

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Problem of the Study

In the realm of the arts, Hemingway is one of the most famous of modern men. Like Byron a hundred years ago, like Mark Twain, like Jack London, like Stephen Crane, in more recent time he is a living legend (Wagenknecht, 1952). Hemingway's fame has really influenced his society because he vividly creates his own characteristics which quite different from his other contemporary writers. The dissenting character is not only deals with the subject matter like ordeals, triumphs, defeats of bullring, the trout stream, and the battle fight, but also the technique of expressing the subject matter in the form of literary works and especially his thoughts. As Cowley wrote in A Second Flowering (1973) :

The Hemingway image had an effect on some writers of his own age group,... His most strongest immediate influence was on writers beginning with Steinbeck who were too young to have served briefly in the Great War. The influence continued to spread, and it is all pervasive in the heart boiled novelist of the 1930s. When still younger novelists wrote about their adventures in the Second War, they produced Hemingway dialogue and Hemingway scenes of action. Often their heroes seemed to be reflections of Robert Jordan among

the guerrillas or Frederic Henry caught up in the retreat of Caporetto. The Hemingway image was more vivid than their own adventures in a different war.

Hemingway had imitators all over America. Boys and girls campus after campus began to talk like Hemingway's characters. Even more his influence played an important effect on those who would become the next generation of writers and more so numerically on readers. Hemingway influenced much on young people. Because he helped the eyes of younger people focus on American life sharply.

The prominent characteristics of Hemingway's work lie on the limited characters, the common problems as the subject matters creatively and vividly described in his novels and his style. The limited characters concerning soldiers, sportmen, prize fighters, and matadors are commonly found in the novel A Farewell to Arms, Greenhills of Africa, Death in the Afternoon, Across the river and Into the Trees, The Sun Also Rises etcetera. Hallyday (1959) wrote that Hemingway's main interest, in representing human life through fictional forms, has consistently been to set man against the background of his world and universe, to examine the human situation from various point of view. The problems generally described in his novels are such as the stub-

born and courageous fighting of the old man Santiago against the biggest fish in his life as depicted from The Old Man and the Sea, the fighting of a young man to support his family by becoming an outlaw as in To Have and Have Not, the fighting of Robert Jordan against the fascist as in For Whom the Bell Tolls and the disillusioning of a young American soldier of the World War I and the society that produced it as in A Farewell to Arms.

Hemingway's world of fiction swarms with perverts, drunkars, and prostitutes. He is greatly preoccupied with violence, death, more alcohol compared to any others' stories, and the conventional sexual ethic is often absent altogether. As Robert Pen Warren wrote about Hemingway characters in Critical Essays on Modern Fiction 1920 - 1951 :

They are usually violence. There is the hard-drinking and sexual promiscuous world of The Sun Also Rises, the chaotic and brutal world of wars as in A Farewell to Arms, For Whom the Bell Tolls, many of the inserted In Our Time, the play The Fifth Column, and some of the stories about the world of sport as in Fifty Grand, My Old Man. The Undeafated, The Snows of Kilimanjaro; the world of crime as in The Killers, The Gambler, the Nun, and the Radio, and To Have and Have Not.

Basically Hemingway's style is simple, direct, and unadorned, probably as a result of his early newspaper

training. Hemingway has often been described as a master of dialogue, and most readers agree on their first introduction to his writing that this is not the way the characters would really talk. Actually, after a close examination of his dialogue, some critics say that this is the way people merely talk. Since there is no entire agreement of the critics on his style, the best is to put it into writer's own world. Hemingway once said in Playboy magazine about his writing:

Yet I sometime think that my style is suggestive rather than direct. The reader must often use his imagination or lose the most subtle part of my thought.

The mentioned characteristics are also found in For Whom the Bell Tolls which among the least of Hemingway's works. They are soldiers in this case they are guerrillas and a young American partisan in the chaotic and brutal world of Spanish Civil War against the Franco's fascist.

Robert Jordan is the hero of the story. Not like Hemingway other hero he showed his heroic character too excessively and too deliberately. He sacrifices his life too much for other people's life, and he makes too little for himself.

The style Hemingway developed in the novel bears a superficial likeness to that employed in grade-school

reading test., but its simplicity is actually forged out complexity. The style is characterized by sentences that are short and simple, with few adjectives and adverbs.

Robert Jordan, the hero of the novel, has a great mission to blow the bridge in the Civil War in Spain. To carry out his mission he is assisted by Pablo, the leader of a guerrilla band, and Pablo's wife, Pilar, the real strong figure among the partisans. When Robert Jordan is about to blow the bridge, Pablo suggests him to call off the duty due to the snow fall. On the other hand, Robert Jordan confirms to blow the bridge as planned. Unfortunately Jordan's plan to blow the bridge and Golz's plan to attack Segovia has already been detected by the fascists who are going to attack the guerrilla earlier. This situation forces Jordan to dilemma. Therefore he sends Andres to meet General Golz with the hope that General would call off the attack, but it would not. The only power to face the fascists' attack and do the mission is Jordan's own courage because Pablo who formerly promises to help him now negates him by the treachery. Fortunately, Robert Jordan manages to blow up the bridge at the beginning of the Loyalist bombing attack over the Fascist. Howev-

er, Robert Jordan is then wounded by the Fascist's bullets.

For Whom the Bell Tolls reflects heroism attractively described by Hemingway. The presence of heroic atmosphere in the novel interests the write of this thesis because it sets out from the two related aspectss namely the real fact (das sein) and the idealistic fact (das sollen). Both of them can encourage the spirit of life manifested in the form of heroism.

Based on the above background, the problem discussed in this thesis is formulated in the interogative statement as follows :

How does the novelist convey heroism in For Whom the Bell Tolls ?

The answer of the above question is extensively desribed in Chapter 4 as the main part of this thesis.

1.2 Objective of the Study

The primary objective of the study is to find out heroism in Hemingway's work entitled For Whom the Bell Tolls. It is because heroism is constantly revelant to human life., particularly when facing obstacles which can cause the failure. The spirit of heroism, however,

always brings to the acceleration of the success desired.

1.3 Significance of the Study

This thesis is expected to contribute the understanding of literature in general, and American literature especially on Hemingway's works on particular. What happens to Hemingway characters is a universal phenomena. It may happen to any modern man in any place. Therefore, there are some advantages of this study as follows :

1. To attain range of vision on heroism viewed from the literary perspectives.
2. To utilize the mentioned vision of heroism lead to human life wisely and benefitally for others.
3. To develop our intellectual and spiritual potentialities to create idealistic human beings who are embodying the characteristics of a hero such as courage.
4. To conquer any challenges of life unavoidably coming to human being especially inevitably obstructing the efforts to achieve the ideal.

1.4 Method and Technique of the Research

This research is confirmatory descriptive which means that the result is the description based on confirmation of the theory. The main method is the structural method. The structural method according to A Teeuw (1988)

Principle work of the structural method and the technique of analysis is to segregate the interrelationships of all elements which convey the wholeness of meaning.

Moreover to borrow Hawkes' opinion (Hawkes, 1978)

Structuralism is a way of thinking of a world in which it relates the description of structure and perception. It is essentially the structure of wholeness, which is constructed by the relationship of the elements. The elements of the wholeness do not have their own meaning, but the meaning lies on the relationship of the elements.

This thesis uses structural method developed by Rene Wellek and Austin Warren. Rene Wellek and Austin Warren said that literary works intrinsically consisted of elements : plot, characterization, setting, point of view, style, theme (Rene Wellek and Austin Warren, 1978). This thesis limits the discussion on plot, setting, and characterization because they are major elements and are representative enough to convey the aim of the research. The structural method limits the study only on the work as an autonomy. It concerns with

the internal elements of the work. In the literary study, the elements of the novel researched are plot, characterization and setting.

While the technique of finding and collecting the data on heroism consists of two steps namely the analysis in which the main activity includes the efforts of understanding the novel, and synthesis as well as interpretation. In the analysis, the focus of attention is on the protagonist's heroism manifested in plot, characterization and setting.

CHAPTER 2

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK