

ABSTRACT

Paris in the nineteenth century was the centre of European fashion, arts, and literature. *Les Parisians* lived in a society that adores physical beauty. The Paris opera was one of sort. Opera has been considered as one of the highest forms of arts since its first appearance in 1597. Unfortunately, the access to the opera world is limited only to the beautiful, talented, rich and famous people or members of upper class. The lower class people can still attain pleasure from the street performances, circuses, travelling fairs, and such.

Everybody has his own concept of what an ideal life is. Fictional finalism is an imagined ideal situation of perfection, completion, or overcoming that guides one's behaviour. Erik is a man with a deformed face but gifted with multi talents. Nevertheless, people consider him as a freak who only fits into freak show in circus community. Despite his congenital defect, Erik is a human being who also has concept of ideal life. Triggered by the feeling of inferiority over his deformity and the lack of community feeling, Erik sets up his fictional finalism. An ideal life for him is when he is accepted and recognised by a society, particularly the opera society, for his genius.

In prying into the efforts of Erik's realisation of fictional finalism, the writer is going to apply some observation methods in the form of approach and theory. The writer applies intrinsic approach to analyse the setting and the character. In order to ascertain Erik's fictional finalism, the writer elaborate the intrinsic approach with Alfred Adler's Individual Psychology theory to analyse the character's actions, speeches, and behaviours in the middle of his society. Both

observation methods are applied in the analysis of how Erik accomplishes the three tasks of life (work, community, and love) to strive towards his fictional finalism.

As the final outcome, the writer discovers that Erik has to conform to the society to adjust personal and social interests. This will help Erik to develop his feeling of community and stop blaming his fate for the misfortune he has endured. Although Erik does not accomplish his final goal, he has experienced the compassion and acceptance he long desired given by Christine.

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION