

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses several components in the background. In the background of this research, the researcher explains several topics such as explanations of literary works, tragic love stories, point of view of tragic love from novels and song, characters and characterization from the novels and songs, tragic love narration that the researcher explained from two novels and song lyrics, and the storyline and story setting of tragic love told in novels and songs. This chapter also explains the origins of popular literature in Indonesia, because popular literary works in Indonesia are one of the reasons researcher take popular literary works, Indonesian novels, as research objects. Apart from explaining popular literary works in Indonesia, the researcher also explains the method of comparative literary works which is the research topic. Researcher also explain popular literary works worldwide to clarify research methods regarding comparative literary works. Researcher also explains the development of literary works in Indonesia in this chapter. The purpose of writing this research is to follow the mission of the English Literature Department where the author studies.

1.1 Research Background

Literary works have developed a lot over the years. In its development, this literature developed and was divided into two. According to Budjianto and Dewi (2022) canonical literature and popular literature, and also from canonical literature or serious literature is literature that complies with rules or laws. Meanwhile, according to Nurgiyantoro 2013 and Santosa 2015 statement, popular literature is the opposite of canonical literature.

Based on the quoted statement, the explanation regarding canonical literature is literary works whose quality is beyond doubt and are considered to meet quality standards, for example, "*Pujangga Baru*" literature and "*Angkatan 45*" literature. As stated by Darma (2004) literary works that have entered the canon can be thought of as something that has been made into law. As explained by Budjianto and Dewi (2022) popular literature, it is a literary work that aims

to entertain its readers. The forms of popular works vary, from essays and novels to films adapted from popular novels. In a literary work, researcher also know the genre of the literary work itself. This type of popular literature mostly had the mystery, thriller, horror, romance, and adventure genres. There are also not many popular works in science fiction, such as aliens, robots, and mutants.

In a novel literary work, of course, there are several parts related to the story of the novel that are told, one of which is about the characters. As explained by Jeyklin Byl (2016), a character is an important element in literary works. Especially in novels, the characters in a literary work are created by the author to convey his ideas and feelings about something that happens in this world. Characters have the power to dominate the entire story in a literary work. The author can bring the character through many problems in different situations.

A tragic love story is a story that is both heartbreaking and beautiful. It tells the story of two people who fall in love but are ultimately destined to be unable to unite. The beauty of a romantic tragedy is that it allows us to experience the full range of human emotions. Readers of the story can feel the joy when they are together, and the heartache when they are torn apart. When a writer tells a story about a romantic tragedy, the story writer wants to make sure that the story would break the readers' hearts. To write a tragic love story, the author must focus on the key elements of storytelling, creating believable characters with a strong emotional connection to the reader, building tension, and providing a satisfying and heartbreaking ending that the reader expects.

Apart from providing an interesting story, a novel certainly has intrinsic problems. As stated by Pontoh (2022), intrinsic elements are elements in or that make up the whole of a novel, including theme, plot, setting, characters, characterization, point of view, story style, and message. This research also focuses on the point of view of literary work, novels, and song lyrics. In language, point of view means perspective, which is usually a writer's point of view regarding his writing or work. This is done with the meaning that the audience understands the same intentions and feelings as the author or creator

of the literary work. In the form of literary works such as novels, poetry, short stories, and other literature, Point of View can be divided into 3 types. Determining the point of view in a literary work is entirely the result of the author's thoughts, there are:

1. First-person Point of View

First-person point of view is a story that tells oneself or the author's story. The first-person point of view uses 'I' as the main role. This first-person point of view usually creates a feeling as if the reader is experiencing something similar to the main character because it uses 'I' as the center of the story.

2. Second-person Point of View

If in first-person point of view the author is mostly involved in the story by using 'I', then the opposite is true in second-person point of view. The second-person point of view uses 'you' as the main role, so it is very rare for a story to use second-person point of view, the narrator exists outside the events of the story and relates the actions of the characters by referring to their names or by the third-person pronouns he, she, or they.

3. Third-person Point of View

In the third person point of view, the author positions himself as if he knows everything that happens in the entire story. In third-person point of view, the author generally uses the name of the main character and several other characters.

According to Nurgiyantoro's (2013:164) explanation, characters and characterization are important elements in narrative works. In this statement, researcher can understand that characters and characterization are also related to the plot as conflict makers and event makers in the story. The term 'characteristics' refers to the person, or the actor in the story, and characterization refers to the placement of certain characters with certain

characteristics in a story. As stated by Jones (1968: 33) in Nurgiantoro, characterization is painting a clear picture of someone shown in a story.

The storyline (plot) is a series of events arranged sequentially to form a complete story. The story sequence is formed from the beginning to the end of the story, but it depends on what kind of storyline elements are used. There are several types of storylines: 1). forward flow, 2). backward flow, 3). mixed plot, 4) flashback plot, and 5). climax plot. According to Nurgiyantoro, the plot of a story contains elements of time sequence. Therefore, in a story, a narrative text, there is also the beginning of an event. However, the plot of a work of fiction often does not present a chronological and coherent sequence of events but tells a story that can start and end with any event without the obligation to start and end with the initial event and the final event. In this explanation, the researcher understands that the stages of the storyline do not have to be at the beginning of the story or the beginning of the text, but can be located anywhere.

An interesting phenomenon related to the three research objects compared using comparative literary studies is that popular literature is a literary work that aims to entertain its readers. The forms of literary works used as the objects of this research are two novels and a song lyric, all of these objects have interesting stories to discuss, so the researcher chose a novel entitled "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq which is one of the popular Indonesian language novels in *Bahasa Indonesia* and is also a best-selling novel, then the next novel is entitled "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes, a novel in the English language which is also one of the popular novels and a best-selling novel that was adapted into a movie with the same title. The researcher also chose song lyrics in the English language as the object of his comparison work entitled "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer. This song is also popular because it is on the soundtrack of the popular film "Toy Story". The three objects of study are popular works and have the same story, the researcher explains the three literary works using a comparative literary study method which carries the same theme of the three objects, namely a tragic love story.

The tragic love story in the object of this research study is from the perspective of the characters in the novel and song lyrics. As in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq, the tragic love story is in the character Helen who was abandoned forever by the character Sukanta who died when she was kidnapped by the Japanese colonialists who were currently colonizing the Dutch East Indies or Indonesia today. There is a tragic love story because the two characters, Helen and Sukanta, have a relationship that is quite difficult due to differences in social class and environment at that time. Meanwhile, the novel "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes tells a tragic love story that is almost the same as the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*", namely the main female character who is abandoned by her lover forever. The character Lou in the novel is mentioned to have feelings for his patient William who is paralyzed and Lou works as his nurse, until one day they express their feelings for each other. The love story between the two is quite difficult because it is limited by the blessing between William's parents and Lou's ex-lover. The tragic story experienced by the main character Lou makes research similarities and comparisons with the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*". And the tragic love story told in a song lyric is seen from a first-person perspective. As conveyed in the lyrics, there is a character who tells his love story with a lover who then stays with him forever. The character's views reveal that their love story at all time be remembered forever because their meeting was fate.

In Indonesia, there are many popular literary works. Development began in the 80s with many writings that attracted attention at that time using Malay, but only people from the upper middle class read them. This is because literary works are still underestimated by many people who suppose that literary writing has no reality in human life. In Indonesia, popular literature is called small works, whereas in America popular literature is called lowbrow literature, dime novels, or small written. According to Trismanto (2018) popular literature tends to be associated with the conditions of development of modern society, which demand discipline, professionalism, and hard work.

The development of popular literature in America in the 1960s began to develop rapidly and was no longer considered small literary written. Thus, it can be said that a novel work can also be called popular literature, especially in terms of themes, ways of presenting language techniques, and writing which mostly follows people's tastes. Not only that, in the United States, the existence of popular literature not only functions as entertainment but also acts as a barometer of the social, cultural, and economic development of its society. Meanwhile, the development of popular literature in England began in the 20th century. In its development, there was a famous writer in England, namely William Shakespeare, and then there was also Charles Dickens with his popular work entitled *Oliver Twist*.

The current development of Indonesian literature is not far from the linguistic phenomenon in Indonesia, considering Bandini (2017) opinion, from the language the cultural identity and ideology contained in the literature can be seen. Cultural identity in literary works is two interrelated disciplines. Culture is present in people's daily lives, while literature provides various problems related to humans. Literature is a form of thought conveyed both orally and in writing. Also according to Damono (1999), in Bandini (2017) that before Indonesian was agreed as the language of unity in the 1928 youth oath, in the region currently called Indonesia, four dominant languages were used in newspapers (which may also include fiction in newspapers) broadly, namely Dutch, Malay, Sundanese and Javanese. Later, in its development, Chinese Peranakans wrote newspapers and short fiction based on newspaper facts using their unique style, which was then referred to as Low Malay or Pasar Malay. Damono (1983) stated that Indonesian literature is literature written in Indonesian, by Indonesian writers, or written in Indonesian languages.

In Damono's statement, he understands that Indonesian literature is that suits the identity of Indonesian citizens, namely using Indonesian. However, along with this statement, there would be pros and cons in the development of modern Indonesian literary works when literary works have become global through the

demand for foreign languages, with the English language. For this reason, the occurrence of this modern Indonesian literary phenomenon, the possible reason for the existence of the English language literary phenomenon in Indonesia is due to the globalization movement. Environmental influences can also make literary works develop, according to Bandini (2017) globalization has caused people in Indonesia to use English in everyday life, including in creating literary works. For this reason, literary works that use English have the right to be included in the repertoire of Modern Indonesian literature.

Comparative literature is the science of analysis that compares a literary work with other works, in terms of genre, time, author, history, and influence. Considering to Susan Bassnett (1993) opinion, that comparative literature involves the study of text across cultures, that it is interdisciplinary and that it is concerned with patterns of connection in literatures across both time and space Bassnett (1993). From Bassnett statement that comparative literature has gone beyond boundaries to compare any form of literary work. Then, explanation about comparative literature (in Damono, 2005: 7), comparative literature goes beyond national and state boundaries to gain a better understanding of trends and movements that occur in various nations and countries. The connection referred to in Bassnett's definition is the similarity between the two literary works being compared. The similarities are in the topics of both works which both discuss tragic love stories. In a comparative literary work, the differences and similarities that exist in a literary work are the objects to be compared in the research writing. Comparative literature is one of the many approaches in the literature. The comparative literary approach first appeared in Europe in the early 19th to 20th centuries. The idea of comparative literature is explained (in Damono, 2005: 14) presented by Sante-Beuve in an article published in 1868. In the article he explained that at the beginning of the 19th century, a comparative study of literature had appeared in France. Meanwhile, the strengthening of the comparative approach occurred when the journal *Revue Literature Comparee* was published for the first time in 1921.

Explanations in the journal regarding essays on intellectual historical stories, especially in tracing influences and relationships that cross language boundaries. Comparative literature is a science that studies how a work can be compared with anything else. According to Remak (in Damono, 2005: 2) comparative literature is the study of literature outside the boundaries of a country and the study of the relationship between literature with other fields of knowledge and beliefs such as art (for example, painting, sculpture, architecture, and music), philosophy, history, and social sciences (for example, politics, economics, sociology), science, religion, etc. other. Remak's (in Damono, 2005: 3) statement regarding the comparison of literary works produces an understanding of the language differences between the two objects of literary works being compared, namely that the literary works of one country must be compared with the literature of another country if the analysis is called comparative literature. Theoretically, literary comparison allows the topic of comparison between two literary works in different languages.

This research also applies the vision and mission of the English literature department which anticipated increasing knowledge of the English language and literature through academic, scientific, and creative efforts. Therefore, the comparison of the objects studied is between Indonesian language literary works and English literary works. Damono stated in his book that if comparative literature is a study of literature beyond linguistic boundaries, then it should be linked to the history of thought, with plots, ideas, and characterizations that can easily be inherited or followed, but what about language which is a problem that then has to be responded to by comparative literary studies (in Damono, 2005: 16).

The statement above explains that comparative literature can be done by comparing other literary works related to history, characterization, or storyline and is described by comparative literary studies. According Endraswara (2011) that comparative literature is a study of cross-cultural texts which is an interdisciplinary form, that is, it focuses more on paying attention to the interrelationships of literature according to aspects of time and place.

1.2 Statement of Problem

This research, as explained in the background, presents the story of a love journey in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq with a comparison of the novel "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes and the song "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer. The problem discussed in this research raises a tragic love story told from the characters' point of view in a literary work which is then explained and expressed in a novel and a song lyric. Then after finding the topic of tragic love stories contained in the three research objects, the researcher concluded the results with comparative literature contained in the three objects. The literary comparison explained is through the differences and similarities between the three research objects. Then the explanation above makes researcher interested in examining how the tragic love story is presented and narrated in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq and the novels "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes with the song lyric "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer using literary comparison. From the background of this research above, the researcher concludes that two questions are going to be the main focuses of this research question, they are:

1. What tragic love story in the Point of View of the character in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq the novel "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes and the song "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer?
2. How is the tragic love story narrated in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq with the novel "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes and the song "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer?

1.3 Research Objective

The comparison of the three literary works which would be the topic of this research is, of course, the difference in language conveyed in the three literary works, the difference between the two languages used, English and Indonesian. In comparative literature, several differences and similarities are used as objects of research study. According to Remak (in Safitri, 2012), comparative literature

what is compared are historical events, similarities in literary works, similarities and differences, themes, genres, styles, tools of cultural evolution, and so on. Then, the use of figurative language forms in written research can influence the depiction of an object.

The tragic story in the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" is depicted along with historical places in Bandung in West Java, Indonesia. The tragic story presented through the story of social class differences and racial differences at that time adds to the tragic feeling of the novel. The difference is that the novel by Pidi Baiq only focuses on the love story of the characters Helen and Sukanta who are challenged by differences in social class and different environments during the Dutch colonial period in Indonesia, at that time the Dutch East Indies. Apart from that, the tragic love story that occurs in the novel "Me Before You" by Jojo Moyes is depicted by the story of two people who fall in love, but this love story comes at the wrong time. A tragic story arises when in the novel one of the characters dies when his lover just realizes the presence of this love. Meanwhile, in the song "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer, the lyricist, and singer of the song reveals the lyrics by explaining the tragic story of his love when his lover left him and he eternally remembered forever because their love story was fate.

Given the differences in each object for this research, the researcher explains the differences in objects using the literary comparison method which is described in the novel story and song lyrics of the object of comparison. This descriptive method makes it easier for researcher to explain literary comparisons that have differences in the use of language in writing their works and explain the similarities between the three research objects in a tragic love story.

1.4 Research Significance

As explained in the background, modern Indonesian literature has been influenced by globalization, as time goes by and the era of globalization increases, English-language literary works begin to develop in Indonesia. According to Damono (1999), Indonesian literature is literature written in Indonesian, by Indonesian writers, or written in Indonesian languages.

One of the Indonesian literature that the researcher used as an object of research study was written in Indonesian and written by an author from Indonesia, who then compared the literary work with an English literary work whose object was written in English and written by an author from England. Researcher used comparative literature methods to write this research. According to Damono's statement, that Indonesian literature is literature that suits the identity of Indonesian citizens, namely using Indonesian. The emergence of English-language literary works in Indonesia is supported by the many writers from Indonesia who have written English-language literary works to attract readers' attention.

The vision and mission statement of the English literature department at Islamic State University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung contains the aim of becoming a superior program in language training, linguistics, literature, and translation studies with a local-Islamic orientation at the ASEAN level and also aims to increase knowledge of English language and literature through efforts academic, scientific and creative. Therefore, researcher conducted research on comparative literature which aims to develop knowledge of English literature more creatively.

Research on comparative literature which takes as its object three different literary works of course also looks at the development of the popularity of these three works. As in the object of the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" by Pidi Baiq, is a popular Indonesian literary work and is widely read by Indonesian people and is one of the best-selling novels. Not only that, the selection of the novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" is one of the reasons not many people have discussed it as comparative literary research. Then the choice of the second novel entitled "Me

"Before You" by Jojo Moyes was also one of the reasons because this novel is popular and has been adapted into a film with a similar title. There has also not been much research on the literary comparison of this novel, so the researcher chose the object of this literary work for the researcher's thesis research. Furthermore, the object of the song entitled "You're Gonna Live Forever in Me" by John Mayer is one of the most popular musical works after the song was used as a soundtrack in a very famous movie and the movie is a children's category, of course. can be enjoyed by everyone, therefore, the song became popular after appearing in the movie "Toy Story" which was released in 2017. The selection of these three objects follows Susan Bassnett's theoretical criteria which allows comparison of literary works with different languages in the two objects of work.

This research also implements the goals of the English literature department which means to increase knowledge of English language and literature through academic, scientific, and creative efforts. Therefore, the comparison of the objects studied took one of the literary works, novels in Indonesian and English, and songs in English.

The novel "*Helen dan Sukanta*" tells the story of their love which was hit by social limitations at that time was implausible for native figures to be able to unite with people from the nobility like Helen's character until finally they were able to connect because of the strength of their love even though they In the end, they could only be united by their feelings, not their bodies, which were separated because of the cruelty of the colonial era in the Dutch East Indies at that time. After the explanation from the novel story of "*Helen dan Sukanta*", the two of them managed to live side by side together, although in the end their story was separated by circumstances and the universe that separated them, making Helen's character lose the figure of Sukanta, her beloved lover forever.

Therefore, this tragic love story attracted researcher to study the tragic love story more deeply which was then compared with the story in a song. There are theories about formulas in popular literature, the theory put forward by Cawelti (1976) is the most widely read and used as a reference in discussing popular

literary works this century. In his book entitled *Adventure, Mystery, and Romance*, Cawelti states that the meaning of formula in popular literature is the same as the term genre in discussions of high literature or classical literature.

According to Cawelti, “*Romance is a fan of all the sufficiency of love, the center of the most romantic formula on overcoming some combination of social or psychological barriers*”. (Calweti 1976)

It can be said in conclusion regarding the formula theory above a work can be said to be a romantic story after achieving the fulfillment of the need for love for the main characters through various difficulties in getting rid of social and psychological problems.

1.5 The Result of Previous Studies

The researcher found several previous studies related to research, for make it easier to find out the connection of previous studies, researcher would explain it.

Previous research is research that already exists and has been explained through scientific research and research journals with the same topic as what the researcher is writing about. Previous research is also one of the considerations for a study being studied so that it can provide a reference in writing or reviewing a study. There are several studies that are related to this research that can be used as references by researcher, there are several previous studies that have similarities with this research.

The first there are Nilay Avci (2015), in his research entitled "Forbidden Love of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet and Fuzûlî's Layla and Majnun". This research discusses how to explore the cultural similarities that exist in the two comparative literary works and how to find the origin of the idea of the cultural similarities of forbidden love in the nature and nature of human beings. The similarity with the research that the author wrote is that the research topic discusses the story of forbidden love, using the object of a tragic story that is well-known in society.

The second previous research is research by Nurul Falah and friends (2020) with a research entitled "Comparative Literature Between Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* and Hamka's *Tenggelamnya Kapal Van der Wijck*". This research discusses the similarities and differences between the two comparative works by focusing on the position of the main characters in both works. The object of study for the two works taken is from a novel. The similarity found in this research is that the object of study is a novel and the two comparative works are in different languages. The literary works compared are Indonesian literary works with American literary works.

The third previous research was research by Tang Xiaobing (2022) entitled "A Comparative Study of the Causes of the Tragic Love in *A Dream of Red Mansions* and *Wuthering Heights*". This research discusses the similarities and comparisons of the socio-cultural background of the two literary works with the object of study, namely the novel. In this previous research, the topic of comparative literature was tragic love stories. The novel which is the object of this research study has different languages. The literary works compared are Chinese literary works with English literary works. The similarities between previous research and the author's research are in the topic of discussion which both discuss a tragic love story taken from a novel. Meanwhile, what is different in this research is the language in the object of comparative study which uses Chinese literary works compared with English literary works.

The fourthly there is research by Amirrudin and friends (2022) entitled "The Comparative Literature Analysis of Collins' Novel *The Hunger Games* and Veronica Roth's Novel *Divergent*". In his research, is discusses how to reveal and compare the feminist values carried out by the main characters and also examines the similarities and differences in the roles of the main characters in influencing social conditions in the novel about feminism. The similarity found in this research is discussing a comparison of literary works with their object, a novel. This research used a qualitative descriptive research method with data sources coming from the novels "The Hunger Games" and the Novel "Divergent".

The fifth previous study is research by Fahrizal and Tasnimah (2022) entitled "Study of the Intertextualization of the Poetry 'T'iraf by Abu Nawas with the Song Andai Ku Tahu by Ungu Band (Comparative Literary Analysis)". This research analyzes the similarities and differences between poetry and songs, the two literary works have language differences. The research method in this study used a qualitative descriptive approach. The similarity between previous research and the author's research is that they both discuss comparative literature. The object of the same research study also discusses a song that has a different language to the object of the comparative study.

The significant difference between several previous studies and the researcher's research is that the following research discusses the comparison of two literary works between novels and song lyrics, the selection of study objects for novels in the romance genre, and historical fiction with song lyrics in the mellow and soft rock genres. The two literary works are compared using the Love is a Story theory from Robert Sternberg and the Lyrical Ballad from William Wordsworth. This research uses comparative literature as its research method.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

This chapter defines several terminology that are frequently used throughout the entire investigation. This chapter was created to clarify the idea and prevent any misunderstandings over the significance of the research. The researcher defines the key in this definition, there are;

1. Comparative Literature

Comparative literature is the science of analysis that compares a literary work with other works, in terms of genre, time, author, history, and influence. Comparative literature is also a study that pays attention to the relationship of literature to time and place. In terms of time, it compares two or more different literary periods, while in terms of place,

it is related to the geographical area of literature. Comparative literature is a study in the form of an exploration of changes, replacements, developments, and mutual differences between two or more works.

2. Novel

Novel is a creative literary work in the form of prose. A literary work created from someone's imagination is written creatively and then re-processed by the author to create a new truth.

3. Point of View

Point of view is the direction an author views in conveying a story so that the story becomes more lively and is conveyed well to the listeners or readers. There is a point of view, where the author seems to be the main actor or someone else in a story that is being created. In the explanation according to Aminudin (1995:90), point of view is an author's way of presenting the characters or actors in the fairy tale that is presented or conveyed.

4. Lyric Song

Song lyrics result from a combination of language art and sound art, as a work of sound art that involves the color of the singer's voice and melody. A poem that becomes a song lyric is an arrangement of words in which each line has a certain rhyme or poetry (Sayuti, 1985:13). Song lyrics are a form of written verbal communication that is similar to poetry. However, not all songs can be used as poetry, because many songs use language that is not appropriate for poetry.