

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I.1 Background of The Study

Literature is a permanent expression in words of some thought or feeling or idea about life and the world (Rees:9). In literature the author tries to present the work in which the reader can learn his experiences about life. He may present his experiences through the character in which there are a lot of problems to be faced and difficulties (Rees:19) so that we will understand ourselves and other people.

Novel is a fictitious prose narrative of considerable length in which characters and actions representative of real life are portrayed in plot of more or less complexity (Rees:106). In novel, the author has more chance to comment on characters, to create the setting, to include long explanation of his own philosophical idea and his opinion about life. The author will bring the readers to his intended purpose or message so that he will minimize misinterpretation about the message of the novel itself.

Thomas Hardy (1840-1928) is the author who is successful as both novelist and poet. He is a regional

novelist, he uses a part of his country which he knows well, Wessex, in all of his novels' setting. The main character of his novels are the victims of the cruel and impersonal fate. It means that all of his works are tragic. Hardy is also pessimist and a doubter in religious matters, so that his works cause the anger of many conservative thinkers. His great novels are *Far from The Madding Crowd* (1874), *The Return of The native* (1878), *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (1886), *Tess of The D'Urber-villes* (1891) and in this thesis, the writer will study his last novel *Jude The Obscure* (1896).

Jude The Obscure also uses Wessex as the geographical setting. He creates the name of the city in this area such as Marygreen, Christminster, and Melchester, those have principally taken place in Fawley, Oxford and Salisbury. Hardy uses the educational background, poverty, love and marriage and the custom of the society as the topic. This novel may criticize the society that gives no opportunity for ordinary man to get his dream in learning and love, this controversial idea of Hardy about living together without being married gave him bad reaction from the society at that time. Furthermore R.J Rees in his book "English Literature" said that:

The publication of *Jude The Obscure*, which by implication condemn both the social injustices and the

traditional idea of Christian marriage. angered many Christian. and Hardy had to face hostile criticism from many quarters, including the Bishop. One of them went so far as to demand that the book should be publication burned. How far Hardy was affected by the outcry against Jude is difficult to say: the fact is that he wrote no more novels. the years until his death in 1928 being devoted to Dynast and other poetry (126).

Jude The Obscure was about Jude the ordinary man who has a dream to get a university degree even though he lives in poverty. The idea of Christminster, the city in which there is a university influences him to study Greek, Latin, math, theology and history by himself. He feels he will fail when he finds out that Christminster is different with what he dreamed when he was child. He cannot go to the university because of his poverty. In this city he is also trapped in love with his cousin, Sue and living together with her. Unfortunately they have to face many obstacles such as losing his job, having to move from one city to another, living in poverty, reaching sick, and finally losing their children. These conditions are caused by society which is majority Christian and refuses the controversial idea. The death of their children makes Sue give up and go back to her previous

husband. Jude the tragic character, has nothing neither his academic ambition nor love. The failure of the dream influence his life, being trapped in alcohol, getting sick and finally he dies in loneliness.

The writer is interested in this novel because the character of Jude is very strong. Hardy depicts him as the smart boy, ambitious, hard worker but cannot manifest his dream in education and love, because of poverty and the social convention. Jude who is smart, ambitious, hard worker; is defeated by social injustices and convention. Furthermore, his love to Sue, his cousin, destroys himself because he does not realize that convention in society still handles him. however the controversial idea such as living together that opposes the social convention is dangerous and fatal to the person.

I.2 Statement of The Problems

On the basis of the background of the study there are problems that appear into the following questions:

1. What are the conditions that convince Jude to have the dream?
2. What are the conditions that make Jude's dream fail?

3. What is the consequence of Jude's failure on himself?

I.3 Objective of The Study

This study has purpose to know the conditions that convince Jude to have the dream. It is also to reveal the conditions that make Jude's dream fail. Finally it is to reveal the consequence of Jude's failure on himself.

I.4 Significance of The Study

The purpose of the analysis is to enlarge our knowledge in this literary work in which there are failures that are faced by the main character in reaching the idea. so we can better understand about life and relationship with other human beings.

The writer expects that this study may also give contribution to further literary research that concerns this novel.

Finally for the reader, there will be more interesting and understanding in reading this novel.

I.5 Scope and Limitation

This study only concerns about the intrinsic aspects. It means the analysis of the failure of Jude in reaching his dream through characterization, setting, and plot.

By analyzing these elements we will get a better understanding about the failure of Jude in reaching his dream.

I.6 Theoretical Background

As this analysis focuses on the intrinsic aspects of the novel, so that the writer decides to use the intrinsic approach to analyze the problems about the failure of Jude in reaching his dream.

With the application of the intrinsic approach, the writer uses the objective theory. It is the theory that regards a work of art in isolation from all external points of reference. The objective theory regards a literary work based on the internal or intrinsic aspects of the work itself.

I.7 Method of The Study

As this analysis concerns the study of fiction, therefore the writer uses the library research. It is the process of collecting some references that related to the analysis.

Considering the subject of the study, the writer uses descriptive analysis to explain the problems through dialogues events and actions.

I.8 Definition of Key Terms

- Dream : the aim of life which looks perfect to somebody.
- Failure : Something that is unsuccessful.

I.9 Organization of The Paper

The writer divides this thesis into four chapters. The first chapter is introduction that consists of the background of the study, the statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, theoretical background, method of the

study, definition of key terms, and organization of the paper.

The second chapter is the theoretical background in which the writer will explain about the theory and approach that is used in this analysis. The writer also explains the significance of the theory and approach.

The third chapter is analysis. In this chapter, the writer makes analysis through character, setting, and plot. The fourth chapter is conclusion; the problems that concern this thesis will be answered.

