

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Literature is something different from daily use texts such as newspapers, telephone books, or legal documents. Literature uses language in a distinctive way. As Eagleton (1996:2) says in *Literary Theory an Introduction* that "literature transforms and intensifies ordinary language, systematically deviating from everyday speech". Literature can be considered as a mirror for a particular society. It describes how society is formed, how it works, or what society is like. Bressler (1999:10) reinforces this idea, he says that "the author's creation or secondary world often reflects the author's primary world, the world in which the author lives and moves and breathes". He said that the primary world or reality is highly structured and operates in the same way as the secondary world. The secondary world is highly structured through plot, characters, tone, symbols, etc.

Society in the novel can represent the actual social conditions of a certain place and time. In his book *Society in the Novel*, Langland (in Sugiarti, 2013) states this idea. He said that there are several elements of society in the novel such as society's customs, conventions, beliefs, values, institutions, and physical environment and these elements may represent the real society and its social conditions. Langland (in Sugiarti, 2013) also states that society is always about norms, conventions, codes, backgrounds, places, people, and institutions; but its particular representation in a novel is determined by its role in the work.

Society in the novel depends both on the relationship of society with the characters and their overall role in the story.

Basically every literary work is interrelated with each other. Whether it's through the structure or things outside of it, but what distinguishes the characteristics of the literary work is, every literary work is made from different brains, different and clear thoughts, with different goals.

Literature reveals many things about this life. Although literature is the imagination of the author, the results of the taste and soul of the author, literature cannot be separated from observations, experiences, and lessons about his life and the lives of humans or other living things in the real world which the author then manifests in a fictional world.

Many Works in Romantic period are intrinsically tied to politics at the time. First and second generation writers comment on and react to political events that occur in the world, especially in France, America and Britain. It was a time of political upheaval, which had witnessed rebellions in both France and America during the French Revolution and the American War of Independence, revolts in Ireland and riots in Britain, a time when 'all romantic poets found themselves making social change movements.

According to Damono (1978: 3-4) classifying the interrelationships between writers, literature and society, which as a whole is the following chart:

1. The social context of the author. This relates to everything related to the author, for example: where he lives, how his environment. This certainly can affect the content of a literary work.

2. Literature as a mirror of society; the extent to which literature can represent the community itself. Literature is expected to make a person / society aware of their own environment.
3. Literary social function. Examine the extent to which literary values are related to social values and the extent to which literary values are influenced by social values.

This means the same as described by Wellek and Warren (1976) that;

*“Literature is a social institution, using as its medium language, a social creation. They are conventions and norms which could have arisen only in society. But, furthermore, literature ‘represent’ ‘life’; and ‘life’ is, in large measure, a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been objects of literary ‘imitation’. The poet himself is a member of society, possessed of a specific social status; he receives some degree of social recognition and reward; he addresses an audience, however hypothetical.” (1976:94).*

Alice's adventure in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll, published in 1865, is a journey to the imagination of a little Victorian girl. Alice falls into the rabbit hole and finds herself in Wonderland, a strange world where she meets a series of very strange characters. He was involved in strange situations and conversations with residents of Wonderland.

Lewis Carroll is the pseudonym of Reverend Charles Lutwidge Dodgson. He is a very flexible man; he was an ordained Anglican deacon, a logician and

pioneer in photography. At the time he wrote the novel, he was a mathematics lecturer at Christ Church Column, Oxford. It was there that he met the girl who inspired the authors of the book: Alice Pleasance Liddell was one of Henry Liddell's three daughters, Deacons in the Church of Christ and a close friend to Carroll. The novel was originally a story that was spontaneously told to Liddell's three sisters on a boat trip to the River Thames. It is broadly classified as children's literature; however it is enjoyed by children and adults. In fact, this novel is filled with logical play and with many references about Carroll's personal life and society at that time . Lewis S. described the stories of good children in his book *On the Three Ways of Writing for Children* in 1952 as follows: "Children's stories that only children enjoy are bad children's stories. The good lasts long, because children's stories are the best art form for something you have to say”. Carroll uses Alice and creatures that do not make sense to worry Victorian society. This task will be more difficult to complete with more serious writing boundaries.

Lewis Carrol thinks about Alice in Wonderland Victorian period qualities. Inferences to the beliefs of his time are consistent, for example, logical, monetary, social and innovative advancement; disclosure and experience soul; or strict soul.

The artistic style is quick, nimble, brief and lacking of redundancies. Carroll imagines words and articulations and grows new implications for words. The language is idyllic furthermore, excellent, and places the peruser rapidly in contact with the characters. It presents a amazing combination among dream and reality, which permits to build a nonexistent space. The book speaks to an

image of account opportunity and includes countless phonetic games. To wrap things up, the book outlines are ink drawings in the style of the Victorian ironical cartoon.

Alice's adventures in Wonderland have been analyzed from various perspectives: as an exploration of the human mind, with the aim of discovering esoteric meanings connected with mathematics and logic, in relation to psychological references, symbolism, or even as a real effect of the use of drugs. The aim is to show that the Victorian era is represented in the novel through innuendo. To confirm this statement, this reaserch begins by providing the historical and social context of the Victorian era, which will contrast with the world created by Lewis Carroll. In this novel a lot of describing the social conditions in the victorian era, or it can be called this novel is a representation of the victorian era. The main idea of the novel is the victory of the English middle class of Victorian age. Analysis shows that the situation, elements, and character of Wonderland are related to the reality of the Victorian era. This shows how there is a constant connection between fiction and reality in the novel, and how this relationship works to insinuate the Victorian era.

When interpreting a social novel, we should expect to seek interpretations of the nature of society – how it operates, what its dynamics are, and what its values are – and we will often find ourselves finding insights into human society in general (Suwardi, 2011). Novels written in the Victorian era are very important to research the nature of Victorian society, especially about social structure, values, family, women's condition, religion, morality, economic

problems to get an overview of the social conditions in the novel. In this case, the researcher focuses on a novel Alice through the Looking Glass.

The genre of the novel Alice Through the Looking Glass is fantasy adventure. It is the sequel to the novel Alice in wonderland. The novel tells of Alice, who sailed for about three years following in her father's footsteps, forced to give up sailing because she discovered that her ex-fiancé, Hamish Ascot, had taken her father's company and wanted to sell her father. boat. When Alice comes to meet Hamish at Hamish's party, she tries to defend the ship. There, Alice must face the fact that her mother agrees with the decision. When he was feeling hopeless, he saw a butterfly and recognized it as Absalom (his friend from the wonderland) then followed him. He finds a mirror that takes him back to a magical land.

In a magical land, Alice meets her friends and she finds out that her best friend Mad Hatter is in bad shape. The Hatter is sick because he already knows that after the attack on the Jabberwocky, his family is gone, not dead. All of Alice's friends in the wonderland believe that Alice is the only one who can help the Mad Hatter by going back in time and saving the Mad Hatter family. So Alice tries to find time, a demigod who is half human and half hour. He tries to retrieve the chronosphere, an object that controls all time in the wonderland and allows him to travel in any time, past or future. After obtaining the chronosphere, Alice begins to travel in time as well as her adventures.

The theory of representation, sociology of literature, and the Victorian era have received so much attention that they have served as the foundation for various studies by a diverse group of academics. The first research was

conducted by Kurnia (2011) with the title *A Portrayal Of Victorian Men And Women As Seen In O'Neill's "The Grand Match"* . This research analyzes the depiction of Victorian women and men in Moira O'Neill's poem "The Grand Match". The poem provides an overview of the relationship between men and women related to the discussion of love and marriage. As one of the Victorian poetesses, O'Neill tries to satirize the relationship between women and men by portraying the stereotypical love story of a lucky man, who marries a rich woman and denies his own feelings for a charming young woman. This research is an attempt to show that O'Neill's female character is not the woman commonly found in literary texts at the time of her writing. In many ways they position themselves as total breaker of traditional stereotypes about women, and they can even be seen as representations of the "New Women".

The second research was conducted by Haque (2018) with the title *Depiction of Victorian Era in the Novel Great Expectations by Charles Dickens* . In this novel *Great Expectations* , Dickens has created some of the Victorian characters we've seen either in a good way or not at all. But the protagonist named Pip is dynamic and he goes through several changes and deals with different and significant moral issues. Somehow Pip abandoned all the values he grew up with. Because Miss Havisham and Estella have spoiled Pip with a rich life. Greed, beauty, and pride are the ingredients of an immoral life. Other characters like Joe and Biddy are static characters throughout the novel and come to life as manifestations of what we call the ideal Victoria. The main hero of this novel is Estella whom Pip thinks he has a love affair with. Therefore, Estella has been presented as good in the sense of potency and turned out to be

morally bad. Miss Havisham, who is by nature a corrupt woman and she carves the center of the novel. The Great Hope does reveal how Victorian society is through some notable features such as a higher class, broken justice system between rural and urban England. In this novel, Dickens is concerned with the education system in the Victorian era where the lower classes did not have the opportunity to get a proper education. From beginning to end, Dickens explores several significant issues regarding Victorian society's fluctuating upper and lower class system from the most pathetic criminal named Magwitch to the poor people of the swamp country, of which Joe and Biddy are symbols. of that regime. After that we can move on to middle class families where Pumblechook is the one who represents the regime. Lastly, Miss Havisham symbolizes and flies the flag of the very rich and sophisticated Victorian woman who has represented high society in the novel *Great Expectations*. We can therefore say *Great Expectations* has spoken and showcased the Victorian English class system and the characters of this novel also uphold a true reflection of the Victorian era. The third research was conducted by Abaker (2019) with the title *The Image Of Victorian Women As Depicted In Jane Eyre By Charlotte Bronte*. This research attempts to explore how successful Charlotte Bronte was in creating her novel *Jane Eyre* a heroine of her age, dramatizing her own autobiography, including the social problems she encountered as a woman during the Victorian era. And how she was able to address and address the many social problems of nineteenth century Victoria such as class and gender inequality, racial prejudice, and religious beliefs. This research uses descriptive analytical method, and in it it is revealed that Bronte deliberately created Jane,



the main character along with other female characters to reject the Victorian heritage convention that treats women unfairly, many critics and writers think and confirm that women were oppressed during the Victorian Era. Bronte innovates by giving birth to strong, passionate female characters who can articulate their thoughts, and fight for their rights. This depiction contrasts with the image of real women in Victorian times, who were oppressed and marginalized by men. Summarizing that Charlotte Bronte rebelled against inequality between men and women during the nineteenth century, she illustrates this resistance in Jane Eyre's resistant behavior.

What interests researchers to analyze the novel *Alice Through the Looking Glass* is that this novel shows how Alice as a woman seems to get an equal status with men even though she doesn't. Even though the main character of this novel is a woman (Alice), he can achieve his dream as a ship captain, showing how powerful he is with various actions, and Alice can even help her friend Mad Hatter to solve every problem that occurs in this novel. wonderland. This is evidence that there is a Victorian era condition regarding the position of women in that era in this novel. Not only that, there are many other events that describe the social conditions of the Victorian era.

At the beginning of the novel, Alice shows that she can sail and becomes the captain of a ship. He saved ships when they were suffering from bad conditions at sea. This can prove that this novel brings equality of men and women in this novel. This novel is about Alice's adventures in her world and also in the wonderland world. He has great power in his world as well as in the wonderland. This novel features many of those scenes, but can Alice's scenes

really describe the Victorian era? Does every action and struggle of Alice and society shown in the novel really describe the existence of the Victorian era? That is the problem that the researcher will analyze.

Therefore, researchers are interested in conducting research on the conditions of the Victorian era in the novel *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass*. This research aims to describe the representation of the Victorian era in Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass*. Through the title *The Representation of Victorian Era in Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through The Looking-Glass*, it is hoped that this research can achieve the objectives of this research.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the above background is able to direct researchers in determining the formulation of the problem in this research. The formulation of the problem in this research is as follows: "How is the Victorian Era represented in Lewis Carroll's Novel entitled *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass*?"

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Based on the formulation of the research problem, the objectives of this research were obtained. The purpose of this research is to describe The Representation of Victorian era in Lewis Carroll's Novel entitled *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland and Through the Looking-Glass*.

## 1.4 Research Significance

In accordance with the objectives outlined above, the benefits to be achieved in this research are as follows:

1. Theoretical Significance: the results of this research are useful for adding to the wealth of knowledge, especially about literature, and also useful for people who want to learn more and know about the Victorian era in literary work.
2. Practical Significance: this research is useful as advice or input for people who do not research linguistics to understand the Victorian era in literary work.

## 1.5 Previous research result

This kind of research has been investigated by several researchers with different focuses. In this section, the researcher presents five previous studies to be used as comparisons and supporters in the results of this research later. The five studies are discussed as follows.

1. The first research was conducted by Kurnia (2011) with the title *A Portrayal Of Victorian Men And Women As Seen In O'Neill's "The Grand Match"*. This research analyzes the depiction of Victorian women and men in Moira O'Neill's poem "The Grand Match". The poem provides an overview of the relationship between men and women related to the discussion of love and marriage. As one of the Victorian poetesses, O'Neill tries to satirize the relationship between women and men by portraying the stereotypical love story of a lucky man, who marries a rich woman and denies his own feelings for a charming young woman. This research is an attempt to show that

O'Neill's female character is not the woman commonly found in literary texts at the time of her writing. In many ways they position themselves as total breaker of traditional stereotypes about women, and they can even be seen as representations of the “New Women”.

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class system from the most pathetic criminal named Magwitch to the poor people of the swamp country, of which Joe and Biddy are symbols. of that regime. After that we can move on to middle class families where Pumblechook is the one who represents the regime. Lastly, Miss Havisham symbolizes and flies the flag of the very rich and sophisticated Victorian woman who has represented high society in the novel *Great Expectations*. We can therefore say *Great Expectations* has spoken and showcased the Victorian English class system and the characters of this novel also uphold a true reflection of the Victorian era.

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oppressed and marginalized by men. Summarizing that Charlotte Bronte rebelled against inequality between men and women during the nineteenth century, she illustrates this resistance in Jane Eyre's resistant behavior.

4. The fourth research was conducted by Elene Soler Huici (2015) in his essay with the title *“Satire in Wonderland: Victorian Britain through the Eyes of Lewis Carroll”*. The aim of this essay is to demonstrate that one of the underlying intentions of the author was to satirise the Victorian Age. In order to corroborate this statement, the essay first provides the reader with some historical and political background, and the social and cultural background of the Victorian era. The novel is then analysed through discussing the diverse happenings of Alice's journey through Wonderland and interpreting the references to Victorian Britain as satire.
5. The fifth research was conducted by Libuše Lišková from University of West Bohemia (2007) in his paper with the title *“Reflection of Reality in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland”*. This paper attempts to stress realistic elements in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Alice comes across situations not unknown to children from well-to-do families, participates in activities familiar to all children, she meets animals English children know from the countryside. Another connection with reality is achieved through allusions to some aspects of Victorian life and more specifically to the Liddell sisters and the events they experienced, and through the parodies of some well-known poems and songs of the day.

## 1.6 Definition of Key Terms

- a. **Society** : society is a group of people who live in a particular territory, are subject to a common system of political authority, and are aware of having

a distinct identity from other groups around them. Some societies, like those of hunters and gatherers, are very small numbering no more than a few dozen people. Others are very large, involving many millions (Giddens, 1993: 746)

- b. Family** : According to (Safrudin, 2015: 15), a family is a social group defined by common residence, economic cooperation, and reproduction, which is joined by marriage or socially sanctioned adoption and interacts with one another in line with their social duties.
- c. Religion** : Max Weber (1905) defined religion in terms of its content. Religion is a belief system that centers on a supernatural entity or God who is viewed as superior, all-powerful, and unexplainable by science and natural laws.
- d. Morality** : Moral refers to an individual's personal stance, principles and values of what is right and wrong, whereas ethics refers to rules, principles, norms and values that are external to the individual, such as the norms and values of a social community, occupational codes of conduct, religious principles, etc. Ethics may also be conceptualized as the philosophical research of morality (Mahony, 2009; Quinn, 2015).
- e. Qualitative Method**: Qualitative research is a method of inquiry to learn about researchers themselves and their research topics, which cover various disciplines such as medicine, law, education, social sciences, and humanities. (Lincoln and Denzin, 2018:1410)

