

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I.1 Background of the study

Literature is a form of art which has language as its medium of an author to express and communicates his thoughts, feelings, and attitude toward life (Rees, 3). Talking about literature means that we are dealing with a work of human being which represents the aspects of human life. Literature should be able to pass to us some feeling or idea we at once recognized as apart of our own experience and truth in life. Regarding the fact about literature, it is understandable that literature is significant in our life because literature can bring a man into contact more closely with real life. The use of literature is to help us toward a better understanding of ourselves and our fellow human being.

There are many forms of literary works, and the writer of this thesis specifically selected novel as the object of analysis. Novel is a world of words created by the authors to make it as vivid to represent the real world. This means that novel is not real life; they have been constructed or created (Gill, 77). Although the

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story he tells is not historically true, yet the story must picture life as it is. The author tells us a story however fictitious, that fits in our human conditions. He must introduce us into real human life and depict a world wherein we lived. An author can take materials from his own experience whatever the source. Then he transforms the facts he has gathered from real life into a new one by the creative vigor of his artistry. Therefore the great and conspicuous of the novel is its variety of subject matter. Because of its scope, a novel will be expected to present one or a few characters in considerable depth, the basic human issues in depth with a clear picture of its time and lead us to feel that we know its setting as if we lived in ourselves.

To analyze a novel, the aspect of the author is one thing that cannot be left behind. And the writer merely focuses his attention on William Golding, due to the fact that most of his novels show Golding's belief that "man produces evil as a bee produces honey" (The New encyclopedia Britannica, 1985). In other word, Golding believes that the evil nature is inherent in man. Golding's first novel was *Lord of the Flies* (1954). It has been followed by six more novels, some short stories, a collection of essays, a play and three novellas under the collective

title *The Scorpion God* (1971). His novels include *The Inheritors* (1955), *Pincher Martin* (1956), *Free Fall* (1959), *The Spire* (1964), *The Pyramid* (1969), and *Rites of Passage* (1980) which won the Booker McConnell Prize.

In this thesis the writer is interested to analyze one of Golding's novels, *Lord of the Flies*. The novel is the famous and perhaps the masterpiece of Golding's works. It never gone out of print, it has been among the best selling novels in post-war Britain, it has been studied in schools, and universities all over the world, and it has been the subject of an award-winning film by the distinguished director Peter Brook (Niven: 5). It deals with human beings under stress, and the varied reactions of different types of people under similar conditions and difficult situations. Through the isolation of the novel's characters in space and time and through their placement in a primitive situation, the character's behavior is based on their basis nature, and Golding shows that human beings are capable of intense evil because of their own nature. As Golding said to a reporter from the *New York world Telegram and Sun*, printed on December 3, 1963, that the novel's primary purpose is to serve as a warning of man's potential for brutality to his fellow man. (via, Denis M. Calandre, 59).

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The story of *Lord of the Flies* itself is about the adventure of a group of schoolboys on an uninhabited tropical island. The island is isolated from the outside world since it is surrounded by the sea. Under the circumstances of the island the boys undergo physical degeneration and they are also afraid of 'something' which is they called 'the beast.' Because of their fear, they kill Simon who they think as a beast when he appears from the darkness. Being on an uninhabited island, initially the boys relish their new freedom from the adult's restrictions. They create their own society and elect Ralph as their chief. Yet, Jack who is chosen as the head of the hunter wants to take over Ralph's chieftainship. He always brakes the rules and challenges him. As Jack gets more follower, he tries to kill his rival, Ralph. Ralph escapes to save his life but wherever he hides, Jack and his tribes 'hunt' him. Eventually, when the rescue comes, Ralph is saved by a naval officer.

The writer is interested in *Lord of the Flies* as the subject of his thesis because it presents that evil is inherent in man, even in children. It seems impossible, since there is a belief that childhood is pictured as a state of innocence. However, the author's detailed description, especially the description about the

characters and their problems has given the feeling of very close acquaintance with the characters and their situation as if they were real. Through their isolation on an uninhabited island and from the external influence, *Lord of the Flies* presents that children have a terrifying propensity towards violence, cruelty, and selfishness.

I.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the statement of the problem are:

1. How do the conditions support the emergence of the evil nature of human being within the characters?
2. How is the evil nature of human being presented through the characters within the novel?

I.3 Objective of the study

Relating with the statement of the problem, the purpose of this study is to analyze and reveal the conditions that support the emergence of the evil nature of human being within the characters. It is also to reveal the evil nature of human being which is presented through the characters within the novel.

I.4 Significance of The Study

By analyzing the evil nature of human being in the novel, the writer hopes that this research will help the writer toward a better understanding about life itself and the relationship with other fellow human being.

The writer also hopes that this thesis, will give the contribution to the world of knowledge in general and the world of literature in particular. Also it is hoped that this work will contribute something useful in the study of literature, especially in the English Department, Airlangga University.

At last, for the readers, it is hoped that they will get some valuable teaching and enlarge their understanding about life and all related to it.

I.5 Scope and Limitation

This study is mainly concentrated on the analysis of the evil nature of human being in the characters, through characterization, and setting.

To obtain this purpose, the writer limits the focus of attention on the characters in the novel; Ralph and Jack, and the setting. The writer believes that they are representative enough to reveal the evil nature of human

being. Some characters who hold important roles to this study may be analyzed but not in detail.

I.6 Theoretical Background

This study is intended to analyze the evil nature of human being within the characters in the novel. Since it concerns with intrinsic elements of a novel, an intrinsic approach will be used.

Further consideration for the underlying idea to reveal the evil nature of human being within the story, will be represented by the psychological approach that the writer employs in this analysis as a mean to get a better explanation.

I.7 Method of the Study

In working in this thesis, the writer applies the library research to support the analysis of the problems. What is meant by library research here is a process to find information which is useful to help the writer to do his research. Thus the writer collects data and information from various books, articles, encyclopedia and other printed materials related with Golding's work especially *Lord of the Flies*. This is also what the writer does concerning materials and data for the literary

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theories and approach. However, the main source used for this study is the work itself that is Golding's *Lord of the Flies*.

Regarding the subject of the study, descriptive analysis is used. It is applied to give descriptive explanation of the problems found in the work through the dialogues, events and actions of the story. This method is applied based on the work itself and supported by other information concerning with the work. Furthermore, the quotation in the genuine form are provided to confirm and support the analysis.

I.8 Definition of key terms

- Conch: Any of various large spiral-shelled. The shell of conch is used as horn. (Webster's third new international dictionary,1986).
- Lord of the Flies: The pig's head which is mounted on a stick covered by flies.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK