novel. She asks what happens about the other characters because she probably knows that Anna is dead. Hazel realizes that all of her questions are not important questions and Peter Van Houten’s novel is full-filled of important literary questions. She really wants to know that and it haunts her for years. She is wondering over all the unimportant questions. She tells Peter Van Houten that if he wants to write something and is not willing to publish it, she will love to read it. Even the smallest thing, she really wants to read.

While Augustus’ main character, Augustus, has a great desire to do something big so that it will always be in everyone’s memory, because Augustus himself has the greatest fear of being forgotten, this greatly affects Augustus’ behavior in his daily life. One of them was when Augustus brought the atmosphere to life through his funny jokes. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data :

*That’s exactly what we found with families at memorial when we were in the thick of it with Gus’s treatment, his dad said. Everybody was so kind. Strong, too. In the darkest days, the Lord puts the best people into your life. I like the freaking Encouragements. I really do. I just can’t admit it because I’m a teenager. Green (2012:15).*

This atmosphere was seen when Augustus brought Hazel to his house and managed to make his father was instantly annoyed with his jokes about his father and mother's habits who love to make plaques on every occasion and on every piece of furniture in their home. Augustus’ funny nature can also be seen from Isaac’s explanation on the day of his funeral. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data :

*Other people will be able to tell you funny stories about Gus, because he was a funny guy. Green (2012:159).*

3.3.2 Emotions

Emotions in humans are reflected in the character of the story in *The Fault in Our Stars*, reflected through Hazel's attitude and thoughts.
There are many problems that make Hazel the main character emotional. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data:
When, I said. She nodded. Even when you die, I will still be your mom, Hazel. I won’t stop being your mom. Have you stopped loving Gus? I shook my head. Okay, I said. My dad was crying now. I want you guys to have a life, I said. I worry that you won’t have a life, that you’ll sit around here all day with no me to look after and stare at the walls and want to off yourselves. Green (2012:174-175).

Hazel is afraid of her parents getting no life when she dies someday. Actually, she does not want to leave her parents but her cancer reminds her that day when she cannot stand with the pain anymore and she will die. She heard from her mother that she will never be a mother again that day when she was in hospital. She feels like she is supposed not to be there in this world. Also she is afraid that her parents will get depressed the rest of their life and regret over everything.

3.3.3 Feelings
One of Hazel’s feelings that made her fall on her mind. Because most of Hazel’s feelings, she just keeps for her, she cannot express it to other people or even share it. It can be illustrated in the following quotation:

Data:
Later, after they’d given me something, the nurse came in and she was kind of stroking my hand while she took my blood pressure and she said, You know how I know you’re a fighter? You called a ten a nine. But that wasn’t quite right. I called it a nine because I was saving my ten. And here it was, the great and terrible ten, slamming me again and again as I lay still and alone in my bed staring at the ceiling, the waves tossing me against the rocks then pulling me back out to sea so they could launch me again into the jagged face of the cliff, leaving me floating faceup on the water, undrowned. Green (2012:154).

It happens when she heard that Augustus is already gone. It obviously makes her hurt and cry over the pain. The feeling is worse than she feels once when she gets into the ER. She needs to rate her pain on a scale of one to ten and she hold up nine fingers. The nurse tells her that she is a fighter, because she calls a nine a ten. She calls it a nine because she is saving her ten for this case. When she knows it from Augustus’s mom that he is already gone, she feels terribly hurt. It is not getting better, the seconds just go worse for her. The longer that she cries, the more she gets in pain. It is unbearable for her.

IV CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the character analysis in the discussion chapter, it can be seen that the character Hazel and Augustus in the novel The Fault in Our Stars by Green, it can be concluded that both are round characters because they have so many roles in the story, causing changes that affect the habits and behavior of Hazel and Augustus. Hazel who is a girl suffering from lung cancer must use a portable tank to help him breathing while Augustus who had osteosarcoma cancer made him lost one of his legs and used a prosthetic. Their conflict is about their illness, however, they try to act like healthy people. They share and support each other. Hazel was originally a solitary girl, and just spending time at home, reading books and watching tv becomes a personal figure who are open, sociable and have friends. Hazel's change occurred when she decided to go to the support group meeting that was actually forced by her mother, thinking that Hazel was depressed. At that meeting, he met Augustus is a man who always spreads positivity to those around him. While the change in character from Augustus occurs when illness which he suffered strikes back. Augustus who originally thought and tried overcome everything alone without the help of others because they don't want to pity finally realized that he needed someone else in his life and in the end, i have to continue to thank the people who were always there to support her when her illness came back. In this novel The
*Fault in Our Stars*, Green wants to convey in his work that we as humans should try to look at people with cancer as normal human beings who also have dreams and aspirations in addition to healing, desires and other worldly desires. Be patient in any situation, keep the spirit in living life, and keep thinking positive and don't forget to continue to rely on God in our lives.

It is important for every human being to know the moral lessons learned through conflicts or problems encountered in life. The novel *The Fault in Our Stars* researchers enjoy in every reading of literary works. Especially when the researcher has to find out the external and internal conflicts faced by the main character in a novel. Through the conflicts that occur in the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*, we can broaden our horizons about a conflict, either through conflicts that exist in the story or those that are actually experienced by humans in everyday life, because the conflict itself can appear at any time in the world. our life and it's really inevitable in our life. Through the story of *The Fault In Our Stars*, the novel teaches us to always be grateful for every situation in our lives and always struggle in navigating life that is sometimes not easy to pass. Through the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*, we are also taught to always draw closer and fully rely on the almighty who owns our lives, God. The researcher hopes that through this research the reader can understand more about how it is a conflict. Hopefully this paper can also be a reference for researchers in understanding future conflicts.
Bibliography


