

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Basic Consideration

Divergent is the debut novel of American Novelist Veronica Roth, published by Harper Collins Children's Books in 2011. Divergent is an awesome novel because the novel teaches the reader to not give up and to face all of the problems no matter how hurt it is. The divergent novel tells about a woman that has more than one faction. Tris is the main character in this novel. She is an exceptional girl because she has all the faction that the normal people did not have. That is why people call her Divergent. It is a science fiction novel that tells about "Divergent Universe".

The Divergent (Beatrice Prior) is a 16 years old girl. She is a girl who does not fit easily into a single faction designated for citizens when they reach the age of 16. They should choose the faction by class or race of their personality by values or virtues: Dauntless (boldness), Abnegation (selflessness), Amity (peacefulness), Candor (honesty), and Erudite (intellectuality). Tris who is living secretly as a "Divergent" (someone who fits into more than one faction or group of personality), decide to leave the faction in which she was reared Abnegation for Dauntless. When someone reaches the age of 16 they should choose their real faction, and if they choose to leave their parent's faction it means they will live with their new faction forever without their real family anymore. Beatrice changes her name to be "Tris" when she chooses to decide to leave her family faction. Because that is the rule in Dauntless faction.

Divergent have a smart high concept story. Divergent tells about people should leave with the same personality. They should follow a personality test, especially the Mayers

– Briggs personality, and it's been government system that sticks people in classes or cates based on their personality test. The harmony of personality test is achieved through five “faction”, each with their own character trait: Candor (Honesty), Abnegation (Selflessness), Dauntless (Courage), Amity (Sociability), and Erudite (Intelligence). The trilogy narrates the breakdown of these boundaries. Having been raised to be selfless in Abnegation, Tris alienates her family by pledging herself to the rough – and – tumble risk – takers of Dauntless. Although the trilogy tilts at broader themes (conformity, religion, self – sacrifice, social and genetic engineering), the author makes Divergent Novel story steers clear of political critiques.

Based on Divergent Review Book publish by Harper Collins (2011) that Divergent novel is first of the first trilogy, a series of young-adult dystopian novels set in the Divergent Universe. Novel Divergent features a post-apocalyptic version of Chicago and follows Beatrice “Tris” Prior as she explores her identity within a society that defines its citizens by their social and personality-related affiliation with five different factions, which removes the threat of anyone exercising independent will and re-threatening the population's safety. Underlying the action and dystopian focused main plot is a romantic subplot between Tris and one of her instructors in the Dauntless faction nicknamed Four.

Additionally, I choose to analyze this novel, because based on my first observation from the Divergent Film I found that “Divergent” is a representative film which tells the author mother's story of life, and how does the figure of mom make Veronica Roth successful in facing problems? This film is considered having a high quality. Based on Divergent Review Book publish by Harper Collins (2011) says that “Veronica Roth is a bestselling author of the young adult fantasy novels”. People can see that from her work

she makes her work with two series *Divergent* and *Insurgent*. She was the recipient of the Good Reads Choice Award in both 2011 and 2012. Therefore, I take *Divergent* Novel because it can represent more about the characteristic of the main character in this story.

According to the Review Book of *Divergent* publish by Harper Collins (2011) also states that *Divergent* novel has been compared to other young adult books such as *The Hunger Games* and *The Maze Runner* because of its similar themes and target audience. What makes this study uses *Divergent* novel because the *Divergent* novel can have inspired the reader especially women. On the other hand, what makes biographical criticism being the approach of this study because this study focuses on explaining how the author's biography does influence the main character on the *Divergent* novel, and how does the author's viewpoint about the real women. This study also focuses on explaining what makes the author's made the novel. That is why this study will use Biographical Criticism as the literary approach.

In particular, the novel explores the themes common to young adult fiction, such as adult authority and transition from childhood to maturity, as well broader motifs, such as the place of violence and social structures within a post-apocalyptic society. Its major plot device, the division of society into personality types, is one used in other science fiction works. Based on the explanation above, this novel is chosen to be analyses of this study.

Veronica Roth is the author of *Divergent* Novel. Veronica Roth is a bestselling author of the young adult fantasy novels, *Divergent* and *Insurgent*. She was the recipient of the Good Reads Choice Award in both 2011 and 2012. She began her undergraduate career

at Carleton College and later transferred to Northwestern University. While a student in north western's creative writing program, she began writing her first novel. She published *Allegiant*, the third installment in her book trilogy, in the fall of 2013 and a prequel to the series titled *Four: A Divergent Story Collection* in 2014.

This study uses biographical criticism as the literary approach because Biographical Criticism is a study that analyzes about an author's personal life to analyze the author's works. On the other hand, the Biographical Criticism can examine the effect and influence of the writer's life on her work. The premise behind the researcher chooses a Biographical approach to makes the study knowing something about the author's life to more fully understand Veronica Roth's literary work. Understanding the author's life and influences helps the reader discover the author's intended meaning. The assumption of biographical criticism is that interpretation of a literary work should be based on an understanding of the context in which the work was written. It relies on autobiographies, correspondence, and other primary materials of the author and is a form of historical criticism.

The kinds of material that are deemed relevant also cover a wide area: 'personal documents' or 'documents of life' (Plummer 1983) may include diaries, letters, autobiographies, biographies, memoranda and other materials (Denzin 1989). Cladinin and Connelly conclude that these are 'field text', which may be produced by the research for a different usage (Cladinin and Connolly 1994 p. 419).

Problem Statement

How does the author's life influence the development of Beatrice Prior as the main character in *Divergent Novel*?

Research Objective

This study is aimed to analyze as follows on the problems statements including does the author's life influence the develop of Tris on the Divergent novel? Does the author's life can effect, and influence the author to make her literary work?

Scope of Study

This study focuses on to analyze the main character of Divergent Novel, to find and to describe does the author's life influence the main character in her literary work. In categorizing the data, this study focus to analyze the main character on Divergent Novel, then analyze the author's biography to find the author's life.

Significant of Study

This study focuses on the main character on Divergent Novel, and also use the author's biography to find the data of author mother's story of life.

The significants of this study are:

1. To give information about Veronica Roth, does the author's life influence the develop of Tris as the main character in her literary work.
2. This study also can help the reader to give their interpretation or viewpoint of how to be a real woman, based on Veronica Roth's literary work "Divergent Novel".
3. To improve the reader's knowledge about the concept of biographical approach on literary criticism.
4. The result of this research hopefully can give inspiration or comparison for other studies to analyze their study object on biographical approach.

As the educator which related to the English Education Study Program, Faculty of Letters, and Culture as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the bachelor degree of education, State University of Gorontalo the significances of study are:

1. Students

If you have a skill in writing you have to write your own story of life because when an author makes their literary work based on their own story it can be motivated the reader to face problems of life. Therefore, the more you know about the author, the better you can understand the message central to their literary work.

2. Teachers/lecture/educator

The lecture can choose the novel written based on the author's real life, as references of the lesson.

3. Researchers

This study also can be a reference to conducting the research of Biographical Approach.