#### **CHAPTER I**

### 1.1. Background of Study

Literary work is an object which is used to express, to inspire, and to entertain some human's thoughts. There is definition from literature experts,

Wellek and Warren said that literature is a creative activity, usually on the art (1).

The word 'literature' and 'literary' have also changed their meaning over time.

Before about 1800 literature meant all kinds of writing, including history and philosophy, and it is possible to trace the gradual shifts in meaning all the way up to present. In addition literature is what a given society at a given time considers it to be (Carter 17). Most literature is fiction but most people would also agree that not all fiction (eg comic books, nursery rhymes etc) is literary. On the other hand travel journals (presumably non-fiction) are considered by many to be literature (Carter 17).

Fiction is any literary narrative whether in prose or verse, which is invented instead of being an account of events that in fact happened. In a narrower sense, however, fiction denotes only narratives that are written in prose (the novel and short story), and sometimes is used simply as a synonym for the novel (Abrams 94).

According to Kennedy and Gioia report that two works have dominated modern literary fiction in English: the novel and short story (4). The term "novel" is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of *fiction* written in prose. As an extended

narrative, the novel is distinguished from the *short story* and from the work of middle length called the *novelette*; its magnitude permits a greater variety of characters, greater complication of plot (or plots), ampler development of milieu, and more sustained exploration of character and motives than do the shorter, more concentrated modes (Abrams 190).

Little said that a novel constructs a theme, a novel carves out a plot, novels are much concerned with characters; the people involved in the novel, a novel will show realism of "background and atmosphere", a good novel will also be an imaginative work of art (101-102). Then, the novel consists of a theme, plot, characters and other elements that make the story looks real, it is called best novel. Novel has some significance. Some of the important points are the characters and characterization. Based on Abrams, Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distinctive ways of saying it 'the dialogue' and from what they do 'the action' (32-33).

Meanwhile, characterization is the creations of character of imaginary persons so that they exist for the reader as real within the limits of the fiction (Holman 75). So, between character and characterization, there is a close-relation. Characterization is the way a writer describes character. And character is a person in the story. Character is one significant to analyze in literary work such as a novel.

The interesting novel in for about twenty century is *The Awakening* that is written by Kate Chopin. Kate Chopin is an author from American country. She wrote her literary work in 19th century. According to Metzger said that the late nineteenth century saw the emergence of New Women writers who spoke for what was then labeled the New Woman. The readers of their books were women who were demanding access to higher education, career opportunities, and political and social freedom. Women wanted access to the literary and art worlds, which had been previously dominated by men. Instead of being the objects of art and literature, women wanted to be the creators, and they wanted their creations to depict their concerns. Widowed and unmarried women began living on their own not with their families. These women were interested in a life that did not center on husbands and children. Although Chopin had been happily married prior to being widowed, and even though she was happily a mother, she saw herself as one of these New Women. She was interested in more basic choices, such as whether a woman must marry, whether she could choose not to be a mother, or whether she could choose to support herself (7).

Kate Chopin has written some literary works, such as: short story, novel, and essays. Her most popular novel at that time is *The Awakening*. It was published after *At Fault*, in 1899. Her other literary works are: *A Night in Acadia* in 1899 and *Bayou Folk* in 1894. This novel embodies many of the themes that are interesting to the New Women, such as; women's creativity, marriage, motherhood, and a woman's place in society. There is a similar response from critics who had largely ignored the potential controversy of her work (Metzger 7).

The Awakening novel has described about "Creole". The Creole culture in New Orleans offers a set of traditions, costumes, and morals that are unique to the place and time. In the novel, the Creole society is warm and easygoing, but women's roles are rigidly defined within the New Orleans social construct (Metzger: 8). Edna as a main character a little bit understands the way of New Orleans society for herself and her family.

This novel tells of a woman who is isolated in her marriage. The story happens in two places, the New Orleans and Grand Isle. But it begins in the seaside town of Grand Isle. A family Pontellier on vacation there, they consist of Edna, Leonce and their two children named Raoul and Etienne. One day, Leonce have to leave his family to business for a few weeks. Edna is left to spend her days with another vacationer, Madame Ratignolle who offer Edna friendship. The two women spend many of their days together, with Robert too. Then, Edna falls in love with Robert because often spend their time together when her husband has a business. Edna's behavior has changed. She began to feel wavering herself with the situation. Although Edna has stayed with her family in New Orleans, her mind is still in Grand Isle.

In addition, she wants to express her desire with doing something wrong in her life. Although she has a husband and two children, she was unconscious that case is a strange way in the women role and she has a little bit understands to resolve her problem after everything happen in the past time of her life. After her vacation in Grand Isle.

From the previous description, the researcher is interested in analyzing the main character's desire because Edna as main character was confused to face the new environment which makes her behavior changing to her family.

The main character in *The Awakening* was getting a problem to assert her desire in the right way or in the wrong way. She was confused in her life to be good mother and good wife. According to Edna's problem, the researcher has been interested in analyzing the story using psychology approach related to her desire which influence to her family.

#### 1.2. Statement of Problem

Based on the previous description, the researcher found out the problem those are formulated in this research:

- 1.2.1 How is Edna characterized in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*?
- 1.2.2 What are Edna's desire on her life and her family in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*?

### 1.3. Objective of Study

From the following questions state, this study to aims at:

- 1.3.1 To understand Edna characterized in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*.
- 1.3.2 To explain Edna's desire on her life and her family in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*.

### **1.4.** Scope and Limitation

The scope and limitation of this research, especially in analysis *The Awakening's* novel, the researcher focuses on the main character and it enriches to be interesting to find out the happening in the story. It is based on the characterization of Edna in the novel. The researcher describes the influence of Edna's desire and to know her problem.

## 1.5. Significance of the Study

The significances of study in this research are divided into two parts; theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the researcher hopes that it enriches the reader development of knowledge in the literary theory that is related to character. By reading the thesis, the writer expects that readers understand more about the 'characterization of main character desire in Kate Chopin's *The Awakening*'. The character of Edna as a main character was bewildered for her fell around her family. She was fall in love to another boy when she to leave her husband business in Grand Isle, a vacation place Edna's family in the past time. Her unconscious into new place and new environment was made not good enough for herself and her family.

Then practically, this study hopefully can give useful contribution for the readers in understanding the content of desire. Also, the researcher hopes that this research can be useful reference for other researchers who are interested in conducting further research.

#### 1.6. Research Method

In order to analyze the topic, the researcher uses a method. The researcher elects the descriptive analytic method and the way that the researcher used by library based. The writer uses some books including the novel itself as the primary sources and reads information of some internet sources and other sources such as magazine and journal that aid this study to increase the knowledge. In presenting the analysis, it mainly use descriptive analysis method. The researcher following steps:

- 1. Reading the novel to catch the complete and well understanding on the whole story
- 2. Finding the data in novel to find out the word which is related to the problem of the study
- 3. Selecting and accumulating the data in form of narration from the novel that related to the problem
- 4. Analyzing to the data collected by firstly categorizing them in two points, dealing with two points of the statement problems. Then, each point is analyzed using the theory, which refers to the object of the study.
- 5. Making conclusion based on the result of data analysis

# 1.7. Organization of Study

This study will be divided into four chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which is divided into five points, there are: background of study,

statement of problem, objective of the study, scope and limitation, significant of study and method of study.

In the second chapter is theoretical framework description theory that is used in this research. This chapter also describes about previous research from thesis, journal or book review.

The third chapter is an analysis from the research. This study discusses about problem that is wanted to the research based on the researcher. It must show which part can answer research problem and conclude the result of this research. The fourth is conclusion, the explanation about all the point of the thesis to conclude all the chapters.

#### 1.8. Definition of Key Term

There are several definition of key term of a few books that related to this study:

Character : A person represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who is interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the person say and she/he distinctive ways of saying it 'the dialogue' and from what she/he do 'the action' (Abrams 32-33)

Characterization : The author's creation of imaginary persons which exist for the reader as real within the limits of the fiction (Holman 75)

Desire : A statement that can move us to action, give us urges, incline us to joy at their satisfaction, and incline us to sorrow at their frustration (Schroeder 1)

