

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions of the research based on the findings and discussion that is presented in the preceding chapter. It also provides suggestions for future research, in which the field of analysis is related or comparable with the present research.

5.1. Conclusions

The research attempts to provide a thorough elaboration of control and resistance analysis of a young adult dystopian novel, Marie Lu's *Legend*, using Foucauldian perspective. The result suggests that for the aspect of control in the society within *Legend*, two out of four Foucault's discipline technique are employed dominantly: the organization of geneses and the art of distribution. The other two techniques, the control of activity and composition of force, are present as well. However, looking at the small number of cases found, their contribution is subdued to be supporting strategies only. As for the resistance study which is focused on young adult characters, the research finds various actions which indicate struggle or opposition. These action is categorized in the accordance of the nature of the acts, whether it is aggressive or submissive. The cases found also suggest an opposition towards domination and subjection only, leaving out exploitation. Furthermore, the resistance functions as a mirror of young adult's live. Outside any prior prediction, three cases were found supporting the findings. For the control aspect, it is found that terror and knowledge concealment contributes in the sustenance of control in the society. While in the resistance aspect, it is found that discourse is used as a device for revolting in a totalitarian society, reflecting a case of "writing as liberating device" found in the previous studies in similar field.

[Type text] Nur Amalina, 2015

**CONTROL AND RESISTANCE IN A YOUNG ADULT DYSTOPIAN FICTION : A FOUCAULDIAN
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Legend manages to portray a successful dystopian society through highlighting totalitarian control which is opposed by the protagonists. It also follows the tradition of young adult literature which highlight hopes, which is depicted by gaps in the totalitarianism which allows the protagonist to resist. Hope is also implied by the open ending where the protagonists are heading towards a new journey.

The totalitarian control depicted in *Legend* functions as a caution of the worst case scenario that could happen if collectivism is taken into extreme level. It also dictates the importance to be aware of numerous choices an individual, especially young adult, actually possess to control their own lives. *Legend* depicts those choices by using two narrators with two different fortunes. The choices are depicted in the novel through the character's acts of resistance which influence not only themselves, but the whole society. This marks *Legend's* view on the prominence of young adult's role in the society. Day and June start resisting for personal interests. As they grow to be an adult and a member of the society, the struggle is appointed to society's issues. The more they grow, the more their existence is made significant to the society. For instance, Day's personal rebellion ignites mass of rioters who agrees with his way of live and his opposition to the Republic. The fact that the people root for Day suggests that the people made him a role model, a leader, a role society expected young adults to be in the future.

Overall, through portraying the Republic along with its totalitarian ruling system and the resistance from its residents, *Legend* hints at the danger of a particular procedure or policy, especially ones directed to children and young adults. Through portrayal of absolute government, it also marks the danger of a society where a certain group possess too much power. By portraying a society with no knowledge of the past and no choice to determine their own future, *Legend* also voices the importance of knowledge, truth, individuality and freedom of choice. These cautions and suggestions dictate that *Legend* faithfully carries the didactic heritage of young adult dystopian novel which bound to provide reader warnings against both social-political issues as well as personal issues.

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5.2. Suggestions

For future research, this research recommends some suggestions that might enrich the collection of research in young adult dystopian literature study. For future research which is directed towards similar direction with the present research, the research can focus on either control or resistance only, where the analysis of each topic can be explored further. It is also recommended to use Scott's theory of resistance as a framework for future resistance studies in young adult dystopian genre. For a lengthier study, it is suggested to analyze all three books of *Legend* trilogy so that less plot holes will disrupt the analysis. Some recommended themes in *Legend* that can be analyzed further are: patriotism, violence, and identity quest.

In the future, some research could also be expanded towards the distinction between adult and young adult dystopian genre. For instance, the research can be done through comparing dystopian novel with young adult dystopian novel to examine the differences between the structures, narratives, common topics or tendencies. The research within the domain of young adult literature itself can be explored by analyzing other appealing issues offered in it, such as, coming of age, feminism, and heroism. The research could also focus on the narrative elements of young adult dystopian novel. Additionally, the research can be a mixture of common dystopian themes and the narrative elements, such as, the impact of technological issues to the construction of the story or the characters.

The research also suggests the use of a bigger number of young adult dystopian literature to strengthen the ground findings. For instance, comparative studies between some young adult dystopian novels can be conducted. It can be conducted to discover the current trend in young adult dystopian novel and how it differs from the ones written in different timeslots.

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