CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Study

Wellek and Warren define literature as a creative activity, which is mainly on art (1). Meanwhile, Taylor says the definition by stating that: "literature, like other arts, is essentially an imaginative act of the writers imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience" (81). Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that literature cannot be separated from life because it relates to experience and imagination in life. Therefore, literature is one of the bridges to make someone communicative with the society about life's condition by his works.

According to Diyanni, there are three major types of literary work, they are: poetry, drama, and fiction (7). Meanwhile fiction can also be divided into the novel, novelette, and short story. Here, the writer focuses on novel. Richard Taylor (46) says: "Novel is normally a prose work with a quite length complexity which attempts to reflect and express something of the quality of value of human experience". In other words, novel is long prose works with a great amount of details on every page. The effect of this detail is that the readers can recognize the complex reality of a character or event in the story.

Moreover, from John novel is one of literary products in writing form, and relates the story of acts or events as narrative. Therefore, a novel is a prose narrative, which is fictitious, being imagined by the author, pictures characters and action in a sustained plot, and is long enough to fill one or more volumes (367). As a narrative prose, novel has its own story that is similar to the real world.

Literary work is fundamentally developed by two elements, as Wellek and Warren classify, namely intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements is based of the text itself, which consists of plot, character, setting, theme, point of view and style. Meanwhile, extrinsic elements are something out of the text, such as history, environment, economy, social and politic. In other words, extrinsic elements is the relationship between a literary works with evolving circumtances at the time when the work is created (23).

Coltrain's Proposal, a collection of connected fourteenth book in the Long, Tall Texans series which was published September, 1995 by Harlequin, is an one of literary work which was written in United States. This novel describes human condition with their conflicts and joys. The beautiful thing about *Coltrain's Proposal* is the way it touches the deep truths about Coltrain and Louise life and hate love relationship. The character, Coltrain has a complex and figures out his emotions character. Then, Louise has a strong character.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is really interested in the novel and intends to analyze the intrinsic elements focused on the character and conflict in Diana Palmer's *Coltrain's Proposal*. The writer chooses Diana Palmer is because *Coltrain's Proposal* introduces an unforgettable character. Coltrain is a stubborn man whose view of life often clashes with his partner. He is also potrayed as a cold and unpleasant person. The reason why the development of Coltrain's and Louise's character becomes an interesting topic to study is because of the professional relationship between Coltrain and Louise. The ins and outs of their medical practice brought a smile to the writer as they develop such a hate love relationship. This story also was lighter and sweeter then the writer expected as the two discover what they have in common. Therefore, the writer is also interested to analyze the conflict between Coltrain and Louis.

Thus, the writer of the study intends to analyze Diana palmer is novel *Coltrain's Proposal*. The topic is about the character development and the conflict in the stories. Therefore, the writer applies New Criticism theory. Because according to Tyson, New Criticism focuses its analysis on the literary text, instead of on the author's life and time(136). Tyson also says that New Criticism approach requires a scrupulous analysis of the formal elements (137).

Talking about the author of the novel, Diana Palmer was born on December 11, 1946 in Cuthbert, Georgia, United States. Her real name is Susan Elioise Spaeth. Susan returned to college and graduated Summa Cum Laude from piedmont College in Demorest, Georgia, in 1995. She continues to work on her master's degree in history as time permits. Before published romatic novels she also become the journalist. She is an award winning American writer. She has published romantic novels since 1979. She has over 115 novels in print. Some of her works are: Man of Ice, Darling Enemy, Coltrain's Proposal and etc. (http://www.paperbackswap.com/Diana-Palmer/author/) *Coltrain's Proposal* tells the story of a young man named Jeb Coltrain and young woman named Louise Blakely. Dr. Louise Blakely did not want to love Jeb Coltrain. They were supposed to be partners, running the Jacobsville medical clinic together, but instead, he treated her like the enemy. Dr. Louise Blakely, therefore, did not want to involve in any emotional relationship with Jeb Coltrain. And finally, when Lou tells Coltrain that she wants to leave, he is shocked to hear that, and suddenly, he proposes her the wedding proposal.

By giving the literary background stated above. The writer would like to focus the study on the development of Coltrain's and Louise's character and the conflict raised between them.

1.2 Statement of problems

Based on the background of the study explained above, the writer is interested in analyzing the problems, which are formulated as follows:

- 1. How does Coltrain's and Louise's character develop in Diana Palmer's novel *Coltrain's Proposal*?
- 2. How does conflict between Coltrain and Louise happen in Diana Palmer's novel *Coltrain's Proposal* novel?

1.3 Objective of Study

According to the statement of the problems, the purposes of the study are:

 To describe how Coltrain's and Louise's character develop portrayed in Diana Palmer's novel *Coltrain's Proposal*. 2. To describe conflict between Coltrain and Louise happen in Diana Palmer novel *Coltrain's Proposal* novel.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

In order to prevent non-relevant problems, the study is limited to Diana Palmer's *Coltrain's Proposal*. The writer focuses on the character development of Coltrain and Louise. The writer also wants to describe the conflict between Coltrain's and Louise's which is considered as hate-love relationship in the novel. To answer statement of problem stated above, character, characterization and conflict become the important point to analyze.

1.5 Significance of Study

This study is significant to be conducted due to both the theoretical and practical functions. Theoretically, the writer does hope that the study enriches the reader's development of knowledge in the literary theory that is related to New Criticism, especially on character, characterization and conflict. Therefore, the readers are expected to comprehend more about it, especially for those who are having interest in the study of character, characterization and conflict throughout literature. Then practically, this study can give useful contribution for the readers in understanding the content of *Coltrain's Proposal*, mainly concerning about critical analysis using the related theory. Also, the writer hopes that this research can be a helpful reference for other researchers who are interested in conducting further research.

1.6 Method of the Study

The writer uses the library research. This study uses novel *Coltrain's Proposal* by Diana Palmer. In presenting the analyses the writer applies descriptive analitical method. The purpose of this method a real and valid description about the development of the characters and conflict happen within the story. The writer uses New Criticism theory, that is analyzing the formal or intrinsic elements, specifically on character, characterization and conflict.

This study uses some books to help conducting the analysis. The novel itself becomes the primary data sources. The writer also gets information from some internet sources that support this study to improve the knowledge. The research follows the following steps:

- 1. Reading the novel to get the complete and well understanding on the whole story
- 2. Selecting and collecting the data in form of narration and conversation from novel related to the problem
- Analyzing the data collected by firstly categorizing them into two points, dealing with the statement of problems. Then, each point is analyzed using New Criticism theory, which refers to the objectives of the study
- 4. Making conclusion based on the result of data analysis

1.7 Definition of Key Term

To avoid any different perceptions between the writer and the readers in understanding the study, it is essential to give some definition of key terms used in this study. Here are the key terms explained.

- 1. Character: The persons presented in dramatics of
narrative work who are interpreted by reader
as being endowed with the moral and
dispositional qualities that are expressed in
what they say and what they do in action
(Robert).
- 2. Characterization : A way which authors usually use to give clues or hints about the characteristics of their fictional beings.
- 3. Conflict : The struggle which grows out of the interplay of the two opposing forces in a plot. It means that two different sides that are opposed against each other, bring about conflict (Holman).
- 4. Character Development: The way in which a character changes

over time or throughout the course of a

fictional story

(http://writingcenter.tamu.edu/Students/Handouts-

Guides/Guides-(What-Are-You-Writing-)/Creative-

Writing/Character-Development).

1.8 Organization of the Thesis

This study consists of four chapters. Chapter one is introduction which deals with bacground of the study, statement of the problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, methodology, key to specific terms, and organization of the thesis. In chapter two, i.e. review of the related literature which consist of the discussion on the theory New Criticism including character, characterization, and conflict that the writer want to use to analyze the thesis. Chapter three presents the analysis on the development of characters and the conflict in *Coltrain's Proposal*. Finally, conclusion is given in chapter four. After the final chapter, the writer adds the bibilography and appendix on the synopsis of the novel.