

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I. BACKGROUND of THE STUDY

Every man who lived in this world must have a problem whether it is simple or difficult one. This case makes a man has no choice to face his problem if he wants to still exist in this world. There are two tendencies of man in facing his problem. First, he will run away if he gets a problem. He avoids it because he feels that problem is too difficult for her and he can not handle it. In this case, he may become self-defeating patterns (stealing, drugs or alcohol abuse, etc). Second, he has enough courage to fight against his problem and solves it as soon as possible. In this case, he may become being good in a crisis. These tendencies in psychology-studies are known as *Coping Behaviour*.

"Coping has been widely and long regarded as having a central role in adaptation. Coping has always been linked to the concept of stress. The links between stress, impaired functioning and human misery on the negative side and health, orale and accomplishment on the positive side." (R.S. Lazarus, 1966 : Encyclopedia of Psychology Vol. I)

Literature is closely related to life because it portrays some aspects of life such as human experiences, human problems, human conflicts, etc. These aspects of life are often used by the authors as general objects of

literature. They describe and analyze them in their works. Thus, it can be concluded that studying literature is very important to extend our knowledge in studying various problems of human life and looking deeper into human life.

This thesis concerns with one form of literary works, a novel. According to Graham Little in the book *Approach of literature* ;

" A novel is a form of literary work which presents one or a few characters in considerable depth and also traces the development of characters as a result of the experiences of which the plot tells." (1966 : 101)

Another opinion comes from Bakker. His opinion may be one of the best ways of understanding a novel. He said :

" A novel is applied to the narrative in prose of considerable length that form its very nature largely imaginary yet picturing life as it is with a more or less intricate plot, kept within the reach of real life, the development of which is brought about the character playing their role in the story and it is written with a special purpose." (1979 : 50)

The writer of the thesis has an interest in analyzing *Jane Eyre* because this novel is written by and about a woman. In Charlotte Bronte's many novels, women's lives are a major theme. She presented female characters as heroines. Most of them are described as governess, such as *Shirley*, and *Villette*. Charlotte Bronte portrays her female characters as ones who struggle courageously to face her problems. Frank N. Magill in his *Critical Survey of Long*

Fiction tries to give his opinion about Charlotte Bronte's characteristic, he said :

" Bronte brought to English fiction an intensely personal voice. Her books show the moral and emotional growth of a protagonist almost entirely by self-revelation. Her novels focus on individual self-fulfillment. They express the subjective interior world not only in thoughts, dreams, visions but also by projecting inner state through external objects, secondary characters, and places, events and weather." (1983 : p.296)

Jane Eyre is the best novel of Charlotte Bronte. This novel can be said as Semi-Autobiography. It means that there are some parts of this story which are based on the author's life-experience, for example, the death of her sisters, Maria and Elizabeth Bronte who got tuberculosis in Cowan Bridge was described as Helen Burns, a friend of Jane, who also died of consumption at Lowood. The bitter experiences of Charlotte Bronte during her study at Cowan Bridge, such as : the bad condition of the school, the food which was correspondingly bad, and the school's discipline which was unpardonably harsh were also described when Jane studied at Lowood. The unwillingness of Elizabeth Branwell, Charlotte's aunt to take care of Bronte children , it was also experienced by Jane Eyre during she lived with Mrs. Reed. Between Charlotte and Jane Eyre, they work in the same profession as a governess, etc.

This novel, *Jane Eyre* talks about an orphan girl, named Jane Eyre who wished a happiness. To reach her wish

she had to struggle against the suffering of her childhood and her adolescence. In her struggle, Jane used her own strength, her own ability and her own courage. All those things were applied by Jane to face the cruelty of the Reeds family, the bad-conditions of her school at Lowood, and the love-betrayal which was done by Mr. Edward Rochester, her lover and also her employer. Her resoluteness and her patience were also the important factors in gaining the victory over those problems. After she had difficult-time of struggle, finally she could get her happiness.

This novel is a true-story of Jane Eyre which was told after she had been married ten years.

This novel became more interesting because of a controversy which occurred between the people after it was published. This novel occurred in the time of Victorian where people still believed that woman had to accept her fate beside woman had to wait the declaration of love from a man. On the contrary, the main female-character of this novel was described as a woman who never gave up with her fate, if she had troubles she would fight them. It also described that woman declared her love to man.

I.2. Statement of The Problem

From the background of the study, the writer of the thesis would like to state the problem, as follow :

- a) What problems did occur during Jane's childhood and adolescence?
- b) How did she handle them ?

I.3. Objective of The Study

Objective of the study having a purpose to find the answer which is in the statement of the problem. As for the objective of the study is :

- To describe what problems which occurred during her childhood.
- To describe what problems which occurred during her adolescence.
- To show how she handled both of them.

I.4. Significance of The Study

This study is an attempt to give a deeper insight into human problems and how to handle them through the analysis of Jane Eyre's struggle in gaining the victory over her problems.

The result of this study serves to enrich our knowledge about the literary work, particularly of Charlotte Bronte, namely *Jane Eyre*.

Furthermore, it will hopefully be a contribution for other further studies concerning with this work.

I.5. Scope and Limitation

The writer of the thesis limits her analysis, on the struggle of the main character. It can be seen from the conflicts which are faced by the main character. These conflicts are found through the analysis of plot,

I.6. Theoretical Background

This study is intended to analyze the struggle of the main character, Jane Eyre in handling her problems through the analysis of plot. Since plot belongs to the intrinsic element of novel, so the Literary approach will be applied.

I.7. Method of The Study

In composing this thesis, the writer of the thesis uses a library research to support the analysis of the problems. A library research is a process of collecting data from books, encyclopedias, articles and any other printed materials the library, especially that having connection with Charlottle Bronte and her work, *Jane Eyre*.

The method that is used is descriptive analysis. It means the witer of the thesis will give clear description about the main character's struggle which occurs while she face her problem.

I.8. Defenition of the Key-Terms

Struggle : An effort which is performed by some one to reach a purpose

I.9. Organization of The Paper

This thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter consists of nine sub-chapters, namely ; Background of the study, Statement of the problem, Significance of the study, Scope and Limitation, Theoretical background, Method of the study, Definition of the key-term, and the last sub-chapter is Organization of the paper.

The second chapter is theoretical framework that gives general description about theories and approaches which are used to analyze the problems. In this chapter also discuss about the related studies of this thesis.

The general explanation about the author and her work is given in the third chapter.

The fourth chapter is an analysis of the thesis. It is an exploration to find the answer or solution which is asked in the statement of the problem.

The last chapter is conclusion. It is a solution that is found through the analysis. Bibliography organizes a list of references from which the writer of the thesis gets the data to help the analysis.

CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK