

CHAPTER I

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1.1 Background of the study

Literature is simply one way someone can experience the world around us through imagination. The main function of literature according to Silverman and Klaus (1978: XXV) is for understanding and communication. Literature helps to find meaning in the world and to express it and share it with others. And this is the most humane activity of man's existence. Silverman and Klaus differentiate four forms of literature: essay, fiction, poetry and drama.

The four forms of literature are distinguished according to the ways the language of literature is conveyed to the reader. Essay uses language to establish ideas addressed directly by the essayist to the reader with persuasion as its essential quality. Poem uses language to express feelings addressed by a speaker talking or thinking to himself or herself rather than to the reader with mediation as its essential quality. Story uses language to create a view of imaginary persons and events through the report of a storyteller to the reader with narration as its essential quality that can make the reader easy to understand. The play or drama uses language to create action through the dialogue of imaginary persons talking to one another (Silverman and Klaus : XVIII)

The other functions of literature are that literature uses language to relate to the world of experience and literature uses language to communicate to the reader in two ways, namely, first, in the way these words are used either to create

imaginary people or events. The second is in the way to give immediate expression to ideas and feeling about experience.

The reader develops an interest in an imaginary world, or feels sympathy for ideas and feeling about experience. This is possible because of the ways in which the language of literature is communicated to the reader, either addressed directly or overheard by the reader (Silverman and Klause, XVII). However, the readers' interest may also be increased by the characterization in the literary work.

Character simply means a person who acts, appears or is referred to in work (Bain Beaty and Hunter, 1977:500). According to Roberts and Jacobs (1989:1011) a character is a person created by a playwright to carry the action, language, ideas and emotions. In other words, character is needed by the playwright not only to make a story alive and interesting but also to present various kinds of people in this world such as their way of life, feeling, thinking and acting in order to give the audience a picture of human in daily life.

In this study, the writer focuses on an analysis of a character which undergoes changes as a result of the American's civil war. From the novel, the Civil War happened in nineteenth century in the Southern America. The Civil War is the conflict between the Northern states (the Union) namely Yankee and the Southern namely Confederation. This conflict was participated by one side's creation of the separate nation. The conflict of the Civil War had the purpose to change Southern into an industrial country (Mitchell: 1993:276). North changed the South from its old, disperse, agricultural into a new industrial, commercial and centralized political economy.

War is regarded as a manifestation of any conflicts because of opposing interests accelerated by any confronting parties. The conflicts involve people at larger or mass-mobilization rather than an individual. The war creates the destruction to civilian populations, and unthinkable acts of brutality and genocide. The conflict might be fighting for victory. The examples of the war are Peace War, Crusade, and the Civil War.

The Civil War and its sequences result in a chaotic environment that brings great influences and changes toward individual such as a change of personality. The impact of the Civil War can change someone's personality. The impact of the Civil War, which can change someone's personality is reflected in Margaret Mitchell's Gone With The Wind.

Margaret Mitchell, through her novel *Gone With The Wind*, tries to expose the impact of the Civil War through the development of personalities of Scarlett O'Hara as the main character of the novel. It is O'Hara's development of personalities which is the focus of this thesis.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This thesis is intended to answer the question regarding the impacts of the Civil War on the changing of Scarlett O'Hara's personalities. The question is How Scarlett O'Hara personality changes as it is affected by the war

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the above statement, the aim of the study is to analyze Scarlett O'Hara's personality as it is affected by the war in Gone With The Wind.

1.4 Significance of the Study

By investigating the impact of Civil War on Scarlett O'Hara's character, the thesis writer hopes that the result of this study will give some contribution on the reader in understanding this novel Gone With The Wind. This study also offers more knowledge about human life and the behaviors to solve their problems with or without the changing of their personalities, as Scarlett O'Hara did.

1.5 Limitation of the Study

In this study, the thesis writer only focuses on the impact of the Civil War on the changing of Scarlett O'Hara's personalities as the main character in this novel.

1.6 Theoretical Framework

In this study the writer deals with some theories. The first is character. Without character, a story is like a colorless blank drawing paper. According to Bain, Beaty and Hunter (1977:500) character is a person who acts, appears or is referred to in a work.

The second is characterization. The authors above (1977:101) also define that characterization is the aesthetic or structural aspects of character, the art-craft, method of presentation or of fictional personages.

The third is human value. According to Knickerbockers (1960 : 409), human value are divided into three kinds namely: Psychological values, Social values and Metaphysical values.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

In this section, the writer clarifies the terms used in this thesis in order to avoid misinterpretation about this study. There are some terms that are required in this study:

1. Novel.

Novel is a book story in prose, whose author tries to create the sense that, while we are reading, we experience actual life.

2. Character.

Character is a person in literary work which generally refers to his whole nature, such as his personality, his attitude toward life, his spiritual qualities, as well as his moral attributes. (Potter, 1967:3)

3. Characterization.

Characterization is the means which is used by the writer to reveal what a character is like, can take many forms such as descriptive characterization and dramatic characterization. (Robert, 1990:405)

4. Attitude.

Attitudes is an association between some persons, things, events, ideas, or situation and evaluation of it good or bad, better or worse and so forth (Wortman, 1986:205)

5. Behavior.

Behavior is defined broadly to include actions that can be readily observed, such as physical activity and speaking, as well as other “mental processes” that occur even though they cannot be observed directly, such as perceiving, thinking, remembering and feeling. (Papalia and Wendoks, 1986:4)

6. Personality

Personality refers to the overall social impression that an individual conveys in interacting with others. (Hjelle and Ziegler ,1992:4)

1.8 Organization of the Study

For the organization of the study, this thesis is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is the introduction, which consists of background of the study, statement of the problems, objective of the study, significance of the study, limitation of the study, definition of key terms, research method, and organization of the study. Chapter II concerns the theoretical framework. It describes the novel, the elements of novel, types of human values. Chapter III presents the research method, including research design, the source of the data, research instrument, the

procedure of collecting data and the procedure of data analysis. Chapter IV presents the analysis, and chapter V is the conclusion.