

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literary works are reflection of human's life contain situation, interaction, and conflicts which are happened in the society (Taylor, 1981:5). A literary work is a means of expressing the human's experiences, it has reflection of the social reality about norms and other elements that are connected each other.

A literary work gives a thought to the reader about the truth of life. From it, we can get knowledge and deep understanding about human, world, and life. Weliek and Warren (1977:94) give a description about literature as follow;

"Literature is a social institution, using as its medium language, a social creation. They are conventions and norms which could arise in the society but further more literature 'represent' life and 'life' is in large measure, social reality, even though the natural world and the inner of subjective world of individual have also been object of literary "imitation".

There are some genres of literary works that exist in the society, such as poems, drama, short stories, novel etc. From those kinds of literary works, it seems that novel becomes the most popular work of literature. Novel is a story whose form is like prose with many complex intrinsic elements, such as theme, setting, character, and complex plot (Sumardjo & Saini, 1994:29).

A literary work has two important elements they are intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Those two elements are connected each other and create a good relation to the story.

Far From The Madding Crowd as one of the popular novels written by Thomas Hardy in the year of 1874 contains of elements that create a good literary work so it becomes a good object to analyse. *Far From The Madding Crowd* tells about Gabriel Oak who falls in love with a woman named Bathsheba. Gabriel Oak is a young man who is honest, humble, clever, and his neighbours like him. On the contrary, Bathsheba is a beautiful woman but arrogant. Gabriel Oak falls in love with Bathsheba and wants to engage with her, but Bathsheba refuses him. She thinks that Gabriel cannot make her happy, because he is not rich, and not educated. Gabriel is just a man who has small cattle breeding. Although Bathsheba refuses him, he promises that he will love her in his life. Gabriel has many obstacles to get Bathsheba's love, but in the end of the story he gets Bathsheba's love and marries her.

Based on this novel *Far From the Madding Crowd*, the writer is interested in analysing the character, characterization, conflict and theme using structural analysis.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

In this research, it is hoped, it can answer the following question:

1. What are the character and characterization of the main character Gabriel Oak in the novel of *Far From The Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy?
2. What conflict does Gabriel Oak undergo in the novel *Far From The Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy?
3. What is the theme of the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy?

1.3 Scope of the Study

The discussion in this study will be focused on the structural elements that build the novel. The writer only emphasizes on the character and characterization of Gabriel Oak as the main character, conflict and the theme in the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.

1.4 Objective of the Study

The Objective of study:

1. To describe the character and characterization of the main character Gabriel Oak in the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.
2. To figure out, the kinds of conflicts that experienced by Gabriel Oak in the novel *Far From The Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.
3. To find out the theme in the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.

1.5 Significance of the Study

After the study was conducted, it is hoped that the result would be a valuable contribution to Dian Nuswantoro University in general and the English Department in particular. The significance of the study would be as follows:

1. It would provide input for the English Department in order to consider the structural analysis in literary works.
2. It would provide a contribution to Dian Nuswantoro University's library to the students of English Department in particular and the students of other

departments in general, to enrich their knowledge in structural analysis of a novel.

3. The writer considers that it would be valuable for herself to improve her knowledge of making analysis of the novel using structural approach.

1.6 Methods of the Study

In analysing the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy, the writer will use two methods, which are:

1.6.1 Research Method

To provide the required data information, the writer conducts a library research. Library research refers to the activities of using library facilities as a source of getting theory foundation. The theory foundation is obtained through reading books related to the subject matters that support and strengthen the writer's ideas of the thesis. As said by Semi (1993:8);

“Studi kepustakaan adalah studi yang dilakukan di ruang kerja peneliti atau di ruang kepustakaan dimana peneliti memperoleh data dan informasi tentang obyek telitiannya lewat buku-buku atau alat-alat audiovisual lainnya”.

“Library research is a study which is done in observer's offices or a library room where the researcher can get the data and information about the object of the research through books or another audiovisual device”.

By using that method, the writer reads some references that can support and has connection with the topic that is discussed.

1.6.2 Method of Approach

In this case, this thesis is done by using structural approach where in this approach includes the discussion about character and characterization, conflict and theme in the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.

Semi (1993:67) states that:

“Pendekatan struktural bertolak dari asumsi dasar bahwa karya sastra sebagai karya kreatif memiliki otonomi penuh yang harus dilihat sebagai suatu sosok yang berdiri sendiri terlepas dari hal-hal yang berada diluar dirinya. Bila hendak dikaji, maka yang harus dikaji adalah aspek yang membangun karya seperti tema, alur, latar, penokohan, gaya penelitian, gaya bahasa, dan hubungan harmonis antar aspek yang mampu membuatnya menjadi karya sastra”.

“Structural approach is based on the assumption that literary work as a creative work has full autonomy that has to be seen as character that stands alone separated from the things outside of it. When it is wanted to be examined, so, the one that has to be examined is the aspect that builds the literary work itself, like plot, setting, character, the style of the research, figure of speech and the harmonious relationship between the aspects that can make something become a literary works”.

By using the approach the writer analyses the character and characterization of Gabriel Oak, the theme and conflict in the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd* by Thomas Hardy.

1.7 Thesis Organization

In order to present the thesis systematically in accordance with academic writing principles, this thesis will be organized into five chapters that are as follow:

Chapter I: Introduction. The chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, scope of the study, objective of the study, significance of the study, method of study and thesis organization.

Chapter II: Author and his work. This chapter consists of the biography of Thomas Hardy and his works. This chapter also contains the synopsis of the novel *Far From the Madding Crowd*.

Chapter III: Review of Related Literature. This chapter consists of theories that have relationship and support to the discussion in chapter four.

Chapter IV: Discussion. This chapter discusses of the explanation of the intrinsic aspects. It contains the analysis of the character and characterization of Gabriel Oak, conflict and theme of *Far From the Madding Crowd*.

Chapter V: Conclusion. This chapter consists of the conclusion and suggestion.