

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **A. Background of the Study**

Love is usually the most interesting topic that people want to talk. Almost all people know about love and they mostly have experienced it, because it has actually brought them to the world. Actually, it will not be easy to define love, but according to Hornby to love means to have strong affection or deep tender feeling for something or someone (506). Generally, love refers to the beauty of someone or something. There are many kinds of love; it depends on how people interpret the word of love. There are mother's love, parents' love, love to God, love to nature, and so forth. There are also many reasons why people fall in love. In the practice, love can bring people into happiness but it can also bring them into desperation.

In many cases love is possible to change, it means that in practice love can turn into hate. Any possible things can cause the change of love into hate; it could be internal or external, conscious or unconscious. It may occur if love has been accompanied by the unmotivated possessive feeling, because there is inclination to force the love to be as he/she wishes. Therefore, it is rational if we said that love is very easy to change. Dr. Leslie Parrot said that love is the peculiar mixing of two contradictory things. There are affection and also anger, passion and boredom, stability and instability, limitation and freedom (Sutendi 2).

It will be more complicated to understand if love and hate occurred in the same situation, because love and hate are two different kinds of phenomena. Love and hate are much related to emotional and sensitive aspect of human being. Those kinds of phenomena can be seen in real life, and sometimes they can also be seen from a literary work. One of Yukio Mishima's novels reflects those phenomena.

Yukio Mishima is known as one of the most significant writers in modern Japan. He had already established himself as the outstanding young writer of the post-war years. *The Forest in Full Bloom* was his first work of fiction, published when he was nineteen in 1944. His semi-autobiographical novel *Confession of a Mask* appeared in 1949. Since then he published over a dozen novels, almost all of which were translated into English and other languages during his lifetime. They include: *Thirst of Love*; *Forbidden Colours*; *Death in Midsummer*; *The Sound of Waves* (a simple love story of a boy and girl in Japanese fishing village); *The Temple of The Golden Pavilion* (a brilliant depiction of a psychopathic monk who destroy the temple he love); *After the Banquet* (the story of successful business woman who marries an aging politician and attempts to restore his former glory); and the horror tale *The Sailor Who Fell from Grace with the sea*. All his novels contain paradoxes: beauty equated with violence and death; the yearning for love and its rejection when offered; and an exquisite attention to detail in the delineation of character (Mishima x-xi).

*The Temple of The Golden Pavilion* is based on the true event that occurred in Japan 1950. During that year the entire country of Japan was shocked

when the Zen temple of Kinkakuji in Kyoto, regarded as a national treasure, was burned to the ground by a young acolyte who was studying to be Zen Buddhist priest at the same temple. The acolyte, who was afflicted with a stammer, had become *obsessed* with the beauty of the temple. He had originally planned to burn the temple to the ground and die in the fire, but he lost his courage at the last moment and tried to commit suicide after torching the temple. He ultimately failed in his suicide attempt and turned himself over to the police. Yukio Mishima used this incident as the basis for the novel *The Temple of The Golden Pavilion*. It is Yukio Mishima's imaginative re-creation of an acolyte's obsession and a detailed portrayal of the step that led to Mizoguchi's last desperate, destructive act.

*The Temple of The Golden pavilion* is a story of a young man named Mizoguchi, who is studying to become a Zen Buddhist monk at the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto Japan. He is physically unattractive and his stutter has alienated him from other people. Before dying, his father takes him to see the Golden Temple, where he first develops his obsession. He wants very badly to live at the Golden Temple so that he will never be separated from the beauty. He spends every opportunity admiring the beauty of the temple, but he cannot live at peace with it. The temple's beauty has frustrated him because it is a quality that he cannot attain.

The burning of the Golden Temple raises a certain point of interest in this novel. It becomes more interesting since the main character—the one who commit this action—love the temple very much. His obsession toward the beauty of the temple apparently has great impact on him. Along with internal and external

conflicts he has to deal with, this obsession develops into an extreme point where his love turn into hatred and destruction.

Considering the extensive role of the main character, the discussion will be focused on the main character around whom the conflicts revolved. The main character here is a complicated person. It can be seen clearly in his attitude or his obsessions with the Golden Temple. His obsessions are related to his physical and mental condition. Beside the internal factors, external factors or the environment also influences Mizoguchi's obsessions. Mizoguchi has to deal with the development of his character because the transition of living from the village into living in the temple as a monk.

## **B. Statement of the Problems**

After reading the novel, the writer intends to observe and analyze several problems that arise, they are:

1. What are the causes of Mizoguchi's obsession for the Golden Temple?
2. How is the development of Mizoguchi's character related to his obsession?
3. How does this development influence his act/ decision to burn the temple?

## **C. Objective of the Study**

1. To find out the internal and external causes of Mizoguchi's obsession as being described in Mishima's *The Temple of the Golden Pavilion*.
2. To describe the development of Mizoguchi character related to his obsession for the beauty of the temple.

3. To seek the influences of the development of Mizoguchi's character toward his decision to destroy the Golden Temple he loves.

#### **D. Significant of the Study**

Since the focus of the analysis is the main character in the story, so by observing the main character in the story, it is intended to have more understanding to make the analysis. The purpose of the discussion is to know about certain situation in the story, the conflicts that appear, the struggle, and how the main character resolve the conflicts. The study will convey these matters and answer all the questions, which are specified before.

By making the study about the main character in this novel, the writer hopes to obtain more knowledge about literary work, especially the novel that has been chosen to be discussed. The study would give contribution for the learning about the specific character of the novel. Moreover, the study would develop the reader's outlook about life, especially about the way to face life and make decision.

#### **E. Scope and Limitation**

The writer of the thesis here is not going to compare between the fact or reality incident of the burning and the novel as the work of literature. The focus of the study is the exploration of main character in the novel and the psychological analysis related to it. The writer intends to observe the main character's obsession for the beauty of the temple and to find out the correlation between his obsession

and his decision to destroy the temple. This will be related to the approaches that will be used in the analysis. The intrinsic elements will be used; they are character, plot, and setting. Beside, psychological approach also will be used. The discussion will explain more on the topics above. By keeping the study on this tract, hopefully the discussion will not turn out to another unnecessary topic.

#### **F. Theoretical Background**

The subject of the thesis is Mizoguchi's obsession, which marks the change of his character until he decides to destroy the temple. It is important to note that in this analysis the phenomenon described in the title will only be portrayed through the content of the novel itself without being concerned with any external substances, like the author, the reader and the word outside the work. Therefore, the intrinsic approach is considered suitable to be used in analysis. By using this approach the analysis will be led to explain the subject matter with the help of the intrinsic aspects. Here is the character and characterization, plot, and setting. They are three aspects that are chosen.

Beside, the psychological approach will support the intrinsic approach in analyzing the character's conflict or condition related to his obsession and the development of the conflicts until his final decision. The writer will use the theory of need by Maslow, the concept of obsession and concept of stress to accompany the intrinsic approach in this analysis. It is meant to give a scientific assistance for the analysis.

## **G. Method of the Study**

In the process of writing this thesis, the writer makes research in some libraries, in order to collect and find the data, books, articles, encyclopedias, information and other printed materials needed to support the analysis of the problem, and also to get information from particular books which are dealing with the theories and approaches that will be used in the analysis.

The writer will apply descriptive analysis to explain the problems in the work through the dialogues, events, and actions in the story itself. The analysis will also be supported by other information from particular books concerning with the work.

## **H. Definition of Key Terms**

- Obsessions** : Intrusive and recurring thoughts, impulses, and images that come unbidden to the mind and appear irrational and uncontrollable to the individual experiencing them (Neale 150)
- Love** : A strong positive emotion of regard and affection; to have strong affection or deep tender feeling for something or someone. (Hornby 506)
- Hate** : A strong feeling of dislike or aversion (Webster 831)
- Stress** : A psychological and physiological responses that occur in difficult situation. (Atkinson 459)
- Aggression** : An aggressive drive that motivates behavior to injure the object or person that causing the frustration. (Atkinson 465)

# **CHAPTER II**

# **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**