

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the study

Jonathan Culler states in his book 'Literary theory: a very short introduction' that literature is language in which the various elements and components of the text are brought into a complex relation (29). Its relation consist of literary terms. In a Glossary of Literary Terms, some elements of literary are action, plot, settings, characters, point of view, style, conflict, mood, and themes. Culler also states the one reason why readers attend to literature is that its utterances have a special relation to the world, a relation that is called 'fictional'. (30)

Novel is one of the form of fictional prose (Holman 298). It has some elements of literary work as character and characterization, plot or structure (Culler 313). Besides, the writer has also found another literary terms in novel as settings, symbol, theme, and actions (Holman 298). Novel is a book-length, fictional prose story (Glossary of Literary Terms 4). It shows that novel is consisted of some pages and also has a lot of paragraphs.

Before the term novel is used, Roman is term that often used rather than novel in European countries, so novel is extension of roman in modern era and it has different characteristic that represent realistic world. In different country English, the term of novel is English transliteration of word *Novella* from Italian, and novel focuses on the act of actual world (309). Terry Eagleton has same idea about novel in

essay “Introduction: What is Literature?” it describes that since the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, the word *Novel* are identically both true and fictional events (www.dartmouth.edu). Holman also states that all novels are representations in fictional Narrative of life or experience, but the form of it has any kind of style and the author has to prove it (309). All of the explanation above, the writer may concludes that novel is relating to the real world. And we know the relation by actions which is seen in novel.

Action in a play, short story, poem, and novel has dealing with sense. To find the crudest sense an author has to make clear what was really happened in his story (5). Thus, the writer will analyze the plot line in this study to find out the story in detail. The writer has found one of actions which has crudest sense in a novel. It is about survival.

As stated before, action means major division. Aristotle has implied in Holman’s book the major parts into five in drama. They are exposition, complication, climax, falling action, and catastrophe. When Elizabethan era, English dramatist begun using the five parts, and followed by European dramatist too. In some degrees the five parts acts relate to dramatic action (5). Holman also takes Aristotle stated that imitation of action is called plot (6).

E. M. Forster made distinction between plot and story. A story is narrative events in their time sequences and only arouses in curiosity. A plot is also narrative events, but it is different because plot focused on causality (335). Holman define plot as intellectual formulation because there is a philosophical concepts behind it. It



Year), the Forest of Reading Evergreen Award, the W. H. Smith Paperback of the Year Award and the University of Canberra Book of the Year. It was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize, the Orange Prize, the Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award, International Author of the Year (Galaxy National Book Awards), the Governor General's Award and the Trillium English Book Award. The American Library Association gave it an Alex Award (for an adult book with special appeal to readers 12-18) and the Indie Choice Award for Adult Fiction. The Canadian Library Association named it as an Honour Book in their Canadian Young Adult Book Award. The four-voiced audiobook version won one of three Publishers Weekly Listen Up Awards and an Earphones Award. ([www.emmadonoghue.com](http://www.emmadonoghue.com))

The story of *Room* was begun when Jack has five years old. The story is divided into two parts inside and outside the room. Jack is the second child of his Ma. His mother has a daughter before Jack, but she got passed away when she was born. She and Jack are the children from their mother and Old Nick. He is a person who abducts and rapes Jack's mother when she is nineteen years old. Jack was born in a single locked room. His mother does not want Old Nick to see Jack after his born until he gets five years old. Jack has to survive in a room with his Ma until he is five years old. Jack is sleeping in a wardrobe at the night because his mother does not want the kidnapper touch Jack. Jack and his Ma are doing anything in a room for about 5 years, it means Jack's childhood only live in a room. His mother wants to live outside the room with Jack. She asks jack to pretend to die, then he escape to ask for

help of someone to call police, and saving his Ma. She takes care and gives Jack not only about public knowledge such as number, plants, his family, but also religious knowledge. Living in a single room with his ma makes Jack's love no boundaries.

Based on the discussion above, the writer will analyze about Jack's life in this study. The writer will use new criticism as the main theory because it has been a major aspect of literary theory and practice. It is used to analyze plot of Jack's and Ma's story starts from the background of Ma to get staying in a single locked room with Jack. Thus, the writer is decided to make a study with the title *A STUDY OF JACK AND MA'S LIFE IN EMMA DONOGHUE'S ROOM*.

## **1.2 Statement of problems**

Related to the background of the study, the writer formulates one research question as how is Jack and Ma's life described in *Room* by Emma Donoghue?

## **1.3 Objectives of the study**

Based on the statement of the problem above, the writer will collect and find out the life of main character with his Ma, and their effort through the story of *Room*. Then, the writer explains the purpose of the study is to find out the life of Jack and his Ma based on two different conditions inside and outside in *Room*.

#### **1.4 Significance of the study**

The significance of the study as the important thing that we get after reading this study. It is conducted due to both theoretical and practical points.

Theoretically, this study is expected to give additional knowledge in the literary theory which is related about survival. It helps the readers especially for English Literature Department students on how to analyze a novel based on New Criticism. Therefore, the readers are expected to comprehend more about it.

Practically, the writer hopes that this research will be useful to other people who love novel in order to understand the novel deeply. The writer also hopes that after reading this study, the readers are able to understand more about survival in their real life. Moreover, this thesis can elaborate the view of English Department students who are interested in survival as the field to be further study.

#### **1.5 Scope and limitation**

This research is discussing the novel *Room* by Emma Donoghue. The writer focuses on Jack and his Ma's life in the novel and how they survive in a single locked room then manage to escape.

Dealing with the theories applied, the writer adopts New Criticism view that applies the concept of plot to help understanding about Jack and Ma's life inside and outside the room.

## **1.6 Method of Study**

This study is library research. The analysis is conducted by using descriptive qualitative method since the description relies on non-numeric data. According to Wolcott in Creswell's book, qualitative research is fundamentally interpretive. It means the researcher makes an interpretation of the data which includes developing a description of an individual or setting, analyzing data for themes or categories, and finally making an interpretation or drawing conclusions about its meaning personally and theoretically based on the subject of research. The writer use novel *Room* by Emma Donoghue as the subject. The theory used to help analysis the problem is New Criticism.

### **1.6.1 Data and Source of Data**

The primary data of this research will be all of the words, phrase, utterances, and or expression which is consist of the description of Jack and his Ma's character. The secondary data, the writer will get it from a western novel *Room* by Emma Donoghue which is published on 2015.

### **1.6.2 Research Instrument**

The writer will be the instrument in this research to collect and analyze the data. According to Dawn Snape and Liz Spencer in box 'nature of data generation'

that qualitative research uses method which involve the researcher and data in close relationship, and consider the researcher's perspective. It means the writer as the primary instrument.

### **1.6.3 Data Collection**

1. Reading novel *Room* until the end more than one time to get deep understanding.
2. Underlining all of paragraphs, sentences or phrases from the novel which is dealing with the research problems.
3. Selecting some references to support this study.
4. Collecting data that support this study from another resources such as article and online resource by reading from online library.
5. Collecting and downloading some materials from internet which is relating to this study.

### **1.6.4 Data Analysis**

1. The writer will classify a few paragraphs through the topic in this study with intensive reading the whole story.
2. Analyzing the data that has been collected based on statement of problems by using the theory.
3. Giving the conclusion based on the result of data analysis in detail.

