CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Literature has been generally known and used by many people all around the world as the reflection of human imagination. The writer built or imagined her story by using her life experience. Taylor states that literature is essentially an imaginative act; that is an act of the writer's imagination in selecting, ordering and interpreting life experience (1981:1). So, a literary development cannot be separated from human life because literature has been part of it.

In literature, there are fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a sort of literary work showing; plays stories, novel, drama based on imagination of the author. Further, non-fiction is the real world or based on factual events, for example: newspaper, journal article, text book, and legal document. Fiction is a narrative work that tells something that is imaginative, something that does not exist and happen in the real world. As a work of imaginary, fiction directs various problems of man and humanity, life and living. Fiction tells the various problems of human life in the interactions with the environment and others.

According to Oxford Dictionary (2011: 68), character is person in a play, novel, short story, etc. It means that character is the agent who participates in particular incidents of the literary works. Character is one of the part in intrinsic elements that has many contributions in short story as the part of prose fiction.

One of its contributions is as the role of the sequence events at whole short story.

By having well understanding to the character, we will understand everything which are going to be presented and delivered by an author in exploring the works. Besides that, there is also conflict which happens as result of character action. Cuddon says that conflict is the tension in a situation between characters, or the actual opposition of characters (1999:175). Conflict is a part of plot. The presence of plot in a story, it has connection with character in the story because it shows the conflicts happening in the story. According Luken (2003:97) says that plot is the sequence of events showing characters in conflict.

An event that occurs in a story certainly will not be separated by the presence of the characters as actors in the story. Through the plot, every event is described and the characters involve in there because plot and character are interdependent (Abrams: 1999:224). The characters are the main actors experiencing these events that make the story become clear through the conflict depicted by the characters of the work.

Plot has some of parts and one of them is conflict. There are two types of conflicts. The first type is internal conflict. The conflict occurs between a character and himself / herself. The second is external conflict. The conflict is a character versus other characters, a character versus society and a character versus nature. In literary work such short story, the two conflicts can be found in the characters in the story like *God Sees the Truth, but Waits* written by Paulo Coelho.

There are some ways to analyze the intrinsic elements in literary works especially for character. One of the ways use New Criticism as the tool to analyze character. By applying this theory, it will feel easier to understand well to the

specific characteristics in character which is explored by an author explicitly and implicitly. It is also applied in short story which is written by Russian author Leo Tolstoy first published in 1872. Leo Tolstoy's short story titled 'God Sees the *Truth, but Waits'* centers on the theme of forgiveness.

The thesis writer chooses this story God Sees the Truth, but Waits because this story tells about the struggle of the main character to survive of his life.Basically, this story tells about the own life of Ivan Dmitrich Aksionov. Aksionov was a merchant and he has a bad past. A long time ago, Aksionov was a drunker and he frustrated society, but he realized and did not want to frustrate society after he owned a wife. When he went trading, his wife reminded about a bad evident that would happen to him in the middle of his journey of trading.

Aksionov was interrogated by some people because he was subjected of killing his friend's merchant. Aksionov was then settled to the jail. He was sentenced for 26 years. But, what makes the story more interesting was Aksionov could control his ego when he was subjected of killing someone, while he knew the killer was a new prisoner. Aksionov knew about the murder but he tried to be patience although he wanted to revenge. But, after thinking and musing for some times, Aksionov forgave the murder, Makar. Makar also realized his mistake and he apologized to Aksionov.

But, on the other side, Aksionov must be sincere of losing his family. Because he has been accused as a murder and spent many times in the prison. He decided to stay in prison because in the prison, Aksionov realized that only God

who could help him at the time. But finally he was dead in the prison before he released. Therefore, the writer emphasizes that Aksionov can change his behavior to be a better character. The conflicts happens in Aksionov will be analyzed by applying New Criticism. After the writer reads this book carefully, the writer find that Leo Tolstoy as the main character undergoes conflicts.

Therefore, the writer chooses the topic about the Character, Aksionov, in *God Sees the Truth, but Waits*. Leo Tolstoy not only tells the tragedy, but who also tells about a painful memory happens to the main character (Aksionov). The story god sees the truth but waits makes him have many conflicts that lead him in to depression and anxiety.

That is way the writer is interested in discussing about the dominant topic of the story which is using conflict theory to analyse. The writer prefers to take it as the issues in this thesis, because conflict always happens in life that will be faced by every human being. How people deal with conflict is very important. However, for some people, it is not easy to deal with the situation. Therefore Aksionov experience conflict problems in this life because of the story. After suffering from conflicts, a person will try to find a way out to handle this situation..

Through this research of the study, the writer is going to analyze Aksionov with conflicts happening which is reflected in *God Sees the Truth, But Wait's* by applying New criticism.

1.2. **Research Problem**

Referring to the background of the study, the writer attempts to provide the research problems as the following:

- 1. How is Aksionov characterized in Leo Tolstoy's God Sees the Truth, but Waits?
- 2. What is the conflict experienced by the main character in Leo Tolstoy's God Sees the Truth, but Waits?

Objective of The Study 1.3.

As the stated following research problem above, the objectives of the research can be seen as the following below:

- 1. To describe Aksionov character in Tolstoy's God Sees the Truth, but Waits.
- 2. To describe how conflict influence of Aksionov in Tolstoy's God Sees the Truth, but waits.

1.4. **Scope & Limitation**

Based on the statement in research problem, the writer is going to analyze the intrinsic element of literary work by focusing on the main character and the crucial moral values which is reflected in using New Criticism as the theory used to explore and develop the research.

1.5. Significance of the study

There is some significance that will be gained through this analysis, especially in literary field. Then, the researcher divides the significance into two categories.

Both are theoretically and practically categories.

Theoretically, the results of the study are expected to give contribution to develop the study and analysis on literary study related to New Criticism theory on the story *Good Sees the Truth, but Waits* by Leo Tolstoy's. The researcher expects that it can give knowledge about the characterization, characters and conflict.

Practically, the researcher also expects this study will give an inspiration for other studies especially in English Letters Department of State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Also, the researcher hopes that this study can be a helpful reference for other writers who are interested in conducting further research on analyzing story *God Sees the Truth, but Waits* by Leo Tolstoy's.

1.6 Method of the study

This research is library base. Therefore I make good use of some books including the novel itself as the primary sources and reads information of some internet sources and other sources such as magazines and journals that support this study to improve the knowledge. In presenting the analysis, I use some steps based on qualitative methods:

- 1. Reading the story *The God Sees the Truth, but Waits by Leo Tolstoy's*.
- 2. Taking a note and understanding the intrinsic element of the story *The* God Sees the Truth, but Waits by Searching for data related to the statement of problems.
- 3. Making conclusion based on the result of the data analysis.

1.7 Technique of Data Analysis

In research method, the data is obtained from various sources by using various techniques of data collection, and it is done continuously up to the final and considered-sufficient data. By this, in this research proposal, the writer deals with several techniques in analyzing the data by referring to the technique of data collection.

- Quoting and analyzing the main character's problem in Leo Tolstoy in God Sees the Truth, but Waits
- b. Stating moral values which can be a compass for life in Leo Tolstoy in God Sees the Truth, but Waits
- c. Making a whole brief conclusion according to the analysis.