

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Love is an interesting theme used in many literary works around the world. It is such a natural experience that most people can value in their life. Love can become a story telling about the human experience in life which makes people believe in finding their fate of love. Love is not always get a flat pathway of happy ending as what people mostly expect. But, it often challenge people to get tougher when deal with many kind of obstacles. It shows that love can give people insight and motivation to fight for their true love.

In literary works, the authors have freedom to create and represent the context which the reader can interpret. People get valuable experience from understanding the message conveys in the text. It portrays the idea, insight, and perspective that people perceived as the concept to sense, see and think about the issue in life with different point of view. In other words, the experiences in study the literary work gives people process of learning in the way of thinking and perceiving which contribute to a deeper understanding about life.

Drama, unlike the other literary genre, is a stage art. It has affinities with fiction and poetry. But, in drama ideas posses more primacy than they do in poetry and fiction, something to which critics of the genre testify (DiYanni 723). In studying drama, the reader can reveal the message of drama and gain experience of aesthetics

to increase the sensitivity of the atmosphere from the character and conflict in each of the scene.

In understanding the literary works, the critical theory is needed as a tool to sharpen the point of view and perspective specifically with our logical thinking. To produce the best critical interpretation in understanding the literary works, New Criticism believe to discover organic unity, what the text means and how the text produces the meaning, to analyze literary works objectively as one of the ways to appreciate the works from the interpretation of origin values and form that contributes to the unity as the whole (Tyson 148). As the literary work that has an organic unity, contained formal elements that connect each other and contribute to the meaning of the work.

Formal elements in one of the literary works, Drama, has its character to deliver the message of the story and portray the image that author's create from the dialogue and staging as a part of elements in building the plot of the story. As DiYanni states that the elements of drama include plot, character, dialogue, staging, and theme. Untimely any analysis must be followed by an act of synthesis which brings a number of elements of the play into relationship with one another (743). There is a strong connection of each element; characters, plot and theme, in a way to analyze and interpret the meaning of the drama as a whole.

A lot of stories represent about love, even from the very beginning people like to express their feeling in literary works. In those many kinds of love story within inter-generation and inter-region, show similarities in much kind of aspects. Such as,

the standing out love stories that still known nowadays, *Romeo and Juliet* by Shakespeare left a deep impression to a lot of people with the tragic love story. It is believed that the play was first performed 1595 in the Elizabethan era as the most famous love story in the English literary tradition. The first quarto of *Romeo and Juliet* (1597) prints the play in a curtailed and corrupt form. For the plot, Shakespeare used poem by Arthur Broke printed in 1562, *The Tragicall Historye of Romeus and Juliet*, written first in Italian by Bandell, and Nowe in English by Ar. Br. Broke's source was the ninth story in Part II of Matteo Bandello's *Novelle* (1554) (Kittredge 1005).

The story is about two young lovers, Romeo (son of Montague) and Juliet (daughter of Capulet), falling in love in the first sight their meet in Capulet's party. Although their family is quarrelling, they are trying to arrange a secret marriage. Suddenly, there are fighting between Montague and Capulet which cause the death of Mercutio and Tybalt. As the culprit, Romeo gets the banishment to Mantua. At Friar Lawrence's cell, Paris informs Friar of his upcoming wedding to Juliet. In her bedroom, Juliet sends her mother and nurse away, then, after much worrying over the future, she drinks the vial of medicine and sleeps. The Friar instructs all to prepare Juliet for her funeral. In Mantua, Romeo's servant Balthasar tells Romeo that Juliet is dead. Romeo vows to see Juliet in her tomb and drink a poison. Juliet then awakes and desperate seeing her Romeo died, she stabs herself with Romeo's dagger (Kittredge 1007-1044).

The heroine in *Romeo and Juliet*, Juliet is an important character to be analyzed because the conflict begins from her decision to drink the medicine in order to escape from her marriage with Paris. The miscommunication happened and made both Romeo and Juliet died in the end of the story. Juliet character, in making the decision, contributes to portray the valuable message of *Romeo and Juliet* story about struggle for love that give perspective and inspire other authors about the aesthetic of tragic love story.

*Liangzhu*, which similar to *Romeo and Juliet* in a way, from Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai, is the legend that not only keenly reveals the mischief to the ancient Chinese but truly reflects constraints on the Chinese custom of politeness in the feudal autocratic age as well, and still considered as the best illustration of true love by Chinese people. According to June Cai in Salman Akhtar,

Liang-Zhu was played out in Chinese Opera in different dialects. *Yue* opera (*Shaoxing* opera) was the most well known using a dialect of Zhejiang, where the original story took place. It made into a popular movie (1994) after inspired from the violin concerto 1959. The story was set in Hangzhou, a picturesque scholarly town of Southeast China during the Eastern Jin Dynasty (circa 1700). Liang-zhu (known in the West as *The Butterfly Lovers* ) is the abbreviation for the full names of Liang Shanbo and Zhu Yingtai. (105-106)

The heroine, Yingtai, pretends to be a boy goes to school and falls in love with Shanbo. Then, she has to go back home because her father arranged the engagement.

Shanbo is surprised and died after finding out that Yingtai will marry. Before her arrival to the place of marriage, Yingtai went to Shanbo's grave. Suddenly the grave splitted and she stepped into it. Two butterflies come out from the grave and fly that made people also called this story as *The Butterfly Lovers*.

Both of *Romeo and Juliet* and *Liangzhu* dramas contain some similarities that give experience to the reader in conveying the important message within the stories. Both are the tragedy dramas portrays struggle for love. In the conflict of story, both of the heroines, Juliet and Yingtai, experience a forbidden love, got married arrangement by their parents, and bravely decided to suicide to struggle and get together with their lovers. Both of dramas also contain different trait, perspective about love, and the motivation to struggle for love that contribute to the character development of the heroines, Juliet and Yingtai, in making decision to struggle for love in their own way.

The comparison is needed to demonstrate the understanding of the work and find out the similarities and differences in both of dramas. Therefore, the writer's analysis is focusing on the character, Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, and the character Yingtai in *Liangzhu*, drama as subject of the study and would like to compare both of dramas by analyze the text itself in both of dramas using New Criticism.

## **1.2 Statements of the Problem**

In order to analyze the comparison between Juliet's character in *Romeo and Juliet* drama and Yingtai's character in *Liangzhu* Drama, this study purpose is to find:

1. How is the characterization of Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* drama and Yingtai in *Liangzhu* drama?
2. What are the similarities and differences of Juliet and Yingtai characters in struggling for love?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The main objectives of this study are:

1. To study about the characterization of Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet* drama and Yingtai in *Liangzhu* drama
2. To compare both characters who struggling for love

### **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

The main subject of this study is the literary drama of *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* by Lyman George Kittredge and *Liangzhu* by Jiang Wei Xiao from Yale University which is the third script published at June 6th, 2008. The analysis is focusing on Juliet's character in *Romeo and Juliet* and Yingtai's character in *Liangzhu* by using New Criticism. The characterization of Juliet and Yingtai is the most distinctive among the characters in the drama. Other characters aside from Juliet and Yingtai are only mentioned for their interaction in the dialogue. The study begins with the analysis of Juliet and Yingtai characterization side by side, and then makes comparison by finding out the similarities and differences in struggling for their love.

### 1.5 Significance of the Study

The importance of this study is to enrich the knowledge about the literary studies, especially Drama. This study provides the way to analyze drama using New Criticism. Furthermore, it intends to give insight the necessary idea to understand about formal elements in drama especially characterization, plot and theme as an organic unity to reveal the message by analyzing it based on the text itself.

This study is also expect to give a contribution toward the literature for English Department, Faculty of Humanities in Universitas Airlangga in further understanding about the comparison which focus on the character in drama using New Criticism. Through the comparison focusing on the character between Juliet and Yingtai, the reader is expected have a deeper understanding about both dramas and experiences the diversities of the characterization that portrayed in both dramas, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Liangzhu*.

### 1.6 Theoretical Background

This study is analyzing Juliet's character in *Romeo and Juliet* by Shakespeare and Yingtai's character in *Liangzhu* drama by Jiang Wei Xiao, the theory that will be used is New Criticism. New Criticism is the method that used the text itself in finding the meaning of the text and the ways to appreciate from the interpretation of the original values and the form that contribute to the unity of the work as the whole.

To analyze the characters, plot, and theme, Richard Gill's concept will applied. Gill stated that many of the questions on drama in public examinations deal with character. They ask us to say what a character is like, show how he or she changes,

discuss the way one character differs from another, and judge the importance of a character in the play as a whole. The most important things to remember are that we can only learn about character from the words of the play that is from the dialogue (172).

In addition, this study is also using Kennedy's theory about the method of comparison and contrast by setting two plays side by side and point out the similarities and differences of the finite topic (1268). It enables to focus on the analysis for each subject before making the comparison by pointing out the similarities and differences. The finite topic will also be useful in narrowing the limitation in comparing both of subjects to be analyzed specifically.

### **1.7 Method of the Study**

The entire study of this research is using qualitative method and analyzed based on the theory of New Criticism. Just as Bernard stated, qualitative method is a type of scientific research in obtaining culturally specific information about values, opinions, behaviors, and social contexts of particular population and also effective in identifying intangible factors, such as social norms, socio economic status, gender roles, ethnicity, and religion, whose role in the study (1).

As the first step close reading in which the observation is by reading the text more than once to get a more comprehensive understanding about the text. All of data will also be collected and taken from the dialogues of the primary source, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Liangzhu* drama, using close reading. According to Tyson, close reading is the scrupulous examination of the complex relationship between a text's formal



elements and its theme (124). The secondary sources of the study, such as printed book are also necessary in order to support the analysis. In elaborating the study is also use online sources to provide more information in the writer's argument.

The process of data analysis in this comparative study begins from the observation focused on the character of Juliet and Yingtai by make the classification of data and selecting the data that shows the character of Juliet and Yingtai, then examine the plot which Juliet and Yingtai experiences throughout the story. This method enables the writer to reveal the characterization necessary for collecting primary data can be analyzed and empower the argument using the library and online sources which considered with the theory, intrinsic approach.

### **1.8 Definition of Key Terms**

There will be some important terms used throughout the study. That is why; this section with definitions of key terms is provided to help the readers in understanding the analysis in this study. Reliable sources are used in order to define the terms accurately.

Forbidden Love : a form love between two people that is not allowed, considered being against the norms of society or does not get the parents bless.

Heroine : the leading female character who exhibits superior qualities (Shaffer 182)

- Love Story : the full sequence of events in causality formed as narratives or tales, either true or fictitious, dealing with love.
- Marriage Arrangement : the marriage in which family members, particularly parents, take a significant role (arrange or organize) in bringing a couple together.
- Struggle for Love : using a great effort in striving and resisting the obstacle to obtain an object dealing with love