

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### *1.1 Background of the Study*

As time keeps moving, so does everything. Less thing stay the same as the time goes on, even rocks in river would be gone as the water keeps regressing the rock as the time flows. It is no different to us humans. Humans goes from innocent into something we never know as the time progressed. One could go from good to bad to good again. The change depends on the individual and depends on many factors. Literature too covers this phenomenon. Regarding the change of human nature in literature, the change of a hero to a villain is one of kind of a story.

The characters in story played a huge role in any story. "Character design is an important element of each story and of most products of the creative industries as a whole" (Vira Haglund, 2012). It could be said that characters is the core elements in most of the stories. The dynamic struggle of the character is what drives the story goes forward, backward, or both. To scale how good or bad the story, characters development and design is often as the determining point. Dwight V. Swain (1990, p. 21) pointed out that characters "are like tapestries; [...] each is woven of many threads. But some threads are more vivid and visible than others, like strands of red through a gray fabric" Dwight V. SWAIN (1990, p. 21) pointed out that characters "are like tapestries; [...] each is woven of many threads. But some threads are more vivid and visible than others, like strands of red

through a gray fabric" . This quote implied that there is much to a character that cannot be seen. There is plenty of method to see the unseen traits of the character in the story. For this research, the researcher decided to use P.A.R.T.S (Physical description, Action, Reaction, Thoughts and Speech) by Jack Reams in his research titled Characterization in Fiction. This research is useful to analyze the characteristic of character in the story.

Tragic story of protagonist turns to villain is one of many theme in story driven-character. Story driven character is often considered as literally fiction as their structures are unpredictable, especially their ending (Kyra Thomsen, 2014). The theme revolves around one character and dives deep into their character more as the story progress. The struggle within a story often contains a message and moral of the story.. The movie JOKER currently posed as the forefront of this theme. Arthur Fleck (Joaquin Phoenix) deteriorating personality comes from his desire to be able to fit into the society (Chris Lambert, 2019), to be considered as "normal". It also can be considered that his desire to be considered as "normal" comes from the pressure of his environment. He seeks approval because of the pressure that his environment expects. The change of Arthur in the movie is heavily caused by the environment. The city of Gotham full of crimes, added with the abnormality Arthur possessed made Arthur gone bad. The rotten environment of Gotham City mold the character of Joker into perfection at the end of the movie. There are many reasons why a character gone insane and became the villain instead. While The Joker is because of the environment, the story of *Arthas: Rise of The Lich King* tells another cause.

The novel *World of Warcraft: Arthas: Rise of The Lich King* told the story of Arthas Menethil, a prince who fell to the dark side. The novel was released in April 21, 2009. The novel released after a huge positive feedback from *World of Warcraft* expansion, *Wrath of the Lich King*. The story of the novel is the story adaptation of the game *Warcraft III* and also add additional background of the character. The additional background of the story is the story of his early days, which in those part offers very important moment that eventually will be the cause of his downfall. The reason why the researcher chose the novel is that the novel also offers the inner conflict inside him, a struggle between his good side and bad side. The novel took a great detail and focus to Arthas character as the main character as the main objective of the novel is to make the readers know and understand why he become a villain. There is so many things that goes on inside a person when facing adversity, others sought peace, other sought to rebel against it. One of the focus that this thesis would like to focus on is the resilience and the self-efficacy that Arthas had throughout his journey.

Resilience is one of the value that resides in some of us. There is a wide range of definition for resilience as discussed in journal composed by Dr. Bonanno in his study entitled *Resilience definitions, theory, and challenges: Interdisciplinary perspectives of understanding what resilience is*. The general definition of resilience quoted from his study is the ability to adapt well in the face of trouble and in struggles. Every each one of us have a different capacities of resilience. Some are able to face great adversities and came up on top, some are able just to maintain their sanity, some were not even have enough resilience.

Struggles in life does not happen only once, it happened continuously until we leave this world for good. What happened to us might tipped us off, turns us into something that we don't want to be. But is it possible that resilient people who faced adversity, instead of overcome it they made it worse? Another aspect that resides in human when facing adversity is self-efficacy. Self-efficacy is the capability of a person to make important changes (August Flammer, 2001). Often this kind of aspect can be found in famous leaders. Self-efficacy itself often considered as positive aspect. Self-efficacy is core aspect that made people independent. As often it is considered as positive aspect, sometimes it is not. Self-efficacy could also mean taking control, to which is for the better or for the worst, it depends on the person. This kind of problem could be seen in the tragic story of protagonist gone bad.

The reason why the researcher chose the topic of a protagonist gone bad, is because the dynamic nature of human character is always interesting to be discussed. This development of character is also have been covered in many form of literatures. The development of a main character in fictional story is usually to move forward and to become a better version of themselves. However, it is not often to cover a story where the protagonist development went from good to bad. The story of *Arhas: Rise of The Lich King* covers this development. What is interesting with Arthas story is he has it all, he has spiritual mentor, legendary trainer, a noble king as his father, caring family and lover, and he is also a prince beloved by his people. Through the problem and struggles that he experienced, his

resilience and self-efficacy definitely will be tested, thus his resilience and self-efficacy will be the focus that this thesis would like to discuss.

A research paper with the title of "*An Analysis on Factors Influencing Arthas' Personality Development in Christi Golden's Arthas-Rise of The Lich King*" written by ST. Crisci Yohan S. discuss the novel *Rise of The Lich King*. Crisci Yohan discussing the personality development of Arthas using the M.J Murphy theory of Character and Charaterization. Through his study Crisci able to describe the character development of Arthas.

The study of Resilience in literature was analyzed in a research paper entitled "*The Girl Child's Resilience and Agency in NoViolet Bulawayo's We Need New Names*". The paper was written by Anna Chitando in 2016. Chitando discussing the message behind the story as the story posed as a criticism towards Zimbabwe society by identifying the main character with the scope of her resiliency.

The last study written by Triantoro Safaria and Alay Ahmad in 2013. The research paper entitled "*Effects of Self-Efficacy on Students Academic Performance*". The research undergo a test students. The study is to answer the question of how self-efficacy developed and how it affects the students.

From the previous explanation we know that analyzing a character traits of resilience and self-efficacy can be applied, as the study of analyzing character traits of resilience and self-efficacy has been done before respectively. From what the researcher found, there is still no study of analyzing Arthas resilience and self-efficacy traits.

## **1.2 Research Problem**

From the explanation above, the researcher found three problems that could be analyzed with the theory of Psychoanalysis regarding the story of *World of Warcraft: Arthas: Rise of The Lich King*, that is:

1. How resilient is Arthas when facing his adversities
2. How is Arthas self-efficacy reacts when facing his adversities
3. How Resilience and Self-Efficacy interconnect with each other.

## **1.3 Purpose of The Study**

The purpose of this study is to answer is how resilient Arthas is and how his self-efficacy reacts in the face of his adversities. This purpose could answer the reason why a person become a villain. What Arthas has been through since his childhood and how he reacts when facing his problems would be analyzed using P.A.R.T.S theory by Jack Reeams. Using this theory would help reveal how resilient he is and how is his self-efficacy reacts when the moment demands it. Also, the study is to found out how resilient and self-efficacy interconnects with each other.

## **1.4 Significance of the study**

1. The study will provide information how to analyze a character with the scope of resilience and self-efficacy using characterization.

2. To uncover the relation between resilience and self-efficacy.
3. The study may be useful to keep our self from being a bad person.