

**THESIS**

**A SURVIVOR CHARACTERISTIC REFLECTED ON HAZEL  
GRACE LANCASTER IN *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS*  
BY JOHN GREEN**



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**ENGLISH LITERATURE S1 DEPARTMENT ECONOMICS  
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES FACULTY  
UNIVERSITAS FAJAR  
MAKASSAR  
2023**

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Submitted for the English Literature Study Program of Economic and Social  
Science Faculty at Universitas Fajar of Makassar in Partial Fulfillment of  
Requirement for the Literature School Degree (S.S)

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THESIS

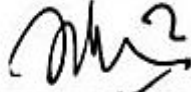

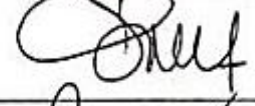
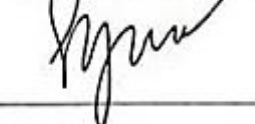
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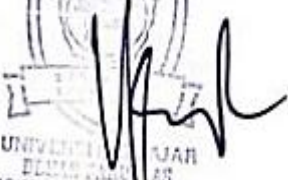
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## PERNYATAAN KEASLIAN

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Dengan ini menyatakan dengan sebenar-benarnya bahwa skripsi yang berjudul *A Survivor Characteristic Reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster in The Fault In Our Stars by John Green* adalah karya ilmiah saya sendiri dan sepanjang pengetahuan saya di dalam naskah skripsi ini, tidak terdapat karya ilmiah yang pernah diajukan oleh orang lain untuk memperoleh gelar akademik di suatu perguruan tinggi, dan tidak terdapat karya atau pendapat yang pernah ditulis atau diterbitkan oleh orang lain, kecuali tertulis dikutip dalam naskah dan disebutkan dalam sumber kutipan dan daftar pustaka.

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Makassar, 17 Maret 2023

Yang membuat pernyataan,

  
Tri Resky Mubarak

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The researcher realizes that this research is further away from perfection both in terms of its material and presentation. Therefore, all the suggestions and constructive criticisms are expected as the feedback into the research for a better execution in the next opportunity. Thank you from the deepest core of the heart.

Makassar, 17 March 2023  
Researcher,

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **A SURVIVOR CHARACTERISTIC REFLECTED ON HAZEL GRACE LANCASTER *IN THE FAULT IN OUR STARS* BY JOHN GREEN**

**Tri Resky Mubarak  
Andi Febriana Tamrin**

The aim of this research is analyzing and finding out the survivor characteristics reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster, the central character in *The Fault In Our Stars* novel by John Green. The significance of the research is to increase knowledge about characterization of survivor and to understand about the important role of characterization in the process of making a literary work.

A qualitative descriptive method is used for this research and the data source is *The Fault In Our Stars*, a novel by John Green. In analyzing the data, the researcher uses theory of survivor provided by David Benatar. Theory of survivor states that there are three characteristics in describing a survivor, namely purposive, determined, and optimistic.

The result of this research shows that all survivor characteristics are reflected in the life of Hazel Grace Lancaster. Hazel possesses purposive, determined, and optimistic characteristics displayed in several data. Furthermore, in all the survivor characteristics, the researcher found each of its basic natures. In purposive characteristics, Hazel was encountering to be a person who is caring, desirous, and worried. While, when Hazel is determined to remain alive and help people, she felt passionate, strong, resolute, helpful, and stubborn. Lastly, Hazel is a principled, positive thinker, confident, and trustful teenager at the time she showed optimistic characteristic.

**Keyword: Survivor, Qualitative Descriptive, *The Fault In Our Stars***



## ABSTRAK

### KARAKTERISTIK PENYINTAS TEREKLEKSI PADA HAZEL GRACE LANCASTER DALAM *THE FAULT IN OUR STARS* KARYA JOHN GREEN

Tri Resky Mubarak  
Andi Febriana Tamrin

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah menganalisis dan mengetahui karakteristik penyintas yang tercermin pada Hazel Grace Lancaster, karakter utama di novel *The Fault In Our Stars* oleh John Green. Signifikansi penelitian ini ialah untuk meningkatkan pengetahuan tentang karakterisasi penyintas dan untuk memahami peran penting karakterisasi dalam proses pembuatan sebuah karya sastra.

Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dan sumber datanya adalah *The Fault In Our Stars*, sebuah novel karya John Green. Dalam menganalisis data, peneliti menggunakan teori penyintas yang dikemukakan oleh David Benatar. Teori penyintas menyatakan bahwa ada tiga karakteristik dalam mendeskripsikan penyintas yaitu berkeinginan, bertekad, dan optimis.

Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa semua karakteristik penyintas terefleksi dalam kehidupan Hazel Grace Lancaster. Hazel memiliki karakteristik berkeinginan, bertekad, dan optimis ditampilkan dalam beberapa data yang ditemukan dan dianalisis oleh peneliti. Selain itu, dari semua karakteristik penyintas, peneliti menemukan sifat dasarnya masing-masing. Dalam karakteristik berkeinginan, Hazel menjadi sosok yang penyayang, bergairah, dan khawatir. Sementara, ketika Hazel bertekad untuk tetap hidup dan membantu orang, dia merasa bersemangat, kuat, tegas, suka menolong, dan keras kepala. Terakhir, Hazel adalah remaja yang berprinsip, pemikir positif, percaya diri, dan penuh kepercayaan pada saat ia menunjukkan sifat optimis.

**Kata Kunci:** Penyintas, Deskriptif Kualitatif, *The Fault In Our Stars*

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This chapter explains the research background, research question, objective of the research, significance of the research, and scope of the research.

#### **1.1 Research Background**

Characterization is one of the elements in novel and takes a part in the process of creating and describing characters in literature as it includes both physical and personality descriptions, as well as the way characters are acting, thinking, and speaking. A writer may use a variety of literary techniques to create a character, such as physical description, inner thoughts, dialogue, and actions. These elements all contribute to the character's overall personality and can help readers understand the character's motivations, beliefs, and behavior. Additionally, a writer may use characterization to develop the theme, create conflict, and advance the plot of the story. The definition of characterization itself then can be divided into many variations, one of which is characterization of survivor.

Survivors are defined as individuals who can be able to endure and live through a difficult or challenging scenario or situation (Denlinger et al., 2014). Survival can refer to the ability to maintain one's own existence, especially in difficult or dangerous situations. It can also refer to the ability to continue functioning or thriving in the face of challenges or adversity. For example, people may have to learn survival skills in order to survive in a natural disaster or in a war-torn region. Women may also face unique challenges when it comes to survival, due to societal and cultural factors that may impact their access to resources and opportunities. Studying the ways in which women have been able to survive and thrive in difficult circumstances can provide valuable insights and help to inform

strategies for supporting women in these situations.

Cancer survivors and Holocaust survivors have one thing in common. They have endured terrible trials and are still with us. Some survivors may feel they are just lucky, but many survivors take pride in being strong enough to survive. Those who identify themselves as survivors may not see themselves as victims because they gained strength during the healing process (Rape et al., 2018).

Specifically for cancer survivors, cancer support groups exist exclusively and are used as gathering places for cancer survivors and those affected by the disease. Even though their friends and family can offer support, the main reason people join support groups is to connect with others who have been through similar cancer experiences. Joining a support group improves the quality of life and survival. Since cancer is still a non-communicable disease that accounts for the majority of society's morbidity and mortality, this social group plays a crucial role. New sources of social support in the digital age include online cancer support groups and social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. (Gentile et al., 2018). The platform contributes by enhancing patient-physician relationships, providing opportunities for participation in clinical trials and research, enhancing psychosocial and informational support, and facilitating patient engagement and empowerment. It has promise. On the other hand, they may also disseminate false information and excessive amounts of information, which compromises users' privacy and puts them at risk of financial exploitation.

In terms of surviving, survivors tend to have different characteristics of trying to live as long as possible. Theory of survivor stated that there are 3 characteristics found in describing a survivor namely purposive, determined, and optimistic (Benatar, 2016). These characteristics are believed would highly be important factors in the effort to survive.

*The Fault in Our Stars* written by John Green is a novel that explores themes

of love, friendship, family, and the struggles of life, particularly in the context of cancer. The novel presents a close friendship between the central characters, Hazel and Gus, who support each other as they navigate their illnesses. The love and sacrifice of their parents are also prominent themes in the novel, as they care for their children with great patience and understanding. The love story between Hazel and Gus is also a central aspect of the novel, and it is portrayed in a very touching and emotional way. John Green's use of colloquial and informal language in the novel helps to create a sense of intimacy and relatability with the readers, making the story more accessible and relatable (Laura, 2020).

The novel spotlight the story of Hazel Grace Lancaster, a teenage woman who struggles with lung cancer she has and as time goes by, she is tired of being defined by her disease and wants to be seen as more than just a patient. Hazel talks to Augustus Waters one afternoon in a cancer support group where in the future time, Both of them develop a close love-living friendship (Green, 2012). Hazel's narrative is written in the first-person point of view and it is witty and funny. She and Augustus are both accepting of their illnesses, but they also acknowledge the difficulties and challenges it brings to their lives. They don't wallow in self-pity, but they don't pretend that everything is okay. The novel explores the complexities of living with a serious illness and how it affects one's relationships, dreams, and outlook on life.

The researcher analyses the characteristics of the central character of *The Fault in Our Stars* using theory of survivor with intrinsic approach. By categorizing characters, the researcher can be enlightened of their own role in the novel. Knowing the characteristics of the central character, Hazel Grace Lancaster is important as for the researcher can analyze the central character's problem. The researcher chose this novel in for the study because Hazel's characteristics indicate a high probability that she has survival traits, similar to the theory of

survivor put forward by (Benatar, 2016). The survivor characteristics of Hazel Grace Lancaster can be seen in the way she survived from the lung cancer she suffered. The way Hazel struggles to fight in order to keep alive— to still be with her family is considered extremely inspiring and significant by the researcher to be further analysed. The research results are expected to make the readers understand about the important role of characterization that takes in the process of making any literary work like novel.

Character and characterization are important elements in a novel or any other work of fiction. Characters are the people or entities that populate the story and drive the action forward. They can be fictional or based on real people, and they may be complex and multifaceted or more simple and straightforward. Characterization is defined as the process of making and upgrading characters in a story as it involves the use of various techniques, such as dialogue, actions, and thoughts, to reveal the personality, motivations, and background of a character. Analysing a novel based on character and characterization can help to reveal the underlying themes and messages of the story, as well as provide insight into the motivations and behaviors of the characters. This can be especially illuminating when the characters are based on real people or are intended to represent certain aspects of society. By examining how characters are portrayed and how they interact with one another and their environment, readers can gain a deeper understanding of the world depicted in the novel and its relevance to their own lives.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the research background, the researcher formulated the problem: What are the survivor characteristics reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster in *The Fault in Our Stars*?



### **1.3 Objective of The Research**

Based on the research question, the purpose of this research is to find out survivor characteristics reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster in *The Fault in Our Stars*.

### **1.4 Significance of The Research**

The significance of the research is to increase knowledge about characterization of survivor and to brace up the readers that people are capable of overcoming the most difficult conditions as survivors are inspiring to be resilient, courageous, and grateful of always having hope in the future. The research results are expected as well to make the readers understand more about the important role of characterization in the process of making a literary work such as novel and can also be used as an example of the importance of characterization in life situations, especially when in survival time. For practice, this thesis can be something useful for other researchers, in particular for those who are interested in the novel analysis of survivor characteristics.

### **1.5 Scope of The Research**

The scope of this research concerns about the literature of analysing a character taken part by a cancer survivor in *The Fault in Our Stars* and enlightening about one specific element of novel, character as being an important literary element in literature. *The Fault in Our Stars* is a novel that explores themes of love, friendship, family, and the struggles of life, particularly in the context of cancer. The novel presents a close friendship between the central characters, Hazel and Gus, who support each other as they navigate their illnesses. *The Fault in Our Stars* is written by John Green and originally published by Penguin Books on January 10, 2012. The novel contains 288 pages spared in 25 chapters. In this research, the researcher limits the problem in analyzing the first lead character in the novel. The research analyses the survivor characteristics of Hazel Grace Lancaster in *The*

*Fault in Our Stars* with an intrinsic approach, a protagonist character portrayed in indirect characterization using a theory of survivor by David Benatar in the book, *Life, Death, and Meaning: Key Philosophical Readings on the Big Questions*. This research uses a descriptive qualitative as its method.

## CHAPTER II

### LITERARY REVIEW

This chapter explains through past studies connected to this research. This chapter also discusses the theoretical background, theory of survivor, and *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green.

#### **2.1 Previous Study**

Previous studies are placed credence to be helpful for the researcher as a reference and provide an overview of the research conducted. Therefore, for better comprehension and obtain other perspectives in carrying out the research, first and foremost, the researcher must learn and find out some of previous studies that have been completed by several researchers before.

The first study that has been done that is related to this research is a thesis conducted by (Wardana, 2022) entitled *Main Character's Life Optimism In Undergoing Cancer In John Green's The Fault In Our Stars Novel: A Psychoanalysis Study*. This study looked at how the central character deals with her cancer diagnosis and how she approaches her life in a different way than other people as we know she is an cancer patient. The study used a psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud to investigate the central character's cancer diagnosis and the descriptive qualitative method was used in the investigation. The result shows five definitions of the central character as an individual infected with cancer, namely is, an introvert person, depressed, emotional, anxious, and quitter.

The second study that provides a reference for this research is the thesis converted by (Marson, 2020) entitled *Interpersonal Relationship And Social Exchange In Green's The Fault in Our Stars Characters: Psychological Approach*. The study aimed to analyze the psychology of the characters in *The Fault in Our*

Stars. In this study he passed down two theories. The first is Robert S. Feldman's theory, which is used to identify and define interpersonal relationships with regard to internal causes in the improvement of Hazel and Augustus' relationship. Thibaut and Kelly's theory, on the other hand, is used to identify and explain what to do. A social interaction that focuses on external causes in the development of Hazel and Augustus' relationship. This study used qualitative methods to analyze relationships between central characters. According to the findings of the study, both Hazel and Augustus developed their relationship as a result of internal and external factors. Relationship development was evidenced by four internal factors; similarities, conflicting tastes, positive personalities, body types, and manners and then two external factors that have greatly influenced the development of character relationships are complexity and obstacles.

The last study that has given a reference to the researcher was conveyed by (Kasandra, 2019) entitled *The Analysis of Stella Grant As Survivor In Novel "Five Feet Apart" by Rachel Lippincott*. This study analyses and describes to the readers about the survivor characteristics found in the novel. David Benatar's theory of survivor is mainly used in this study with descriptive qualitative as its method. As for the results, it is found 22 pieces of evidence from quotations from the novel that proves Stella Grant as the central character has survivor characteristics as it is explained in the theory of survivor.

Three previous studies were reviewed. All studies have the same theme as this research with two of them having the same object, namely *The Fault in Our Stars* novel. For the first and second studies, was found a similarity in the form of characters and story conflicts in the objects of research. Both studies focus on the same object that is the central character of *The Fault in Our Stars*, Hazel Grace Lancaster. Whilst the third studies focus on the same theme of the object of research that is Stella Grant as a survivor in the novel *Five Feet Apart*. Specifically,

the third previous study also applied the same theory as this research as well that is the theory of survivor by David Benatar in order to finish its study. Therefore, this study, it is aimed to detect survivor characteristics reflected in Stella Grant in the novel *Five Feet Apart*. These studies are mentioned and given credits due to be strongly considered helpful in giving an important reference to the researcher.

## **2.2 Theoretical Background**

This sub-chapter discusses an intrinsic approach in literature, detailed definition of character and characterization, theory of survivor and *The Fault in Our Stars*, a novel by John Green.

### **2.2.1 Intrinsic Approach**

The intrinsic approach in the literature is used to assess the overall quality of a literary work. This involves looking at the various components of literary work's intrinsic elements. According to (Simaibang, 2016), the intrinsic element consists of five parts that design and build a novel or story from within. Five parts of the novel's intrinsic elements are character, setting, plot, theme or statement and subject matter. These elements are present in all forms of literature and are used to create meaning and convey a message to the reader. Understanding the intrinsic elements of a literary work can help in interpreting and analyzing the text. In conclusion, the intrinsic elements inherent in literature are the basis of the literary work itself.

In this study, researcher focuses on the intrinsic approach to the elements of character and characterization in a novel. Character is a crucial part of the storyline. Character creation is an attempt by the author to reveal a character in life in order to instill a bit of the character's personality in the audience which makes it unique and presents a new perspective. Furthermore, characterization is a method while the character is a product

of the method.

### **2.2.2 Character**

Characters are the persons portrayed in a dramatic or narrative work who possess certain moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities, as judged by their speech and instinctive speech (dialogue). These are the persons the reader interprets as what the persons say and their instinctive ways of saying it—the dialogue—and from what they do—the action (Saraswati, 2019). A character's temperament, desires, and moral reasons for what the person does are called motives. A character can remain essentially "steady" or unchanged in demeanour throughout the story. Whether the characters are stable or changing, readers of traditional realistic works usually expect "consistency". As people are already accustomed to, characters should not break off abruptly or act in temperamentally grounded and unplausible ways.

A core of all great storytelling lies in an interesting set of character types. The main character needs to be interesting and three-dimensional. It ought to be a lively character that viewers and readers alike will be able to enjoy for a long time. The supporting characters are just as important because having a strong supporting cast can also make the story better. They can provide conflict, humor, and different perspectives on the central character and their journey. These supporting characters can take on many different roles, from sidekicks and love interests to parent figures and villains, to anti-heroes. Below are types of character according to (Bernardo, 2015):

1. Protagonist

Protagonist is the central character of the work and is usually the one whose actions and decisions drive the plot forward. They may

face a conflict or challenge that they must overcome and their character may change and develop as a result of their experiences in the story. It's also common for the protagonist to have positive character traits, but this is not always the case. There are also many stories that feature an anti-hero or a flawed protagonist whose actions may not always be admirable.

## 2. Antagonist

Antagonist is a central character or force that stands in opposition to the protagonist and creates conflict in the story. The antagonist may have negative traits or may be motivated by negative goals, but this is not always the case. It's also possible for the antagonist to be a force of nature, a social or political system, or even the protagonist's own internal conflicts or flaws. The important thing is that the antagonist presents a challenge or obstacle that the protagonist must overcome in order to achieve their goals or resolve the conflict in the story.

## 3. Round Character

A rounded character is a complex and well-developed character who has multiple dimensions and depth to their personality. They may be conflicted or have conflicting qualities, and they are often portrayed as more realistic and believable because of these complexities. A round character is often more interesting for the audience because they feel more like real living-things therefore audiences can become more invested in their goals, struggles, and development.

#### 4. Flat Character

Flat characters, on the other hand, are simpler and less well-developed, and they may not have as much depth or complexity to their personality. They may serve a specific purpose in the story, but they are not usually as interesting or engaging to audiences as rounded characters.

#### 5. Dynamic

Dynamic characters are characters who change and develop over the course of a story, often as a result of their experiences and the conflicts they face. These changes can be significant and have a lasting impact on the character's personality and behavior. There is also a possibility for a dynamic character to end up on a worse note, but it's important that their change is motivated by the events of the story and not arbitrary or unrealistic. Dynamic characters are often central characters because they are more integral to the plot and their development is a key part of the story.

#### 6. Static

As the opposite of dynamic character, a static character is a character who does not change or evolve over the course of the story. They may have a consistent personality, attitude, or set of beliefs throughout the narrative. A static character can serve as a foil for the dynamic characters, providing contrast and highlighting the changes and growth of the main characters. They can also function as plot devices, advancing the story without necessarily having an arc of their own. These characters are usually secondary or tertiary, but not necessarily stereotypical. Their journey is not the focus of the story.



### **2.2.3 Characterization**

Characterization is the way that an author reveals the personality of a character in a work of literature. It is a key aspect of storytelling and can be done through direct characterization, in which the author tells the reader directly about a character's traits, or indirect characterization, in which the reader infers a character's traits from their actions, words, and thoughts throughout the story. Both are ways to accomplish this essential aspect of storytelling. According to (Warner & Ginna, 2022), The process authors use to develop characters and create character images for an audience through direct and indirect characterization is known as the characterization of a literary work. The author uses a hands-on approach to teach audiences in knowing what they want to know about the characters. Direct characterization refers to when an author explicitly tells the reader about a character's personality, behavior, and background while in indirect characterization, the author indicates something about the character that helps audiences to understand the character's personality and influence on other characters.

There are many different techniques that an author can use to reveal a character's personality, such as physical description, dialogue, actions, thoughts, and the way that the character is depicted by other characters. By using these techniques, an author can create well-rounded, believable characters that help to drive the plot of a story and engage the reader. Below are the following detail of the approaches of characterization:

1. Direct Characterization

Direct characterization is the type of characterization that occurs when the author directly tells the reader what the character is like usually through physical description or through the character's

own thoughts and words. For example, an author might say "Samantha was a kind and compassionate person, who always went out of her way to help others." This is a clear example of direct characterization, as the author straight to directly tells the reader the personality of Samantha as a character in the story

## 2. Indirect Characterization

Indirect characterization, on the other hand, is when the reader infers a character's traits based on their actions, words, thoughts, and interactions with other characters. For example, if a character is consistently rude and unkind to others, the reader might infer that they are a mean-spirited person, even if the author has not directly told the reader this. Indirect characterization allows the reader to draw their own conclusions about a character, which can be more engaging and allows for more nuance in character development.

Both direct and indirect characterization are important tools for the authors of a literary work, and can be used in different ways and to different effects to create fully-realized and believable characters in a story.

### **2.2.4 Theory of Survivor**

Survivors are those who can survive and live to the end of a scenario or situation. (Denlinger et al., 2014). Survival can refer to the ability to maintain one's own existence, especially in difficult or dangerous situations. It can also lean to the ability to continue functioning or thriving in the face of challenges or adversity. For example, It is often used to refer to people who have survived a natural disaster, a serious illness, or a traumatic event, such as a plane crash. Nevertheless, the word can also be used to describe people who have overcome a challenge or adversity

in their lives, such as overcoming addiction or overcoming financial hardship. In particular, people who have been diagnosed with cancer are often referred to as cancer survivors. If people discourse about "survival," they usually refer to coping with the life experiences and challenges that arise from a cancer diagnosis.

Cancer survivors and Holocaust survivors have one thing in common. They have endured terrible trials and are still with us. Some survivors may feel they are just lucky, but many survivors take pride in being strong enough to survive. Those who identify themselves as survivors may not see themselves as victims because they gained strength during the healing process. (Rape et al., 2018).

The definition of survivor can be indicated as: (1) Remaining alive or in existence, (2) Carrying on despite hardships or trauma, and (3) Remaining useful for themselves and other people (Benatar, 2016). Survivors also come as resolute people; resolute means to describe person who is purposive and determined, an individual who is eager to reach their wants, and will not let any obstacles bother throughout the way. Moreover, in order to survive, one must be especially optimistic, as quoted from the book *Life, Death, and Meaning: Major Philosophical Readings on the Big Question* that optimism is reasonably thought to be a more complex phenomenon than belief, and it is natural to speak of an optimistic attitude. That may be optimistic, but it isn't necessary; to hold the belief that there is a meaning in life (Benatar, 2016). Established from that, the theory of survivor concluded that there are 3 characteristics in describing a survivor, namely, purposive, determined, and optimistic. The following is a more detailed definition and example of the 3 characteristics of survivor:

## 1. Purposive

Purposive is the first characteristic of describing a survivor stated by David Benatar in his theory of survivor. Being purposive refers to the quality or state of having a clear and intentional purpose or goal in mind. It is the characteristic of being directed towards a specific end or objective, with a sense of aim or plan. Purposiveness can be applied to different aspects of human behavior, including personal goals coming from their own feeling such as caring, desirous, worried, etc. Overall, purposiveness is coming from a person who has a clear sense of purpose or direction and the intention of achieving a specific aim or goal. As what (Benatar, 2016) says that that purpose is simply here and is all there to it.

**Table 1: Example of Purposive**

<b>Monologue</b>	<i>"My eyes travel down the lengthy list of things to do that I was making for myself years ago." starting with: #1: Plan to-do list,"</i>
<b>Explanation</b>	The statement indicates that the character possesses a purposeful trait. To manage their time and avoid wasting it, the character creates a daily to-do list plan. Since the character meticulously plans everything, this suggests that they are completely aware of their goal.

## 2. Determined

David Benatar's theory of survivor also explains that a survivor is determined. Determined is the quality or state of being firmly committed to achieving a specific goal or objective. It is the ability to persist and remain focused on a goal despite obstacles, setbacks, or difficulties. Being determined requires a significant amount of effort, dedication, and discipline (Benatar, 2016). People who are determined tend to be highly motivated and are often willing to make sacrifices and work hard to overcome challenges and achieve success. In analyzing a determined character, the researcher discovered several natures in themselves like passionate, strong, resolute, helpful, and stubborn.

**Table 2: Example of Determined**

<b>Monologue</b>	<i>"I can't go on vacation to another country or anywhere else and risk not returning. I must continue receiving my medical care here.. Not now."</i>
<b>Explanation</b>	The character's inability to travel with their friends, even on vacation, is explained through the monologue. The statement reveals that the character wants to have fun with their friends, but that they are mature enough to adopt an adult attitude and are determined to undergo all medical treatments as a means of survival.

### 3. Optimistic

A survivor must also be an optimist. Optimism is a mental attitude or outlook that sees the best in people and situations and expects the most favorable outcome. Optimists tend to have a positive outlook on life and believe that things will generally turn out well by thinking positively, being confident, trustful, and principled. They are hopeful and expect the best possible outcome, even in difficult or challenging situations. It is a matter of degree as stated by the theory of survivor, which then continued that “the person who believes that this is the ideal situation is called an optimist” (Benatar, 2016). The self-centered calculation is the foundation of optimism in order to demonstrate that a single thing is significantly more rationally compelling.

**Table 3: Example of Optimistic**

<b>Monologue</b>	<i>I must be prepared because "new lungs can come in at any time." I say the words like I feel to earnestly trust them.</i>
<b>Explanation</b>	The fact that the monologue is quoted above suggests that the character has a glimmer of optimism regarding the possibility of receiving new lungs so that they can live well with them. As the character says the statement, they keep telling themselves that they will recover.

This, the theory of survivor is used by the researcher to be a reference in finishing this study. The theory of survivor proposed by David Benatar is mainly used by researcher in order to analyse Hazel Grace Lancaster's characteristics from *The Fault in Our Stars* as a survivor considering Hazel is drawn dying of a lung cancer and aiming to survive.

### **2.2.5 The Fault in Our Stars**

*The Fault in Our Stars* is a romantic fiction book with an American author named John Green wrote it. The novel was his fourth solo novel, making it his sixth overall. John Green is a best-selling author known for his young adult fiction books, with over 50 million copies of his books in print worldwide. His most popular book, *The Fault in Our Stars*, has become one of the best-selling books of all time and his unique writing style has been given a credit with causing a shift in the young adult fiction market. *The Fault in Our Stars* centers a story of Hazel Grace Lancaster, 16-year-old girl who has been living with cancer for most of her life and does not remember a time when she was healthy. The novel was originally published by Penguin Books on January 10, 2012 and containing 288 pages divided into 25 chapters. In the long run, the story then made it into a big-screen movie with the same title directed by Josh Boone starring Shailene Woodley as Hazel Grace Lancaster and Ansel Elgort as Augustus Waters. The movie was released on June 6, 2014, by *Fox 2000 pictures* in the United States and receiving positive reviews as in comparison to its \$12 million budget, it has raised more than \$307 million worldwide.

*The Fault in Our Stars* is a novel that explores themes of love, friendship, family, and the struggles of life, particularly in the context of cancer. The novel presents a close friendship between the central characters, Hazel Grace Lancaster and Augustus Waters, who support each

other as they navigate their illnesses. The love and sacrifice of their parents are also prominent themes in the novel, as they care for their children with great patience and understanding. The love story between Hazel and Gus is also a central aspect of the novel, and it is portrayed in a very touching and emotional way. John Green's use of colloquial and informal language in the novel helps to create a sense of intimacy and relatability with the readers, making the story more accessible and relatable.

Anushka in Children's Books provided a positive insight as he praises the way *The Fault in Our Stars* is written and how it makes the readers feel a part of the characters and the emotions they go through. The reviewer notes that the characters of Hazel and Augustus claim to readers through their sense of humor and their courage in how both characters hide their pain to keep living and to protect their families, which is a relatable aspect of the story. The reviewer also commends John Green for bringing both tears and laughter to the story and recommends the book to anyone who believes in love and has the courage to fight for it. The reviewer is enlightened by the book as it made him realize that cancer not just touches victims, but also touches all those who love it (Anushka, 2016).



## **CHAPTER III**

### **METHODOLOGY**

This chapter consists of Research Design, Data Resource, Data Collection Instrument, Data Collection Procedure, and Data Analysis Technique. Those sub-chapters will be further discussed deeply below.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

The researcher uses qualitative descriptive method to explain and interpret the data in this analysis. The qualitative descriptive method allows the researcher to provide detailed descriptions and interpretations of the data, rather than just numerical data. This method is often used in social sciences, such as sociology and psychology, to study complex phenomena that cannot be easily quantified (Walliman, 2011). The researcher uses a qualitative descriptive method to obtain results through texts or images, rather than numbers and statistics.

#### **3.2 Data Source**

The data source that the researcher analyses is *The Fault in Our Stars* novel written by John Green and originally published by Penguin Book January 10, 2012. The novel has 288 pages long and is divided into 25 chapters. The researcher limits the data source by only taking each of those 25 chapters of the novel related of the focus which is purposive, determined, and optimistic characteristics that Hazel Grace Lancaster possesses throughout the story. The researcher uses the contents of the novel, specifically, the characters and their actions, to understand and interpret the theme of survivor characteristics.

#### **3.3 Data Collection Instrument**

The data instruments of this research are in-depth data analysis and note-taking. In-depth data analysis is a method of studying a topic or problem in detail, looking at data or information in a new way to discover hidden patterns or

previously unknown correlations (Stevens, 2023). In this case, the researcher uses in-depth data analysis to analyse the contents of John Green's novel, *The Fault in Our Stars* in order to gain a better understanding of the theme of survivor and its characteristics. The researcher read and comprehend the content of the novel, note-taking dialogues and narratives that align with the theory being studied. This technique helps the researcher to answer the research questions and provide a detailed description and interpretation of the data.

### **3.4 Data Collection Procedure**

After collecting the data, the researcher sorted and identified the conversations that described the survivor characteristics of Hazel Grace Lancaster in the novel *The Fault in Our Stars*. To analyse the data, the researcher conducted couple of steps. Firstly, the researcher recorded each sentence and even paragraph containing Hazel Grace Lancaster's survivor characteristics reflected in *The Fault in Our Stars* novel and then the researcher grouped the data containing the needs, and insert sentences into sentences to provide a detailed description and interpretation of the data. This process of sorting and identifying the data allowed the researcher to gain a deeper understanding of the complex phenomenon of survivor. In data collection procedure, there are several stages had been used by the researcher, namely:

1. Read and understand *The Fault In Our Stars* novel
2. Perceive the content of each chapter in the novel
3. Mark all the data about Hazel Grace Lancaster's survivor characteristics reflected in the novel
4. Sort the data found according to their categories such as purposive, determined and optimistic characteristic.

### **3.5 Data Analysis Technique**

The researcher collected the data in a detailed manner. The data are quotations obtained from John Green's novel, *The Fault in Our Stars*. The theory of Survivor by David Benatar is used as a framework for analysing the data. The researcher obtained the data that contains purposive, determined, and optimistic characteristics that Hazel Grace Lancaster possesses throughout the novel.

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS**

The chapter consists of two sub-chapters: Finding and Discussion. It is aimed to answer research questions of the research. In finding, the researcher presents the data found in the novel related to the problem study. Furthermore, in the discussion session, the researcher deduces the findings themselves.

#### **4.1 Research Findings**

After reading the novel and understanding the content, the researcher found some data that shows the survivor characteristics reflected in Hazel Grace Lancaster. In this sub-chapter, the respond to the research question is discussed furthermore. The research is done using the theory of survivor by David Benatar as he stated that the definition of survivor can be indicated as: (1) Remaining alive or in existence, (2) Carrying on despite hardships or trauma, and (3) Remaining useful for themselves and other people. (Benatar, 2016).

Survivors also come as resolute people; resolute means to describe person who is purposive and determined, an individual who is eager to reach their wants, and will not let any obstacles bother throughout the way. Moreover, in order to survive, one must be especially optimistic. It is natural to refer to optimism as a more complex phenomenon than belief because optimism is a reasonably held belief (Benatar, 2016). Therefore, the survivor characteristics of the central character in the novel that are being focused on are purposive, determined, and optimistic.

##### **4.1.1 Purposive**

Purposive is the first trait of describing a survivor stated by David Benatar in the theory of survivor. Being purposive refers to the quality or state of having a clear and intentional purpose or goal in mind. It is the

characteristic of being directed towards a specific end or objective, with a sense of aim or plan (Benatar, 2016). Below is shown some evidence that the purposive characteristics divided into several natures are reflected by Hazel Grace Lancaster in the novel:

### 1. Having a clear intentional purpose

The clear intentional purpose of Hazel Grace Lancaster often heads toward her parents and the people she cares about.

#### a. Caring

Data 1:

*“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.”*

From the quotation of Hazel Grace’s monologue, it can be identified that Hazel is a purposive girl. When she said she desperately wanted to make her parents happy as her reason to be going to the cancer support group has already been an indication that she has a purpose in her life, especially for that specific decision. Hazel cared for her parents and then she realized that going to the support group would make them happy. On top of that, it can also be good for her mental health mind as she would meet a couple of people who shared the same struggle as her.

Data 2:

“Would you like to share a memory of Augustus with the group?”

“I wish I would just die, Patrick. Do you ever wish you would just die?”

“Yes,” Patrick said, without his usual pause. “Yes, of course. So why don’t you (die)?”

I thought about it. 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.**”

The researcher identifies the quotation of Hazel Grace and Patrick's narrative dialogue as a reflection of Hazel's purposive characteristic. Hazel confessed her thought about not being dead after Patrick, the leader of the cancer support group asked her. In the statement, she aimed at telling that she extremely loved her parents and that she does not want them to be all gutted and dissolved in sorrow if one day she finally dies. In consequence, the purpose of her not giving up and staying alive is none other than her parents' feelings.

Data 3:

*"Honey," my mom said. "What's wrong?"*

*"I'm like. Like. I'm like a grenade, Mom. **I'm grenade and at some point I'm going to blow up and I would like to minimize the casualties, okay?**"*

*My dad titles his dead a little to the side, like a scolded puppy.*

*"I'm grenade," I said again. **"I just want to stay away from people and read books and I think and be with you guys because there is nothing I can do about hurting you; you're too invested.**"*

As it can be seen in Hazel Grace and her mother's dialogue, it shows the purposiveness of Hazel as a caring person. Hazel realizes that her life and sickness are difficult to handle for people likewise she refers to it as a "grenade". Furthermore, the line she said she needs to minimalize the casualties indicates the purpose of her was not to distress more people.

Data 4:

*"And you say there's no afterlife," he answered without looking at me. "But yeah, of course. What do you want to know?"*

***"I wanted to know that he would be okay if I died. I wanted to not be a grenade, to not be a malevolent force in the lives of people I loved. Just, like, what happened."***

According to the quotation of Hazel Grace and Augustus Waters's dialogue, the researcher can identify Hazel Grace

Lancaster as a purposive person. The statement from Hazel herself has indicated that she has a purpose in her life as she cares for Augustus Waters that she wants him to be just fine even right after she dies. Hazel also has a goal not to be considered a carrier of evil aura for the people she loves.

#### **b. Worried**

Data 5:

**“I want you guys to have a life,” I said. “I worry that you won’t have a life, that you’ll sit around here all day with no me to look after and stare at the walls and want to of yourselves.”**

As can be seen from the quotation of Hazel Grace and her mother’s dialogue above, the researcher found that Hazel is a purposive person. Her statement reveals that Hazel is a common human and as if any other human, she has feelings too. Hazel was feeling worried that one day when she dies, her parents' life would be meaningless, and they would be taking the blame on themselves while the purpose of Hazel stated otherwise as she believed that everything is going to be fine and therefore, they must continue to live as it should, to have a life.

## **2. Having a clear and intentional goal in mind**

In terms of having a goal in mind, Hazel Grace Lancaster sets her purpose for her dream which is to meet her favorite book's author, Peter Van Houten.

#### **c. Desirous**

Data 6:

“Hazel Grace,” Augustus said.  
“Hi,” I said again.  
“Are you crying, Hazel Grace?”

“Kind of?”

“Why?” He asked.

“Cause I’m just—I **want to go to Amsterdam, and I want him to tell me what happens after the book is over**, and I just don’t want my particular life, and also the sky is depressing me, and there is this old swing set out here that my dad made for me when I was a kid.”

The narrative dialogue between Hazel Grace and Augustus Waters shows evidence that Hazel has a purposive characteristic in herself by being desirous. Hazel told Augustus her reason to be crying at the moment is that she was really purposing to know the ending of her favorite book, *An Imperial Affliction*, as she pointed out in the line which indicates that Hazel has a truly purposiveness; actualizing her biggest dream.

#### **4.1.2 Determined**

David Benatar’s theory of survivor also explains that a survivor is determined. Determined is the quality or state of being firmly committed to achieving a specific goal or objective. It is the ability to persist and remain focused on a goal despite obstacles, setbacks, or difficulties. Being determined requires a significant amount of effort, dedication, and discipline (Benatar, 2016). People who are determined tend to be highly motivated and are often willing to make sacrifices and work hard to overcome challenges and achieve success. Below are some pieces of evidence that Hazel Grace is a determined person that are divided into several natures in the novel as it is shown that she is firmly committed to achieving a specific objective.

##### **a. Passionate**

Data 7:

*“Yours most sincerely, Peter Van Houten, via Lidewij Vliegenhart”*

*“Wow,” I said. “Are you making this up?”*

*“Hazel Grace, could I, with my meager intellectual capacities make*



*up letter from Peter Van Houten featuring phrases like ‘our triumphantly digitized contemporaneity?’” Augustus asked. “You could not,” I allowed. “Can I, Can I have the email address?” “Of course.” Augustus said, like it was not the best gift ever. **“I spent the next two hours writing an email to Peter Van Houten. It seemed to get worse each time I rewrote it, but I couldn’t stop myself.”***

According to the quotation of Hazel and Augustus's dialogue, the researcher can identify that Hazel Grace possesses a determined characteristic. As a teenager, Hazel has some dreams and wantings, and as a teenager who is not in the best condition related to health, she certainly aims to fulfill those dreams faster than ever. In this case, Hazel's biggest dream is to know the ending of her favorite novel, *An Imperial Affliction*, and it would naturally take her determination to achieve it.

After Peter Van Houten, the author of AIA emailed her that was consisting of words of appreciation for Hazel's admiration over his novel then eventually, she showed her determination as shown in the line *"I spent the next two hours writing an email to Peter Van Houten. It seemed to get worse each time I rewrote it, but I couldn't stop myself."* The statement itself indicates that Hazel got excited reading the email and efforting to take advantage of it by spending the next 2 hours to try writing a reply to Van Houten, asking him about the ending of AIA that she doubtlessly wants to know.

#### **b. Strong**

Data 8:

*“Mom told me I was going to go home, that I really was, that **I would just have to get this drained every now and again and get back on the BiPAP**, this nighttime machine that forces air in and out of my crap lungs. I’d had a total body PET scan on the first night in the hospital, they told me, and the news was good: no tumor growth. No new tumors. My shoulder pain had been lack-of-oxygen pain. **Heart-working-too-hard pain.**”*

This quotation from Hazel Grace's monologue also indicates that Hazel is a strong determined person. Her statement has already been showing that Hazel is the kind of person who fights her disease as proved when after coming back from the hospital, she was told to get her lungs drained once in a while and get back on the BiPAP and she understood the assignment as shown in the line *"Heart-working-too-hard pain"*. After she did all of those things, then the checking result came out and it turned out great news. There was no tumor growth, nor new tumors and definitely, it was all thanks to her effort as she followed all the instructions told.

Data 9:

*"It was Lida the strong. Lida in remission. Blond, healthy, stout Lida, who swam on her highschool swim team. Lida, missing only her appendix, saying my name, saying, **"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."***

The quotation is a monologue containing Hazel Grace quoting one of her friends in the support group saying her thoughts about Hazel. As shown in the line by Linda about Hazel, the researcher then emphasizes the statement that Hazel is a determined fighter by the reason of it points out that she never stops fighting her illness and that there were no days where she woke up and complaint about the battle between her and the cancer.

### c. Resolute

Data 10:

*"I disavow everything in that putrid novel," Van Houten said, cutting me off.  
**"No, that is not acceptable!!"** I said. "I understand that the story ends midnarrative because Anna dies or becomes too sick to*

*continue, but you said you would tell us what happens to everybody, and that's why we're here, and we, I need you to tell me."*

*Van houten sighed. After another drink, he said, "Very well, Whose story do you seek?"*

*"Anna's mom, the Dutch Tulip Man, Sisyphus the Hamster, I mean, just-- what happens to everyone."*

Afresh about the determined characteristic of Hazel Grace, the researcher can see through the Hazel's narrative dialogue with Peter Van Houten that Hazel is determined to not stay quiet and let herself be disrespected and foolish. Van Houten was refusing to answer Hazel's question concerning the continuation of An Imperial Affliction's story after he promised to do otherwise and that attitude pissed off Hazel as can be seen in the line where Hazel was showing an attitude of a resolute person and her determination to force Van Houten of keeping his words.

#### **d. Helpful**

Data 11:

"Finally, his dad came down and dragged Gus back upstairs, and in the entryway, beneath an encouragement telling me that friends are forever, I knelt to kiss him good night. I went home and ate dinner with my parents, leaving Gus to eat (and puke up) his own dinner.

**After some TV, I went to sleep.**

**I woke up.**

**Around noon, I went over there again."**

As the researcher found the quotation of Hazel Grace's narrative monologue related to Hazel's effort for Augustus Waters, it showed Hazel's determined characteristic as a survivor who wanted to keep being useful to others, especially to Augustus. Augustus was home-hospitalized with chest pain and ended up finding out that his cancer came back into his body then Hazel showed a determination of a helpful person by taking care of him. Even though Hazel herself was

not in a great condition in terms of healthiness, she persisted in going back and forth to Augustus' house to nurse him.

#### e. Stubborn

Data 12:

***“I have to go to support group at 8 tonight. Emergency session.”***

*My mom muted the TV, “Is everything okay?”*

***“Gus needs me for some reason. It’s fine. I can drive.”***

*I fiddled with the BiPAP so mom would help me take it off, but she didn’t. “Hazel, your dad and I feel like we hardly even see you anymore.”*

***“He needs me,”*** I said, finally unfastening with the BiPAP myself.

*“We need you too, kiddo.” My dad said.*

*“Well, get a terminal disease, dad and I’ll stay home more.”*

*“Hazel,” Mom yelled.*

Data 13:

*“I walked out of the room and tried to go right past them, but my dad said “You can’t leave the house without permission.”*

***“Oh, my god, Dad. He wanted me to write him a eulogy, okay? I’ll be home. every. freaking. night. starting any day now.”*** that finally shut them up.”

From the quotation of Hazel Grace Lancaster and her parents' dialogue in data 12 and 13, Hazel reflected a stubborn action by reason of her determination to help Augustus. Her parents forbade her to go outside because her condition did not get any better but she was acting stubborn and again pushed herself to go to support group to help Augustus write him a dead eulogy and disobeying her parents' orders as she firmly repeatedly said to them *“Augustus needs me”*.

#### 4.1.3 Optimistic

A survivor must also be an optimist. Optimism is a mental attitude or outlook that sees the best in people or situations and expects the most favorable outcome. Optimists tend to have a positive outlook on life and believe that things will generally turn out well. They are hopeful and expect the best possible outcome, even in difficult or challenging situations.

Optimism is a matter of degree as stated by David Benatar's theory of survivor. (Benatar, 2016). Below is pointed out some pieces of evidence that Hazel Grace is drawn as an optimist divided into several natures in the novel in an indication that she is seeing the best in situations and expects the most favourable outcome.

**a. Principled**

Data 14:

*"There will come a time," I said, "when all of us are dead. All of us. There will come a time when there are no human beings remaining to remember that anyone ever existed or that our species ever did anything. There will be no one left to remember Aristotle or Cleopatra, let alone you. Everything that we did and built and wrote and thought and discovered will be forgotten and all of this"—I gestured encompassingly—"will have been for naught. Maybe that time is coming soon and maybe it is millions of years away, but even if we survive the collapse of our sun, we will not survive forever. There was a time before organisms experienced consciousness, and there will be time after. **And if the inevitability of human oblivion worries you, I encourage you to ignore it. God knows that's what everyone else does.**"*

Based on Hazel Grace's words, she pointed out something that might happen in the future after they died and something about memory. She spoke about the reality that would happen in this life when responding to Augustus Waters who was worried that he would be forgotten one day. This has something to do with Hazel's ego telling her about reality, which aims to calm Augustus and everyone in the room. She just wanted to say a possibility that would happen and also in her opinion, she could prevent any tension that might occur between them. She is so optimistic that other people are doing the same that is they are afraid of being forgotten. So if they do, it doesn't matter, because God knows that. God knows that people also doing the same like that and As she said *"And if the inevitability of human oblivion worries you, I encourage you to ignore it."*, it indicates

that she was being optimistic by hoping that everyone can live better for now without ever thinking about being oblivion when they die.

#### **b. Positive thinking**

Data 15:

“An imperial Affliction was the only book Peter Van Houten had written, and all anyone seemed to know about him was that after the book came out, he moved to from the United States to the Netherlands and became kind of reclusive. **I imagined that he was working on a sequel set in the Netherlands—** maybe Anna’s mom and the Dutch Tulip Man end up moving there and trying to start a new life.” It had been ten years *since An Imperial Affliction* came out, and Van Houten hadn’t published so much as blog post.”

Through the quotation from Hazel Grace's monologue, it shows an optimism thought of Hazel about the reason Peter Van Houten, the moved to the Netherlands and became introvert. Hazel was being positive that Van Houten currently working in the process of writing the sequel of An Imperial Affliction as she imagined that Van Houten was working on a sequel set in the Netherlands. The thought of it is even got strengthened by the fact that it has been a decade since AIA was published which was a long period of time.

Data 16:

*“I banished the thought as best I could. I had a PET scan scheduled in a couple of weeks. If something was wrong, I’d find out soon.. **Nothing to be gained by worrying between now and then.**”*

Through the quotation of Hazel Grace's monologue, Hazel tried to look at things in a positive light and be optimistic, As can be seen in a way she tried not to worry about the PET scan. She explicitly said *“Nothing to be gained by worrying between now and then.”* like she believed that she would be fine and soon recover as ever. She only maintained herself to calm her own feelings because that’s what she needed at the moment.

Data 17:

*“You get to battle cancer,” I said. “That is your battle. And you’ll keep fighting,” I told him. I hated 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 from now on. This is your war now.”***

Hazel Grace tried to look at Augustus' condition in a positive way. As it can be seen from the dialogue, Hazel was encouraging Augustus and from her attitude, the researcher can identify that Hazel is a confident optimistic teenage girl by reason of she convinced Augustus that there was nothing to be worried about and he would be fine from the present to the future as long as he kept battling his cancer.

Data 18:

*He smiled with half his mouth, his nose inches from mine, “The feeling is mutual. I don’t suppose you forget about it and treat me like I’m not dying.”*  
***“I don’t think you’re dying.” I said. “I think you’ve just got a touch of cancer.”***  
*smiled. Gallows humour. “I’m on a roller-coaster that only goes up,” He exclaimed.*  
*“And it is my privilege and responsibility to ride all the way up with you.” I approved.”*

Furthermore about the optimistic characteristic of Hazel Grace, the dialogue between Hazel and Augustus tells another indication that Hazel is being optimistic about Augustus's sickness. The time Augustus felt himself dying of his cancer, Hazel was trying to give him words of encouragement as shown in the line she did not think Augustus was dying and more in the line she said it was just a touch of cancer as she pointed out her positive thought about his cancer that it was a small treat like it was not more than just a touch.

### **c. Confident**

Data 19:

*“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.***

In addition, this quotation of monologue also describes the optimistic characteristic of Hazel Grace Lancaster. Hazel doesn't seem afraid to face the present. It can be seen when she said she was trying to live her best life that day which indicates that she was being confident by trying her best for her life no matter what. It also could be pointed out to her parents to be happy with her condition. Even though she actually imagined something happened to her, she brushed it all away and tried to do her best despite any risks coming towards.

#### **d. Trustful**

Data 20:

*"But I'd had a total body PET scan on the first night in the hospital, they told me, and the news was good: no tumor growth. No new tumors. My shoulder pain had been lack-of-oxygen pain. Heart-working-too-hard pain."*

*"Dr. Maria said this morning that she remains optimistic," Dad said. **I like Dr. Maria, and she didn't bullshit you so that felt good to hear.***

In the monologue written, the research found Hazel Grace having optimism throughout a person, that is Dr. Maria. As she pointed out her thought about Dr. Maria, it indicates that she really did trust Dr. Maria and pointing out the moment her dad told her that Dr. Maria remained optimistic, it made her become optimistic as well.

## **4.2 Research Discussions**

This research is about the survivor characteristics reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster in *The Fault in Our Stars*, a novel by John Green. This section is intended to analyze the result of the research findings based on the related theory.



#### **4.2.1 A Survivor Characteristic Reflected on Hazel Grace Lancaster**

The term 'Survivor' generally refers to a person who has remained alive or has overcome a significant challenge, such as a life-threatening illness, a natural disaster, a traumatic event, or any other adverse situation. However, the term can also be used more broadly to describe anyone who has managed to persevere by thriving in the face of adversity, to local communities and wider. This can include individuals who have overcome personal obstacles likewise David Benatar's theory of survivor stated that a survivor can be interpreted as a person who is to keep alive or in existence, carrying on despite trauma, and remaining useful for themselves and other people (Benatar, 2016). Overall, the term implies resilience, strength, and the ability to overcome challenges and emerge victorious in the face of adversity.

The theory specifically discusses survivor's characteristics as it indicates that survivors often show qualities of resoluteness and optimism, which help them handle difficult conditions and overcome obstacles. They are determined to hang on and are often able to find hope and meaning in their experiences. This can help them to keep a positive outlook, even in the midst of great hardship, and to stay focused on their goals. Ultimately, survivors are those who are able to rise above their circumstances and emerge stronger as a result (Benatar, 2016).

Hazel Grace Lancaster is drawn as the narrator and 16-year-old protagonist by the novel's author, John Green by reason of she becomes the central character in *The Fault In Our Stars*. Indirect characterization is also used in a way to reveal the kind of person Hazel is as the author lets the reader infer Hazel's characteristics based on her actions, words,

thoughts, and interactions with other characters. In reference, Hazel is a brilliant and extraordinarily thoughtful young woman. At the age of thirteen, she was told that she had terminal thyroid cancer that had spread to her lungs. Because she is aware that her death will ultimately hurt them, she keeps the majority of people at a distance until she falls in love with Augustus.

The researcher then used the theory to acknowledge the content of survivors by analyzing the survivor characteristics and its natures of Hazel Grace Lancaster, the central character portrayed in *The Fault In Our Stars* novel. In analyzing the life of Hazel Grace Lancaster, the researcher found all the survivor characteristics put forward by David Benatar in his theory of survivors. Totals of 20 data were found. 6 of them are data from purposive characteristics, 6 are determined characteristics data, and the last 7 are containing optimistic characteristics data.

#### **4.2.1.1 Purposive**

Having a sense of purposive can provide survivors with a sense of motivation in the face of challenges. It can also help them to prioritize their time and wantings effectively and make decisions that are aligned with the objectives (Benatar, 2016). Purposive characteristic can be developed through self-reflection, goal-setting, and actively seeking out experiences that are related to one's values. It is an important aspect of personal growth and can contribute to overall satisfaction in life. There are several natures that visible the time when Hazel Grace was being purposive in the story of *The Fault In Our Stars* which are caring, desirous, and worried.

As shown in data 1 and 2, Hazel has the purpose of not being

the cause of her parents' sadness as she greatly care a lot about them. Caring itself is the process of protecting someone or something and providing what that person or thing needs (Drozenová, 2018). Hazel realizes that in order to show her concern to her parents, she needs to make them happy and try not to cause them miserable. Her going to the cancer support group has always been her parent's idea as they think it will be good for her condition and therefore, Hazel granted their wish by reason of her own purpose, making them happy. Hazel also realizes that they would be devastated if she dies. It then becomes one of the reasons she fights to keep alive. Moreover in data 3 and 4, Hazel was experiencing feelings of guilt that are causing her purpose to distance herself from the local society. It started when she was referring to her life as a "grenade" that would explode soon and harm the people she cares about. Distancing herself has then flashed into her thoughts as an act to minimalize the casualties of the harm.

Survivors who are in a period of purposive are also experiencing a nature of desirous. Desirous is a feeling when people want something, they are obsessed to achieve it as being desirous is a state of desire, want, and craving (Hofmann et al., 2015). Likewise, it is shown in data 5 where Hazel Grace felt gutted after knowing she was not allowed by her parents because of her sickness to go to Amsterdam, to meet her favorite book's author, Peter Van Houten. Judging by the condition, Hazel was really desiring to meet Van Houten because he invited her himself and Hazel has a purpose which is also her dream i.e. finding out the ending of *An Imperial Affliction*.

Coming for the last action, Hazel was also encountering a worried feeling the time she was being purposive. A worry is a disturbing emotional thought about the state of something in some aspect of life (health, safety, etc.). will depart from its intended state (Schwartz et al., 2000). It is often used to describe a feeling of apprehension or fear about a potential problem or outcome and it suggests that the person is experiencing a negative emotional state. (Gladstone & Parker, 2003). For instance, In data 6, Hazel was worried about her condition and what it would cause in the future as she foresees that if one day she could not able to survive, it would create a deep serious wound to her parents. Nevertheless, that anxiety of Hazel itself also formed a spark of purposive desire for her to continue fighting her disease and keep alive.

Concluded as a result of purposive characteristic from all its data, Hazel Grace Lancaster is portrayed as a survivor in the whole story of the novel because of her actions by remaining alive or in existence and remaining functional and usable for herself and for other people, especially her parents, as stated in the definitions of a survivor proposed by David Benatar in the theory of survivor. Nevertheless, traumatic indicator is not depicted to Hazel Grace as a survivor in the purposive characteristic.

#### **4.2.1.2 Determined**

Determined actions refer to the intentional steps taken toward achieving a specific goal or objective. These actions are characterized by a strong sense of faith and perseverance, with the individual committed to doing whatever it takes to succeed.

Determined actions are typically focused and often involve overcoming obstacles or challenges along the way (Benatar, 2016). This type of action is driven by a deep sense of motivation, will, and determination to succeed, which can be a powerful force in achieving success in various areas of life. A similar happened to the life of Hazel Grace Lancaster when she executes determined action in order to achieve specific goals and as a result, the researcher ended up discovering several natures in herself i.e. passionate, strong, resolute, helpful, and stubborn.

According to (Philippe et al., 2009), Passionate refers to a strong and intense feeling or emotion towards something or someone. It is characterized by a deep and enthusiastic interest, dedication, and commitment to a particular activity, cause, or person. In this case, as a teenager, Hazel has some dreams and wantings, and as a teenager who is not in the best condition related to healthiness, she certainly aims to fulfill those dreams faster than ever. In this case, Hazel's biggest dream is to know the ending of her favorite novel, *An Imperial Affliction*, and it would naturally take her determination to achieve it and it eventually is shown in data 7 where she was being very passionate about spending 2 hours of writing, trying to reach Peter Van Houten, the author of AIA, through email.

Determination actions have also made Hazel Grace Lancaster become a strong person. A person who is strong can endure difficult situations and overcome obstacles. They may have strong willpower or the ability to stay positive and motivated even in the face of adversity (Lovato, 2012). As it is revealed in data 8 and 9, Hazel showed an attitude of the kind of person who fights her disease as

proved when upon returning from the hospital, she was told to get her lungs drained once in a while and get back on the BiPAP and she followed the assignment. It also gets strengthened by a statement from a friend of hers, the name is Lida, saying Hazel is such an inspirational person because Hazel never stops battling her cancer, and not once she complains about it where it led to becoming motivation of Lida to do the same.

The researcher as well concluded that the basic nature of resolute and helpful is formed from the determined characteristic. Being resolute means having a firm determination or being unwavering in one's beliefs, decisions, or actions, even in the face of obstacles, or opposition. A person who is resolute is determined to achieve a particular goal or outcome and is willing to persevere through challenges and setbacks to reach it (Lotito & Hey, 2009). In data 10, Hazel went to Amsterdam to visit Van Houten and determined to find out the ending of *An Imperial Affliction*. During the meeting between them, Van Houten disrespected her because of her disease, and eventually, she yelled at him as an action of firmness. She insisted to Van Houten tell her the ending of the book as he already promised her. Meanwhile, in data 11, Augustus was hospitalized at home with chest pains that eventually discovered that his cancer returned to his body then Hazel showed a determination of a helpful person by taking care of him. Even though Hazel herself was not in a great condition in terms of healthiness, she persisted in going back and forth to Augustus' house.

Stubborn is one of the basic natures coming from a survivor that might have a negative connotation. A stubborn individual

sometimes refuses to change their stance, even when presented with evidence or logical arguments that contradict their position as they might insist on pursuing their goals or ideas, even if it leads to negative consequences or conflicts with themselves or others (Lesson & History, 2017). Hazel Grace herself reflected on the stubborn action in data 11 and 12. Her parents forbade her to go outside because her condition did not get any better but she was acting stubborn and again pushed herself to help Augustus by disobeying her parents' orders as she firmly repeatedly said to them *“Augustus needs me”*

For the conclusion in the determined characteristic section, Hazel Grace Lancaster showed the actions of a survivor who is trying to remain alive and carry on despite hardships based on her strong nature. Hazel is as well described as a survivor who remains functional for themselves when she was being passionate and for other people when she showed a helpful and stubborn nature.

#### **4.2.1.3 Optimistic**

Optimism is a trait that describes a person or perspective that has a positive outlook on life and a hopeful attitude toward the future. It refers to the belief that things will generally work out for the best, even in the face of overcoming challenges and obstacles. Optimists exhibit confidence and a sense of toughness in the face of adversity, believing that they can achieve their goals. Overall, an optimistic attitude can contribute to greater happiness and motivation (Benatar, 2016). Being optimistic can make people into having several basic natures in themselves as well as happened to Hazel Grace Lancaster.

In analyzing the life of Hazel, the researcher came across the principled, positive thinking, confident, and trustful nature that Hazel possesses when being optimistic.

"Principled" refers to having a strong set of moral or ethical principles that guide one's actions and decision-making. It involves following a consistent set of values and beliefs, even in the face of fear or temptation. Being principled is an important aspect of personal success, as it builds trust and credibility with others and spreads positive and ethical beliefs (Sari & Gultom, 2020).

In data 14, Hazel showed a principled attitude in an optimistic way. She spoke about the reality that would happen in this life when responding to Augustus Waters who was worried that he would be forgotten one day and was also sure that other people were worried the same thing. Hazel then encouraged them to ignore it while hoping that everyone can live better without ever thinking about being in oblivion because of her principle that it does not matter if people are in oblivion when they die provided that during the time they are alive, they have done a lot of good for others.

Positive thinking and being optimistic are two actions that cannot be separated as David Benatar states that optimists tend to have a positive outlook on life and believe that things will generally turn out well, even if it is in difficult or challenging situations (Benatar, 2016).

Three different situations were shown the time Hazel was being optimistic by having a positive thought. The first situation seen in data 15, consists an optimistic thought of Hazel about Van Houten's reason moved to the Netherlands and became kind of reclusive.



Hazel was being positive that he currently in the process of writing the sequel of *An Imperial Affliction* which is good for her since she desperately wants to know the continuation of the book. The second one itself is in data 16 and related to Hazel Grace's medical checkup. Hazel looked at things in a positive light as can be seen in the way she did not worry about the PET scan. She believed that she would be fine and soon recover as ever. And the last condition refers to Augustus' sickness. In data 17 and 18, Hazel encouraged Augustus as she was convincing him that there was nothing to be worried about with his cancer and that it just was a small treat for him. Hazel then encountered a positive thought that Augustus would live his best life from now on.

Furthermore when Hazel was acting optimistic, self-confidence is also gained in herself. Self-confidence is a belief in oneself and one's abilities. It is the feeling of assurance that comes from trusting one's own judgment, abilities, and qualities. A person who is self-confident is secure in their own worth and is not overly reliant on the approval or validation of others (Messaoud, 2022). Discussing the data 19, after Hazel returned from the hospital, she was not afraid to face the present and was confident in trying her best for her life no matter what. It also could intend for her parents to be happy with her condition. She might actually imagine something happened to her, but she brushed it all away and tried to do her best despite any risks coming towards her.

Trustful action becomes the last basic nature of optimism from Hazel Grace Lancaster. The term "trustful" is often used to describe a person who is characterized by trust, confidence, or reliance on

others. A trustful person is someone who is inclined to believe in the honesty, reliability, and good intentions of others (Levine et al., 2017). Portrayed in the last data, Hazel Grace has a sense of optimism throughout an individual, that is Dr. Maria. Hazel affirmed that she likes Dr. Maria and she is a truthful person therefore she would not lie to anyone. It indicates that Hazel really did have trust in Dr. Maria and it got strengthened the moment her dad told her that Dr. Maria remained optimistic about her condition which made her feel good and become optimistic as well.

Overall optimistic characteristic and their nature reveal that in the time Hazel Grace Lancaster was being optimistic, the researcher concludes that Hazel is a survivor who is trying to keep alive with efforts to beat her cancer and despite her hardship condition. She as well never stops to exist for other people in a way of helping them, particularly for the life of Augustus Waters.

Through all the survivor characteristics that Hazel Grace Lancaster possesses, the researcher concluded that Hazel has portrayed as a survivor in all the three definitions of survivor from David Benatar's theory, namely (1) Remaining exist or alive, (2) Carrying on despite hardship or trauma, and (3) To keep being useful for themselves and others. Hazel Grace Lancaster's encounter of trying to remain alive and to carry on despite trauma is shown in the respective characteristic of purposive, determined, and optimistic she reflected as she never stopped waking up, fighting her disease and firmly committed to follow all the health procedure. Whilst, in the indicator to keep being useful, Hazel practiced it to herself, her parents and Augustus Waters. Hazel was in a purpose to achieve her dream which is to the author of her favorite book, Peter Van Houten. Hazel was also determined to help nursing

Augustus Waters when he was home-hospitalized because his cancer came back to his body. And in optimistic characteristic, Hazel convinced her parents to always think positively and expect the best in every conditions as she told them that there is nothing to be worried about her disease.

## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter consists of two sub-chapters, namely conclusions and suggestions. Therefore in order to gain a better understanding, these sub-chapters will be discussed deeply below.

#### 5.1 Conclusions

After finishing the analysis, the research found all the survivor characteristics of Hazel Grace Lancaster reflected in *The Fault In Our Stars* by John Green using David Benatar's theory of survivor. Hazel possesses purposive, determined, optimistic characteristic displayed in 20 data. Furthermore, out of all the survivor characteristics, the researcher found each of its basic natures that are coming from Hazel's attitude itself. In purposive characteristics, Hazel is experiencing being the kind of person who is loving, passionate, and worried. While, when Hazel shows her determination in an effort to remain alive and help people including herself, she felt passionate, strong, resolute, helpful, and stubborn. And the last, Hazel is a principled, positive thinker, confident, and trustful teenage girl at the time she shows optimistic characteristics. The researcher also concluded that Hazel has portrayed as a survivor in all the three definitions of survivor from David Benatar's theory.

#### 5.2 Suggestions

The researcher provides suggestions related to the results of the research in order to get a better execution in the next occasion for those who are interested in doing a literary study. This research was done using the intrinsic approach, but *The Fault In Our Stars* is a great novel that can be analyzed using a different approach and theory. The researcher advises the next researcher could analyze this novel using a different approach and theory. For instance, the magical

romanticism aspects of the novel. And, to those who are willingly to analyze *The Fault In Our Star* using the same theory, the researcher then proposes to explore it up from a different point of view, such as a survivor characteristic possessed by Augustus Waters, the man lead character in the novel.

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