

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

Paulo Coelho was born on 24 August 1947, also known as Paul Rabbit, and is a Brazilian novelist. Nowadays he is one of the most widely-read authors in the world. Paulo has received several international awards for his work, including the World Economic Forum's Crystal Award. His most famous novel, the Alchemist, has been translated into 67 languages. (Mawaddah, 2010) Paulo Coelho's books have sold 150 million copies worldwide.

For nearly three decades, Paulo Coelho has captivated readers around the world with his engaging fiction expertise. A contemporary society writer, Coelho is passionate about reading among young people. He is the author of a brain-based theory of organizational evolution, with a primary interest in the human mind and the cosmic soul. Coelho guides each reader to lead a meaningful life (Abthaheer, 2021).

The Alchemist is a fictional novel by Paulo Coelho and was first published in Brazil in 1988. This book is about searching for "treasure" for a young shepherd. The process experienced by Santiago as the young shepherd is challenging in finding the treasure. One day, he meets the alchemist who can create something from nothing by following the predestined signs in his life process, achieving his dream and even his love.

This novel tells about how Santiago achieves his dream full of optimism, courage, and persistence. The persistence of Santiago is interpreted and completed by his spirituality. Santiago believes in himself, his dreams, and his ideals and tries to fight for something he wants.

The Alchemist tells the story of Santiago being the main character, followed by a flock of sheep. The sound of the heart travels toward a dream. He often dreams Pyramid with a treasure trove. A trip to Tangier made him meet the alchemist who guides him in the Egyptian desert soul of the world, life, love, and patience. The journey also leads him to find his true love, Fatima. A desert girl who faithfully awaits his return.

Before the trip, Santiago continued to have several dreams. He wondered what that meant. Santiago tries to get to know his goals. In the middle of the search for his identity as a shepherd, he tried to decipher the reflection of his dreams.

Santiago encounters several obstacles on his way to the pyramids, such as while walking through the desert with an alchemist. They are met by tribesmen dressed in blue and taken to a tribal chief at a military camp. The tribal leader accused Santiago and the alchemist of being enemies and taking all their gold. The alchemist told the tribal leaders that if it was Santiago, he would turn himself into the wind and blow the tent away. Santiago listened silently. he was scared Santiago thinks so. How can I become the wind? I couldn't even understand the language of the wind. This event tricked Santiago's spirit into learning how to become the wind, allowing him and his alchemist to continue their journey to the Pyramids. After three days he was able to

understand the language of nature. He spoke to the wind, sand, and sun. His ability causes the wind to surround him, covering him with strong winds and also blowing away part of his tent. This saved them from death and allowed them to be under surveillance for as long as they wished. Santiago finally made his dream to visit the pyramid and find his treasure.

Many self-help books inspire readers to achieve their dreams. However, many of these nuanced self-help books present it more theoretically, with points that contain several supporting factors. Slightly different from what is shown in this old novel. Present in the story of Santiago and the Alchemist, who constantly reminds him that the universe will support his every dream to make it come true.

This book is packaged, so it doesn't seem patronizing. The language used is light and easy to understand. The Alchemist tells how great the power is from listening to the heart's voice, trying hard to achieve dreams, daring to make risky decisions, and not giving up in the name of destiny.

In today's millennial era, the era is instantaneous, and everything is easy. By reading this novel, if we are serious about implementing it in our lives, we will appreciate every process of life. In realizing destiny, we will learn everything there is to know and experience everything we dream of.

Coelho's novels are beautiful and poetic, but what matters is their message. His books have enriched the lives of millions. The mystical nature of Santiago Boy's unique adventures may lead not only him, but others who read this wonderful book, to realize and reach their inner destinies. This fable is a pink mix of spiritual exploration,

existential mystery, loving sensitivity, and deep intensity (Laxmi Manogna et al., 2018).

The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho is an impactful novel. This novel is not just for entertainment, it is a motivational read. It is our pre-existing ability to understand the values behind the events in the novel and how to evaluate them in order to reach a conclusion. The reason this novel is worth reading is because it shows how he makes his dreams come true. Each person has different dreams and different ways to achieve them (Ningrum, 2010).

The main character in this novel is Santiago. Santiago is driven by motivation. Abraham Maslow's theory of hierarchy of needs proposes a five-tiered model that outlines human motivation and development. It suggests that individuals are driven by a progression of fundamental needs, arranged in a pyramid structure.

Starting from the base, these needs encompass physiological requirements like food and shelter, followed by safety needs for security and stability. As these necessities are met, individuals aspire for social belonging and love, and then move towards esteem needs, seeking recognition and self-worth.

At the pinnacle of the pyramid lies self-actualization, the pursuit of one's highest potential and personal growth. Maslow's theory underscores the dynamic interplay between these needs, where the satisfaction of lower-level needs is a prerequisite for the pursuit of higher-level ones, reflecting the intricate nature of human motivation and fulfillment.

In today's technological age, learning letters is necessary, especially for millennials. It cannot be denied that technology cannot replace the role of literary works in communicating human values. This can be achieved by studying the characters in the novel (Arafah & Abbas, n.d.).

This novel teaches us to achieve our goals, not just wishful thinking, and every step we take in achieving our goals will be confronted with many obstacles, as well as experiences and lessons that we can absorb.

Santiago's quest for success involves a journey to find his own destiny. This treasure is a symbol of Santiago's personal legend. The process is to compensate for the inferiority-mechanism (Farizi Ilmam Dani, 2013).

"When you want something, the whole universe will help you to achieve it"(Coelho, 1988). That's what the king said to Santiago before he set off on a journey inspired by his strange dream. Santiago's journey was fascinating, and we can learn many things from his journey. In this research, the researcher want to focus on the journey of the main character named Santiago.

1.2 Research Questions

In this study, the researcher formulates the problems by the background of the study—how important it is to learn the strategy of success theoretically justified in literature research.

1. What is Santiago's Dream?
2. How does Santiago's behavior transform after the realization of his dream?

3. What does Santiago do to achieves his dream?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Based on the background of the study and the focus of the analysis above, the researcher wants to classify research objectives into three categories:

1. To find out the dream of Santiago, the main character in Paulo Coelho's novel: The Alchemist
2. To describe the main character transformation.
3. To describe the main character efforts to achieves his dream.

1.4 Scope of The Research

In this research, the researcher wants to focus on how the main character dream, behaves and how he achieves his dream, employing Abraham Maslow hierarchy of needs theory in the novel The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho. This discussion is intended to limit research so that it is narrow enough to get more precise goals. The object to be studied is Santiago's main character, concerning his behavioral and efforts to achieve his dream.

1.5 Significance of The Study

To some extent, the study is significant in three ways. To the readers in general, it informs them how the main character is characterized by adopting theory hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow. in Paulo Coelho's novel: The Alchemist using which to

describe Santiago's Dream. Then, how Santiago transform after achieving his dream, and what Santiago do to achieves his dream.

1.6 Approach to the Study

A context-oriented approach will be used in this research. The term context-oriented approaches refers here to a heterogeneous group of schools and methodologies which do not regard literary texts as self-contained, independent works of art but try to place them within a larger context. Depending on the movement, this context can be history, social and political background, literary genre, nationality, or gender. The most influential movement to this day is literary history, which divides literary phenomena into periods, describes the text with respect to its historical background, dates texts and examines their mutual influence. This movement is associated with the discipline of history and is guided by historical methodology. The entire notion of literary history has become so familiar to us that it is difficult to distinguish it as an approach at all. This historically informed methodology which organizes literary works in a variety of categories is, of course, as arbitrary and dependent on conventions as any other approach (Klarer, 2005).

The theory will use is theory of hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow. Theory of hierarchy of needs is like a ladder for understanding what people need to feel happy and fulfilled. It says that we have different levels of needs, like basic things such as food, water, and safety come first. Once we have those, we start to want things like friends, feeling good about ourselves, and having a nice place to live. As we keep

climbing the ladder, we seek things like respect from others, confidence, and a chance to be the best version of ourselves. At the very top of the ladder is the need for us to reach our full potential and make a difference in the world. It's like building blocks – we need the lower ones to be strong before we can focus on the ones above.

The researcher will use qualitative methods to analyze the novel. The researcher will explain the data qualitatively. First, researchers carefully read novels over and over again. The purpose is to focus on learning the content of the novel in order to prevent misunderstandings during analysis. Second, the researchers then identify and make note of the characters' dreams, behaviors, and actions. Finally, the researcher will analyze the related data to be matched against Abraham Maslow theory hierarchy of needs.

Researchers will work with two data sources: primary data sources and secondary data sources. The primary data source for data collection is Paulo Coelho's novel *The Alchemist*. In contrast, secondary data comes from other sources related to the primary data and supports analysis, such as books, articles, and journals. The data collection method is the source of the literature from which information to support the research is obtained.

1.7 Organization of the Paper

The researcher intends to analyze Santiago's individualistic character, how Santiago achieves his dream, and the moral in the novel in five chapters. Chapter 1 outlines the background of the study to come up with research questions, the study's

objectives, the research's scope, and the paper's organization. Chapter 2 presents the biography of the novelist and the novel synopsis. Chapter 3 positions the current study within the research community by presenting previous studies and the theoretical framework hierarchy of needs by Abraham Maslow. Chapter 4 specializes in the research findings and discussion to answer the research questions formulated. In Chapter 5, the conclusion and suggestion will outline the moral or teaching values identified in Chapter 4.