#### CHAPTER 1

#### INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background of Study

Literature is something beautiful that can entertain someone who has read it. It does not only give entertainment, but also knowledge and new insight to its reader. Literarure is also kind of art that writer's imaginative spirit put their own experiences from events in their lives and by their creativity (Gillespie 20). Literature generally refers to production of literary works as poetry, novel, short stories or drama and other narrative text (Wolfreys 62). Literature is a work of writing which deals with ideas of timeless and universal interest except artistry and power, it can be poem, stories, novel, plays, essays, memories, and so on (Gillespie 1). Most good literature works offers more than on meaning (17). The meaning is not only based on the writer, but also the individual readers which build their own intreperatation based on their personal experiences, in other word, literature is reflection of personal experience which it is meaning is based on the readers (11).

According to Wellek and Warren (25) stated there are three genres of literary work, these genres originated from lyrics, epic and drama. As literary genre developed, lyric developed into poetry, epic developed into prose and only drama has retain its own name. Most of the modern theories divide the literary works into three parts; the first is fiction which consists of novel, short story, and epic, the second is drama, and the third is poem (Knickerbocker and Reninger 277). Those literary works have their own role.

One of the literary works is novel. Novel is generally thought of as containing about forty five thousand words or more (Kenney 103). Novel as a genre of fiction can be defined as "a work of prose fiction, usually an extended narrative that tells a story or uses incident to dramatize human experience and individual characters" (Grambs 93).

Novel is a piece of prose fiction of a reasonable length (Wolfreys 65). Whatever the explanation, novel does not escape from story about life and also the condition around the author. According to James (2) novel is history and as the picture of reality. The term novel is applied to a great variety of writings that has in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose (Abrams 190). Novel is part of prose from beside short story. The most of people read the novel and short stories. A novel expresses some aspect of human's love and existence. Because novel talks about activities of human and describes what happened in surrounding, so it is written in long composition.

Novel is composition or work which employs both intrinsic and extrinsic factors (Peck and Coyle 102). One of the various forms of literature is novel. The novel is a fictional story or essay written in a narrative in writing, usually representing a intrinsic and extrinsic element with some degree of realism. Telling about novel is very interesting. Most of people have a story to tell about their life. Then, they can express about experience that they feel with write the novel. Novel is also something interesting to be discussed and analyzed. It is easy to be understood by the reader.

In addition, the novel is regarded as reflective of a particular community life because most figures or events that occur in these works ever discovered in real lives, but there some things that have been added through the imagination of the authors to make the character and events in story more interesting than real lives. Most novels always provide things that are suspense in the plot making readers of the novel to keep reading until the end of the story. Therefore, a good plot produces conflict to build the excitement and suspense that are needed to keep the reader involved (Tomlinson 26). There are some element in novel including plot, character, theme, characterization, setting and conflict. According to Luken (97), plot is the squence of events showing characters in conflict. Every event happening in the story, especially novel, occurs in a plot. The plot is what happens in the story (Tomlinson 26).

Based on the paragraph above, there are some elements which can be found from novel. Good novel or good story shaped by a single controlling theme and it is the idea. There are two elements in the novel, that is intrinsic and extrinsic element.

Intrinsic element in the novel such as character, plot, conflict and anything else will go into the story. The first is character which in a work of fiction are generally designed to open up or explore certain aspects of human experience. Characters are divided into major and minor characters. Major characters are those so central to the action. If the author focuses on a single major character, and his character is studied far more than any other characters, he is said to be the protagonist. He is also said to be the main character. Otherwise, the antagonist

character is the character whose personality is described as antiheroic, tend to hurt the protagonist. He is studied as a bad person in the story. The next element is plot. It is the relationship of events in order to create significance, raise the level of generality, extend or complicate the meaning. Wellek and Warren said that narrative structure of novel has traditionally been called "plot" (225). The following intrisic element is conflict. There are two type conflict. The first type is internal conflict. The conflict occurs between man and himself. The second is external conflict. The conflict is man versus man, man versus society and man versus nature.

The following element is theme. It is the interesting thing from novel which can make the reader fells interested in reading the novel. Theme is used by the writer to dramatize the total meaning of the story (17). Theme has some issues which delivered by the author to the reader. It can be romance, social, politic, historical issue, and so on. Social issue explains what happens around the author's life. Sometimes, what author writes in his novel, it explains and represents what is around the reader. How they struggle for being alive, facing some social problems in every condition they are within. In this research the writer employs one of literary works especially novel by Dan Brown to be analyzed.

Dan Brown is the author of numerous bestselling novels, including the number one New York Times bestseller, *The Da Vinci Code*. He is a graduate of Amherst College and Phillip Exeter Academy, where he spent time as an English teacher before turning his efforts fully to write. Most of Brown's works deal with the paradoxical philosophies of science and religion. In its first week on sale, *The* 

Da Vinci Code achieved unprecedented success when it debuted on the New York Times bestseller list, at the wall street Journal, Publishers Weekly, and San Francisco Chronicle. This novel has been translated and published around the world. The publisher claims that is bestselling adult novel of all time within a one year period and the others work after *The Da Vinci Code* are *Angle & Demons*, *The Lost Symbol* and *Inferno*.

In this case, the writer is interested in studying novel because the plot of the story it can give for knowledge to readers. Beside that, the writer can also get the author's feeling or experiences from the object of the study in *Inferno* by Dan Brwon. After reading and studying this novel, the writer can give some information concerning the novel that started from character of the story. So, the reader can understand about this novel.

Inferno is one of Dan Brown's novel which published in New York and The book was released on May 14, 2013 by Doubleday. This novel tells about human population that beginning with a code symbol which belonged to Robert Langdon, but he does not aware about the meaning of that symbol because in the first story he is woken in the hospital in Florence, Italia. Meanwhile, in his last thought he was going home after giving the lesson in Harvard University. When he is in the hospital, he looks at the doctor, Dr. Marconi, is shut by a man who wears black cloth. So, Robert Langdon runs away with Dr. Marconi's friend, Dr. Sienna Brooks, the beautiful young doctor. When they run away, Langdon awares that he has the cylinder which includes secret code created by scientist. The scientist has motivation to shutter the world based on the work *Inferno* by Dante

Alighieri. The scientist's creation threatens human's life. Langdon has to reveal that code which has relation with Dante's *Inferno*.

In novel, code or old cylinder that is brought by Robert Langdon is first solution. It is about the issue of overpopulation or depopulation by Bertrand Zobrist which happened in the middle of 14th century. At the time, a Yersinia pestis bacteria which has taken nearly 60 percent of the population in Europe.

Bertrand Zobrist is a transhumanist genius scientist did depopulation.

According to Zobrist the world populations is not stable, so the human is returned to the renaissance era such as the middle 14th century. Zobrist was inspired by the work of Dante Alighieri, a human of letters from Italy in the 13-14 century. So that, Bertrand Zobrist is inspired with the picture of Map of Hell which is made by Sando Botticelli. Map of Hell is a work by Botticelli that is inspired by Dante's *Inferno*.

However, the problem that bring Bertrand Zobrist is resolved to overpopulation in the world in the novel *Inferno* showed the concern to organization in the world like WHO (World Health Organization), the country instance and professor of simbology Robert Langdon from Harvard University. The issue that take by the writer from the story in novel *Inferno* are about the act of Bertrand Zobrist and the impact from overpopulation is an interesting phenomena and enigma to solve the problem in the world. The phenomena in the novel, Robert Langdon experienced some problem that should be solved quickly that is about overpopulation. However, before solved the problem Robert

Langdon have to remember what the true problem are. In the story Robert Langdon had retroged amnesia or amnesia in a short time.

In the condition of Robert Langdon, he was assisted by Dr. Sienna Brooks to remember the events that have happened and solve puzzles existing problems in the world. In this case, Robert Langdon focused on him and a symbol that has been brought. The meaning of symbol that is the puzzle that must be solved by Robert Langdon and Dr. Sienna Brooks. Symbol organized as old cylinder has inspired from poem by Dante Alighieri concerning the composition of hell. The symbol of hell depicted in the works of Dante Alighieri is a condition in the world that is overpopulation.

But in solving problems, Robert Langdon feel confuse when he realized about the accidents what actually happened and with Dr. Sienna that is partner once the cure amnesia and accompanying Robert Langdon in each event or to WHO that it knows about the problems that threaten human life. Because when Robert Langdon meet with WHO agent, WHO was telling the story to Robert Langdon about what happened and who previously became partner Robert Langdon so far. That, Dr. Sienna Brooks is a friend of Bertrand Zobrist. From some experienced the phenomenon of Robert Langdon, she experienced anxiety and frustration with whom to believe. Robert Langdon experienced unconsciousness that is the interest to be analyzed by the author, about phenomena that occurs and a problem that must be resolved quickly by Robert Langdon in the noverl *Inferno*.

Based on the discussion above, there are some phenomena that have experienced by Robert Langdon, the researcher wants to analyze Robert Langdon as main character using new criticism and phenomena that occur or conditions contained in the novel Inferno. Besides that, the researcher also uses New Criticism as supporting theory and Phenomenolgy theory as main theory to analyze it.

#### 1.2 Statement of Problem

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

- 1. How is Robert Langdon described in the novel *Inferno*?
- 2. What happened to Robert Langdon in the novel *Inferno*?
- 3. How does Robert Langdon judge other people based on his experience?

#### 1.3 Objective of Study

In accordance with the statement of the problem stated above, this study has three objectives that can be stated as follows:

- To describe Robert Langdon character and characterization in the novel *Inferno*.
- 2. To describe Robert Langdon's experience.
- 3. To find out how Robert Langdon judges people based on his experience.

### 1.4 Scope and Limitation

The writer uses scope and limitation on this study, the study will be limited to the novel of *Inferno*. The study focuses on describing and world social issue in the novel Inferno. To answer statement of problem stated above, social

issue becomes the most important point to analyze. Besides, the researcher will uses New Critcism as supporting theory and Phenomenology theory as main theory.

# 1.5 Significance of Study

There is some significance that will be gained through this analysis, especially in literary field. Then, the writer 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 and Phenomenology theory on the novel *Inferno* by Dan Brown. The writer expects that it can give knowledge about the character.

Practically, the writer 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 writer hopes that this study can be a helpful reference for other writers who are interested in conducting further research on analyzing novel *Inferno* by Dan Brown.

### 1.6 Method of 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:

- Reading in the novel to get the completed and well understanding on the whole story.
- 2. Selecting and collecting the data in the form of narration and conversation from the novel related to problem.
- 3. Analyzing the collecting all data related to the title and statement of the problem.
- 4. Making conclusion based on the result of the data analysis.