

**STRIVING FOR SUPERIORITY SHOWN BY HAZEL IN
JOHN GREEN'S *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS***

THESIS

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM
MALANG
2018**

STRIVING FOR SUPERIORITY SHOWN BY HAZEL IN JOHN
GREEN'S *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS*

THESIS

Presented to Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)* in
Department of English Literature

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MALANG
2018

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This is to certify that the *Sarjana* thesis of Siti Zahrotul Milla, entitled **Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*** has been approved by the advisor for further approval by the Board of Examiners as one of the requirements for the degree of *Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)* in Department of English Literature.

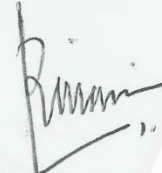
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STATEMENT OF THESIS AUTHORSHIP

I, Siti Zahrotul Milla, hereby declare that the thesis I wrote entitled **Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*** is truly my original work and did not incorporate any materials previously written or published by another author except those indicated in the quotations and bibliography. Therefore, I am the only person who is responsible for the thesis if there is any objection or claim for others.

Malang, September 5th, 2018

The Author



Siti Zahrotul Milla

MOTTO

The moment you accept what troubles you've been given,
the door will open.

— Rumi

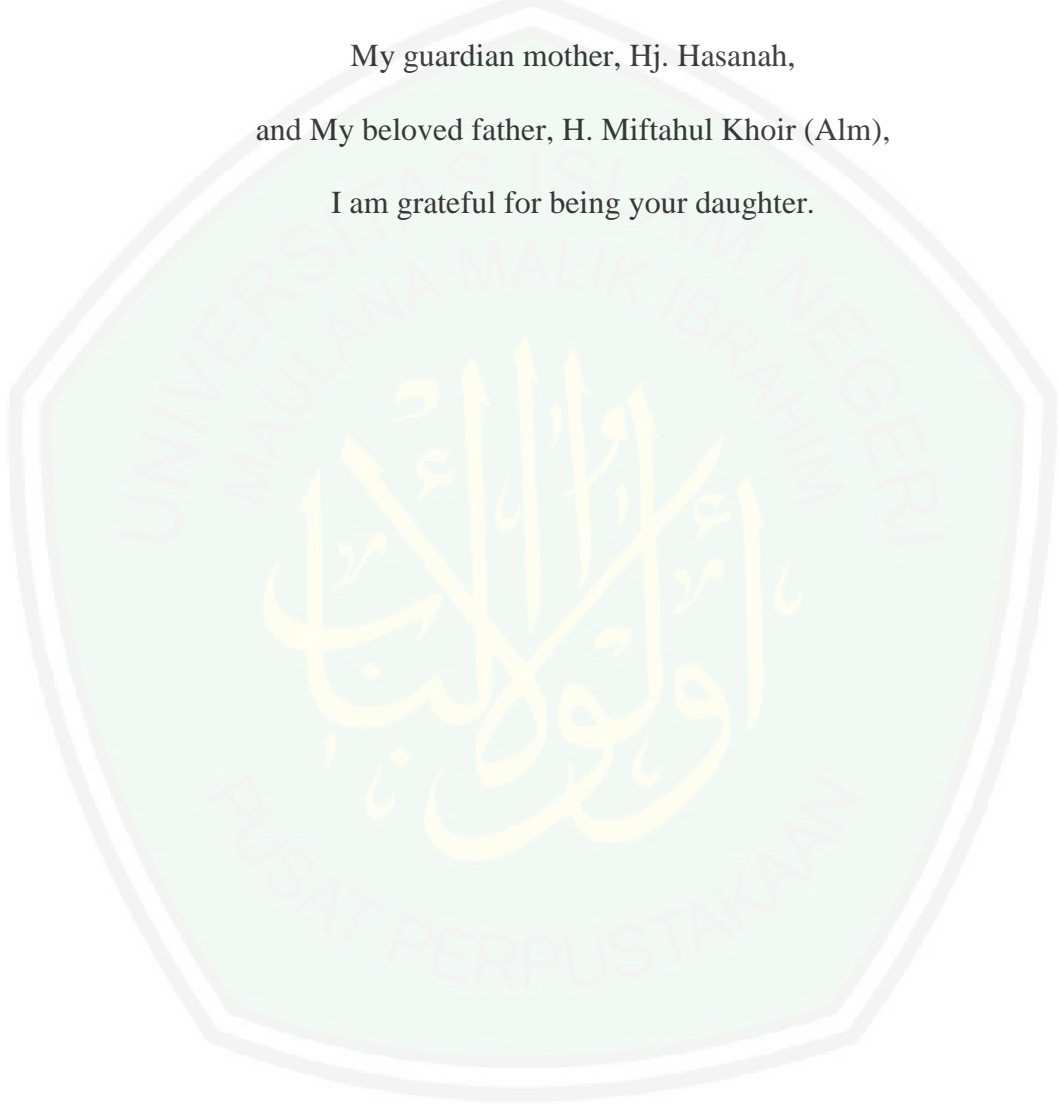


DEDICATION

This thesis is proudly dedicated to:

My guardian mother, Hj. Hasanah,
and My beloved father, H. Miftahul Khoir (Alm),

I am grateful for being your daughter.



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All praise is to Allah SWT, the Lord of the world, the Master and the Creator of everything in the universe, who has given me the strength, guidance and blessing in accomplishing this thesis entitled *Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's "The Fault in Our Stars"*. *Shalawat* and *salam* are also delivered to Muhammad SAW, the prophet of *ummah*, who has inherited Islam as a peace and blessing to the entire universe.

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Finally, I, as ordinary human being, do realize the imperfections and weakness found in the thesis I write. Therefore, any criticism and suggestions are mostly welcome. Hopefully, this study can provide an insight for students in Department English Literature and to open up a brand new academic discussion to conduct similar research.

Malang, September 5th, 2018

The Author,

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ABSTRACT

Milla, Siti Zahrotul. 2018. *Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's "The Fault in Our Stars"*. Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor: M. Edy Thoyib, M.A.

Key words: Inferiority, Striving for Superiority, Adler's Individual Psychology.

Striving for superiority is an encouragement to overcome inferiority by achieving superior. This is a powerful driving force for the individual in his life. With the striving for superiority will cause human to develop toward perfection and will make a person has a more optimistic and positive view of himself and more oriented toward the future (Phil in Sujoko, 2009).

This study aims to discuss the inferiority, the perspective of superiority, and the process of striving for superiority shown by Hazel in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*. This study is a literary criticism since it is emphasized on the analysis of literary work. This study uses psychological approach. Then Alfred Adler's Individual Psychology is applied to analyze this study. The data source of this study is a novel *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green. While the data are collected in the form of narration and conversation of the novel. In data analysis, the researcher analyzes the data which shows Hazel's inferiority, Hazel's perspective of superiority, and the process of Hazel's striving for superiority in the novel.

The result of this study shows Hazel's inferiority appears caused by her physical weakness of thyroid cancer which makes her feel inferior toward her life. Then she decides her perspective of superiority which much influenced by Anna, the main character in *An Imperial Affliction*. Thereafter, she does some ways to strives for her superiority by the way she appreciating the life, the way she struggles for making her parents proud, and struggle for having a social relationship as she wants her life to be better, useful and helpful for other's life.

The conclusion of this study shows that every person has their own way of striving for superiority, as seen in *The Fault in Our Stars*. The analysis done by the researcher shows that Hazel as the main character of the novel undergoes the phases of her life where she struggles for a goal to achieve her superiority. The researcher suggests to the next researchers to analyses this novel using different theories, such as the social condition or ecranization between the novel and the film.

ABSTRAK

Milla, Siti Zahrotul. 2018. *Berjuang untuk Superioritas Ditunjukkan oleh Hazel pada Novel "The Fault in Our Stars" Karya John Green*. Skripsi. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Pembimbing: M. Edy Thoyib, M.A.

Kata kunci: Inferioritas, Berjuang untuk Superioritas, Psikologi Individu Adler.

Berjuang untuk superioritas adalah dorongan untuk mengatasi inferioritas dengan mencapai superior. Ini adalah kekuatan pendorong yang kuat bagi individu dalam hidupnya. Dengan berjuang untuk superioritas akan membuat manusia berkembang menuju kesempurnaan dan akan membuat seseorang memiliki pandangan yang lebih optimis dan positif tentang dirinya dan lebih berorientasi ke masa depan (Phil dalam Sujoko, 2009).

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk membahas inferioritas, perspektif superioritas, dan proses berjuang untuk superioritas yang ditunjukkan oleh Hazel pada novel *The Fault in Our Stars* karya John Green. Penelitian ini adalah kritik sastra karena ditekankan pada analisis karya sastra. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan psikologis. Kemudian Psikologi Individu Alfred Adler diterapkan untuk menganalisis penelitian ini. Sumber data dari penelitian ini adalah novel *The Fault in Our Stars* karya John Green. Sementara data dikumpulkan dalam bentuk narasi dan percakapan yang ada pada novel. Dalam analisis data, peneliti menganalisis data yang menunjukkan inferioritas Hazel, perspektif superioritas Hazel, dan proses Hazel berjuang untuk superioritas yang ada pada novel.

Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan inferioritas Hazel muncul disebabkan oleh kelemahan fisiknya dari kanker tiroid yang membuatnya merasa inferioritas terhadap hidupnya. Kemudian dia menentukan perspektifnya untuk menjadi superioritas yang banyak dipengaruhi oleh Anna, tokoh utama dalam novel *An Imperial Affliction*. Setelah itu, dia melakukan beberapa cara berjuang untuk superioritasnya dengan cara dia menghargai kehidupan, dengan cara dia berjuang untuk membanggakan orang tuanya, dan berjuang untuk memiliki hubungan sosial karena dia menginginkan hidupnya menjadi lebih baik, berguna dan bermanfaat untuk kehidupan orang lain.

Kesimpulan dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa setiap orang memiliki cara mereka sendiri untuk berjuang untuk superioritas, seperti yang terlihat dalam novel *The Fault in Our Stars*. Analisis yang dilakukan oleh peneliti menunjukkan bahwa Hazel sebagai karakter utama dalam novel mengalami fase kehidupannya di mana ia berjuang untuk mencapai superioritasnya. Peneliti menyarankan kepada peneliti berikutnya untuk menganalisis novel ini menggunakan teori yang berbeda, seperti kondisi sosial atau ekranisasi antara novel dan film.

مستخلص البحث

ستي زهرة الملة. السعي للتفوق التي أظهرتها "هازل" في رواية "The Fault in Our Stars" لـ John Green. البحث العلمي. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي. كلية العلوم الإنسانية. جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية بمالانج.

المشرف : محمد آدي طيب، الماجستير

الكلمات الأساسية : عدة النقص، السعي للتفوق، علم النفس الفردي لـ Alfred Adler

السعي لتحقيق التفوق هو الدافع للتغلب على عقدة النقص من خلال تحقيق التفوق. إنها قوة دافعة قوية للفرد في حياته. السعي لتحقيق التفوق سيجعل البشر يتطورون نحو الكمال وسيجعل الشخص لديه نظرة أكثر تفاؤلاً وإيجابية عن نفسه وأكثر توجهاً نحو المستقبل (فيل في سوجوكو، 2009).

تهدف هذه البحث إلى البحث عن عقدة النقص، ومنظور التفوق، وعملية السعي لتحقيق التفوق التي أظهرتها هازل في رواية جون جرين The Fault in Our Stars. هذا البحث نقد أدبي لأنه يركز على تحليل المصنفات الأدبية. تستخدم هذه الدراسة مقارنة نفسية. ثم تم تطبيق علم النفس الفردي لألفريد أدلر لتحليل هذا البحث. مصدر بيانات هذا البحث هو رواية The Fault in Our Stars للكاتب جون جرين. في غضون ذلك، تم جمع البيانات في شكل سرد ومحادثات في الرواية. في تحليل البيانات، تحلل الباحثة البيانات التي تظهر عقدة النقص لهازل، ومنظور هازل إلى التفوق، وعملية سعيها من أجل التفوق في الرواية.

تظهر نتائج هذه الدراسة أن عقدة النقص لهازل تنشأ بسبب ضعفها الجسدي من سرطان الغدة الدرقية مما يجعلها تشعر بأنها أقل شأنًا من حياتها. ثم حدد وجهة نظره في أن يصبح تفوقًا تأثرت كثيرًا بآنا، الشخصية الرئيسية في رواية An Imperial Affliction. بعد ذلك، فعل بعض الطرق للنضال من أجل تفوقه في الطريقة التي يقدر بها الحياة، بالطريقة التي كافح بها لجعل والديه فخورين، وكافح من أجل إقامة علاقات اجتماعية لأنه أراد أن تكون حياته أفضل ومفيدة ومفيدة لحياة الآخرين.

تظهر خاتمة هذه الدراسة أن لكل شخص طريقته الخاصة في السعي لتحقيق التفوق، كما يظهر في رواية The Fault in Our Stars. ويظهر التحليل الذي أجرته الباحثة أن هيزل بصفتها الشخصية الرئيسية في الرواية تمر بمرحلة من حياتها تكافح فيها لتحقيق تفوقها. يقترح الباحثون على الباحثين التاليين تحليل هذه الرواية باستخدام نظريات مختلفة، مثل الظروف الاجتماعية أو الإكزيساسي بين الروايات والأفلام.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INNER COVER	i
APPROVAL SHEET	ii
LEGITIMATION SHEET	iii
STATEMENT OF THESIS AUTHORSHIP	iv
MOTTO	v
DEDICATION.....	vi
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vii
ABSTRACT.....	ix
TABLE OF CONTENTS	xii
CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Background of the Study	1
1.2 Statement of the Problems	7
1.3 Objectives of the Study	8
1.4 Significance of the Study	8
1.5 Scope and Limitation	9
1.6 Research Method	9
1.6.1 Research Design	9
1.6.2 Data Source	10
1.6.3 Data Collection	10
1.6.4 Data Analysis	10
1.7 Definition of Key Terms	12
CHAPTER II : REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE.....	13
2.1 Literature and Psychology	13
2.2 Alfred Adler’s Individual Psychology.....	18
2.3 Basic Assumption of Individual Psychology.....	21
2.3.1 Fiction Finalism	21
2.3.2 Inferiority Feeling	22
2.3.3 Striving for Superiority	26

2.3.4 Style of Life	29
2.3.5 Social Interest	31
2.3.6 Creative Power	32
2.4 Previous Studies	33
CHAPTER III : ANALYSIS	36
3.1 Hazel's Inferiority	36
3.2 Hazel's Perspective of Superiority	44
3.3 Hazel's Striving for Superiority	47
3.3.1 Hazel's Way of Appreciating the Life	48
3.3.2 Hazel's Effort of Making Her Parents Proud	51
3.3.3 Hazel's Struggle of Social Relationship	55
CHAPTER IV : CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION	60
4.1 Conclusion	60
4.2 Suggestion	62
BIBLIOGRAPHY	63
APPENDIX	66

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents an overview of this study. It is divided into several sub-chapters. Background of the study discusses the reason for choosing the topic. Statement of the problems presents some question which becomes the focus of the study and its objective. The scope and limitation are provided to border the study. Significance of the study is also provided to show the benefits of the study. It is followed by the description of the research method which consist of the research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis. Definition of key terms are presented at the end of this chapter to ease the readers in understanding the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Every human being is created by God with different abilities. It is for sure that every individual has their own weakness and fear. People may be born in imperfect condition physically, such as one-legged, blind, deaf and mute, and many more, or mentally like having a phobia, trauma, bad memories, or living in hard condition, etc. Therefore, it cannot be denied that within every individual there is a feeling that cannot be avoided. This feeling can lead us to be a successful person or even be people who are desperate and sinking. This feeling is called an inferiority feeling.

Inferiority feeling according to Alfred Adler is a sense of worthlessness that arises because of perceived inadequacy or a less physical state. He said that people are born with weak, inferior bodies, a condition that leads to feelings of

inferiority and a consequent dependence on other people (in Feist, 2008:69). Inferior is not only about a weak body of people, but it also some mental weakness that exists in their selves. Inferiority is a feeling that arises from psychologically or socially lacking the subjective perceived feelings, as well as feelings arising from real weakness or disability. As Adler said that “to be a human being means to feel oneself inferior”. People feel inferior when they are children, as they grow up, people lose their sense of inferiority and as social beings, people do not let others see the way they feel inferior. They try to cover the feeling by establishing and showing some forms of superiority.

Superiority is the compensation of the inferior feeling. For Adler, there is only one impulse, the drive for superiority in an attempt to leave a feeling of inferiority. Superiority is not to be better than anyone else or defeats others but is constantly trying to get better for getting closer to the final goal (Alwisol, 2009: 66). Superiority is not social exclusion, leadership, or high standing in society, but superiority is a struggle for perfection (Hall, 1981: 245). Superiority is superior to oneself. So the main driving force in human life is the dynamics that express the cause of the individual behaving, i.e. the drive to achieve superiority or perfection itself (Fudyartanta, 2012: 215).

Striving for superiority is an encouragement to overcome inferiority by achieving superior (Phil in Sujoko, 2009). This is a powerful driving force for the individual in his life. With the striving for superiority will cause human to develop toward perfection and will make a person has a more optimistic and positive view of himself and more oriented toward the future. Adler said that

striving for superiority and perfection is not an attempt to superiority or perfection from others which over, but rather a movement directed at greater self-improvement and competence (Green, 2012: 44). Striving for superiority here is not an objective state, such as a high social position or the other, but a subjective state of experience or a sense of worth that leads to superiority (Sujanto, 2004: 74). As Ambrus Zoltan states here the individual can choose, decide, and be responsible for development in his life, seeking the purpose of life, striving to gain personal meaning, success and superior position in life (2011: 8).

The phenomena of human striving for superiority against inferiority is depicted in the literary field and explained as well in some literary works such as poetry, drama, film and especially prose. One kind of prose is novel. A novel is one of the literary works represent the author's idea or thought in the form of prose. A novel has a long story, which consists of many pages, and it is written by an author to describe the reality of life. Novels are usually a portrait of the human life that involves various character and conversation that make the story livelier. It is supported by Jassin, a novel is an event of extraordinary people's lives because the incident was born of a conflict, a dispute that redirects their fate (Suroto, 1993:19). Hence, the work is instinctive as the portrait of the experience people's thought and one of the human creations which are created by author's imagination or based on the true story that reflects human real life.

The Fault in Our Stars is a novel tells about a human's strive for superiority in their life. The story follows a sixteen years old girl, Hazel Grace Lancaster, the main character that represents the life of a teen girl who lives with

thyroid cancer in her body. She is a kind and thoughtful teenage girl. In contrast, her specific physical illness makes her feel inferiority to her life. To compensate her inferiority, Hazel decides her perspective of superiority. Hazel's perspective of superiority much influenced by Anna, the main character in her favorite novel *An Imperial Affliction*. Anna who has the similar life style as hers becomes her role model of superiority where her story affecting her in many ways. Hazel believes that by being brave as Anna, she could be a hero and have a better life. Her life can be useful and helpful for others. Anna's heroism impresses and motivates Hazel to strive for superiority that she wants in her life.

The Fault in Our Stars is the sixth novel written by John Green. An author who has the complete name John Michael Green was born in Indianapolis on August 24, 1977. John Green is an American author, blogger, screenwriter, producer, actor, and editor. As a novel author, Green has produced a few novels such as *Looking for Alaska*; *An Abundance of Katharine's*; *Paper Town*; *Let it Snow: Three Holiday Romances*; *Will Grayson, Will Grayson*, and *The Fault in Our Stars*. With a double major in English and Religious studies, Green graduated his education from Kenyon College in 2000. At Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, Green spent five months after his graduation to work as a student's chaplain. Green become an Episcopal priest and make him know about children suffering life-threatening illnesses. By this experience of working in a hospital, Green inspired to write *The Fault in Our Stars* novel.

Although many novels that have been written by John Green, *The Fault in Our Stars* is more interesting novel and it is choosing as the object of this study

because the story of the novel serves both of the love story and also the struggle of life. And the story shows one thing that not every person can do as people tend to deny the weakness and keep struggle for life and to strive for the superiority in her life. Moreover, the focus of this study has the connection with the theme of the novel that strives for superiority shown in the novel. Besides, the novel is a popular novel that has gained the highest place on the *New York Times* Best Seller of January 2012. So that's why the researcher chooses *The Fault in Our Stars* novel as an object of this study with focus analyzing on the main character's strive for superiority shown in the novel.

To understand more about *The Fault in Our Stars* novel, it takes the appropriate approach and theory in the study. There are so many approach and theories to analyze the literary works. One of it is a psychological approach which used in this study. A psychological approach is a form of literary criticism which uses come of techniques of psychoanalysis in the interpretation of literature (Barry, 2016: 92). According to the *Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary*, psychology is the scientific study of the way the human mind works and how it influences behavior or the influence of a particular person's character on their behavior. Therefore, psychology is used in this study to analyze the character's life through attitude, activity and mental process done by the character that focuses on striving for a better life shown in the novel.

A psychological theory that is used in this study is individual psychology proposed by Alfred Adler. His individual psychology presents an optimistic view of people while resting heavily on the notion of social interest that is a feeling of

oneness with all of humankind (Feist & Feist, 2008: 65). Here Adler presents the positive side of people's condition which focuses on human being's concept around society's life. In Adler's tenet, there are two sub-goals in individual psychology. First, strive for superiority is a form of personal achievement. While, second, strive for success is a form of achievement for all humankind. Each individual is naturally forced to be superior, dominant and considered by others. A person will make some efforts to cover the feeling of inferiority and will strive to cover his or her weaknesses to be better. According to Adler (in Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 123) explains that the striving for superiority may manifest itself in a thousand different way and that each person has his or her own actual mode of achieving or trying to achieve perfection. Thus, this study analyzes the main character's individual psychology which focuses on striving for superiority from the inferiority shown in the novel which is one of the products of the literary works.

There are several previous studies which carried out toward the topic of this study. The first study is from Alif Fatqul Hikmah (2016) entitled *Striving for Superiority and Success of Katniss Everdeen in Suzanne Collin's "The Hunger Games"*. This study focuses on analyzing the strive process of Katniss as the main character in achieving her superiority and success presented in the novel. This study uses individual psychology theory by Alfred Adler. The theory describes human characteristics in reaching a goal in her life.

The second study is from Maidatul Zuroicha (2017) entitled *Superiority Gaining of Frank's Fictional Finalism in "Angela's Ashes" By Frank Mccourt,*

which explores the psychology of the main character in the novel focusing on Frank's inferiority feeling and the process of striving for superiority through his fictional finalism. This study applying Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology which focuses on inferiority, striving for superiority and success through fictional finalism and the superiority.

The last study is carried out by Haekal Hendro Pramono (2013) entitled *Striving for Superiority Shown by Aibeleen in The Movie "The Help"*. It discusses the struggle of a maid, Aibeleen Clark, to fight for her right as a human being. This study aims at finding out how the striving for superiority depicted by Aibeleen in the movie. It is also used Alfred Adler theory of individual psychology which focus on striving for superiority.

From all of the previous studies that the researcher mentioned above, it can be concluded that this research entitled *Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's "The Fault in Our Stars"* has never been done before. Since this research uses the different object, thus the originality of this research can be trusted.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher formulates three questions below:

1. What kinds of inferiority experienced by Hazel's in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*?
2. What is Hazel's perspective of superiority in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*?

3. How does Hazel striving for superiority in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Related to the problems of the study above, the objective of this study that are formulated as follows:

1. To identify Hazel's inferiority in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.
2. To describe Hazel's perspective of superiority in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.
3. To explain the process of Hazel's striving for superiority in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study has two forms of significance, theoretical and practical significance. Theoretically, this study is expected to enrich the understanding of the psychological theory which is individual psychology in the literary work included inferiority and striving for superiority proposed by Alfred Adler. It is also expected to give a better understanding of *The Fault in Our Stars* novel itself.

Practically, this study is intended to be useful for the further researcher, especially for an English Literature students who are interested in conducting the study about psychology, particularly in Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology. Hopefully, this study also can be useful for an English Literature lecturers in giving their students broader knowledge on the study of psychology by Alfred Adler. In addition, the theory of this study is expected to be applied for

the readers to struggle with getting the superiority from the inferiority stage in the real life.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In order to more appropriately solve the research problem, there are scope and limitation to be emphasized. This study focuses on the main character Hazel Grace Lancaster striving for superiority, dealing with the inferiority, perspective of superiority, and the process of striving for superiority shown in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel according to Alfred Adler theory of individual psychology.

1.5 Research Method

This part covers the explanation of research method used by the researcher in this study. It is consisting of the description of research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis as follows:

1.5.1 Research Design

This study is a literary criticism. As Abrams states that literary criticism is the study concerned with defining, classifying, analyzing, interpreting, and evaluating works of literature (1981: 61). In this study, the researcher conducts a discussion by analyzing, explaining and giving an interpretation of literary works, especially of John Green's novel entitled *The Fault in Our Stars*. This study focus on analyzing Hazel's inferiority, perspective of superiority and the process of striving for superiority in her life shown in the novel. This study appears to use psychological approach because the analysis is concern on the psychological condition of the main character in the novel. And individual psychology theory

proposed by Alfred Adler is choosing as a tool to analyze the problem of this study included inferiority and striving for superiority.

1.5.2 Data Source

The data source of this study is *The Fault in Our Stars* novel, written by American author John Green which was first published on January 10, 2012, by Dutton Books. This novel categorized as a young adult novel consist of 25 chapters of 318 pages. The data are in the form of words, phrases, sentences, paragraphs, or dialogues of the main character which explain the inferiority and process of striving for superiority shown in the novel.

1.5.3 Data Collection

In this study, the process of collecting the data consist of three steps:

1. The researcher reads the story of the novel carefully and understands deeply.
2. The researcher identifies the potential narrative texts that show the main character striving for superiority in the novel by sticking a note and underlining the important data in the form of narration and conversation of the story in the novel.
3. The researcher categorizes the data into three major topics under the statement of problem of this study, such as a) Hazel's inferiority, b) Hazel's perspective of superiority, and c) the process of Hazel striving for superiority shown in the novel.

1.5.4 Data Analysis

When the data are already collected in the form of narration and conversation, the researcher conducts analyzing the data in seven steps:

1. The researcher reads and re-reads the whole data and placing them into three major topics under the statement of the problems in this study. The first analysis is Hazel's inferiority, the second analysis is Hazel's perspective of being superiority and the last analysis is Hazel's striving for superiority.
2. The researcher analyses Hazel's inferiority by identifying the data which is showing the inferiority feeling in the novel.
3. The researcher describes Hazel's perspective of superiority by finding her admiration to Anna, the main character of her favorite novel. She believes that by being brave as Anna, she could be a hero and have a better life. And also she has to be useful and helpful for other's life as Anna does.
4. The researcher explains the process of Hazel's striving for superiority by classifying some of Hazel's action to the way she strives for superiority into three kinds, such as Hazel's way of appreciating the life, Hazel's effort for making her parents proud, and the last is Hazel's struggle of social relationship.
5. The researcher makes the relation between the data and the theory of individual psychology by Alfred Adler to get findings based on the objectives of the study that is to explain the inferiority, perspective of superiority and striving for superiority shown in the novel.
6. The researcher makes the interpretation of the findings based on the comprehension theory of individual psychology by Alfred Adler which is used in the study.

7. The researcher summarizes the findings and makes a conclusion based on the results of the data analyzes.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

To make the reader easier to understand this study, the researcher offers some definition of key terms as follows:

1. **Inferiority:** A feeling that arises from psychologically or socially lacking the subjective perceived feelings, as well as feelings arising from real weakness or disability. Inferior is not only about the weak body of people, but it also some mental weakness that exists in their selves (Adler, 1997: 115).
2. **Striving for Superiority:** An encouragement to overcome inferiority by achieving superior. With the striving for superiority will cause human to develop toward perfection and will make a person has a more optimistic and positive view of himself and more oriented toward the future. (Phil in Sujoko, 2009).
3. **Adler's Individual Psychology:** A science that attempts to understand the experiences and behavior of each person as an organized entity (Adler in Ryckman, 2008: 114). Individual psychology is the approach which consists of six elements such as striving for superiority, inferiority feeling, fictional finalism, creative self, style of life and social interest (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 86).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter covers the review and elaboration of the related literature on the theories employed and closely related studies. The theory that is used to analyze Hazel's striving for superiority shown in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* in this study is the theory of individual psychology by Alfred Adler which focus on inferiority and striving for superiority as guidance to analyze the data related to the issues in the statement of the problems. Those theories are explained as follows:

2.1 Literature and Psychology

Before talking about the relation between literature and psychology, we have to know where the terms literature and psychology appeared. The development of interdisciplinary literary studies has brought together the literature with other sciences, such as psychology, sociology, anthropology, gender, and history. Combining literature with other science created various literature approaches such as literary psychology, sociology of literature, literary anthropology, feminist literary criticism, and new historicism. In addition, it also creates a variety of theoretical framework developed from the relationship between literature with the various disciplines, such as psychoanalysis or psychology literature, psychology of author, the psychology of reader, the sociology of the author, sociology readers, the sociology of literary works, as well as structuralism genetic, sociological literary Marxism. From the above description, it appears that psychology literature was born as one type of literary

study which used to read and interpret literary works, authors and readers using various concepts and frameworks theories that exist in psychology (Wiyatmi, 2011).

Psychology is a word derived from the Greek words *psyche* means soul and *logos* means knowledge. It means that psychology is an academic and applied discipline involving the scientific study of mental processes, emotion, personality, behavior, and relationships. Psychology is an academic and applied discipline involving the scientific study of mental processes, emotion, personality, behavior, and relationships. There are many definitions that say psychology is a psychic study of human's being behaviors. It happens because the behavior is a real thing that can be seen directly, while *psyche* is an abstract. It is believed that by observing someone's behavior it brings to an understanding about the *psyche* condition. There is no doubt that generally all of the people will express their *psyche* condition toward acts which can be seen by other people clearly. Briefly, we can know and understand someone's characteristic and *psyche* condition through his acts behavior in his or her daily life. Moreover, psychology is also concerned with the study about the psychological phenomenon of human, its symptoms, and causes (Abu Ahmadi, 2009).

Literature is a word derived from Latin words *litterae* means letter. It is the art of written work, and it is not confined to published sources. Literature is the work of people that are imaginative side. It agreed with Nurgiyantoro (2007: 2) as the result of being imaginative, literature serves as reading materials pleasant, in which loaded with culture value which useful add wealth human

inner, humanity, and their life. Everyone is different from individual with other individuals. As we know while literature is as human's imaginative and creative activities but literature is also believed as the representation of real life which expressed through the language as media. Literature consists of many values of human life such a moral teaching, life motivation in which the reader can take some benefit after reading. Therefore, sometimes literature is made by the author through the phenomenon of real social life, for example in terms of psychological. This problem has a relation with human's behavior in their lives. One of the areas in the study of psychology is psychoanalysis. There are many kinds of literature which can be seen clearly through the beautiful language, the aspect of entertainment, and also the value. Literary work such as poetry, drama, and novel are believed as the reflection of real life through a language as media. They have a kind of communication between the author and the readers. The reflection of real life also can be seen from the psychological aspect that concerned inside of literary work. Literary work especially novel is assumed has some characters that have the same life as the human in real life. The character shows some psychological aspect as what truly happens in human being's psychological condition in real life.

Although there is a clear difference between psychology and literature, yet they have the similarity that is both of them (human and life) are the object of the analysis. When talking about a human, psychology is very closely related because psychology learns about phenomena of humans being including the attitude and

how someone faces the word in his or her daily life then human's attitude cannot be separated from aspects of life (Wiyatmi, 2011:107).

Literature and psychology are two branches of science that study the human soul. Psychology researches human behaviors and their causes while literature depicts human behavior through fiction like in the novel. The relationship between psychology and literature actually has existed since the age of science itself. However, the use of psychology as an approach in literary research is recently used. According to Robert Downs (in Abdurrahman, 2003: 1), psychology itself works in a dark side, mystical and most sensitive to scientific evidence. The dark side actually exists in humans. From those the dark sides, then it will appear behavior and various activities, including good behavior, bad, creative, literary and others.

The relationship between literature and psychology is because existing the term psychology literature that discusses about the laws of psychology applied to literary work, for example, the characters in a literary work created by the author based on psychological conditions built by the author itself or a conflict of character in the novel that concerned of psychological phenomena that reflected the real life. Psychology is an art that usually presents a situation that sometimes unreasonable and a fantastic event and more complex conflict there.

Psychological thinking in literature is not only achieved through psychological knowledge but in fact or in certain cases, psychological thinking can add aesthetic value or beauty because it can support the coherence and complexity of a literary work.

Literary psychology begins from literature and psychology because these studies have the same object. Literary psychology is interdisciplinary between psychology and literature (Endraswara, 2003: 16). Literary psychology gives the focus attention to the phenomena which related to functional character's psyche that appears in literary work. Analysis of literary psychology can be done in two ways. Foremost, through the understanding of psychological theories and then choosing the literary work makes the analysis of that literary work. Second, by determining a literary work as the object of analysis and then determining the theories which are relevant (Ratna, 2007: 334).

Through the characterization, the aspect of psyche can be expressed clearly. How the way the author creativity process and also how the way the character's role actually cannot be separated from the role of role psychology aspect. Therefore, conflicts which appear in literary work have similarities with the condition in real life. It is appropriate with the opinion which said that literary work is a mirror of real. Both of the mirrors that in the real life and mirror in real life have combined with the author imagination (Siswanto, 2005: 19).

The psychological dimension of the main character is the third dimension after physiological and sociological dimension. Psychology, then, rounds out the three dimensions (Egri, 1960: 34). The psychological aspect is anything which related to the psychological condition of the character or stated as the inside things in human being such as abilities, qualities, temperaments, attitude toward life, etc.

From the analysis a literary work uses psychological criticism there are three ways. First, the researcher analyses the author's psychological condition when he or she created the literary work. Secondly, the researcher analyses the character's psychological condition in literary work. The last, the researcher analyses the reader's psychological condition after reading literary work (Endraswara, 2003: 96).

2.2 Alfred Adler's Individual Psychology

The theory of psychology, which is used by the researcher to describe the psychological aspects, is individual psychology proposed by Alfred Adler. Before talking more about individual psychology theory, we have to know who is the person behind the theory itself. Alfred Adler was the founder of Individual psychology theory, was born as the second child of a Jewish merchant family on February 7th, 1870, in Rudolfsheim, Vienna. Adler started his career as a doctor and received his medical degree from the University of Vienna in 1895. He met Freud and studied Freud's theories of psychology in 1902. He attended Freud's group discussion and become the President of the Vienna Psychoanalytic Society in 1910. However, after he realized that his thought and concept were different from Freud and Jung, he decided to resign from the society and develop his own concept of psychology. He formed the Society for Individual Psychology, which emphasized on the importance of larger view and perspective of human psychology. He died in 1937 because of the heart attack when he attended a lecture tour to Scotland. He is regarded as one of the three great fathers of modern psychology (Adler, 1997: i).

Individual psychology according to Adler is a science that attempts to understand the experiences and behavior of each person as an organized entity (in Ryckman, 2008: 114). Adler, in his book entitled *Understanding Life*, explains the concept of Individual Psychology; Individual Psychology is a system through which people can be understood. It is of particular value in the worlds of counseling and psychotherapy, education, organizational life, and self-help. It is a philosophy, a view of the future and a way of helping us to make sense of how we and other people have become who and how we are. It because in every human's behavior, the purpose on their life will be known and understood.

As Adler says in his book entitled *Understanding Life*, that individual psychology is a psychology which studies the purpose. All behaviors are seen as purposive. It will be known of what we are doing, thinking, feeling, and acting. When we understand the reasons for our behaviors, we then can change our perspective to focus on behaviors without looking behind and ensure the present life, not the past (xiii). Human behavior is the result of individual's tendency to move toward private goals. This is because people operate in the concepts of ideas, memories, perceptions, and values.

Individual Psychology is a social psychology; it sees people as being fully functioning units who somehow have to cope with living together on a planet. It is indisputable that we need each other, for without each other we would not survive (Adler, 1997: xi) because each individual is primarily a social being. Individual Psychology attempts to see individual lives as a whole and regards every single reaction, movements, and impulse as an expression of an individual's attitude

towards life (Adler, 1997: 1). Then, Adler's concept of individual psychology does not make people to stagnant in the past because individual psychology is being attracted by the future, in which it is the future that people create for themselves (Adler: xiii).

Individual Psychology teaches us that we are all goal-directed beings, that is we move purposefully through life towards goals which attract us. These goals have been set by us ourselves, often without our conscious realization. Goals are what motivate us, they are perceived as being the best way for us to survive, they are in general what we want or what we believe in our heart of hearts to be best for us. Hence, the important thing is to understand the context of an individual's life goal which marks the line of direction for all their acts and movements. This goal enables us to understand the hidden meaning behind the various separated acts as we see them as parts of a whole (Adler: 31). So, it enables other people to give an understanding about the hidden meaning of the various acts of people.

Adler evolved a basically simple and thrifty theory, although his writings expressed the view of the depth and complexities of human personality (Feist, 2008: 69). The theory of Adler is simple and concise. To him, man is born in the weak condition that creates a feeling of inferior and a sense of mutual dependence on others, which is called as social interest (Alwisol, 2009: 64). That is the underlying human activity to strive for success or superior. As Adler stated (in Feist, 2008: 79) a human has the power to freely create their own lifestyle. They, themselves, should be responsible for who they really are and how they behave. Human has the creative power to control their lives, to be responsible for its final

purposes, to determine how to strive to reach that goal. Creative strengths make people become free men, and moving toward a goal-directed.

Adler argues that the science of Individual Psychology developed out of an effort to understand the mysterious creative power of life- the power expressed in the desire to develop, to strive and to achieve, and to compensate for defeats in one area by striving for success in another. He says that this power is *teleological* – which expresses itself in the striving for a goal, and in this striving every physical and psychological attribute co-operates. For him, it is absurd to study either physical or mental conditions abstractly if they are not related to the individual as a whole (Adler, 1997: 2).

2.3 Basic Assumption of Individual Psychology

Adler, with his basic assumption of individual psychology that can be presented under six general categories: (1) Fiction finalism, (2) Inferiority feeling, (3) Striving for superiority, (4) Style of life, (5) Social interest, and (6) Creative power (Adler in Feist, 1985: 37).

2.3.1 Fiction Finalism

Adler's concept of fictional finalism is derived from Vaihinger's philosophy of "as if" (Ansbacher and Ansbacher, 1956: 76). According to Vaihinger, fictions are thoughts, which do not match with the reality, while finalism is a goal that a person wants to reach or human's expectation toward his future life. From these statements, it can be concluded that fictional finalism is a human's expectation or idea, which does not coincide with reality. It is also called as a human's dream.

Fiction finalism is the individual goal of life, which is imaginary in nature or as a fiction as stated by Adler in Hjelle and Ziegler (1992: 154) that each person's quest for superiority is guided by the fictional goal that he or she has adopted. Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 154) believes that the person's fictional goal of superiority is self-determined; it is formed by the person's own creative power, which makes the individually unique. Adler (in Ryckman, 2008: 98) argues that people create ideas that guide their behavior and he concludes that, no one's different struggling can occur without the perception of goals.

The fiction finalism takes a place as imaginary goals where all kinds of striving and struggle of a person will lead to. Adler's concept of fiction finalism is the idea the human behavior is directed toward a future goal of its own making. Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 153) theorizes that our ultimate goals (those goals which give our lives direction and purpose) are fictional goals that can neither be tested nor confirmed against reality.

2.3.2 Inferiority Feeling

Every human being, according to Adler, begins life in a state of biological inferiority and insecurity (Alwisol, 2009: 64). A feeling of inferiority is a sense of worthlessness that arises because of perceived inadequacy or a less physical state. Adler described the inferiority as the individual believe that "he is not strong enough to solve a given problem in a socially useful way". As Adler says in Hall and Lindzey (1985: 147) the feeling of inferiority is quite normal. Throughout life, feelings of inferiority arise constantly as we meet new and unfamiliar tasks

that must be mastered. Each time we confront a new task of our inferiority initial awareness of inferiority is overcome as we achieve a higher level of functioning.

Inferiority means feeling weak and unskilled in the face of tasks that need to be completed. It is a manifestation of individual consciousness due to a condition, which is resulted from inability of imperfection feeling. Hall and Lindzey (1985: 147) states that this inferiority feeling considered as a challenge to strive for the compensation of inferiority until psychological equilibrium is attained. If the attitude was one of helplessness, the inferiority might influence one's entire attitude towards life leading to exaggerated feelings of inferiority or the inferiority complex. Organ inferiorities could have other harmful effects psychologically which could lead eventually to a variety of maladjustment and mental disorder (Lundin, 1989: 13).

Inferiority is a feeling that arises from psychologically or socially lacking the subjective perceived feelings, as well as feelings arising from real weakness or disability. Feelings of inferiority are not a sign of abnormality, but rather the cause of all forms of perfection in human life because man is driven by the need to overcome his inferiority and is drawn by the desire to be superior (Hall & Lindzey, 1981: 245). Yet, most people fail in overcoming difficulties, so that they live with feelings of distress and suffering. Adler sees this as is not the end of the story because people will seek compensation by finding the good side of the shortfall. Compensation is gained by trying to be more in the other field, but at the same time will maintain that inferior feeling. Some people are not able to develop any good side under these circumstances, even (Booree, 2010: 145). Indeed,

excessive low self-esteem makes these feelings are more difficult to overcome, such as the emergence of complexes of low self or complex for superiority. But a normal condition of inferiority feeling is a driver of progress or perfection or superiority (Sujanto, 2004: 75).

a. The Causes of Inferiority

Feelings of inferiority can be largely constructive or largely destructive. Acknowledging that we all feel inferior at some point in our lives could serve as a basic for mutual help and cooperation to overcome problems in living. But if we dwell excessively on our inferiority, real, or imagined, we are less likely to trust others or ourselves. As a consequence, we are act to operate on the useless side of life, we are more likely to overcompensate for our deficiencies and develop an exaggerated sense of superiority that other find loathsome (Ryckman, 1985: 99).

According to Adler, the inferior will happen when people feel weak and do not have the social capability and child inferiority. It means that if people feel were controlled by the inferiority feelings, they feel underestimate them, part of their body is not perfect, they are different from others. In this situation, the inferior will take a part of it. (Adler in Boeree, 2010: 160-161). Based on the explanation above there are coming several types of inferior in psychology such as dependence type and abasement type. On the dependency type, the people have a huge sensitivity in every action. They always try to protect them self by relying on other people so they have a little energy. In a certain situation, they will develop their idea pattern which can be called as neurotic symptoms called phobia, obsession, and compulsive, trait apprehension, hysteria, amnesia etc.

While on abasement type, they have the smallest energy because they always stand by abasing their life especially deny the existence of other people. At the end of their limits, they often become a psychopath by making their own world (Adler in Boeree, 2010: 161).

Besides the causes that have been explained above, there are also many factors which cause inferiority feelings. Hurlock (1973: 325-335) proposes thirteen factors causing inferiority feelings. First, in physique, the adolescent knows that their physical appearances will give certain attention toward other people and affects their reaction to him. This, in turn, affects his attitudes towards himself. A person who feels fatigue, hunger, or suffers a wasting illness can cause a feeling of inferiority, and this will make him difficult to adjust. The second is physical defects that often become the source of embarrassment and feelings of inferiority during adolescence, a facial scar or broken tooth. The third is physical condition where the adolescent who is suddenly unable to take part in the activities of the group and who has to establish new interests and become self-sufficient finds the adjustment very difficult. The fourth is chemique, where is produced by hormones from the human body, has marked influence on a feeling of inferiority. A hyperthyroid, for example, leads the individual to be nervous, irritable and ready to do anything uncontrollable. The fifth deals with clothes. Clothes are a status symbol for the adolescent. It has the effect on his feeling of inferiority. For the adolescent whose physique is a source of embarrassment, clothes are especially important which can be functioned as a camouflage.

b. The Inferiority against Striving for Superiority

The inferiority becomes the obstacle in life if people do not have many kinds of strive. To overcoming the inferiority feeling, people need to be more sensitive, while sensitive itself is the basic of literature. It can be said that there is a strong relationship between literature and psychology. The stronger philosophy will give a strong sensitivity to anything. So, in the theory, Adler emphasizes the ego psychology into life. The basic dynamic force between all human activities striving from a feeling of inferiority to one of superiority. Adler believed that inferiority feelings are the source of all human striving. All individual progress, growth, and development resulted from the attempt to compensate for one's inferiorities. For Adler, we are all overcoming inferiority.

Some people strive for superiority with little or no concern for others. Their goals are personal ones, and their striving are motivated largely by exaggerated feelings of personal inferiority, or the presence of an inferiority complex. For people who are not able to change and handle their inferiority usually create clever disguises for their personal striving and may consciously or unconsciously hide their self-centeredness behind the cloak of social concern, they do not care anymore for being a parasite on their life (Feist, 2009: 72).

A lot of views that states inferiority and superiority in many kinds of statements for example when a person cannot get his expected goals will feel inferior. Feelings of inferiority arise from a sense of incompleteness or imperfection in any aspects of life. Inferiority feelings are not a sign of abnormality; they are the causes of a human who always feel unsatisfactorily toward anything. In other

words, man is pushed by the need to overcome his inferiority and pulled by the desire to be superior (Hal and Linzey, 1970: 124).

2.3.3 Striving for Superiority

Each individual is naturally driven to be superior, powerful and regarded. A person will make some efforts to cover the feeling of inferiority and will strive to cover his or her weaknesses to be better. Feist (1985: 68) states that the one dynamic force behind the person activity is the striving for success or superiority. Adler states that I should like to emphasize first of all that striving for perfection is innate, this is not meant in a concrete way, as there was a driver which would later in life be capable of bringing everything to completion and which only needed to develop it. The striving for perfection is innate the sense that it is a part of life as striving, an urge, a something without which life would be unthinkable (Fredenburgh, 1971: 219).

Superiority is the final goal we strive. Superiority is the compensation of the inferior feeling. For Adler, there is only one impulse, the drive for superiority in an attempt to leave a feeling of inferiority. Superiority is not to be better than anyone else or defeats others but is constantly trying to get better for getting closer to the final goal (Alwisol, 2009: 66). Superiority is not social exclusion, leadership, or high standing in society, but superiority is a struggle for perfection (Hall, 1981: 245). Superiority is superior to oneself. So the main driving force in human life is the dynamics that express the cause of the individual behaving, i.e. the drive to achieve superiority or perfection itself (Fudyartanta, 2012: 215).

Striving for superiority is the encouragement toward perfection or completion that motivates human beings to be precious and more perfect (Schultz, 2015: 135). Adler feels that striving for superiority and perfection is not an attempt to superiority or perfection from others which over, but rather a movement directed at greater self-improvement and competence (Green, 2012: 44). Striving for superiority here is not an objective state, such as a high social position or the other, but a subjective state of experience or a sense of worth that leads to superiority (Sujanto, 2004: 74). As Ambrus Zoltan states here the individual can choose, decide, and be responsible for development in his life, seeking the purpose of life, striving to gain personal meaning, success and superior position in life (2011: 8).

When Adler speaks about superiority, he does not literally mean superiority but a more advantageous position. Although many people do strive for actually superiority Adler was really referring to the striving for competence, significance, and community feeling. There will be a schematic presented; the general developmental picture is this “Feelings of inferiority are noticed, leading to the compensatory mechanism, which leads to striving for superiority” (Harold and Maniaci, 1999: 32).

In striving for superiority, the inferior feeling becomes the base motivation of people struggle. Phil (in Sujoko, 2009) states that striving for superiority is an encouragement to overcome inferiority by achieving superior. This is a powerful driving force for the individual in his life. With the striving for superiority will

cause human to develop toward perfection and will make a person has a more optimistic and positive view of himself and more oriented toward the future.

Adler (in Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 123) explains that the striving for superiority may manifest itself in a thousand different way and that each person has his own actual mode of achieving or trying to achieve perfection. He also believes that the great dynamic force governing human behavior is a striving to be aggressive and there are three different stages in his theorizing on the ultimate goal of human life: to be aggressive, to be powerful, and to be superior (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 143).

2.3.4 Style of Life

Style of life refers to the unique pattern of traits, behaviors, and habits, which show the particular ways that individuals does to reach their goal of life (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 144). The style of life, originally called “life plan” as a set of guidelines individuals develop and use to move them through life and toward their goal (Ryckman, 1985: 98). In essence, the life style is the set of convictions, the attitudinal set, according to Mosak (1999: 47), he creates the style in order to help people finding the place in the world. The life style operates, in effect, upon the economy principle: it allows people to converse energy and focuses their attention to others such as various skills, attitudes, convictions, etc.

Style of life does not contain only the person’s goal, but also self-concept, feelings toward others, and attitude toward the world. It is the product of the interaction of heredity, environment, and goal of success, social interest and creative power (Feist, 1985: 74). The individual’s style of life is largely

determined by the specific inferiorities, as it is referred to the taste of a person's life. The style is a compensation for a particular inferiority as stated by Adler (in Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 126).

Adler categorized the style of life into four types: (1) Ruling type, (2) Getting type, (3) Avoiding type, and (4) Socially useful type.

a. The Ruling Type

Individuals with this life style are "individuals who are assertive, aggressive, and active with little, if any, social awareness or interest" (Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 83). They possess "a dominating attitude toward the outside world and confront the major life tasks in an aggressive, anti-social manner" (Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 83).

People of this type have little social interest, but a high degree of activity. They propose a dominating attitude toward the outside world and approaching three major problems of life (friendship, sex, and occupation). They are individually aggressive but socially stagnant. People of the ruling type with an extremely high degree of activity or potentially dangerous; they are the murderer, rapists, tyrants, and suicides (Adler in Feist, 1985: 75).

b. The Getting Type

These individuals relate to the outside world in a parasitic manner, learning on others to satisfy most of their needs. Their main concern in life is getting much as possible from others (Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 83).

Individuals with this attitude relate to the outside world in a parasitic manner, depending on the other to satisfy most of their needs. Their mind concern

is getting as much as possible from others. They possess a low degree of activity and little social interest; however, they do not like to hurt others (Adler in Feist, 1985: 75).

c. The Avoiding Type

People in this type have neither sufficient social interest nor activity to participate in any way in life. They prefer to run away from their tasks of life. Moreover, they are afraid of failing. In other words, their goal is to sidestep all problems in life, thereby avoiding any possibilities of failure (Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 83).

The avoiding type person is likely to become neurotic or psychotic. They are characterized by an attitude of avoidance. Fearing failure more than desiring success, their life is marked by the socially useless behavior of running away from the task of life. They lack of the courage in struggling with their problem, instead of ignoring them or pushing them aside. In other words, their goal is to avoid, all problem in life because avoiding any possibility of failure (Feist, 1985: 76).

d. The Socially Useful type

In this type, an individual embodies both a high degree of social interest and a high level of activity. These individuals are willing to cooperate with others. They realize that the solution to social problems requires cooperation, personal courage, and a willingness to make a contribution to the welfare of others (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1981: 81-83).

The person with a socially useful attitude, according to Adler (in Feist, 1985: 75) is defined by struggles to solve life's problem in a manner beneficial to

society. This person rightly identifies three major social problems; neighborly love, sexual love, and occupation. The solution to social problems demands the welfare of another (Adler in Feist, 1985: 76).

2.3.4 Social Interest

According to Adler as quoted by Feist (1985: 71) social interest can be defined as an attitude, which likely as empathy. Social interest manifests itself as collaboration with others for social development rather than for personal gain, as it is part of human nature and some amount of it exists in everyone. Adler (in Phares, 1988: 93) says that social interest is a predisposition, nurtured by experience to contribute to society.

Naturally, man is a social creature where realizes his position as a free individual. In his efforts to develop himself, he must also consider the existence and the importance of his society. Since a man was born, he automatically becomes a member of society. If his social feeling can develop naturally; he will be able to make an adaptation with his living environments appropriately. Hall and Lindzey (1970: 125) acknowledges that a man should live among others, where he interacts with others in his society that make his behavior is always influenced by his society.

According to Hall and Lindzey (1985: 147), Adler's concept of social interest is not easy to define. It can be translated in many different ways and the wider meaning of the concept is still questioned. For this study purposes, we will define social interest as caring and concerning movement that continues to guide a person's behavior.

2.3.5 Creative Power

Creative power is the influence of any environment toward a person in facing the problem of life. Each person is gifted with the freedom to create their own lifestyle. People are responsible for who they are and how they behave in their life no matter what. This power of life is responsible for achieving a person's life goal and contributes to the development of social interest.

The creative power gives meaning to life, as it creates the goal as the future objective which needs to be completed. Hall and Lindzey (1970: 166) states that it is the principle of human life, as it develops each person to be uniquely stylized and dynamically unified. The uniquely stylized person implies their own personality, as the sum of experiences and inheritances.

Adler (in Hjelle and Zeigler, 1992: 150) explains that the concept of the creative power underlining his belief that human beings are masters of their own fate. It creates freedom which enables a person to choose their experience, whether they choose pain, joy, or anxiety, or to defend themselves against these experiences by creating various safeguarding actions.

2.4 Previous Studies

There are many relevant previous studies which carried out toward the topic of this study, and the researcher takes three in this study. The first study is from Alif Fatqul Hikmah (2016) entitled *Striving for Superiority and Success of Katniss Everdeen in Suzanne Collin's The Hunger Games*. This study focus on analyzing the strive process of Katniss as the main character in achieving her superiority and success depicted in the novel. This study uses individual

psychology theory by Alfred Adler. The theory describes human characteristics in reaching a goal. The result of this study denotes that Katniss has both two goals by knowing her characteristics and some processes of her striving like has to face many obstacles, traps, and fight her competitor. Those are the strive process of Katniss and also supported by motivations for her family. Therefore, she can achieve her success to survive until the end of the games. She has given big contribution for her district that known as the poorest district.

The second study is from Maidatul Zuroicha (2017) entitled *Superiority Gaining of Frank's Fictional Finalism in Angela's Ashes by Frank Mccourt*, which explores the psychology of the main character in the novel focusing on Frank's inferiority feeling and the process of striving for superiority through his fictional finalism. This study applying Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology which focuses on inferiority, striving for superiority and success through fictional finalism and the superiority. The result of this study are the causes of character's inferior was raised from physical lacking like odd manner of North Ireland and illness, also mentality which is influenced by social life, adult, and neglect. And the way he strives for superiority and success are shaped the fictional finalism about getting a better life for himself, family and other people, also dream about America. His strives by way works and saving the money for an expense to go to America and help the family to fulfill the necessity for a better life. Thus, he can achieve his superiority and success for a better life of his family and back to America.

Another relevant study is carried out by Haekal Hendro Pramono (2013) entitled *Striving for Superiority Shown by Aibileen in The Movie "The Help"*. It discusses the struggle of a maid, Aibileen Clark, as the main character to fight for her right as a human being. This study aims at finding out how the striving for superiority depicted by Aibileen in the movie. It is also used Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology which focus on striving for superiority. The result of this study shows that all of the processes in Adler's theory is obviously applied by the character of Aibileen in *The Help* movie. There are five points of processes proposed by Adler: from the inferiority side, the final goal, the striving force as compensation, and as a result, shows the striving for individual success or her strive for success.

From all of the previous studies that the researcher mentioned above, it can be concluded that this research entitled *Striving for Superiority Shown by Hazel in John Green's "The Fault in Our Stars"* has never been done before. Since this research uses the different object, thus the originality of this research can be trusted. Then, in this study, the researcher focuses on analyzing Hazel's inferiority feeling, Hazel's perspective of superiority, and the process of Hazel striving for superiority shown in the novel by applying Alfred Adler's theory of individual psychology.

CHAPTER III

ANALYSIS

This chapter presents the discussion on the analysis of striving for superiority shown by Hazel in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* based on the theory of individual psychology by Alfred Adler. Related to the statement of the problems in the previous chapter, the discussion of this chapter is divided into three subchapters. The first subchapter attempts to present the analysis of Hazel's inferiority feeling. The second subchapter is the analysis of Hazel's perspective of superiority, and the last subchapter is the analysis of the way Hazel striving for superiority of her life shown in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel.

3.1 Hazel's Inferiority

Every human being, according to Adler, begins life in a state of biological inferiority and insecurity (Alwisol, 2009: 64). A feeling of inferiority is a sense of worthlessness that arises because of perceived inadequacy or a less physical state. To Adler, people are born with weak, inferior bodies, a condition that leads to feelings of inferiority and a consequent dependence on other people (in Feist, 2008: 69). Inferiority is not only about the weak body of people, but it also some mental weakness that exists in their selves.

In *The Fault in Our Stars*, Hazel as the main character of the novel is described as a sixteen years old girl who suffered a thyroid cancer stage IV at the age of thirteen. Thyroid cancer is a type of cancer that affects the thyroid gland, a small gland at the base of the neck, causes weakness and sometimes death

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/cancer/cancer-types-in-adults/thyroid-cancer>). She has a large of inferiority because of the physical weakness that she has in her life. The physical weakness here is the physical condition which is unhealthy or different from other. It was this condition which caused Hazel's inferiority feelings to arise. The first inferiority feeling of Hazel is when she realizes that her lungs cannot work normally and she cannot be able to breathe, it is because of thyroid cancer in her lungs. It can be seen as below:

In truth, it always hurt. It always hurt not to breathe like a normal person, incessantly reminding your lungs to be lungs, forcing yourself to accept as unsolvable the clawing scraping inside-out ache of underoxygenation.
(Green, 2012: 45)

The quotation above shows her inferiority about her physical condition arises because of her lack of perfection that is not as a normal person with healthy lungs. As Adler states that inferior feeling was arisen from psychologically lacking which is real weakness or disability (1956: 101). Her pain makes her in the inferiority position because she compares her condition with others who can breathe normally. She realizes that she cannot breathe like a normal person and it is always hurt her. She feels painful and weak whenever she has to forces herself to accept the pain of her lungs due to the lack of oxygen, it feels like being clawing and scraping inside-out ache.

Hence, suffering from cancer is a difficult experience for anybody, so was Hazel, she spends half of her teenager with cancer at her body, it was hard for her, but she keeps struggle against the disease. Because of her thyroid cancer that makes her lungs cannot breathe normally, she had undergone various medical treatments to treat her cancer, as the quotations below:

I had a surgery called radical neck dissection, which is about as pleasant as it sounds. Then radiation. Then they tried some chemo for my lung tumors. The tumors shrank, then grew. By then, I was fourteen. My lungs started to fill up with water. I was looking pretty dead—my hands and feet ballooned; my skin cracked; my lips were perpetually blue. They've got this drug that makes you not feel so completely terrified about the fact that you can't breathe, and I had a lot of it flowing into me through a PICC line, and more than a dozen other drugs besides. But even so, there's a certain unpleasantness to drowning, particularly when it occurs over the course of several months. (Green, 2012: 24)

From the quotation above, it shows that Hazel has undergone various medical treatments, such as radical neck dissection, radiation, and also some chemotherapy to treat her thyroid cancer. Her health is in a bad condition which forces her to depend on medicine and medical treatments. Therefore, she is required to carry an oxygen tank everywhere.

The cylindrical green tank only weighed a few pounds, and I had this little steel cart to wheel it around behind me. It delivered two liters of oxygen to me each minute through a cannula, a transparent tube that split just beneath my neck, wrapped behind my ears, and then reunited in my nostrils. The contraption was necessary because my lungs sucked at being lungs. (Green, 2012: 8)

The cause why she carries an oxygen tank is because her lungs cannot function as normal people. She said that her lungs suck being lungs, as sometimes it fulfilled with water and she cannot breathe because of it. She needs the oxygen tank to help her breathe, and she cannot breathe normally without it. Although she can breathe without it, but it feels better when she uses it. She realizes that her physical needs are vary than the others.

Hazel inferiority feeling limits her movements and activities, which automatically align her position in her companionship with other. Her physical

condition makes her spends most of all her time in the home just by reading books and thinking about death.

Late in the winter of my seventeenth year, my mother decided I was depressed, presumably because I rarely left the house, spent quite a lot of time in bed, read the same book over and over, ate infrequently, and devoted quite a bit of my abundant free time to thinking about death.
(Green, 2012: 3)

The quotation above shows Hazel state of feelings toward the condition of her life. As a girl who suffers from cancer, she becomes more vulnerable to this kind of feeling. She knows that her mom thinks she was depressed, as she rarely left the house and spends all of her time in her bed just by reading books and often thinking about death. She almost does not have a plan to go somewhere and she does not have a purpose for a life. Usually, people with cancer feel that there is no future for them. With a short life, they just want to fill their life with waiting and doing nothing.

From the dialogue above, it can be seen that Hazel is suffered from inferiority feeling. Hall and Lindzey (1985: 147) state that inferiority means feeling weak and unskilled in completing the tasks that need to be accomplished. It is an expression of an individual perception due to a condition, which is caused by inability or imperfection feeling. The inferiority feeling often leads people to destructing themselves, as they believe that they are relying on something which is not good enough for them.

But my mom believed I required treatment, so she took me to see my Regular Doctor Jim, who agreed that I was veritably swimming in a paralyzing and totally clinical depression and that, therefore, my meds should be adjusted and also I should attend a weekly Support Group.
(Green, 2012: 3-4)

Almost all of her activity involve her parents because only her parents who understand her condition. Then, to overcome it all, eventually, her mother decided to bring Hazel to her regular doctor, as her doctor see that her condition was veritably swimming in a paralyzing and totally clinical depression. So, her mother asks for some medicines which fit with Hazel's condition to treats her cancer. Besides, her mother also asks her to attend the Support Group. It can be said that her health forces her to do things that she did not like to do, such doctor visits and attends the Support Group.

The Support Group, of course, was depressing as hell. It met every Wednesday in the basement of a stone-walled Episcopal church shaped like a cross. We all sat in a circle right in the middle of the cross, where the two boards would have met, where the heart of Jesus would have been. (Green, 2012: 4)

The above quotation shows Hazel's mental inferiority appeared. Hazel meets her inferior in the middle of her struggle against her cancer. This inferior appears after for a long day she joins the support group. Hazel says that attending the support group is depressing as hell. She feels depressed because the Support Group featured a rotating cast of characters in various states of tumor-driven unwellness. The cast is always rotating which really makes her confused. Besides that, the group always meets every Wednesday in the basement of a stone-walled Episcopal church shaped like a cross. The people sit in a circle right in the middle of the cross, where the two boards will have met, where the heart of Jesus will have. The leader considered that sitting in the heart of Jesus can cure their cancer, so it is like a spiritual ceremony. It is the opposite that Hazel believes that the Support Group method cannot make her comfortable and cure her cancer. She

assumes that following the Support Group is useless because they are like a mystical group where they only tell about their experience of cancer. Her mental inferior is also can be seen in the dialogue below:

So Support Group blew, and after a few weeks, I grew to be rather kicking-and-screaming about the whole affair.

Me: "I refuse to attend Support Group."

Mom: "One of the symptoms of depression is disinterest in activities."

Me: "Please just let me watch America's Next Top Model. It's an activity."

Mom: "Television is a passivity."

Me: "Ugh, Mom, please. If you want me to be a teenager, don't send me to Support Group. Buy me a fake ID so I can go to clubs, drink vodka, and take pot."

Mom: "You don't take pot, for starters."

Me: "See, that's the kind of thing I'd know if you got me a fake ID."

Mom: "You're going to Support Group."

Me: "UGGGGGGGGGGGGGG." (Green, 2012: 6-7)

According to Hurlock that one of the causes of inferiority is from the physical condition where the adolescent who is suddenly unable to take part in the activities of the group and who has to establish new interests and become self-sufficient finds the adjustment very difficult (1973: 330). Hazel may be irritable about her medication as she did not want to go to the Support Group. So, she dares to say refuse to attend the Support Group in front of her mother. Then, she asks her mother to let her watch America's Next Top Model in the television at home. She feels that there are other ways besides following the support group even though she does not know yet. Hazel's favorite activities are different from the other teenagers, as the others may prefer to go outside and socialize.

That dialogue shows Hazel lacks common knowledge about being a teenager. Her expectation of being a teenager is different from her parents. Her parents want her to go to the support group, but she did not want to. Besides, she

wants to have a fake ID in order to go to clubs, drinking vodka and taking the pot. The idea of a fake ID is based on her opinions about other teenagers of the same age as her, and her mother said that it is wrong. She has not gone to any club or drinks vodka, but she wants her parents to fulfill her wish although her parents clearly did not agree with that.

Not only lack common knowledge about being a teenager. Those also shows Hazel lack of social interest. This lack of social interest is correlated with her physical limitations, as she did not have much energy to leave her house and did not have much time as she needs to regularly attend the support group.

Her mother was concerned about it, so she reminds Hazel to make some friends whenever she goes out, as she said “Hazel, you’re a teenager. You’re not a little kid anymore. You need to make friends, get out of the house, and live your life.”. It is shows that her mother always reminds Hazel to make friends and makes a social interaction with others outside the house. As Hall and Lindzey (1970: 125) acknowledge that a man should live among others where he interacts with others in his society that make his behavior is always influenced by his society.

Any attempts to feign normal social interactions were just depressing because it was so glaringly obvious that everyone I spoke to for the rest of my life would feel awkward and self-conscious around me, except maybe kids like Jackie who just didn’t know any better. Anyway, I really did like being alone. I liked being alone with poor Staff Sergeant Max Mayhem, (Green, 2012: 47)

From here, her inferior mental feelings toward the society around increases with the circumstances that make her in the lowest level in the community. The above quotation shows the other Hazel’s inferiority feeling.

When she attempts to make social interaction with others, she feels that everything she does is useless and even depresses her because every people she talks to will feel awkward and self-conscious around her. As Adler says that the inferior will happen when people feel weak and do not have the social capability and child inferiority. It means that if people were controlled by the inferiority feelings, they feel that other people underestimate them, part of their body is not perfect, they are different from others. In this situation, the inferior will take the part of it (Adler in Boeree, 2010: 160-161).

“I’m like. Like. I’m like a grenade, Mom. I’m a grenade and at some point, I’m going to blow up and I would like to minimize the casualties, okay? I’m a grenade”, I said again. “I just want to stay away from people and read books and think and be with you guys because there’s nothing I can do about hurting you; you’re too invested, so just please let me do that, okay? I’m not depressed. I don’t need to get out more. And I can’t be a regular teenager because I’m a grenade.” (Green, 2012: 99)

When a sense of her inferiority arise, she frequently compares herself as a grenade, which will blow up and hurt people around her. It means that she will leave a scar in other people’s lives. Then she just wants to stay away from people because she did not want to hurt others by the way she interacts with them, as she tries to minimize the casualties of her death in the future. This might be a problem for her, but every living creature must face their problem as the problem is the part of life. It can be said that without problems, no one can develop themselves to be a better person. However, those inferiority feeling is not bad because it pushes her to move forward and to get a better life.

3.2 Hazel's Perspective of Superiority

Superiority is the compensation of inferiority. For Adler, there is only one impulse, the drive for superiority in an attempt to leave a feeling of inferiority. Superiority is not to be better than anyone else or defeats others but is constantly trying to get better for getting closer to the final goal (Alwisol. 2009: 66).

In order to strive for superiority, Hazel decides her perspective of superiority. Hazel's perspective of superiority much influenced by Anna, the main character in her favorite book *An Imperial Affliction*. Here is the story of Anna which affecting her life in many ways.

AIA is about this girl named Anna (who narrates the story) and her one-eyed mom, who is a professional gardener obsessed with tulips, and they have a normal lower-middle- class life in a little central California town until Anna gets this rare blood cancer. (Green, 2012: 48)

The quotation above explains Anna's life. Anna, the main character of *An Imperial Affliction* has the similar life style as Hazel's. Anna is a girl who has rare blood cancer and her mom who just have one eye for seeing, her mom is a gardener and tulips lover. They have a normal lower middle-class life in Central California town. Anna who has the similar life style, becomes her role model of superiority.

Also, Anna is honest about all of it in a way no one else really is: Throughout the book, she refers to herself as the side effect, which is just totally correct. Cancer kids are essentially side effects of the relentless mutation that made the diversity of life on earth possible. So as the story goes on, she gets sicker, the treatments and disease racing to kill her, and her mom falls in love with this Dutch tulip trader Anna calls the Dutch Tulip Man. The Dutch Tulip Man has lots of money and very eccentric ideas about how to treat cancer, but Anna thinks this guy might be a con man and possibly not even Dutch, and then just as the possibly Dutch guy and her mom are about to get married and Anna is about to

start this crazy new treatment regimen involving wheatgrass and low doses of arsenic, (Green, 2012: 49)

Anna is a figure of a person who represents the experience of the battle for illness. As the above quotation, Anna said that she refers to herself as the side effect of the relentless mutation that made the diversity of life on earth possible.

Anna realize that her life is different from other, but she keeps struggle for life. As she gets sicker, she also had some treatment to treat her cancer. She keeps struggle against her cancer to have a better life.

But it's not a cancer book, because cancer books suck. Like, in cancer books, the cancer person starts a charity that raises money to fight cancer, right? And this commitment to charity reminds the cancer person of the essential goodness of humanity and makes him/her feel loved and encouraged because s/he will leave a cancer-curing legacy. But in AIA, Anna decides that being a person with cancer who starts a cancer charity is a bit narcissistic, so she starts a charity called The Anna Foundation for People with Cancer Who Want to Cure Cholera. (Green, 2012: 48-49)

Being a person with cancer, it does not make Anna pessimistic in facing her life. She does not want her life to be useless. She wants her life to be useful for others. So she starting to build a charity called The Anna Foundation for people with Cancer who wants to Cure Cholera. From here, Hazel believes that Anna's life is successfully express her feelings towards her condition and it is truly understanding her so deeply. It is reflecting Hazel's life and inspires her in many ways.

My favorite book, by a wide margin, was An Imperial Affliction, but I didn't like to tell people about it. It wasn't even that the book was so good or anything; it was just that the author, Peter Van Houten, seemed to understand me in weird and impossible ways. An Imperial Affliction was my book, in the way my body was my body and my thoughts were my thoughts. (Green, 2012: 33-34)

The quotation above clearly shows that *An Imperial Affliction* becomes her favorite book since it represents how to battle with cancer. She describes that the novel is successfully express her feelings towards her condition and it is truly understanding her so deeply. Hazel found this novel as a marvel, where her thoughts were accommodated and her needs are fulfilled by the story. The novel is the only book she has read of living with cancer ties with her experience. The novel represents Hazel's experience in the battles for her illness. Hazel's bound to the novel offers a sort of companionship, which comforts her. And she obsesses over the fates of the character Anna in the novel because they function as her representations for her own life.

Peter Van Houten, the reclusive author of An Imperial Affliction, the book that was as close a thing as I had to a Bible. Peter Van Houten was the only person I'd ever come across who seemed to (a) understand what it's like to be dying, and (b) not have died. (Green, 2012: 13)

That statement above also describes Hazel's feeling towards *An Imperial Affliction* where she regards the novel as her personal bible. She considers that the novel is a sort of religion for her. This is reflecting how much the novel meant for her. She was provoked by the author of *An Imperial Affliction*, that she thought to have the same experience as the main character Anna in the novel, who understand what it is like to be dying and not have died. The novel is the only thing that understands her in every aspect of life.

Therefore, through the story of Anna in *An Imperial Affliction*, Hazel get her perspective of superiority. Superiority according to Hazel is that someone who is able to rise from the adversity in her life to make a better life, and someone whose life can be useful and helpful for other's life. Hazel's perspective of being

superior is like being Anna, where she can survive her life to battle her cancer and start a charity foundation to help people with cancer and also die as a heroine who tries to reduce the effects of cancer. Therefore, Hazel believes that by being brave as Anna, she could be a hero and have a better life. Her life can be useful and helpful to the society like Anna does in the novel. Anna's heroism impresses and motivates Hazel to strive for superiority.

The novel itself turned into Hazel imaginary goal where she wants to strive for. As Adler's says about the concept of imaginary goal is the idea the human behavior is directed toward his own future goal of its own making (Hall and Lindzey, 1981: 122). This is also called as fiction finalism. Fiction finalism is the individual goal of life, which imaginary in nature or as fiction as stated by Adler that each person quest for superiority is guided by the fictional final goal that he or she has adopted.

3.3 Hazel's Striving for Superiority

Striving is a feeling of inferiority becomes superiority. Adler believes that inferiority feeling is the source of human striving. All individual progress, growth, and development result from attempt to compensate for one's inferiorities.

Superiority is the fundamental driving force in life, means that striving becomes superior, to be better than before. Striving for superiority is the effort of human beings to get perfection or completion through the way that makes them close to the purpose. So, each human determines their way to strive for the superiority that they need. Then they need to use their power or effort to accomplish it in one way or another. They have to do anything in order to be succeeded in it.

In *The Fault in Our Stars*, Hazel strives from the inferiority to the superiority in her life. In striving for superiority, Hazel struggle on her life to get what the superiority that she wants by deciding her perspective of superiority. Superiority according to Hazel is that someone who is able to rise from the adversity in her life to make a better life, and someone whose life can be useful and helpful for other's life. Therefore, Hazel does some ways to strives for her superiority by the way she appreciating the life, the way she struggles for making her parents proud, and struggle for having a social relationship as she wants her life to be better, useful and helpful for other's life.

3.3.1 Hazel's Way of Appreciating the Life

Life is God's give to every human, you should truly appreciate what you have been given. Here, the way Hazel striving for superiority appears when she wants to defeat her inferiority by appreciating the life. As Hazel's perspective of superiority is that someone who is able to rise from the adversity in her life to make a better life, then she strives for it, and one of the way that Hazel can do is by accepting and appreciating all of her conditions of life that God has given to her.

I don't remember the line but it's something like Anna having the Whitmanesque revelation that the definition of humanness is the opportunity to marvel at the majesty of creation or whatever." (Green, 2012: 174)

The quotation above shows the first Hazel's way to defeat her inferiority that is she begins to appreciate the life by transforming herself into someone who is more accepting the possibilities that might happen in her life. She realizes that

as a human, she has to marvel at the majesty of God's creation and accepts gracefully whatever God has given in her life. And that is like what Anna did in her favorite novel *An Imperial Affliction*. And the way Hazel appreciates the life become her style of life. According to Adler (in Hjelle and Zieger, 1992: 144), style of life refers to the unique pattern of traits, behaviors, and habits, which show the particular ways that a person does to reach his goal of life.

So afterward, while I was getting eviscerated by chemo, for some reason I decided to feel really hopeful. Not about survival specifically, but I felt like Anna does in the book, that feeling of excitement and gratitude about just being able to marvel at it all. (Green, 2012: 175)

The way Hazel appreciates the life also shown after Hazel gets some medication of her cancer, she feels really hopeful with her life, she has the spirit to survive for her cancer and also she tries to feel grateful for all of she has experienced in her life. She should definitely live the life to the fullest and it shows that there is always a way to be positive even if something very terrible is happening in her life. Hazel prefer to appreciate everything she has done in her life, rather than a dejection of the life she has been given.

Which meant there was quite a lot of competitiveness about it, with everybody wanting to beat not only cancer itself, but also the other people in the room. Like, I realize that this is irrational, but when they tell you that you have, say, a 20 percent chance of living five years, the math kicks in and you figure that's one in five . . . so you look around and think, as any healthy person would: I gotta outlast four of these bastards. (Green, 2012: 5)

Although she is talking about death, Hazel does not want to die. It is indicated in the above quotation that if the cancer patients, even if she was calculating her lives, she still has the spirit to live and she would do the best to fight it. For instance, she would live the life as a healthy people, because the rest

of five years' life is not a long time. The other way of Hazel appreciates the life also shown where in her daily life she always tries to get rid of her negative mind about her cancer as she says in below quotation:

That's the thing about pain – it demands to be felt. (Green, 2012: 63)

Hazel gets the expression from the novel, where she emphasizes how she is facing her life that she lives and stands as an individual with accepting the fact that cancer is a part of her life and realize that the pain cause of her cancer is a demand to be felt in her life.

I tried to tell myself that it could be worse, that the world was not a wish-granting factory that I was living with cancer not dying of it, that I mustn't let it kill me before it kills me. (Green, 2012: 121)

The next striving of Hazel to defeats her inferiority also happen when she realizes that her life is not flowing as she wants to. So she wants to be strong. She tries to live with cancer and she must fight her illness. she will not give up to the end and will not allow the cancer let kill her. The above quotation also shows the way Hazel appreciate and accept the life by

I told myself that imagining a met in my brain or my shoulder would not affect the invisible reality going on inside of me and that therefore all such thoughts were wasted moments in a life composed of a definitionally finite set of such moments. I even tried to tell myself to live my best life today. (Green, 2012: 97)

The quotation above shows that Hazel realizes if she only thought about her illness continuously without doing anything it would be futile and wastes the moment in her life, so she tries to live her best life as she wants to appreciate her life. She wants a better life so she has to keep alive and fight against cancer.

Without pain, we couldn't know joy." (Green, 2012: 272)

People are responsible for who they are and how they behave in their life no matter what. This power of life is responsible for achieving a person's life goal and contributes to the development of social interest. Hazel is responsible for choosing her destiny by accepting her unhealthy condition. Her creative power takes part to convince herself that cancer has its positive sides, as she believes that from the pain it can lead her to know the joy. As Adler (in Hjelle and Zeigler, 1992: 150) explains that the concept of the creative power underlining his belief that human beings are the masters of their own fate. It creates freedom which enables a person to choose their experience, whether they choose pain, joy, or anxiety, or to defend themselves against these experiences by creating various safeguarding actions. Hazel chooses to taste all of them by striving for her life whatever happens after.

3.3.2 Hazel's Effort of Making Her Parents Proud

Everyone deserves a loving and caring group of people that he or she can call family. Some people are lucky enough to have close families that get along most of the time and share each other's ups and downs. In *The Fault in Our Stars*, the other struggle of Hazel for achieving her superiority that is to be useful for other is that she struggles to make her parents proud of her. In the story, Hazel describes as the only daughter of her small family who loves her so much. Even though Hazel is a child with cancer but she did not want to be a child who only became a burden for her parent's life, so she wants to prove to her parents that she is a great and strong child who can make her parents proud to have her. Her

struggle to make her parents proud of her shown when she wants to go to Amsterdam for meeting the author of her favorite novel.

“Hazel, I love you, and you know I’d do anything for you, but we don’t—we don’t have the money for international travel, and the expense of getting equipment over there—love, it’s just not—”. “No, don’t,” I said. “Just, seriously, don’t spend any money on it please. I’ll think of something.” It occurred to me that the reason my parents had no money was me. I’d sapped the family savings with Phalanxifor copays, and Mom couldn’t work because she had taken on the full-time profession of Hovering Over Me. I didn’t want to put them even further into debt. (Green, 2012: 79)

In this case, she knows that her parents did not have money for the cost of her international travel to go to Amsterdam for meeting the author of her favorite novel. Therefore, Hazel struggle not to burden her parents for her international travel cost by saying “Just, seriously, don’t spend any money on it please. I will think of something”. Hazel feels that her parents have done so much for her and she cannot repay them with anything. She realizes that her parents had spent a lot of money for her cancer treatment and medication all this time. Then in this condition, she tries to convince her mom that she would think of something and would find out the way how to get it by herself as she loves her parents and does not want to bother them. In addition, she does not want to leave them to suffer when she dies, and she wants them to be happy.

I went to Support Group for the same reason that I’d once allowed nurses with a mere eighteen months of graduate education to poison me with exotically named chemicals: I wanted to make my parents happy. There is only one thing in this world shittier than biting it from cancer when you’re sixteen, and that’s having a kid who bites it from cancer. (Green, 2012: 8)

The above quotation shows her other effort to make her parents happy.

Hazel is a good girl with a good attitude. In the middle of her lives against cancer,

she knows how to face it. She knows that her mother loves her very much so she does not want to disappoint her. When Hazel makes the decision to leave the Support Group, but her mother refuses her decision. Her mother told her to keep following the group because she believes that the group can give the cure to her. It is the opposite with Hazel believes that the group is useless, but, because of her love for her mother then, she makes the decision to come back with the Support Group. Here, she defeats her ego to makes her parents happy. Hazel shows that she has good attitudes where she became a girl with a socially useful type. In this type, an individual embodies both a high degree of social interest and a high level of activity. These individuals are willing to cooperate with others. They realize that the solution to social problems requires cooperation, personal courage, and a willingness to make a contribution to the welfare of others (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1981: 81-83).

My old stock answer was that I wanted to stay alive for my parents, because they would be all gutted and childless in the wake of me, and that was still true kind of, but that wasn't it, exactly. (Green, 2012: 294)

That quotation is also shows her effort to make her parents happy and proud of her by the way she keeps survive her life and stay alive. She always keeps her body physically in a stable condition and she always try to live her life as a healthy person and be a normal teenager because it is what her parent wants. In order to boast her parents, she trying to do anything the best for them as she wants to make them happy. She cannot deny that her parent's happiness is more important than hers and she did not want to ruin it.

"You're being very teenagery today," Mom said. She seemed annoyed about it. "Isn't this what you wanted, Mom? For me to be teenagery?"

“Well, not necessarily this kinda teenagery, but of course your father and I are excited to see you become a young woman, making friends, going on dates.” (Green, 2012: 99)

In her everyday life, Hazel tries to make a friends with others as a normal teenager, although her life was not normal enough compared to healthy people, but she wants to be powerful in facing all her problems. Those can make her parents proud and please them for seeing their daughter become a young woman, making friends, and going on dates with another people.

Hazel, you are amazing. You can't know, sweetie, because you've never had a baby become a brilliant young reader with a side interest in horrible television shows, but the joy you bring us is so much greater than the sadness we feel about your illness.” (Green, 2012: 103)

The quotation above shows that her parents proud of her. They are proud to have children like Hazel who is brilliant and has the high spirits to survive for life. For them, the joy that Hazel brings for them is so much greater than the sadness they feel because of her illness. They proud of everything that hazel has been done for them. And finally, her mom says to Hazel that she would become a social worker as Hazel wish of their life.

I nodded. I was crying. I couldn't get over how happy I was, crying genuine tears of actual happiness for the first time in maybe forever, imagining my mom as a Patrick. It made me think of Anna's mom. She would've been a good social worker, too. (Green, 2012: 298)

From the quotation above, Hazel gets truly happiness when the first time she knows that her parents would become a good social worker like Patrick, a leader in her Support Group who can help cancer patients to cure their cancer as what Anna does in her favorite novel that she dreams of. And Hazel struggle to make her parents happy and proud of her is clearly achieved as she knows that everything she dreams of happens in her life.

3.3.3 Hazel's Struggle of Social Relationship

Living her life as a teenager makes Hazel unconsciously thinking about a relationship with another person. Hazel struggle to make a social relationship as she wants to have a better life and to be useful for other. Hazel realizes her existence in her society is too thin, and she needs to develop herself. In her efforts to develop herself, she found the existence and the importance of her society. As stated by Hall and Lindzey (1970: 125) since a man was born, he automatically becomes a member of society. If his social feeling can develop naturally, he will be able to make an adaptation with his living environments appropriately.

Hazel struggle to make a good relationship with others as she needs someone who always closes with her and sharing the experience of life. Hazel as a teenager, she trying to get many friends but unfortunately she did not get much of them. After she dropped out of her school, she only has Kaitlyn as her friends. Kaitlyn presence emotionally and physically affects Hazel's development of a relationship with other people aside from her parents.

*"You don't want to go to a movie with Kaitlyn or Matt or someone?".
"Sure," I said. "I'll text Kaitlyn and see if she wants to go to the mall or something after school." (Green, 2012: 40)*

The quotation above shows her struggle to make a social relationship with other as she wants to go outside together with her friend, Kaitlyn. Hazel tries to develop her social interest by having a social relationship with other, especially with Kaitlyn. Hazel feels comfortable when she is with Kaitlyn, as she can talk some issues about anything else. For her, Kaitlyn is a best friend after her mom who always care and support her to keep alive.

Besides Kaitlyn, she tries to make a good relationship with another people in her Support Group. At the first meeting in the Support Group, Hazel meets Augustus, the boy who had Osteosarcoma. In the meeting, she found that Augustus is staring at her, which makes her blushed away and somehow she is attracted to him.

His every syllable flirted. Honestly, he kind of turned me on. I didn't even know that guys could turn me on—not, like, in real life. (Green, 2012: 17)

The quotation above shows her feelings toward Augustus. She says that Augustus is a guy that can turn her on. After her first meeting, she feels curious about him and she wants to know more about him. Therefore, she tries to be closer to Augustus as she agrees with his invitation to watch a movie together in his home.

“So, see you next time, maybe?” I asked. “You should see it,” he said. “V for Vendetta, I mean.” “Okay,” I said. “I’ll look it up.” “No. With me. At my house,” he said. (Green, 2012: 17)

That quotation also shows her struggle to have a good relationship with Augustus by accepting his invitation to watch a movie together in his home. Here, also shows that Hazel was attracted to him and she considers to trust him. After their first time watching together they getting closer to each other. Somehow, Hazel cannot deny the reality that she loves Augustus. And she cannot deny her feelings anymore. She realizes that Augustus is the person she suited with.

I liked Augustus Waters. I really, really, really liked him. I liked the way his story ended with someone else. I liked his voice. I liked that he took existentially fraught free throws. I liked that he was a tenured professor in the Department of Slightly Crooked Smiles with a dual appointment in the Department of Having a Voice That Made My Skin Feel More like Skin. And I liked that he had two names. I’ve always liked people with two names because you get to make up your mind what you call them: Gus or

Augustus? Me, I was always just Hazel, univalent Hazel. (Green, 2012: 31)

The above quotation shows her acknowledgment that she likes Augustus. She really likes everything about him. She describes that her feelings about him are so remarkable. It is obvious that is the first time she met a person who knows her well enough and did not feel pity for her condition. She describes Augustus as the best guy she ever met and she cannot deny that Augustus was really meant for her.

In order to strive for a good relationship with others, she uses her social interest. According to Hall and Lindzey (1985:147), Adler's concept of social interest as a caring and concern for the welfare of others that continues, throughout life, to guide a person's behavior. The quotation below shows the social interest of Hazel. Hazel is a girl with cancer where every day she always tries to fill her life with something useful. Especially useful for people surround her. Something useful on below quotation is that she gives the spirit for her close friend Augustus to survive whenever his cancer was back and threatening his life.

"You get to battle cancer," I said. "That is your battle. And you'll keep fighting," I told him. I hated it when people tried to build me up to prepare for battle, but I did it to him, anyway. "You'll . . . you'll . . . live your best life today. This is your war now." (Green, 2012: 216)

On the above quotation, Hazel gives the spirit for Augustus as her close friend to keep survive against his cancer and support him to keep alive, as she said: "you get to battle cancer, you will keep fighting and you will live your best life today". It is clear that Hazel is making Augustus as her closest friends, whom she wants to be with.

“I’ll fight it. I’ll fight it for you. Don’t you worry about me, Hazel Grace. I’m okay. I’ll find a way to hang around and annoy you for a long time.”
(Green, 2012: 215)

This quotation appeared when Augustus in the ICU. With the supports coming from Hazel, it makes Augustus feels like he is no longer lives alone and feels more hopeful about her life. He wants to be a stronger as he said that he would fight his cancer. He tries to convince Hazel that he is okay because he wants to be with her for a long time, as long as he can. He feels that Hazel has a forever friendship and love in the middle of his sorrow.

I can’t talk about our love story, so I will talk about math. I am not a mathematician, but I know this: There are infinite numbers between 0 and 1. There’s .1 and .12 and .112 and an infinite collection of others. Of course, there is a bigger infinite set of numbers between 0 and 2, or between 0 and a million. Some infinity are bigger than other infinities. A writer we used to like taught us that. There are days, many of them, when I resent the size of my unbounded set. I want more numbers than I’m likely to get, and God, I want more numbers for Augustus Waters than he got. But, Gus, my love, I cannot tell you how thankful I am for our little infinity. I wouldn’t trade it for the world. You gave me a forever within the numbered days, and I’m grateful. (Green, 2012: 260)

Hazel implies to herself about her feelings toward Augustus. She added that her experience with him is like forever. Their memories will stay with her no matter if he is there or not. Their moments have taught her about suffering and love. Whatever suffering she needs to deal with is compensated by how much he taught her about the memories they have been together. She is thankful for the chance she had to be with him whatever it ends. She feels grateful for having a good relationship with Augustus and finally resolve her personal potential. Hazel is successfully developing her personality. From the one who tries to avoid any kind of relationship, to be a girl who has a good relationship especially with

Augustus. She can manage her personality developments to be a better person in the right way.

In addition, Hazel's life is seeming to be useful and helpful for other as she becomes an encouragement for Augustus. Besides that, she is also such an inspiration to Lida, her another friend in the Support Group as seen below quotation:

“Hazel is such an inspiration to me; she really is. She just keeps fighting the battle, waking up every morning and going to war without complaint. She's so strong. She's so much stronger than I am. I just wish I had her strength.”. “Hazel?” Patrick asked. “How does that make you feel?” I shrugged and looked over at Lida. “I'll give you my strength if I can have your remission.” I felt guilty as soon as I said it. (Green, 2012: 131)

The above quotation clearly shows her effort to be useful and helpful for other's life is successfully achieved as Lida said that Hazel is such an inspiration to her because Hazel is a strong girl, she keeps fights battle with her cancer, and she does everything in her life as a healthy person without complaining it. Lida wishes that she has strength as Hazel's.

Here, Hazel is successfully achieving what superiority that she wants in her life to be a girl who has a better life than before, to be useful and helpful for others life as she can be an encouragement and an inspiration for her friend's life.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This chapter sums up the result of the analysis of striving for superiority shown by Hazel in John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*. The researcher presents conclusion and suggestion in this chapter. The conclusion is drawn based on the analysis of this study under the research problems, while suggestion which intended to give the information to the next researcher who are interested in doing further study in the same area.

4.1 Conclusion

Based on the result of the study, the researcher takes the conclusion of the study which analyzes *The Fault in Our Stars* novel written by John Green by applying Adler's Individual Psychology which focuses on the main character Hazel in the novel. This study discusses Hazel's inferiority, Hazel's perspective of superiority and the way Hazel striving for superiority shown in the novel.

Here, Hazel's inferiority appears caused by her physical weakness of suffering from thyroid cancer. Her inferiority shown when she feels hurt because she cannot breathe like a normal person. The other inferiority shown that she feels depressed when she realizes that her cancer makes her life close to the death as she always thinking about death. And she also feels depressed whenever she makes a social interaction with other but they are will feel awkward toward her. As her inferiority arises, she frequently compares herself as a grenade which sometimes will blow up and hurt people around her.

To compensate her inferiority, Hazel decides her perspective of superiority. Hazel's perspective of superiority much influenced by Anna. Through the story of Anna in her favorite novel *An Imperial Affliction*, Hazel's perspective of superiority is that someone who is able to rise from adversity in her life to make a better life, and someone whose life can be useful and helpful for other's life. Hazel's perspective of being superior is like being Anna. Hazel believes that by being brave as Anna, she could be a hero and have a better life. Her life can be useful and helpful to the society like Anna does in the novel. Anna's heroism impresses and motivates Hazel to strive for superiority.

In striving for superiority, Hazel does some ways to get her goals of superiority. Such as Hazel always tries to appreciate the life. As she realizes that as a human, she has to feel grateful for everything God has given especially the cancer in her body which become part of her life. By accepting and appreciating her life makes her to be a better person and to be closer to the goal that she wants. The others way of Hazel is that she always tries to make her parents proud. She struggles to do the best anything to make her parents proud and happy for having her. And the last is Hazel struggle for a social relationship. Hazel tries to develop herself by having a good relationship with other as she wants her life to be useful and helpful for others. She has a close relationship with her friends, such as Katlyn and Lida. At the time she finally falls in love with Augustus, her friend in her support Group. So she tries to give her full attention to Augustus, by giving the spirit to live and support to battle his cancer to him. Finally, Hazel can get her superiority Hazel has filled her life with something useful for other's life. She has

done all of the ways to get the goal of her superiority that is called as fiction finalism, by using her creative power, her social interest, and her style of life.

In addition, every person has their own way of striving for superiority. If people want to seek for the goal of superiority and strive for it to be superior, it depends on people's way to face their own inferiority. If they see their inferiority as something bad and also do not have social interest, they tend to have the inferiority complex. In other hands, if they compensate for their inferiority with some actions, and struggles for a goal, they tend to get the superiority that they want.

4.2 Suggestion

John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars* has some uniqueness that can be analyzed using various theories. The researcher hopes that the next researcher can do the deeper investigation on this novel. For instance, the social condition, or the ecranization between the novel and the film. Furthermore, the researcher hopes that the next researcher can use this study as a comparison or as an additional reference for their future study.

Adler's concept of Individual Psychology is also interesting and beneficial because it gives a new point of view to understand people as an individual. It can be applied in the wide area of literary works. It can be a brand new perspective for the other students who are interested in psychology of literature.

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APPENDIX

The Data of the Novel

A. Inferiority

Category	Quotation	Page
Hazel's inferiority	<i>In truth, it always hurt. It always hurt not to breathe like a normal person, incessantly reminding your lungs to be lungs, forcing yourself to accept as unsolvable the clawing scraping inside-out ache of underoxygenation.</i>	45
	<i>I had a surgery called radical neck dissection, which is about as pleasant as it sounds. Then radiation. Then they tried some chemo for my lung tumors. The tumors shrank, then grew. By then, I was fourteen. My lungs started to fill up with water. I was looking pretty dead—my hands and feet ballooned; my skin cracked; my lips were perpetually blue. They've got this drug that makes you not feel so completely terrified about the fact that you can't breathe, and I had a lot of it flowing into me through a PICC line, and more than a dozen other drugs besides. But even so, there's a certain unpleasantness to drowning, particularly when it occurs over the course of several months.</i>	24
	<i>The cylindrical green tank only weighed a few pounds, and I had this little steel cart to wheel it around behind me. It delivered two liters of oxygen to me each minute through a cannula, a transparent tube that split just beneath my neck, wrapped behind my ears, and then reunited in my nostrils. The contraption was necessary because my lungs sucked at being lungs.</i>	8
	<i>Late in the winter of my seventeenth year, my mother decided I was depressed, presumably because I rarely left the house, spent quite a lot of time in bed, read the same book over and over, ate infrequently, and devoted quite a bit of my abundant free time to thinking about death.</i>	3

	<i>But my mom believed I required treatment, so she took me to see my Regular Doctor Jim, who agreed that I was veritably swimming in a paralyzing and totally clinical depression and that, therefore, my meds should be adjusted and also I should attend a weekly Support Group.</i>	3-4
	<i>The Support Group, of course, was depressing as hell. It met every Wednesday in the basement of a stone-walled Episcopal church shaped like a cross. We all sat in a circle right in the middle of the cross, where the two boards would have met, where the heart of Jesus would have been.</i>	4
	<i>So Support Group blew, and after a few weeks, I grew to be rather kicking-and-screaming about the whole affair. Me: "I refuse to attend Support Group." Mom: "One of the symptoms of depression is disinterest in activities." Me: "Please just let me watch America's Next Top Model. It's an activity." Mom: "Television is a passivity." Me: "Ugh, Mom, please. If you want me to be a teenager, don't send me to Support Group. Buy me a fake ID so I can go to clubs, drink vodka, and take pot." Mom: "You don't take pot, for starters." Me: "See, that's the kind of thing I'd know if you got me a fake ID." Mom: "You're going to Support Group." Me: "UGGGGGGGGGGGGGG."</i>	6-7
	<i>Any attempts to feign normal social interactions were just depressing because it was so glaringly obvious that everyone I spoke to for the rest of my life would feel awkward and self-conscious around me, except maybe kids like Jackie who just didn't know any better. Anyway, I really did like being alone. I liked being alone with poor Staff Sergeant Max Mayhem,</i>	47
	<i>"I'm like. Like. I'm like a grenade, Mom. I'm a grenade and at some point, I'm going to blow up and I would like to minimize the casualties, okay? I'm a grenade", I said again. "I just want to stay away from people and read books and think and be with you guys because there's nothing I can do about hurting you; you're too invested, so just please let me do that, okay? I'm not depressed. I don't need to get out more. And I can't be a regular teenager because I'm a grenade."</i>	99

B. Perspective of Superiority

Category		Quotation	Page
Hazel's Perspective of Superiority	Hazel's perspective of superiority much influenced by Anna	<i>AIA is about this girl named Anna (who narrates the story) and her one-eyed mom, who is a professional gardener obsessed with tulips, and they have a normal lower-middle- class life in a little central California town until Anna gets this rare blood cancer.</i>	48
		<i>Also, Anna is honest about all of it in a way no one else really is: Throughout the book, she refers to herself as the side effect, which is just totally correct. Cancer kids are essentially side effects of the relentless mutation that made the diversity of life on earth possible. So as the story goes on, she gets sicker, the treatments and disease racing to kill her, and her mom falls in love with this Dutch tulip trader Anna calls the Dutch Tulip Man. The Dutch Tulip Man has lots of money and very eccentric ideas about how to treat cancer, but Anna thinks this guy might be a con man and possibly not even Dutch, and then just as the possibly Dutch guy and her mom are about to get married and Anna is about to start this crazy new treatment regimen involving wheatgrass and low doses of arsenic,</i>	49
		<i>But it's not a cancer book, because cancer books suck. Like, in cancer books, the cancer person starts a charity that raises money to fight cancer, right? And this commitment to charity reminds the cancer person of the essential goodness of humanity and makes him/her feel loved and encouraged because s/he will leave a cancer-curing legacy. But in AIA, Anna decides that being a person with cancer who starts a cancer charity is a bit narcissistic, so she starts a charity called The Anna Foundation for People with Cancer Who Want to Cure Cholera.</i>	48-49

		<i>My favorite book, by a wide margin, was An Imperial Affliction, but I didn't like to tell people about it. It wasn't even that the book was so good or anything; it was just that the author, Peter Van Houten, seemed to understand me in weird and impossible ways. An Imperial Affliction was my book, in the way my body was my body and my thoughts were my thoughts.</i>	33-34
		<i>Peter Van Houten, the reclusive author of An Imperial Affliction, the book that was as close a thing as I had to a Bible. Peter Van Houten was the only person I'd ever come across who seemed to (a) understand what it's like to be dying, and (b) not have died.</i>	13

C. Striving for Superiority

Category		Quotation	Page
Hazel's striving for superiority	Hazel's way of appreciating the life	<i>I don't remember the line but it's something like Anna having the Whitmanesque revelation that the definition of humanness is the opportunity to marvel at the majesty of creation or whatever."</i>	174
		<i>So afterward, while I was getting eviscerated by chemo, for some reason I decided to feel really hopeful. Not about survival specifically, but I felt like Anna does in the book, that feeling of excitement and gratitude about just being able to marvel at it all.</i>	175
		<i>Which meant there was quite a lot of competitiveness about it, with everybody wanting to beat not only cancer itself, but also the other people in the room. Like, I realize that this is irrational, but when they tell you that you have, say, a 20 percent chance of living five years, the math kicks in and you figure that's one in five . . . so you look around and think, as any healthy person would: I gotta outlast four of these bastards.</i>	5

		<i>That's the thing about pain – it demands to be felt.</i>	63
		<i>I tried to tell myself that it could be worse, that the world was not a wish-granting factory that I was living with cancer not dying of it, that I mustn't let it kill me before it kills me.</i>	121
		<i>I told myself that imagining a met in my brain or my shoulder would not affect the invisible reality going on inside of me and that therefore all such thoughts were wasted moments in a life composed of a definitionally finite set of such moments. I even tried to tell myself to live my best life today.</i>	97
		<i>Without pain, we couldn't know joy."</i>	272
	Hazel's effort of boasting her parents	<i>"Hazel, I love you, and you know I'd do anything for you, but we don't—we don't have the money for international travel, and the expense of getting equipment over there—love, it's just not—". "No, don't," I said. "Just, seriously, don't spend any money on it please. I'll think of something." It occurred to me that the reason my parents had no money was me. I'd sapped the family savings with Phalanxifor copays, and Mom couldn't work because she had taken on the full-time profession of Hovering Over Me. I didn't want to put them even further into debt.</i>	79
		<i>I wanted to make my parents happy. There is only one thing in this world shittier than biting it from cancer when you're sixteen, and that's having a kid who bites it from cancer.</i>	8
		<i>My old stock answer was that I wanted to stay alive for my parents, because they would be all gutted and childless in the wake of me, and that was still true kind of, but that wasn't it, exactly.</i>	294
		<i>"You're being very teenagery today," Mom said. She seemed annoyed about it. "Isn't this what you wanted, Mom? For me to be teenagery?" "Well, not necessarily this kinda teenagery, but of course your father</i>	99

		<i>and I are excited to see you become a young woman, making friends, going on dates.”</i>	
		<i>Hazel, you are amazing. You can't know, sweetie, because you've never had a baby become a brilliant young reader with a side interest in horrible television shows, but the joy you bring us is so much greater than the sadness we feel about your illness.”</i>	103
		<i>I nodded. I was crying. I couldn't get over how happy I was, crying genuine tears of actual happiness for the first time in maybe forever, imagining my mom as a Patrick. It made me think of Anna's mom. She would've been a good social worker, too.</i>	298
	Hazel's struggle of social relationship	<i>“You don't want to go to a movie with Kaitlyn or Matt or someone?”. “Sure,” I said. “I'll text Kaitlyn and see if she wants to go to the mall or something after school.”</i>	40
		<i>His every syllable flirted. Honestly, he kind of turned me on. I didn't even know that guys could turn me on—not, like, in real life. (Green, 2012: 17)</i>	17
		<i>“So, see you next time, maybe?” I asked. “You should see it,” he said. “V for Vendetta, I mean.” “Okay,” I said. “I'll look it up.” “No. With me. At my house,” he said.</i>	
		<i>I liked Augustus Waters. I really, really, really liked him. I liked the way his story ended with someone else. I liked his voice. I liked that he took existentially fraught free throws. I liked that he was a tenured professor in the Department of Slightly Crooked Smiles with a dual appointment in the Department of Having a Voice That Made My Skin Feel More like Skin. And I liked that he had two names. I've always liked people with two names because you get to make up your mind what you call them: Gus or Augustus? Me, I was always just Hazel, univalent Hazel.</i>	31

		<i>“You get to battle cancer,” I said. “That is your battle. And you’ll keep fighting,” I told him. I hated it when people tried to build me up to prepare for battle, but I did it to him, anyway. “You’ll . . . you’ll . . . live your best life today. This is your war now.”</i>	216
		<i>“I’ll fight it. I’ll fight it for you. Don’t you worry about me, Hazel Grace. I’m okay. I’ll find a way to hang around and annoy you for a long time.”</i>	215
		<i>I can’t talk about our love story, so I will talk about math. I am not a mathematician, but I know this: There are infinite numbers between 0 and 1. There’s .1 and .12 and .112 and an infinite collection of others. Of course, there is a bigger infinite set of numbers between 0 and 2, or between 0 and a million. Some infinity are bigger than other infinities. A writer we used to like taught us that. There are days, many of them, when I resent the size of my unbounded set. I want more numbers than I’m likely to get, and God, I want more numbers for Augustus Waters than he got. But, Gus, my love, I cannot tell you how thankful I am for our little infinity. I wouldn’t trade it for the world. You gave me a forever within the numbered days, and I’m grateful.</i>	260
		<i>“Hazel is such an inspiration to me; she really is. She just keeps fighting the battle, waking up every morning and going to war without complaint. She’s so strong. She’s so much stronger than I am. I just wish I had her strength.”. “Hazel?” Patrick asked. “How does that make you feel?” I shrugged and looked over at Lida. “I’ll give you my strength if I can have your remission.” I felt guilty as soon as I said it.</i>	131

