

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The male being is regarded as strong, while the female is opposite. Aristotle, a Greek philosopher, proclaimed that female is 'by virtue of a certain lack of qualities'(Selden, 1985: 128). Another opinion of women was said by St Thomas Aquinas, who assumed that women are 'imperfect men (Selden, 1985:28). Virginia Woolf in her classic treatise on women and creativity 'A Room of One's Own' observed that women have lived restricted lives for so long as the result of these stereotypes (Hagan, 1993: 126) Hagan (1993: 126) also stated that the condition shapes women themselves to be not accustomed to freedom. Thus it is not a boast to say that in almost every segment of life, men are prominent.

Women writers have to face obstacles in their process of creativity. They have always had to work against 'the grain' (Selden, 1985:128). By using this term, Raman Selden (1985: 136) wants to emphasize that women must meet with the fact that they have countered the society which gives way to writers more, instead of them, Virginia Woolf once noted that women had always faced social and economic problems to their 'literary ambitions'.

From many generations of women authors, the thesis thinks that it will be great to take a closer look at nineteenth century women writers works. Her main reason is that women at that time became more and more equal to men in literary works, especially in the novels (Pooley,1967:144). Thus as 'pioneers' if the writer

may call them, they are even more interesting because they had to work harder to gain their esteem than this second half of the twentieth century women writers. They had to fight a battle within the predominantly about masculine tradition to reach over place and voice that could make itself heard. The reason why they were not directly accepted is because the picture that women were subordinate to men was still strictly held.

The writer's preference for the nineteenth century women writer's novels is not without any reason at all. It is because she sees the nineteenth century as an era which first saw women changing their direction to the writing of novels as a job (Miles:36) . One things that confirms the choosing of nineteenth century women writers is statement about novel by Rosalind Miles. She stated that a novel, in her opinion, is a unique among literary forms in owing its 'birth, survival, and success at every stage' as much to women writers as to man.

Jane Austen, an early nineteenth century women writer, was one of the greatest novelist in the Romantic Age. As 'the great feminine Augustan' (Magil: ,3075), the life that she presented in her novels is the description of the members of landed gentry class; their characters, beliefs, aspirations, and hopes in a periode marked by a strong desire for stability on the part of the gentry despite of the fact that they were surrounded by the armies of change.

Being a novelist, Jane's works are pictures of social (Thornley, 1968: 115), sharp, pitiless, and pessimistic analyses of human relations (Gillie, 1981: 9). Her characters interest themselves in issues of importance only to social pattern

serially and financially advantageous marriages and the orderly passage of property from one generation to the next (Magill:8)

A generation after Austen's, Charlotte Bronte started to take place. She startled people because she was against the mainstream of her own era, the Victorian. Charlotte Bronte was a subjective novelist. As a novelist, Bronte had brought with her an intensely personal voice to English literature (Magill: 296). Her range was confined not only to a direct expression of an individual's emotions and impression, but also to a direct expression of Charlotte Bronte's emotion and impressions (Magill: 103). Most of her characters are only presented fragmentary as they happen to catch the eye of heroine. She had a creative imagination in the very highest intensity. Her imagination showed itself in her settings as much as in her characters . she had a power to express love, passion, and despair. She could also express guilt and moral aspiration. Her plots are indeed, not dull (Cecil: 113-125).

From the descriptions about Austen and Bronte, actually there are great differences between of them. The first reason, it is because both of them are women. As women, they carried their own ideas about women in their own point of view. The second, both of them are novelist who rise about feminism in their work (Miles:41). The third, both of them have one similar significant characteristic. Both novelists do not follow the path of their own era. Jane Austen was not a representative of Romantic Age, and Charlotte Bronte obviously was not the one who belong to Victorian Age. The last reason is because both of them

complete each other. Bronte fills Austen's lack of imagination, while Austen covers Bronte's construction and characters.

Many aspects can be seen from both novels which show that they are comparable and worth comparing. First, both of them have a similar theme. They are obviously love stories with heroines, Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre, as the main characters. Second, the basic ideas of these two unbelievable novels come from the author's experiences (Otis: 492, Thornley: 115, Cecil:103). They reflect the author's own lives. Hence, Austen's and Bronte's dreams, thoughts, feelings, and struggles as women can be seen clearly in these two novels. Third, it is because these incredible novels are continued to be read by generations of readers (Hodge, 1972: 14, Cecil:116).

Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre are two figures of heroines that can be found in *Persuasion* and *Jane Eyre*. These two women's feelings, tribulations, struggle, sufferings and else are what are concerned in the novels. There are quotations in Jane Austen's *Persuasion* and in Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*:

'I don't think I shall ever be afraid of you again, Bessie, because I have got used to you; and I shall soon have another set of people to dread'.
'If you dread them, they'll dislike you.'
'As you, Bessie?'
'I don't dislike you, Miss; I believe I am fonder of you than of all others' (Charlotte Bronte: 48).

So fond Bessie to Jane is that she christened her daughter Mane. Bessie is the first person who in her own way gives Jane her love and sincerity. Although she sometimes is so harsh to Jane, her kindness is an enough justification for Jane to like Bessie.

It is apparent that both heroines have a similarity in their backgrounds of family life. It is that they lack of love. Love from their families is something impossible to be got. Thus, it can be said that Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre have a similarity in this case. It is understood that their family life styles are different. Yet, where love is concerned, they have no differences at all.

Having the writer's reasons for choosing certain authors, novels, and topic, the writer decided to entitle her analysis as 'A comparative study in way the main female characters struggle in their hardship for love in Jane Austen's Persuasion and in Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre'. She considers this title has represented her idea in her analysis. Her paper is a comparative study, and it is about the struggle of the heroines in the hardship of their love-lives. That is why she finally chooses this title.

1.2 Statement of Problem

In understanding about the main characters' struggles, the writer has to effort to closely about the main characters of struggle that related to influence of background, character's effect, and different and similar the ways in facing the tribulation of their love-lives. Therefore, to make this research more valuable, the following questions are necessary to carry out of an identification of problems.

Based on the statements above, there are some problems that can be formulated:

- 1.2.1 What the influences of the background of Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre toward in their characters?

1.2.2 How their character's affect them in taking certain step as solutions to their problems?

1.2.3 What are the differences and similarities their ways in facing the tribulation of their love-lives?

1.3 Purpose and Significance of the Research

The purpose of the research is to find out the problem as the following statement:

1.3.1 To see the connection between the background of live of Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre.

1.3.2 To see and to understand the effect of the heroine's character in their struggle in reaching out their love.

1.3.3 To give the differences and similarities in their struggles.

The significant of research is very useful for the researcher who has been studying English especially in literature term and also those who are interested in analyzing work.

For easier comprehending of the significance of research, here are the points:

1.3.1 To learn more about literary work especially novel that consists of characters that are influenced by background and character's effect.

1.3.2 To understand more about characterization.

1.4 Conceptual Framework

In literature is always related to characterization, conflicts, and setting as the basic elements of literature. In novel there are many characters, the main characters and the minor characters. According to Hurst and Yarber (1971:37), characters are one of the basic elements in a story because there is no story without characters. In addition, according to Potter (1967:10), character does not refer to 'a person in a literary work', but to what he is like, to whole his nature of the personality, his attitude toward life, his spiritual qualities, his intelligence, even his physical build as well as moral attributes. The characterization in Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre as the characters of the struggle, because they have characterization that showed into attitude toward life, spiritual qualities, personality, intelligence and moral attribute.

Struggle is a part of people's life. They face it differently based on their characters. It is, of course, easier to judge other people's decision in solving their problems, but facing it themselves is a different thing. Love also is part of human being's lives, and between single and love there is sometimes a close relationship. To reach love, struggle is needed sometimes.

Almost people thought that conflict is source of problems. According to Potter (1967: 25), conflict is basic element in a story. In addition, Perrine (1966:59) stated that conflict is a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills. Conflict, therefore, do not only imply the struggle of a protagonist against someone or something, it also implies the existence to some motivation for conflict or some goal to be achieved (Holman: 1986:108). For example, Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre

when they have face the conflict, they can come out from the problems. Conflict makes them strong to face the situation.

The action of characters take place at some time, some places amid something these temporal and spatial surroundings are the setting. According to Potter (1967:27), setting is something that always exist in a story. While, according to Robert (1977:65), setting refers to the natural and artificial scenery or environment in which characters in literature live, and move. In addition, Robert (1977:75) added that setting can explain why the characters think and act as they do, for the circumtances or the settings often influence the main character's conduct, reaction, and development. Considering the fact, the kinds of setting that the writer chooses to use is the background of Anne Elliot's and Jane Eyre's family.

1.5 Procedure of Research

1.5.1 Method of Research

The method used in this paper is comparative study, which refers to an analysis of literary work. In this case, the work of Jane Austen's Persuasion and Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre. This method to compare about differences and similarities their characters in facing tribulation of their love-live.

1.5.2 Data

Data are information used in discussing and analyzing research. The data in this research were characters in Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre' struggle in their hardship. For example:

“Do you think I can stay to become nothing to you?” Do you think I am an automan? A mechine without feelings? And can bear to have

my morsel of bread snatched from my lips, and my drop of living water dashed from my cup? Do you think, because I am poor, obscure, plain, and little, I am soulless and heartless....' (Charlotte Bronte : 48)

1.5.3 Data Source

Data for supporting analysis in this paper is taken from the books that related to subject. The book is divided into two, there are: the main book and the supporting book. As the primary data, the researcher uses the novels, they are: Jane Austen's *Persuasion* and Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* that will be analyzed. For *Persuasion*, the researcher uses the novel which was published in 1994 by Penguin Books Ltd., while for *Jane Eyre*, the researcher uses that which was published by Dell Publishing Co.Inc. in 1966. The prominent books are Potter's theory and so on that related to character, conflict and setting in the struggle in hardship.

1.5.4 Technique of Collecting Data

In analyzing the subject material, the researcher uses literary research in this paper. Jane Austen's *Persuasion* and Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre* will be analyzed by using theory about characterization. The researcher also used comparative study to compare about differences and similarities their ways in facing tribulation. Some steps to collect data are as follow:

1. Read the novels

In this step, the researcher reads both of novels in order to find out the characterization between Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre.

2. Collecting data

After the researcher reads the novels, the researcher collect the data that related to characterization about struggle background and influence toward the character. Then, compare the different and similar their ways in facing tribulation.

1.5.5 Technique of Analysing Data

After data are collected, the next steps are analyzing it based on the procedures, as follows:

1. Identifying Data

The researcher classified the data based on influence of the background Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre, and character's effect.

2. Classifying data

After the data are identified, the data is classified into family background between Anne Elliot and Jane Eyre, and their characters.

3. Analyzing

The researcher analyzed their characters based on the kinds of characters, and background of their family that influence their character of struggle. Then, the researcher also have to find the differences and similarities their ways in tribulation.

4. Conclusion

The researcher gave conclusion for the findings.

1.6 Organization of Writing

The paper is arranged into four chapters. Chapter I is introduction consists of background of research, statement of problem, purpose and significance of research, conceptual framework, procedure of research, and organization of writing. Chapter II is characterization's, conflict's and setting's theories and also the biographies of Jane Austen and Charlotte Bronte. Chapter III is The Heroines' Family Background and The Heroines' characters, Character's Affect in taking Certain Steps as solution in their Problems toward Anne's and Jane's Attitude of Their way of thinking, and The Heroines Differences and Similarities in the Way Their Struggle for Their Love. And Chapter IV is conclusion and suggestion.

