

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses several sections relates to introduction which consist of background of research, statement of problem, object of research, research significance, and the result of previous studies.

1.1 Background of Research

Short stories as fictional works show a story written by an author. The short story is one of a kind works of literature, at this point, lots of people who read this type of literature. Short stories are the most popular form of literary text. A short story comprises the basic elements namely theme, plot, characters, climax, conflict, and setting. Short stories are literary works of prose type fiction. Short story is the story less than 10,000 words to give singular image and focus on one actor in a situation. Short story is one of the literature forms that are a work of fiction that is usually written in prose, often in narrative format and usually focuses on only one incident, has a single plot, a single setting, a small number of character, and cover a short period of time, style. Some reader enjoy to read short story because the reader will finish to read short story in one time and she or he has done to understand about the contents.

As the interpretive dramatization of experience in metrical language, short story is an imaginative statement of feeling that feeling is created or imagined. Short story is a short piece of fiction aiming at unity of characterization, theme and effect. Moreover, short story to shape one of literature that popular in society to convey to express it feeling or thought from the writer. Short story also used as one of material in reading comprehensive. Short story can be increase students reading comprehensive. Even though, in reading short story a reader should be know what the sense and the content in short story.

For those who love reading short stories, imagine the genre without the likes of American the author. Completely bleak and sombre and why not for reading short stories is incomplete without having read for the examples O. Henry's "The Gift of Magi". That is the influence that American writers have casted over the genre of short story. Usually shorter than a novel with a brief fictional prose narrative, short stories have found universal acceptance. A short story usually has a small cast of characters and revolves around one or two incidents, thus evoking a particular effect or mood. What gives short story an edge over lengthy novels is that despite relatively limited scope, it provides a satisfying treatment to its characters and subjects.

There are several aspects that can be analyzed in intrinsic of literary work. A theme, plot, point of view, characters in fiction are including aspects of literature. The main focus of this research is on character and characterization. Characterization is the process of conveying information about characters in fiction or conversation. In literary work, characters and characterization is aspects of intrinsic, and is needed to analyse. Literary criticism relates to how the literary work observed and interpreted. Generally, there are two aspects in criticizing literary work such as intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. There are several aspects that can be analyzed intrinsically from literature.

Commonly, the character is one of the important aspects because it carries the author's message that can bring various values in human life such as morality, education, and many others. But in literature, a character is a person in fiction. While characterization is the process of conveying information about characters in fiction or conversation. Among to explanation above, the researcher used short story in this research because short story has a unique diction such as a uses characters and characterization.

The way you present a character is at least as important as where you get the character. It can be seen from portrayal of character. Character and characterizations in stories are like humans in everyday life always have certain characteristics. Character in short stories can be divided into flat and round characters. The flat

character is a side character who appears in the story, but does not play an important role. Nevertheless, presence is needed to bring the story to life and strengthen the main character. Whereas round characters are characters who experience various conflicts, events, and become the main point in the story.

For this research, the researcher takes 12 short stories. The researcher only uses characters and characterization element in 12 short stories. Firstly, the title is “The Prison” by Bernard Malamud is narrated in the third person by an unnamed narrator. The protagonist is called Tony, but he was made to change his name to Tommy. His life is a screaming bore, it makes him sick to his stomach to think of all the mistakes he has committed in his life. After that his father arranged for Tommy to get married with Rosa Agnello, and her father would give them a candy store so that he could live an honest life. He tried making his own decisions, so he left to Texas to avoid getting married to Rosa, but when she came back, everything was reorganised and he married Rosa. Although people took very important decisions for him, he never stood up for himself and made his own decisions. And after reading the story the researcher realises that the author may be exploring the theme of freedom. The characters in this short story are Tommy, Rosa, and The Little Girl.

In Bernard Malamud’s short story “The First Seven Years”. This story, the main characters reject their parents strong disapproval for their relationship and continue to be with one another. Feld ignores and later resents the fact that Sobel, his employee, is in love with his only daughter, Mariam. Feld believes that Mariam deserves a boy who is well educated and financially stable. Even though Sobel has little formal education or wealth, he still offers what he does have to Mariam, his soul.

“A Summer’s Reading” by Bernard Malamud is about a young man, George Stoyonovich, feels like people do not respect him in his neighborhood because he does not have a job and has not finished school. George feels like school was a waste of time because it did not teach about important aspects of life. Then George runs into a man that he respects, George exaggerates the reading he has done and soon

people find out. George begins to feel respected in the neighborhood after people find out he reads. The characters in this story are George Stoyonovich, and Mr.Cattanzara.

“Death in the Woods” by Sherwood Anderson was first published in 1933 and is considered by many critics to be one of his best works. This story is about a farm woman, Mrs.Grimes, who, although only in her early forties, seems old and probably demented. She has no first name in the story, and, indeed, very little is known about her at all. The characters in this short story are Narrator, Mrs.Grimes, Jake Grimes, The Grime’s Son, The Grime’s Daughter, The German and his wife, The Butcher, The Haunter, The Narrator’s Brother, The Town Marshal, and Tom Whitehead.

In analysing Borden Deal’s short story “The Taste of Watermelon” is about a person who recalls his inconsiderate doing as a sixteen year old of stealing a watermelon. The boy had just moved to a new home with his parents and had stolen a watermelon from the fiery Mr.Wills, whom nobody dares to touch his crops. The theme of this short story is guilt, connection, acceptance, honesty and bravery.

“The Teacher” by Sherwood Anderson was born in Camden, Ohio, in 1876, the third of seven children. His father was a skilled harness maker whose once-successful business was gradually ruined by the factory-made harnesses that were capturing the market. This helps us to understand why Kate Swift threw herself weeping on her bed as Reverend Hartman watched. We see too that the climax of the two stories really occurred simultaneously and this overlapping time sequence is one more link in the chain that binds Winesburg into a unified work of art.Kate Swift is a warm, exciting woman of thirty. She has lived an adventurous life, traveling abroad before returning to Winesburg to live with her mother, five years before the action of the story. The town's citizens "thought her lacking in all the human feelings that did so much to make and mar their own lives." Yet Anderson tells us, "In reality she was the most eagerly passionate soul among them." The truth is that Kate Swift needs love, but her attempts to find it are always repulsed or misunderstood. Thus she is

like some of the other sensitive grotesques who find their dreams destroyed by a repressive, uncaring society.

The researcher present the short story “The Romance of a Busy Broker” by O. Henry. The story was originally adapted and recorded by the U.S. Department of State. “Romance of a Busy Broker”, written by the famous American writer O’ Henry, is a love story with a twist. The central character in the story is a busy New York broker called Harvey Maxwell. Harvey Maxwell is such a busy man that the author refers to him as a machine.

“The Story of an Hour” is a short story written by Kate Chopin on April 19, 1894. It was originally published in *Vogue* on December 6, 1894, as “The Dream of an Hour”. It was later reprinted in *St. Louis Life* on January 5, 1895, as “The Story of an Hour”. The title of the short story refers to the time elapsed between the moments at which the protagonist, Louise Mallard, hears that her husband is dead, and when she discovers that he is alive after all. Featuring a female protagonist who feels liberation at the news of her husband's death, “The Story of an Hour” was controversial by American standards of the 1890s. In *Unveiling Kate Chopin*, Emily Toth argues that Chopin had to have her heroine die in order to make the story publishable. The “heroine” dies when she sees her husband alive after he was thought to be dead.

“The Little Match Girl” is a short story by Hans Christian Andersen. The story, about a dying child’s dreams and hope, was first published in 1845. It has been adapted to various media, including an animated short film, a television musical, and an animated virtual reality story. On a freezing New Year’s Eve a poor young girl, shivering and barefoot, tries to sell matches in the street. Afraid to go home because her father will beat her for failing to sell any matches, she huddles in the angle between two houses and lights matches to warm herself. In the flame of the matches she sees a series of comforting visions: a warm stove, a holiday feast, a magnificent Christmas tree. In the sky she sees a shooting star, which her late grandmother had told her means someone is on their way to Heaven. In the flame of the next match she

sees her grandmother, the only person to have treated her with love and kindness. To keep the vision of her grandmother alive as long as possible, the girl lights the entire bundle of matches. When the matches are gone the girl dies, and her grandmother carries her soul to Heaven. The next morning, passers-by find the girl frozen, and express pity. They do not know about the wonderful visions she had seen, or how happy she is with her grandmother in heaven.

“Thank You, Ma’am” is a American short story written by Langston Hughes. The story was published in 1958 and is not in the public domain. That’s particularly unfortunate because not only is it a great example of the short story form in general, it’s also one of those important short stories that carries great social value and has the ability to teach and instruct its readers. While the researcher cannot publish the full text, fair use policy allows me to provide a summary and overview of the story. The story features two characters, Roger and Mrs. Luella Bates Washington Jones.

“The Gift of the Magi” is a short story by O. Henry first published in 1905. The story tells of a young husband and wife and how they deal with the challenge of buying secret Christmas gifts for each other with very little money. As a sentimental story with a moral lesson about gift-giving, it has been popular for adaptation, especially for presentation at Christmas time. The plot and its twist ending are well known, and the ending is generally considered an example of comic irony. It was allegedly written at Pete’s Tavern on Irving Place in New York City. The story was initially published in *The New York Sunday World* under the title “Gifts of the Magi” on December 10, 1905. It was first published in book form in the O. Henry Anthology *The Four Million* in April 1906.

The story read is written by O. Henry and is entitled “The Cactus”. William Sydney Porter, known by his pen name O. Henry, was an American short-story writer of the 20th century. He is a representative of realism, who wrote about the life of ordinary people. O. Henry's short stories are known for their wit, wordplay, warm characterization, and clever twist endings. O. Henry combined humor and pathos with an ironic twist of plot. Although some critics were not so enthusiastic about his

formulatic way of writing, the public loved his entertaining tales and uncomplicated characters. O. Henry wrote a story a week for the New York World magazine, and published several short stories in other magazines.

1.2 Statement of Problem

From the description above, the research will discuss about round and flat characters in 12 short stories. As the discussion that has been chosen by the writer about short stories support theory of characterization in 12 short stories. So much so that, here are the following questions which support the statement of problems above:

1. How is portrayal of round and flat characters in the 12 short stories?
2. What is the function of characters in the 12 short stories?

1.3 Research Objective

Related to the statement of problem above, the purpose of this research comprises such points below:

1. To find out portrayal of round and flat characters in the 12 short stories.
2. To find out the function of characters in the 12 short stories.

1.4 Research Significance

This research has two functions, namely the theoretical benefits and practical benefits. Theoretical benefit is to know the round and flat characters and the function of round and flat characters in the 12 short stories. This research is also expected to be able to disclose any elements that most contribute for the readers.

The research is expected to add to the literature reference or study literature regarding the contents of the message on the literary work, especially short stories and especially about characterization. Thus, practical benefits this study is expected to foster a culture of criticism literary analysis using characterization. It relates to literature as a representative of the human mind and work. Many things are contained in a literary work in which the problems of human life be it mind, psychology, and

behavior that occur in the real world, rewritten and made a story idea that would use the literary genre of literature, resulting in a criticism of reality human life using a style that is attractive and wonderful, typical of literature. As well there is the implicit meaning of each story is pasted on each characters.

1.5 The Result of Previous Studies

The previous studies which are mentioned above indicating several research applying the theory and method of this research. The table below is providing the data or information about the previous studies:

Table 1. The Results of Previous Studies

Title of the Research	Author	Theories	Method	Object of Studies
Identifying Flat And Round Characters As A Way To Find The Method Of Characterization In Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter	Nizar Yusron Fatahillah	Forster	Method of Descriptive	Novel
The Characterization Of The Main Characters In Herman	Muhamad Fajar Agustianto	Kenney Theory of Round and Flat Characters	Method of Descriptive	Novel

Melville's Novel: Moby Dick				
An Analysis Of Conflicts In Three Selected Short Stories Of Flannery O'Connor	Ananta Politan Bangun	Kenney Theory of Characters	Method of Library Research	Short Stories
Character and Conflict in Agatha Christie's Crooked House	Midi Midianti	Forster Theory of Characters and Robert Stanton Theory of Conflict	Method of Descriptive Qualitative	Novel
The Characterization of Female Characters in Michael Cunningham's The Hours	Reni Kartika	Reader and Woods Theory of Characters and Johnson Theory of Characters	Method of Descriptive	Novel
A Formalism Approach On Daphne Du Maurier's Rebecca	Haryati Sulistiyorini	Klarer Theory of Formalism	Method of Formalism Approch and Theoretical Approch	Novel
A New	Michal Beth	Strier Theory	Method of	Novel

Formalist approach to narrative Christology: Returning to the structure of the Synoptic Gospels	Dinkler	of Formalism	Narrative Christology	
Research on Formalism and New Criticism of Dickens' Novels	Wang Lina	Forster Theory of Characters and Wolf Theory of New Criticism	Method of Descriptive	Novel
Formalism Analysis on the Novel Androphobia	Ullan Pralihanta and Takwa	Todorov Theory of Formalism	Method of Descriptive Qualitative	Novel

This research involves several previous studies in the particular variable as method and theory which are applied in the research. The description below is providing the data or information about the previous studies above:

1. Identifying Flat And Round Characters As A Way To Find The Method Of Characterization In Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter by Nizar Yusron Fatahillah English Literature Study Program of Adab and Humanities Faculty Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University Bandung, 2017.

In this research used the literature method and analyzed descriptive. The theories used are characters and characterization, method of characterization, novels. The difference between this research and the research that will be carried out lies in

the object used in this research, while the research that will be conducted is a short story. The similarity in this research lies in the characters and characterization theory, round and flat characters that will be used.

2. The Characterization Of The Main Characters In Herman Melville's Novel: Moby Dick by Muhamad Fajar Agustianto English Studies Department of Adab and Humanities Faculty Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University Bandung, 2014.

The theories in his research used are character, major and minor characters, dynamic and static characters, round and flat characters, characterization, direct method, indirect method, male bonding, and social relation. The difference between his research and this research that will be carried out lies in the object used in her research, namely the novel while this research will be carried out is the object in the form of a short story. The similarity in this research is located in the theory characters and characterization.

3. An Analysis Of Conflicts In Three Selected Short Stories Of Flannery O'Connor by Ananta Politan Bangun English Department Faculty Of Letter Universitas Of Sumatera Utara, 2007.

In this research used theories are short story, short story as the part of literary genres, the definition and characteristics of short story, differences between short story and novel, conflict, the relationship between plot and conflict, and the definition and types of conflict. This research apply the library as the method in composing this research. The difference between his research and this research that will be carried out lies in the object used in her research, namely the topic is about conflict, while topic this research will be carried out is characters and characterization. The similarity in this research is located in the theory short story.

4. Character and Conflict in Agatha Christie's Crooked House by Midi Midianti English Studies Department of Adab and Humanities Faculty Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University Bandung, 2017.

This research data used the theory from E.M Forster who introduced the theory of flat and round characters to find character reflected in the novel *Crooked House*. Then, to analyze conflict used theory of Robert Stanton to know the conflict that exist in *Crooked House* novel. This study used qualitative descriptive method to find character and conflicts that exist in *Crooked House* novel. This researcher identifies the determination of analysis and conclusion to the research data. The difference between this research and the research that will be discussed is the object. The similarity in this research is in the character theory.

5. The Characterization of Female Characters in Michael Cunningham's *The Hours* by Reni Kartika English Studies Department of Adab and Humanities Faculty Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University Bandung, 2014.

The researcher used descriptive method and Psychoanalysis theory by Sigmund Freud as the delimitation of research. The data were collected from Michael Cunningham's novel *The Hours* and references of the theory as a tool in analyzing psychoanalysis and characterization contained in the novel. The steps of analyzing data are the identifying, classifying, interpreting data, and finally finding conclusion. The difference between this research and the research that will be discussed is the topic, but the similarity in this research is in the characters and characterization theory.

6. A Formalism Approach On Daphne Du Maurier's *Rebecca* by Haryati Sulistyorini, Dian Nuswantoro University, 2007.

This research used the formalism approach. The main character obsession is the one that runs the story, which arouses various conflicts among characters. How the main character solves the problems in the conflict is the final answer of the story analysis using the formalism approach. This research, the analysis is focused on the resolution of the conflicts based on the tension which plays the project in this novel. The difference between this research and the research that will be discussed is the object. Object this research is a novel and the research that will be discussed is a short

story and discussed about characters and characterization. The similarity in this research and the research that will be discussed is in formalism theory.

7. A New Formalist approach to narrative Christology: Returning to the structure of the Synoptic Gospels by Michal Beth Dinkler, Yale University School of Divinity, United States, 2017.

In this research used narrative Christology has not yet fully explored the parameters of what it means to attend closely to the narrative form of the Gospels presentations of Jesus. The first part of the research briefly outlines previous scholarship, identifying similarities and differences between various approaches labelled 'narrative Christology'. The second section introduces the major concepts of New Formalism and how they might extend narrative Christology's capacity to take narrative form seriously as an object of analysis. The difference between this research and the research that will be discussed is the object. The similarity in this research and the research that will be discussed is in formalism theory.

8. Research on Formalism and New Criticism of Dickens' Novels by Wang Lina, Zhejiang Yuexiu University of Foreign Languages Zhejiang, China, 2015.

This research intends to investigate pre-war Anglo American Literary Criticism Dickens studies reveal a variety of different schools of criticism and interpretation of his works; they also discussed the reasons for the position of judge and the formation of the advantages and disadvantages exist, so that both of our Dickens The researcher provide the necessary reference, but also deepen understanding of Dickens its creation. Object this research is a novel and the research that will be discussed is a short story and discussed about characters and characterization. The similarity in this research and the research that will be discussed is in formalism theory.

9. Formalism Analysis on the Novel Androphobia by Ullan Pralihanta, and by Takwa, Universitas Sembilan Belas November, 2017.

This research focuses on storytelling techniques. Fabula or stories relate to sequences of events in order sorted in causality relationships. In the novel

Androphobia by Ullan Pralihanta is divided into 3 parts, namely (1) episodes of love Yasmin, Ovan, (2) episodes of love Robin, Gadis, and (3) episodes of shrinkage. Sujet is a plot, a narrative structure, that is the way semantic material presentation in a text in Androphobia, a novel by Ullan Pralihanta uses a forward plot with several flashes of events. The difference between this research and the research that will be discussed is the object. Object this research is a novel and the research that will be discussed is a short story and discussed about characters and characterization. The similarity in this research and the research that will be discussed is in formalism theory.

