

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **CONCLUSION**

In this chapter, I want to conclude that the protagonist as an example of human being who is explicitly portrayed as a person who live among a big question in this world. This statement appears with the contribution of the contrast ideas of life which often happen in people's thought. It also makes people to think that life is irrational and meaningless. The absurd itself makes the atmosphere of life which is still the mystery to human being and also includes the question about the life after death. The absurd is not a synonym for "ridiculous," but the true state of existence. Accepting the view that life is absurd is to embrace a "realistic" view of life: the absence of universal logics. This concept of life is more radical, if "Nietzsche declared "God is dead", but Camus does not have to do this because he presumes the absence of a universal logic of divinity" (Dance of the Mind). Many people believe Camus see there is no meaning in life; even Camus and Nietzsche seek "meaning" in life, but not in manners familiar to most. The meaning is in the human experience. In brief, absurdity is rendered the meaninglessness of life. People do not search the meaning because they believe that there is no such meaning exist even they search it. This matter of life is completely portrayed by Meursault who is the protagonist in this novel.

The protagonist, Meursault, is the archetype of a middle-class man. He works as a clerk, rents an apartment, and draws no attention to himself. He lacks deep convictions and passion. If he is estranged from any aspect of French society, it is religion -- he does not believe in the symbols and rituals of faith. The U.S. title, The Stranger, Meursault, is viewed as a "strange" or "odd" person for some time. Meursault is a stranger even to those who think they know him. Along with the title, the author takes care in naming the main character. Meursault's name is symbolic of the Mediterranean. Mer means "sea" and Soliel is French for "sun." The sea and sun meet at the beach, where Meursault's fateful act occurs.

Meursault's attitude toward the death of Maman portrays a gap between him and his mother. Generally, his relationship toward his mother seems not a relationship between son and mother. Meursault's relationship toward his mother represents the author's past life. In Camus' history, he has less or no attention from their parents. His father was dead in the war, one year after he was born. His mother, a poor, deaf and sullen, cannot do anything to raise Camus and his brother. So, his mother moves them to her grandma's apartment. In this novel, Meursault and his mother is portrayed as a reflection of Camus' past life. As in the novel, Meursault does not feel sad when losing his mother and Camus' past life also portrays the same way when he does not have any attention from his mother.

Meursault courtship toward Marie Cardona is also marked as a coincidence. Meursault meets her only for having sexual intercourses. The relationship between man and woman in this era often sees no value on marriage. In reality, human being cannot live without sex and it makes people think sexual

intercourse is important as a part in the courtship. People often do sexual intercourse as usual activity and it seems usual to do the intimate intercourse without realizing any important thing of marriage. For some people, building a family is only adding problems because there are lot things to do for it. There are also a lot of people who only wants to have sex to fulfill their desire than to build a family. It is simply that people do not want to responsible for the risk. Meursault's action in this novel also portrays the same perspective about sex.

After World Wars II and other sufferings, many people try to live life much as Meursault does. They lost the will to do more than exist. There is no hope and no desire. The only goal for many people is survival, but the survival seems empty. In this respect, I see how empty Meursault's existence is through his relationships. He is not close to his mother as he does not cry at her funeral. He also does not seem close to his girlfriend, Marie Cardona.

In the middle of the novel is the death of a Middle-Easterner. This event in the novel is set in motion by Meursault's apparent murder of the Middle-Easterner. The Middle-Easterners are traditionally the targets of racism in Algiers. The "more French" one is, the more important the individual. The culture and religion of Middle-Easterners is deemed simple and barbaric. This explains why it is more upsetting to the court that Meursault is not respectful of their societal norms... killing a Middle-Easterner is a minor offense. Killing an armed Middle-Easterner is an act of superiority. It simply explains that he killing is only to transfer one's life to another life or without witnesses, Meursault can create any tale he wishes and be found innocent of murder. Instead, he accepts what he has done without remorse.

Meursault experiences what the existentialist thought about choices, consequences, and responsibility. He is portrayed as a human being who can live without the help of higher power. Once he lives, he is never afraid to face the events in front of him. Meursault chooses not to believe in God. Believing in God or not does not make any difference. Still, he will be executed. He is truthful to his atheism and refuses to pretend he has found religion, for he knows he makes his own destiny; and he, not God, is responsible for his actions and their consequences. The perspective of one of life is different from each other. Meursault as an honest atheist is willing to accept his life as it happens. He does not want to hide anything and face the death with happiness.

The religion hesitation until rejection of God which is represented by Meursault shows the appearance of higher power cannot help human being to live life. The existence of God is considered absurd and cannot become a standard of living by human being. A salvation in doing something is managed by people themselves. Such Meursault's salvation that is not be able to be represented as the help of God. Meursault still be executed if he believes in God or not. Meursault is saved or not from the execution is by his effort. Even he is responsible for killing someone and is sentenced to death. He believes that life is in his own hands and not God who manages his life. In this respect, he determines his own future life and rejects all the help and salvation from higher power which is represented by God.

Finally, the theme of absurdism: 'one may find one's life absurd for one has no desire to appreciate the values of one's life' helps me to reveal about meaninglessness of life which can be happened by anyone. In my opinion life is

full of boredom. If people choose to live in it, they would never find the meaning. So, all the activities in this universe are marked as monotonous. It is better not to live in it, because there is no such meaning that exists.