

CHAPTER V
CONCLUSION

This thesis has discussed two elements of fiction in Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre, that are character and setting. It is mainly to support the analysis of dilemma, love and social status. In this case, the analysis uses the Wellek and Warren's Theory of Literature under literary approach which is supported by sociological theory.

Charlotte Bronte's Jane Eyre can be classified as a social novel. Through Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte tried to criticize the social condition of Victorian period. It talks much about human life, human character and behaviour. This novel also offers the lessons in motivation - that the former experiences override the factors that determine one's actions - and the sense of self-esteem preservation - that the individual has to do some efforts in preserving his self-esteem.

During the Victorian period social status played an important role in social life. People were on the opinion that social status was the main symbol for them, therefore, someone's social status became the main identity to judge someone. Jane Eyre lived in such condition of society. As an orphan who lived in oppression and poverty, she received some injustice treatments

through her childhood. She had experienced life as the low class people and found that social status was a handicap for them. Those were the reasons which motivated her to do some efforts to improve her social status. Finally, she had succeeded in reaching her social status and position as an educated and independent woman.

Then, she fell in love with a married gentleman who had an insane wife. She had faced on the dilemma : being his mistress or leaving him for the sake of her social status. If she chose to be a mistress, people would judge her as an unrespectable and disgraceful woman. Moreover, she had so struggled to leave her unhappy period and had succeeded in her social status as a governess that she did not want to loose it for the sake of being a mistress. Finally, she came to the decision that she would preserve her self-esteem and social status.

Based on the analysis in Chapter IV, which described Jane Eyre's attitude in facing her dilemma in order to be successful in her life, the writer comes to the conclusion that Jane Eyre has the tendency to emphasize the importance of social background in the development of human character. The role of social status is so important that it overrides other factors that determines one's decision. In Jane Eyre social status seems to be treated

so seriously. Its impact on the heroine, Jane Eyre, made her suffer in order to save her self-esteem and social status.

In the writer's opinion, Jane Eyre's decision is more or less very wise because if she lived with a married man, she would certainly be his mistress. Although she pitied him, she could not accept this fact. She thought that she had so struggled to leave her unhappy period of her life and had succeeded in her social status as a governess that she did not want to lose it for the sake of being a mistress. In this case, Charlotte Brontë can still show the relevance of social standing as realistically as possible. Her character, Jane Eyre, was not sentimental in solving the dilemma, between love and social status.

It is obvious that social background has a great impact on one's ways and views of life especially during the author's time.

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