

CHAPTER I

I N T R O D U C T I O N

1.1 BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

This study is going to analyze one of the literary works. The definitions below explain about what literature is. "Literature is writing which expresses and communicates thought, feelings, and attitudes towards life" (Rees, *English Literature: An Introduction For Foreign Readers*, 1973:5) and "it is valued as works of art (drama, novel, poetry contrasted with technical books and journalism)" (Hornby, *The Advanced Learner's Dictionary Of Current English*, 1963:664).

One of literature genre is novel. It is one of literary works which the writer likes to analyze. The definition below explain about what novel is. "Novel: the 20th century generic term for any type of prose fiction of book length in which characters and actions are presented in a plot as if representing persons and events in real life" (*Encyclopedia Americana Vol. 20*, Americana Corp., 1977:510).

Characters and actions which are described in a story are phenomena which readers can see in everyday life. Characters say, think, act as human being. A story which is told in a novel is also about human life and their problems which they have to face in this life.

The way characters speak and act in novel are the same with human being do. As Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia writes that "Novel consist of facts from real life filtered through the novelist's imagination to become a well orginized and vital human story" (1962). It is easy for readers to understand a story in a novel since it represents real life which they usually face. Even, through novel, readers can enlarge their experiances and knowledges about life. As having explained by Graham Little in his book *An Introduction To Literature*. He states that "Good literature adds to our understanding of life in the world around us. It embodies thoughts and feeling of matters on human importance" (1966:2).

Literature can be as a media to show a philosophy or idea. An idea is put in a story, an author creates.

Frequently literature is thought of as a form of philosophy, as 'ideas' wrapped in form. Literature can be treated as a document in the history of ideas and phylosophy, for literary history parallels and reflects intellectual history. 'History of Ideas' is simply a specific approach to the general history of thought, using literature only as document and illustration (Welleck, *Theory Of Literature*, 1978:111)

Through the story, the phylosophy is not just as a theory of phylosophy which maybe uneasy to be understood. Yet,

it is an application of philosophy in a story so it makes the readers become easy to understand it.

In this study, the writer finds that there is an idea which is shown in William Saroyan's *One Day in the Afternoon of the World*. The idea is called Transcendentalism.

As a self-styled prophet of a native resurgence (believing in the virtue of self-reliant individualism, in the innate goodness of man and the rightness of his impulses) he has followed the tradition of American Transcendentalism of Emerson. (Nyren, *Modern American Literature*, 1983:143)

Holman explains in his book entitled *A Handbook to Literature* about what Transcendentalism is. Briefly, it is about human intuition, conscience. The human intuition is a divine thing in human being since what conscience says is always good, wise and meaningful. So, we must trust to human intuition since to trust it is really to trust the voice of God speaking intuitively within us. This idealism can create the specific personality to human being.

In this novel, transcendentalism is depicted through the description of the personality of the main character. His personality is established by analysing his relationship with his separate family living in New York. Through this analysis, it will show that there is a certain philosophy called transcendentalism shown by the main

character. In this study, the writer is interested in analysing the personality of the main character who shows transcendentalism.

In this study, the writer chooses William Saroyan as the author of the novel that she analyzes. As stated before that there is transcendentalism in his novels. She is interested in analysing his capability in writing about transcendentalism through his novel entitled *One Day in the Afternoon of the World*.

I.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEMS

Based on the background of the study, the writer decides to analyze the main character who describes the certain philosophy called transcendentalism. She states the problem through the following question :

- a. How does the story tell about the personality of the main character?
- b. How does the story depict transcendentalism in the story?

I.3 OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

The writer determines the objective of the study to the following sentences.

- a. To know the personality of the main character who is judged as the one describing the certain phylosophy called transcendentalism.

- b. To get a clear understanding about transcendentalism which is described in the story.

1.4 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

There are many significances that the writer gets from studying William Saroyan's novel entitled *One Day in the Afternoon of the World*.

First, it will increase her capability in analysing literary work especially William Saroyan's novel.

Second, it can increase her knowledge about human life.

Third, it gives the understanding about the use of human intuition in this life from Saroyan's novel.

The writer also hopes that this study will be necessary for the students of English Department who want to analyze literature, especially that has relationship with William Saroyan's works.

1.5 SCOPE AND LIMITATION

This study is going to analyze William Saroyan's novel entitled *One Day in the Afternoon of the World* through the description of the main character of the story whose name is Yep Muscat. To keep the analysis in its aim, she states the limitation through the following statements:

- a. This study limits the analysis on analysing the per-

sonality of the main character. It is established by analysing his relationship with his separate family. The main character's range, speech, and action can reveal his relationship with his separate family and his personality.

- h. It has been judged that the idea as depicted in the story is about transcendentalism. It is used as the tool to analyze the personality of the main character.

I.6 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In this study, the writer uses intrinsic approach. It is used to analyze the main character since this study is going to know the personality of the main character who is judged as the one who describes the certain philosophy called transcendentalism.

She also uses transcendentalism approach in this study. By this approach, she focuses to analyze the personality of the main character based on the transcendentalism theory.

I.7 METHOD OF THE STUDY

Method of the study is as the procedure or the way of analysing the main character as pictured in the story. In this study, the writer uses descriptive analysis method. Through the method, the character's range,

speech, appearance, and action are used as the tool to describe the personality of the main character.

1.8 DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

Consciousness: all the ideas, thoughts, feelings, wishes, intentions, recollections of a person.

Destiny: that which happens to somebody thought of as determined in advance fate.

Intuition: (power of) the immediate understanding of something without conscious reasoning or study.

Love: the attraction, desire or affection felt for a person who arouses, delight or admiration or elicits tenderness, sympathetic interest or benevolence; devoted affection.

Personality: qualities that make up a person's character

Transcendentalism: the notion which stressing on the intuition of men functioning to lead them in this life well (Wesep, *Seven Sages: The Story of American Phylosophy*, 1960).

1.9 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

This paper is divided into four chapters. Chapter I talks about the introduction containing the definition of

background of the study, statement of the problems, objective and significance of the study, scope and limitation, theoretical background, definition of key terms, and method of the study.

Chapter II talks about theoretical framework, gives further explanation about the approaches which are used as the main tool to analyze this novel and related study which talks about the study that has direct connection with the writer analysis.

Chapter III talks about descriptive analysis of the main character which is divided into three subchapters. Those are the analysis of the main character's range, speech, and action as described in the story.

Chapter IV is conclusion about the main point of the whole analysis of the personality of the main character.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK