



Hope and Fear in Stephen King's *The Mist*

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Abstract

Hope and Fear are something that lies in the deep of the human mind that affect how people act. This research is conducted to reveal fear and hope in society as part of human psyche that build its very foundation. The topic of this research is hope and fear in Stephen King's *The Mist*. The research instrument uses observation sheets, while the data collection is based on the library research. This is a descriptive qualitative research that used structuralism theory by Levi-Strauss. By using the structuralism theory, the analysis of the study was conducted through binary opposition found in the novel. This research results in several findings as follows: 1) People lose themselves as human when fear constantly breaks them, while hope is the one that can keep them as human even in the hard times. 2) In religion aspect, fear has changed the way people think about God. The disaster, the death, and the monster are said to be God's will. It shows that the fundamental of belief is changed from blessing life to cursing life. Furthermore, society's moral has degenerated that they justify the wrong thing as right, and otherwise because they only think about their safety.

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INTRODUCTION

Hope, people usually hope for something, and it gives them a strength to do something to accomplish what they want. Hope is a way of positively and expansively inhabiting one's agency, and our energy is oriented toward the future (McGeer, 2004: 104). It always becomes a tool to give a positive mood or energy to the people. The positive energy that comes from hope has been used in medical section to help curing the patient faster. In religion section, hope is described as the way people believe to the God and maintain themselves as a good member of religious community. In general, people use hope to make a reason to live, to do something good to others, and keep their humanity inside.

According to Pettit (2004: 158), hope will consist of acting as if a desired prospect is going to obtain or has a good chance of obtaining, just as precaution consist in acting as if this is the case with some feared prospect. Individual does not react the same way to obstacle they face in hope. People with high hope will see the obstacle as challenges to overcome and use their pathway thought to plan an alternative route to their goals (Snyder, 2000:10). Emily Dickinson (1891) wrote a poem entitled "*Hope*" is the thing with feathers. She describes hope as a bird that never stops singing to inspire human. It can be used as an imaginative plot device that becomes a motivating force for change in dynamic characters. Modern philosopher Richard Rorty (1994) states that hope is more than a goal setting. It is a story that serves as a promise and reason for expecting better future.

If there is a hope, there will be always a fear. Fear is an unpleasant emotion or thought that you have when you are frightened or worried by something dangerous, painful, or bad that is happening or might happen. Fear in human beings may occur in response to a specific stimulus occurring in the present, or in anticipation or expectation of a future threat perceived as a risk to body or life.

According to Ohman, A., and Mineka, S. (2001), fear can be divided into two responses, they are biochemical and emotional. Biochemical fear is a natural emotion and a survival device. Physical reaction to fear includes sweating, increased heart rate, and high adrenaline levels that make us extremely alert. While the emotional fear is highly based on the individual. For some people, they enjoy fear. They are looking for adrenaline. It is like watching scary movies or doing dangerous sports. Others who do not enjoy feeling fear or having adrenaline is having a negative reaction to the fear and avoiding fear-inducing situations at all cost. Fear can lead to a change in metabolic and organ functions and eventually a change in behavior such as fleeing, hiding, or freezing from perceived traumatic events. The fear response serves survival by producing appropriate behavioral responses, so it has been well-maintained throughout evolution. Fear today has a free-floating dynamic. It can attach itself to a wide variety of events and phenomena. Consider the fear of terrorism. Since 9/11, this fear has continually expanded to cover almost all aspects of modern life (Frank Furedi, 2007).

There are also some articles and previous studies related to hope and fear. First is a journal written by Smadar Cohen-Chen from Department of Psychology, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield, United Kingdom. His journal entitled *The Differential Effects of Hope and Fear on Information Processing in Intractable Conflict*. He stated that emotional barriers have been found to play a critical role in forming attitudes and behaviours in conflict and peace-making. A major effect of such affective barriers is cognitive freezing, which reduces openness to new information and opportunities to conflict resolution (Cohen-Chen, 2014). Another journal written by Maria Jarymowicz from Institute of Social Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland. It is entitled *The Dominance of Fear Over Hope in The Life of Individuals and Collectives*. It explains that fear is primary emotion grounded in the

experienced present and based on the memorized past, processed both consciously and unconsciously, and leads to pre-emptive aggression. On the other hand, hope is secondary emotion that involves cognitive activity, which requires anticipation and the search for new ideas based on complex processes of creativity and flexibility (Jarymowicz, 2006).

In the work of literature, *The Mist* written by Stephen King presents the story about a disaster that gives them a terrifying situation, creates disunion between people, and separates them into groups of what they believe is right without knowing their actions are consumed by hoping to survive or fearing to survive. Based on the background presented, this study is intended to analyze and explain the phenomenon of how hope and fear consume and change the society during the disaster or chaotic situation, making the people choose their choices based on what they believe is right in order to survive as found in Stephen King's *The Mist*.

METHODS

This is a descriptive qualitative study as the study focused on the analysis and interpretation of the written or descriptive material in context data from the novel *The Mist*. In analyzing the data, the researcher used Levi-Strauss' theory of structuralism and its methodology to form the description of the analysis in this study. The material object of this study is the novel entitled *The Mist* by Stephen King published in 1985. This novel was published by Viking Press United States which contains 101 pages.

The formal object of this study is the study of hope and fear in *The Mist*. The hope and fear are elaborated from the story using the Levi-Strauss' structuralism theory in order to see how they are described, furthermore, they affect and change the society.

There are two types of data in this study, they are primary data and secondary data. The primary data of this study are taken from the

material object, which is novel entitled *The Mist* by Stephen King. In addition, the secondary data of this study includes scientific journals, books, articles, and any other writings, and theories applied to the study. These sources are expected to be able to strengthen the analysis.

In collecting the data, the researcher does some steps as (1) Reading. The researcher reads the novel several times in order to get a deeper understanding of the content and meaning of the novel to get ideas to analyze the issue(s) related to the topic. (2) Identifying. The researcher identifies the data that has been collected. The researcher identifies which one is classified as the data and non-data. It is needed to make appropriate data related to the topic. (3) Classifying. The researcher classifies the quotations relevant to the topic related. The researcher has done the grouping to the collected quotations into some sections that provide support in analyzing the study.

In analyzing the data of this study, the researcher used several steps based on the structuralism theory by Levi-Strauss (Bressler, 1998:96-100). The writer chooses the transcription of the novel that matches with the issue(s) and making the binary opposition of it to answer the related question. Then, the researcher dismantles the meaning of the related binary oppositions to make the interpretation of all the findings related to the issue(s).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Hope and fear as described in *The Mist*

The researcher explains the description of hope and fear through the sequence of events. It presents the detail of what happened to people when hope and fear affect them. Each person reacts differently to the disaster and each reaction implies the hope and fear. The issues are described with binary opposition to emphasize the meaning of each unit of the text and show the relationship between each other that leads into

people's action as quoted from each chapter of the story.

The beginning of the disaster at home

At the beginning of the story, the town has been lashed by a big thunderstorm. The protagonist, David as husband, Steff as wife, and Billy as the child are affected by the storm. They are blinded by the dark and they only can listen and look at the lighting. The situation breaks their concern that they do not even think about other things. Billy's bedtime represents the daily activity they always do, but as they reject this situation, it implies that the disaster has given them anxiety about their safety. Their daily activity is nothing important compared to the fear of the disaster (King, 1985:40).

Steff shows a sign of fear when she feels frightened and worried about their condition. On the other hand, David tries to comfort her by telling it will be alright (King, 1985:4). His action is the resemblance of hope. He puts himself as the source of his family's hope by trying to calm them.

In a bad condition, a kid does not know what might do or not, that sometimes it puts him in danger. David knows that kid has big curiosity in things even when it is not in the right time. Rather than scaring him, David tries to show that everything is alright, as long as he listens to him. He hopes that it will make him less worries about what has happened to them, and it will be better rather than fearing what has happened. However, Steff reacts contrarily with David. She is not as calm as him in dealing with the problem. It portrays that she is paranoid. She acts like everything will become a threat to his family (King, 1985: 6).

Despite the bad thing happens to them, David always tries to find a way to make the situation better (King, 1985: 9). He believes that putting hope can make a significant effect, although it seems like something simple and naïve. David's hope brings calmness in his family, especially Billy who does not seem afraid at all. Steff indeed is so afraid and paranoid about

everything, but by the time being, she knows that David is right. Even though David himself has to lie about the situation, he does not mind it as long as they have hope (King, 1985: 15).

David and Steff give a different response to deal with the chaotic situation. David with hope, while Steff with fear. Hope from David is described as an act to stay positive in everything. As seen when he is worried but he chooses to remain calm and ask his family to do something nicely. From that attitude, he keeps his family stays out of danger in the right way without scaring them that leads them to feel better and lead them that having hope is better than fear. On the other hand, Steff who is consumed by fear always thinking negatively. She is too afraid that something bad will happen to them, and then becomes stress and paranoid. She is concerning everything that can harm them, which become too much and it even makes her more afraid than she should be. This attitude leads her to a feeling that makes her worse. In the end, David's hope leads them to a better situation. It shows that hope gains dominance over the fear as reflected in David's approach to make his family feel save is working.

Mass-Panic situation at the Supermarket

The next sequence of event happens at supermarket. With electricity and phone line down, David, Billy, and his neighbor, Norton, go to the supermarket in town to get some supplies and see if phone line or radio works. All of sudden the mist starts to cover the area, some people go out to take a look, and some just do not want to give up to their queue line. At the same time, Mrs. Carmody yells something that makes people scared and irritated, "Don't go out there! It's death! I feel that it's death out there!" (King, 1985: 25).

From what Mrs Carmody says, it describes a fear that influences the people feeling. Using the word 'death' all of sudden without knowing what happens is a strong move to spread the fear. Her line is supported by a man entered

the supermarket with his nose bleeding and telling there is something out there (King, 1985: 26).

In a terrible situation, there is still a little light. It does not change much but it makes people feeling a little bit relax. That light is a little joke told by Bud Brown, the worker from the supermarket (King, 1985: 26). Brown tries to enlighten the atmosphere. By giving a joke that makes everyone laugh and smile, it gives the people hope that they are okay, even though they still have the same problem, fear.

Norton asks all people to just stay inside waiting and see the situation to decide what to do next. It implies hope that they can still survive if stay together, work as a team, and figure out what to do next. At least it makes them relieved about what to do in this situation. However, not everybody agrees with what Norton suggests. A woman says that her children are in home and they are her priority (King, 1985: 29). The decision she makes is an interpretation of fear. She is afraid that her children are in danger, and it is described when she has to go home to check herself.

She shows her hope to other people that she believes that her children are safe and she can go home to protect them. Hope in this case is interpreted as the feeling of the woman that she intends to do something possible. She wants to show people that it is possible to save their loved one if they believe something good to happen. On the other hand, she shows her fear while she starts explaining her children's habit to the people. She begins to worry, but it strengthens her hope to save her children. She can prove to the people that she can turn her fear to hope if she believes it as she asks help to them (King, 1985: 30). However, other people do not seem to believe that. After the series of unfortunate events happened in front of them, they are consumed by fear. Their only hope is waiting and staying inside the market. It portrays the fear as the people do not want to help her and just let her go to her home by herself.

People who have hope within them remain calm despite bad things happen, as shown when they stay in the line queue when the mist/fog coming. This leads to someone tries to enlighten the situation to drag people out of their panic/ fear state by giving a joke to laugh at. Because of stay calm, they can think clearly and have the best solution to the people in the market, which stays in the market until they figure out what happened. Opposite to hope, fear makes people panic, confused, and scared, as shown when Mrs Carmody said the death thing. It makes them unable to think clearly which do not help them at all. Fear just worsen their condition as they become more affected to be scared of things, as shown when Mrs Carmody repeats about the death from the outside of the market. They become silent and feeling powerless.

The incident in the storage area

The next event happens in the storage area inside the market. David, who is trying to calm Billy, is looking for something to cover up him who just lays down solidly out. He goes to the storage area, where the generator of the market is. He decides to turn off the generator and the emergency lights fade out leaving the room in darkness. After the generator is down, he starts hearing a sound from outside (King, 1985:31). He hears a sound from the outside that makes him afraid. He states that he regressed magically to four years of age hitting the doors straight-arm and burst through into the market. it shows that David is struggling to control himself. It implies that he loses himself because he is in completely in. Regressed to four years old is the representation of how he cannot handle the feeling inside of him, and also how he cannot move his leg as soon as he wants to also the representation of how big the fear that makes him panic and doubt.

There are four people standing in front of the storage door, they are Ollie, Myron, Jim, and Norm. They are surprised as they see David coming from that door with fear in his face. After

explains what happens, they all decide to go to the storage area and check the generator. David tries to stop them to go near the loading door. From the fear he feels like the effect of the sound from the mist, he tries to warn them that it may be a bad idea since they do not know what is outside (King, 1985: 33).

Norm is going to fix the generator because that is the only thing he can do in this situation (King, 1985: 35). When the town is covered by an unknown mist and makes chaos, this mechanical thing is the only thing he can fix. It is hope that makes him believe to do it. If it is fixed, he hopes that it makes them less confused, and feels useful. That is why, he and the other two guys, Jim and Myron, insist to fix it. He goes outside through the loading door, and suddenly a tentacle comes over the far lip of the concrete loading platform and grabs Norm. David is the closest to him, even though he is shocked, he grabs Norm and tries to save him as he can (King, 1985: 36).

David tries to save Norm by himself while the other three guys just watching without doing anything. The other three guys are in fear as same as David's when he first hears the sound outside. They are too shocked about something beyond imagination happens in front of their eyes. David is so disappointed and angry because he and others cannot save Norm. He unleashes his anger to Myron and Jim who agrees to send him out before. He brutally just punches Myron and blames everything to those two (King, 1985:39). It shows that his hope has failed him, his hope is to save Norm has become nothing, despite trying hard as he can.

Being one of the reasons why Norm death makes Myron and Jim feel guilty. The situation is described how Myron and Jim regret it (King, 1985: 39). They acknowledge that it is their fault and all they can do just sorry. Myron tries to say how sorry they are but got beaten by David. On top of that, he does not defend himself, he just accepts it just like he knows he deserves it and it can be paid off by this.

The unexpected incident happens in the storage area make David occupied by Fear. It makes him lose control of himself and that leads him cannot do something as shown when he tries to move from the storage area. On the other hand, Myron, Jim, and Norm look the broken generator as a hope that at least it is the problem they can understand, and fix it will make them felt better. As a result, they have the bravery to take action. When the tentacles suddenly grab Norm, they are all shocked and stoned. Only David who is brave enough that lead him to take an action as he hopes to save Norm. Oppose from before, Jim and Myron who are brave enough to deal with the generator, they are too afraid to even move. David is so angry that they do not even try to help. As he cannot bring back Norm, he unleashes his anger to Myron and beat him like he does not care. Myron just takes all the blame and regrets his decision and feels really sorry to David as he got beaten so bad.

Argument leads to verification

The next event tells about David, Ollie, Myron, and Jim that want to tell people about the incident in the storage area. They argue about whether they should tell people or not. They are worried about the fear that will spread if they tell something about the tentacles, but it is the best option for all and to prevent people from going out that lead them to a dangerous situation. David does not want something happens to Norm happens to other people. It represents his hope that he wants people to be safe even if it can scare them. Knowing something dangerous will make people do something carefully. Jim who makes the mistake that killed Norm represents the guilty as he agrees about David's opinion as he does not want people to act recklessly and got killed (King, 1985: 41).

David decides to go to his neighbor, Norton, because he knows him well. He starts telling about what happens in the storage area, and as expected, he is in shock (King, 1985: 43). Norton is scared knowing about what happened

in the storage area, but David knows him that he is going to lose himself, so he tried to not pushed it and tried to explain slowly. He does not want to lose him, because he believes that he will be trusted by the people to lead, and it will make people have hope in him to survive.

Norton does not want to believe what happened. He thinks rationally that something like tentacles coming from the mist is no other than a joke. It can be inferred that Norton does not want to accept the truth. He has strong fundamental about his belief. He believes there is no such thing as a monster in this world. He just does not want that everything that he thinks okay will be ruined (King, 1985: 44). Their discussion has attracted other people. Brown, who works there asks David to cut the story he told. David has no choice other than showing it to Brown since Norton does not even want to listen to him.

Brown agrees to check the storage area with them. It is a low whispering sound from the direction of the loading door-an almost caressing sound. Brown who thinks it is a foolish story by David and his friends suddenly lose his bravery. Fear has overcome him as shown in the face is tightly drawn. The setting of that place gives the intimidating aura that makes Brown feels the threat (King, 1985: 48). Bud Brown folds his long-fingered hands primly in front of him. After feeling the fear of the unnatural incident in the storage area, Brown tells people that everything David said is true. He accepts the truth, even though he is afraid of it. It shows how he hopes people to understand and know the situation, so they will not act recklessly. It is better to know something dangerous rather than being blind without knowing what was coming to them (King, 1985: 49).

The truth has been spoken but there are different reactions from people. David who decides to tell the truth to the people has only one goal. That is people know what they face and do not act recklessly. Two people are told and shown about the incident. There are Norton and Brown. For Norton, who believes everything is alright,

this truth is something that will cause him to lose his belief. He believes that it is just an ordinary mist, nothing to worry about too much. As a result, he is scared to accept the truth that he is wrong. So, he is in fear that everything is not just like he thinks. He avoids the truth and stays with a lie just an implementation of fear. On the other hand, Brown represents hope. The action taken when he decides to see and believe to end this confusion that leads them to fight represents hope. It has the purpose of confirmed what happened, so people will not be confused. By accepting the truth, even though he does not believe at first, it helps him to know what they are dealing with. They have hope when they know what the truth and choose to deal with it. Hope becomes guidance to society as it gives the knowledge about what has happened. It is described in the Brown. Meanwhile, fear becomes the darkness to society as it blinds them as described in Norton..

Further Discussion: Action Taken

After people know the truth about what happens in the storage area, they begin questioning their options. There are many contradictories between people as if they have a different point of view about the situation. Norton starts gathering some people. There is the Flat-Earth society, headed by him. They are a vocal minority of about ten who believe none of it (King, 1985: 49).

Norton explains to his colleagues that he does not believe about the tentacles that come from the mist. The way he explains that he does not believe them shows how confident he is. He points out that they are inebriated, especially Jim and Myron. The way he talks about everything reflects his high confidence that resulted from his hope. It exists because of so many reasons. First, his argument is kind of make sense for people. Second, people who argue with him are not in good condition, especially they are drunk. It makes him put a better side to win than them.

Ollie tries to convince Norton to believe that the incident about the tentacles is real. He challenges Norton to go to the storage area, then brings the beer and bottle there to show he has been there. He tells him that he will like to go too, but he emphasizes that's what happened to Norm is going to happen to them (King, 1985: 49). Some of the Flat-Earthers has withdrawn and starts to split up by one or two people. They go away from the people who believe about the tentacles. It shows how Ollie convinces some of them to not go outside. Even though he does not convince Norton, it scares some of them and convinces them to rethink about their choices (King, 1985: 50). By refusing to take the offer/challenge from Ollie to bring back sampling beer and withdrawn, they represent how fear will react. It leads them to doubt. Doubt is reflected in their decisions to walk away from the group as it is different from their decision before, which is believing there is nothing in the mist.

People start talk less frightening and then try to strengthen the market front windows to prevent the danger (King, 1985: 52). People finally find a way to distract their fear. They create their own hope by doing something to prevent the mist. It helps them raise the chance to survive. As a result, they start feeling better. In this part, hope is represented in working together. It helps them to gain enough confidence to believe that they can survive, and bring bang their hope.

However, David who sees the incident directly does not think the same. He knows it is better than nothing, but he still has doubt about it. He does not think a bunch pile of food bags will make any difference. He realizes saying that thing to people will only make it worse, so he keeps it for himself (King, 1985: 52-54). The situation becomes more conducive and well-organized. All of the work they have done make people look heartened and gained a positivity to face all of this. Same with David, Ollie does not seem to agree with that. While the others felt better, he does not get something that makes him feel better.

His eyes reflect the deep fear that results in hopelessness. The hopeless feeling that Ollie has is the effect of what he has been through.

Apparently, the challenge from Ollie earlier does not affect Norton. Later that day he and some people decide to go out and prove that it will be safe out there. David knows that he cannot stop him, so he asks him a favor to put the clothesline around his waist to see how far he goes out (King, 1985: 58). However, he refuses and there is a man who volunteer himself to do it. Both of them show no doubt in their decision. Both of them shows people how the strong will give them the power and courage to do something. People begin to hope that they are going to make it. It will give people a new purpose.

Not long after they go out, the incident happens. The clothesline puts around the volunteered man is being pulled by something. It goes to the air left, right like something is trying to take him. The screaming is also heard. It brings fear to the people, and it destroys their confidence that has been built before (King, 1985: 59).

The discussion that happens has so many contradictories between each people. Hope has driven Norton to believe that there is nothing in the mist. His hope leads him gaining confidence. On the other hand, fear has driven people to doubt their choices. It is reflected in when some of the Flat-Earthers from Norton group decide to walk away when Ollie starts to scare them about what is in the mist. The confidence is reflected when people start to cover the window and prevent the mist from coming. Hope also leads people to have a strong will. It happens when Norton decides to go out. His strong will is described in his desire to believe that there is nothing in the mist. He consistently says it from the beginning. The fact that he does not change his belief show how strong his will is. It is also reflected in the volunteered man that decides to take the clothesline and go out to see it is safe or not. The determination that makes them unstopplable show how keeping hope gives you a

strong will. Different from hope, fear makes people lose their will. It is portrayed when the volunteered man's clothesline is pulled by something. People heard screaming, the clothesline is no longer attached to the man and is covered by the blood. People begin to scare again, especially when Mrs Carmody said there is only death out there. All of the hope, confidence, and their will suddenly lose devoured by fear.

The first night of the attack

After the incident that happens to people who go outside, people inside the market have been left frightened and shocked. David is having conversation with Mrs. Turman about the fate of his wife and her husband (King, 1985: 61). She has lost her faith. She does not have hope about the safety of her husband. She is consumed with the negativity that she just accepts the worse possible fate. However, David does not think the same way as her. He still has hope in his heart. He believes his wife is okay, even though he only has a little hope about it.

The day keeps getting darker and turns into night. Darkness is not the only one the night brings at that time. There is a creature identified as a bug, but bigger and terrifying. They land on the window glass and people begin to freak out. Some people are fearing for their lives and crying. Before even know what that is about, they are already running to avoid the window glass (King, 1985: 62). It represents how fear really affects them. It makes them a coward. But some people have the bravery to see what happens as they run toward the front. It represents how people's curiosity can resolve their fear. This curiosity leads them to the bravery which makes them go toward the dangerous and try to help.

The fear brings them into chaos. From the silence that reflects a terrifying situation, turns into a noisy sound of fear. People express their fear by howled, screamed, and cried. They just express their feeling without trying to how to overcome it (King, 1985: 65). Different with others, David and Mrs. Reppler tries to kill the

creature. In a terrifying situation, they still think about other people. It shows how much hope and bravery they have to face the fear. The action they do is the representation of hope that leads them into bravery. As seen from that, they are brave enough to face the creature in order to help others.

In that chaotic situation, people start to become pessimistic. It is shown how fear succeeds to consume their feeling. The fear is portrayed by Mrs Turman who lose the faith about her husband. She just accepts the worse fate possible for him, which is death. Meanwhile, David refuses to let the fear consumes him. He still has hope about his wife. He believes that his wife has a good fate. He believes that she will be okay until he comes for her. It reflects that hope has led people to believe a good fate, while fear just has made people thinking about worse fate. The next things that affected by hope and fear are bravery and coward. Hope makes people brave to face the problem/ threat, while fear makes people coward to face the problem/ threat. They are reflected when the bug creature lands on the window. On the other hand, people who consumed by fear reflected the coward. All they do the whole attacked is run away, cry, scream and moan. As a result, in the end, they do nothing.

Threats from inside and a plan to get out

After the attack, the market has become a mess. Dan Miller cannot wait any longer and then asks David about the idea of getting out. He tries to discuss it with David who basically the most rational people in the market. Miller explains that the problem with staying is not in the supplies, but with the big creature outside if it decides to come in. It reflects on how he wants to survive so bad that he looks at every possible chance. He knows their only chance is to find a way to get out. His idea to get out is the implementation of his hope (King, 1985: 73-74).

Moreover, the situation in the market is full of hopelessness. The mist and the creature

have caused so much fear to people that they will not even try to take a chance. (King, 1985:74). Dan Miller who has the idea to get out of the market. He knows that people cannot stay forever in the market, because they will be attacked by an unknown creature again. So, he decides to go out and take some people with him. However, he realizes that everything has a risk. He does not take this idea recklessly. He makes a plan and prepares everything in order to make it works (King, 1985: 74-76). His idea and his effort have a purpose to save people. While he wants to get out and save people, he also being smart to think about the approach. That is why his action is considered derives from hope because of the positive aspect. It is shown as he described his plan to go to the pharmacy, next door of the market, and check the situation before they actually try to go out.

There is also another reason why Miller suggested to go outside. That was Mrs Carmody. He was worried about her cult. She starts gaining some follower because people are in fear and they lose their way. Mrs Carmody who says things about God, religion, and sacrifice has become the place where people look for an answer (King, 1985: 77).

Hope makes people try so hard to keep alive as reflected on David's group. In this chapter, it is shown in Miller as he tries to survive by thinking another choice. On the other hand, fear makes people take extreme action. It is reflected when David explain the look of the people faces. He describes that people look terrified that he knows they will not take the chance to get out. Not even if there is hope outside. Looking for a choice, the people who are consumed by fear decides to join with Mrs Carmody's cult. Even though she is described as weird, extra, non-sense and talk about human sacrifice, but some people still join her. They choose to join the cult rather than look for hope.

The expedition to the Pharmacy

This event explains about their journey to the pharmacy to find a way out. There is an argument between a father who seeks for a way to out with a son who is afraid of losing his parents. Billy does not want his father left him after he cannot see his mother either. However, as a father, David does all the best he can to make them safe from the mist. He is ready to sacrifice himself just to make his son safe. So, he has to build faith in himself to make Billy has it too. It represents how he is full of hope as seen the way he encourages his son to believe in him. However, Mrs. Turman does not have the same page as David. She does not agree on how he builds hope in his son, because she thinks that something bad will happen.

There is a clash when David's group try to go to pharmacy. Some people are afraid it will bring the creatures inside, especially the argument from Mrs. Carmody who always spread the fear to make people join her cult. Even though, David's group is doing this to look for a chance and medicine for injured people, some of them does not care. They only care about themselves. In the end, David's still go out as planned before (King, 1985: 80).

Dan Miller is in the lead, Ollie came second, David is the last with Mrs Reppler is in front of him. The pharmacy has been a place for slaughtered. The body they have found is in shocking condition with the blood all over in his shirt and a missing head. Despite the place is completely messed up, they keep going inside. Apparently, after seeing the hideous scene in the Pharmacy, Ollie loses his hope. It is reflected as he becomes a pessimist and confesses to David about it. The fear that has been spread through the condition of the place has become a concern to all the people. The feeling they will succeed in escaping has been decreased as they all feel the fear (King, 1985: 82).

Not different from Ollie, David also loses his hope after he steps in the pharmacy. He is in doubt when he is about to go inside. However, there is something that triggers him to

keep trying. It is his promise to Billy. Billy is the reason why David always tries so hard for anything. It can be inferred that Billy is the source of his hope. The relationship between father and son are stronger than the fear that tries to consume him. As a result, he gains back his hope and continues the expedition (King, 1985: 82).

Just a moment after they step in into the pharmacy, David realizes what has been attacking those dead people. It is a spider. The room is full of spiderwebs with a hanging body like a fly. David asks them to get out as soon as possible, but it is too late. The spiders begin to attack them. They desperately try to survive, but some got injured. especially Buddy Eagleton. His leg is trapped with spiderwebs that burn his jeans. Ollie and David save him and carry him. They keep moving to the front door avoiding the devil-like spiders from hell (King, 1985: 84).

David states that his mind is broken and torn for experiencing this chaos. However, he also states that he can keep his sanity in a hard situation because of Billy. It can be implemented that fear has consumed David as he starts losing himself, and mind tore. It is reflected as he makes some sound like laughing, crying, screaming that he does not even know what he does. That action refers to how fear leads him to insanity. On the hand, he also prevents himself to totally lose his sanity. By the time he is feeling fear, he also remembers what makes him keep hoping. He keeps thinking about Billy as he tries to regain his sanity. His action is implemented as hope that leads him to keep his sanity ((King, 1985: 84).

The expedition to the pharmacy occurs as a solution for finding a way to get out. At first, David tells his son about the expedition, but the son is worried about it. David responds with hope by encouraging him that it can be one step closer to go to his mom. Different from David, Mrs. Turman has a different idea about Billy. She thinks that he should not have been given a purpose to hope for something. David's group wants to do the expedition know all the risk they take and explain to all people clearly. However,

there are still people who do not understand their reason, especially Mrs Carmody. David's group is trying to find a way out and find medicine in the pharmacy for the injured people. It portrays that they care about others despite they have to risk their lives. When they arrive in the pharmacy, Ollie begins to worry. The fear leads him to lose his hope as he realizes that something bad will happen and he tries to accept it. The fear also affects David as he also felt something bad happens inside the building that makes him does not want to go inside. However, the promise with Billy has become the hope for him. He promises to bring a comic book for him. It makes David gains his hope that has lost before and decides to try and continue his expedition. Not long after they realize what happened. David had struggle again with his mind. He is trembling by the fear he felt that make him almost went insane. He responds to the fear around him by laughing, screaming, and crying uncontrollably. Despite the edge of going insane, he manages to control himself to think about his son. Similar to the previous event where he loses his hope and his son became the reason to gain it back. This situation also shows how his son becomes the source of his hope that makes him regain his sanity. He manages to control himself and keep his sanity inside because he keeps thinking about his hope.

The final confrontation

After David and his group fails to look for a way out through the pharmacy. David and his group are still in a mourning condition because they fail and lose some people. Thou, they have another problem that occurs in the market. It is Mrs Carmody. She gains a lot of follower for her misguided belief about God. All they try to do is defending themselves either it is right or wrong.

However, Cornell still has not given up yet. He shows his will to get out and survive because the market is no longer safe. Not because of monster, but because of Mrs. Carmody's cult. She starts taking control over the majority of

people and he is afraid if she starts sacrificing people like she says in the beginning of the disaster (King, 1985:86- 87).

Hattie is desperately hoping to see the sun again and will do anything to see it. Not so different with people who see Mrs Carmody as the Messiah, she also looks something to believe in. The difference is only in hope and fear. People who join Mrs Carmody are driven by their fear that they do not care about the approach they will use. Meanwhile, Hattie who has been with David's group since the beginning, see him as a savior because the approach he uses is rational and human. That is why she always has hope in his efforts. David also always thinks everything carefully, always calm others, and never force people to follow him (King, 1985: 90).

Apparently, their will to go out and survive is not easy. Mrs. Carmody knows and she believes that David and his people make God angry because of their efforts. She believes that they are the reason why the monster keeps coming. As a redemption of their sin and to stop the mist, she asks for human sacrifice. She asks Billy as sacrifice. David and his group try so hard to defend Billy until Ollie interfere and shoots Mrs. Carmody (King, 1985: 93).

Ollie does not have any choices left as the people already out of their mind and chose the wrong path. His action is considered as a hero from David's group. However, his action is considered evil by most people in the market even though he does the right thing. People lose their moral and cannot see the definition of right or wrong. They just want to do what they want.

In the end, David and his people who represent hope have succeeded to go out from the market and start their new journey to find a place where the mist is gone. Meanwhile, Mrs Carmody's people who represent fear have lost their leader and their messiah. They completely lose their only purpose. They just wait and stuck inside the market without taking the chances to try.

The Extent of Hope and Fear That Change the Society

The novel portrays a normal society life as it should be. People befriend with their neighbour, help each other, create a system, and live with a religion. This chapter explains how hope and fear have created a disturbance in the society's fundamental which makes it does not function as it should be. When the fundamental is broken, people start to abandon values that keep society as one.

Society's Belief

At the start of the disaster, people still believe with hope, even though they have to deal with problems. They believe that if they keep hoping, God will save them because God is full of miracle and always save people. The fundamental of society in God is that he always shows a miracle to those who do good things in his way. That is the reason why people always try to do good things. However, their belief starts changing when Mrs Carmody starts spreading fear about the punishment of God. Nobody tries to even listen to her, because in society's point of view, she is so wrong. She is just a minority who breaks how society runs. This perspective slowly changes as the time the disaster keep happening. People start to listen and consider what she says. Words after words have been said by her is strength her belief. People start losing hope and join her. The fundamental of society has changed following the majority of people change their belief. Right now, people who believe God is full of miracle and forgiveness become the minority. It shows that the society's belief has changed from kindness God to Evil God.

Society's Morals

As seen by how the story goes, the beginning of the disaster is not a problem for society. They still manage to use morals in social activities. They value human, not only themselves but also others. They work out each other, to do something that benefits to them.

However, their morals are degenerating when the disaster keeps happening. For example, Norton who loses his morals and starts valuing himself. He does not care about others anymore as he changes from leader to someone who tries hard to prove something. The society also becomes immoral as most of the people join Mrs Carmody. She breaks the morals value and acts like a God who controls humanity. She does not value human life others than hers. So, society also changes where the morals people become the wrong one because of the justification of the immoral people. As shown when Mrs Carmody wants to kill Billy, and then Ollie kills her first. If it works like a normal society where morals become the guidelines, Ollie is the hero and Mrs Carmody is blamed. But this society has experienced a degenerating moral where they justify the wrong thing as right and the other way around.

The way *The Mist* novel describes the condition of society shows that the difference between people is hope and fear. The story tells a disaster that split people up and tearing the team to create their own society. Mostly, their action is based on hope and fear in dealing with something. They manage to survive in their own way. In one event, hope creates a better solution, and fear becomes good choices in another event. Even though they are different, they connect with each other. The binary opposition shows that they create structures of the story. It shows that both have a significant role in changing someone life, even change the fundamental of society.

CONCLUSION

According to the finding and discussion in this study, the researcher pulls out some points as conclusions. Here are the points the researcher has drawn as follows:

People have different perception in dealing with the problem. They respond to problem based on their hope and fear. In this story, they have to deal with the disaster that

happens in the town. Hope represents when people respond to it in a good way, however, there are also some occasions that hope is not bringing them something good. The same case is applied to fear as well. Fear represents when people do not have courage to take action and just give up without trying. However, there are also some occasions when fear is the right choice to respond. Even though it can be justified like that, but mostly the case with hope ends up well, while the case with fear ends up worse. People with hope think calmly and have a faith that they are going to be okay. That makes every action they take is logical and beneficial to all people.

Furthermore, hope and fear also change society. It has been changed through belief and moral. In religion aspect, fear has changed the way people think about God. God who has been the symbol of good is interpreted in a bad way. The disaster, the death, and the monster are said to be God's will. It shows that the fundamental of belief is changed from blessing life to cursing life. Moreover, society's moral is also affected by hope and fear. In the normal working society, the morals of people are helping each other, valuing the life of others, and doing what makes them considered as a human being. As the disaster keep happening to them, the majority of people start to set aside their morals and think about their own safety. The society that should keep the harmony between people has changed to become a tool to gain safety by any means. Mrs. Carmody starts gathering people to join her and follows her cult. She promises that the disaster will be gone if they can provide a human sacrifice. People do not object to it, instead, they agree to do it. It shows that society's moral has degenerated that they justify the wrong thing as right, and otherwise because they only think about their safety.

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