

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Problem

Characterization has been very often discussed by some researchers, however, to me, it is still interesting to be analyzed since literary works have various features of characterization.

Novel is a kind of prose. Novel is long, written story about imaginary people and events (Martin and Hill, 1996:12). By reading a novel, we can understand deeply about various stories of happiness and sadness which sometimes happen in a real life. Through the sad story, we can take what is happening as a lesson and the way to solve the problem as well as to understand more about the human's feeling who has a problem. Conversely, through the happy story, we become more appreciative to our life and more careful to do something. If we read humorous stories, it will make us happy, laugh and can be as a consolation.

Besides other elements, such as character, setting, plot, and theme, characterization is also one of the important things. By knowing each character's characterization in the novel, we will understand the content of the novel well and we can also learn that everyone has different features. Martin and Hill (1996:19) say that characterization is the way the novelist presents them to us.

In understanding character's characterization, we can use many ways, some of them are by knowing their appearances, words, background, education, etc. In characterization, we should realize that the story in novel is not always true. It is the representation of real life and it is also the imagination of the author's.

I am interested in analyzing the characterization of the main characters in Sue Monk Kidd's novel entitled *The Secret Life of Bees*. It is the first of Sue Monk Kidd's novels which was published by Viking in 2001, it became a genuine literary phenomenon. The characterization of *The Secret Life of Bees* expresses

oppression, race-relations, the ability of love to transform our lives and the often unacknowledged longing for the universal feminine divine. The novel tells the story of a fourteen year old Lily, who runs away with her black housekeeper in 1964 in South Carolina and the sanctuary they both find in the home of three eccentric beekeeping sisters.

1.2 Identification of the Problem

Relate to the background of the study stated above, the I want to reveal the problem about the main characters in "*The Secret Life of Bees*". Where in her childhood and adult hood, Lily Owens, the daughter of T. Ray faces many problems in her life, from light problems to serious problems.

I use the theoretical aspects and this research supported by mean of the psychological theory dealing with the main character's problems.

This research uses literary approach in order to analyze the literary work from the psychological perspective.

1.3 Limitation of the Problem

I focus on analyzing on the main character's characterization in "Sue Monk Kid's *The Secret Life of Bees*".

I describe how Lily Owens behave and act in daily life since she lives together with her dad and her servant, Rosaleen then they runs away and finding sanctuary in the home of three bee keeping sisters, Lily starts a journey as much about her understanding of the world, as about the mystery surrounding her mother.

I admit that this study has its limitation. This study only examines the main characters, Lily Owens and Rosaleen then the I limit the study about analyzing of Lily Owens' and Rosaleen characters as seen in the novel.

1.4 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem, the writer identifies the following problem of the main character's characterization in Sue Monk Kid's "*The Secret Life of Bees*" novel.

To achieve this goal, the writer did several research states as follows:

1. How are the characteristics of the main character presented in Sue Monk Kid's "*The Secret Life of Bees*" novel.
2. How are the main characters play the dominant role in the story. In this case, there are to main characters, Lily Owens and Rosaleen Daise.

1.5 Objective of the Research

Based on the formulation above, the purpose of this research is intended to make interpretative understanding on the main character's characterization in Sue Monk Kid's "*The Secret Life of Bees*"

1. To explain how the characteristic of the main character are presented in "*The Secret Life of Bees*"
2. To explain how are the main characters play the dominant role in the story.

1.6 Benefit of the Research

This research hopefully can be useful for those who want to deepen their knowledge about. "A literary study on the characterization of the main character of "*The Secret Life of Bees*" novel.

I may help the readers to understand well about how the main characters play the important part of this novel.

This research is expected can be accepted by readers because have done with new thought and perspective by describing specifcily of the main character of "*The Secret Life of Bees*".

By knowing each character's characterization in the novel, we will understand the content of the novel well and we can also learn that everyone has different features. The writer suggest for the purpose of the next researcher to use

this study as the additional reference in studying characterization of the main characters.

Furthermore, I hope that the results of this study will give a better understanding on characterization, not only for myself, but also for students who are interested in this field. These differences of discussion may also contribute to the analysis of literature and the readers' eagerness to read literary works, understand them, and then analyze them, so that they can express their opinions. Thus they can get valuable points of view and heighten their moral value of human life through the character's characterization.

1.7 Systematic Organization of the Research

Based on the explanation above, the systematic organization of the research is:

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the problem, identification of the problem, limitation of the problem, formulation of the problem, objective of the research, benefit of the research and systematic organization of the research.

CHAPTER 2 : THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter consists of important information related to the research problem and become the basis for solving this research problem. The Method used in this research are: 1) Direct Method, 2) Indirect Method, 3) Descriptive Qualitative Method and other supporting theories.

CHAPTER 3 : RESEARCH METHOD

This chapter contains the time and location of the research, research approach and method, research object and data, data collection technique, and data analysis technique.

CHAPTER 4 : A LITERARY STUDY OF THE CHARACTERIZATION Of Sue Monk Kidd's "The Secret Life of Bees".

In this chapter, I analyze and explain of the main characters, Lily Owens and Rosaleen Daise through Direct Method and Indirect Method.

CHAPTER 5 : CONCLUSION

This chapter contains conclusions from research results that are disclosed in a comprehensive, clear, and easy to understand manner. This research ends with suggestions related to similar research that will be carried out by other research.

