

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1. Background of The Study

In eighteenth century, literature is intended to all kinds of writing, it is including a philosophy, an essays, history, and also letters, dramas, prose, and poems (Sahal 3). Carter said, the meaning of 'literature' has changed time after time (17). According to Wellek and Warren, term of literature seem to give a best limit to the art of literature, that is, to imaginative literature (13). Imaginative literature is an artistic of life imitation. Among the arts, literature, specifically seems also to claim 'truth' through the view of life which every artistically coherent work posses (25).

The development of the significant increase of literature seen by the era of twentieth century which called modernism era. In twentieth century defines literature as the new style by the authorship that seek of realism. Literary works should be reality, and literary works developed by the various genres, including written literary works such as poetry, story and drama (Kleden 7).

Today, literature is something that deals with creative imaginative writing (Eagleton 15). Wellek and Warren argued, the elements of literary works can be classified become unsure of form and element of content. Unsure of form is all of the linguistics elements that is used to get an ideas to the element fact of the story, and the theme. While, element of content including the idea itself and the emotion that the author pouring it in the literary works (140).

People thought most of the literature is a fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a kind of narrative literature such as a verse or prose wrote by the author based on the events that in fact are not really happened, a fiction is a narrative form by prose (Abrams 94). Fiction tells about the problems of human life in its interaction with the environment and interaction to the God. It also results of the dialogue, and the author reaction to the environment and life experiences. The term and the notion of fiction deliberate limited to literary works in prose, prose narrative, or narrative text (Wellek & Waren 19). According to Abrams, the first fiction is suggested in narrative prose, which in this case is novel and short story, even then fiction is considered synonymous with the novel (21).

As a literary genre, a fictional work contains the elements includes; the authors, the content creation, the writing language, and the intrinsic elements (Aminuddin 66). Novel as a literary fiction offers the world of idealized model of life, the world of imaginations are built through intrinsic elements such as events, plot, character and characterization, background, point of view and others. Intrinsic element is a tool to build up a literary works itself.

Kennedy and Gioia stated, in English and America, there are two works in modern literary fiction; novel and short story (4). The term novel is one of literary work kind of fiction that is not too long and not too short. There are two kinds of novel; serious novel and popular novel. A serious novel is a novel which is present about the universal of a real life. Beside it gives interesting side, a serious novel also give a valuable experiences to the readers. At the least, it also urge the readers to wistful about the problems that is appears in the novel. A popular novel

is a novel conveyed the story and to give an interesting points from the story inside (Stanton 2). From novel people can learn many things that relate to the life because it depicted segments of life (qtd in Diaz 2). According to Murphy, a good novel contained of intrinsic elements, and also tells about the reflection of real life; sorrow, joy, hope, life problems, relationship, a person's struggle, disappointment, success, dream, humor and others (133). Because it takes from the ideas of human based on imaginations of what people have in mind, which is to explore the things in life (Wellek & Warren 163).

Based on the explanation above, one of the intrinsic elements appears in the novel is character. Character has an important point in literary work especially novel. The fittingness issues of the characters are often associated with human everyday life reality. A character can be said to be reasonable and relevant if it reflects the real life. Characters that appear in fiction can influence the plot. In this case, the plot is just a means to understand the journey of a character. Or to show person's identity and life, then a character needs to be plotted to connecting the reflection of life. Characterizations and plot are two facts that influence the story each other. Plot is what characters do and befall. The fictional characters have certain personality traits that are owned by real people from real life even if it only involves several aspects (Kenny 25)

One of novels that is written by Angela Lambert is *The Constant Mistress* released in 1994. Angela Lambert was born in April 14 1940 – September 2007 with complete name of Angela Maria Lambert. She is British writer and journalist. She wrote fiction and non-fiction also. Her book is including three non-

fiction, and nine fiction. She published her first book about fiction, *Unquiet Souls*, in 1984. While she was experimenting with fiction at the time, it was social history that came first. In 1939 she wrote the second novel *The Last Season of Peace*, in 1989 she published her novel entitled of *Love Among the Single Classes*. Lambert's next two novels, *No Talking After Lights* (1990) and *A Rather English Marriage* (1992).

The interesting point in *The Constant Mistress* that the researcher going to analyze is tells about Laura King, the main character who suffered from Hepatitis C that caused her death. She only has a year to live. In short, something has changed rapidly and she tries what the things that can be perfected from the past, if possible all the things should improve when the time of death has arrived and take her away.

There are two reasons why the researcher is interesting to analyze the changing character of Laura. First is about the mixed plot that the author presents to give the reader such a supposition to find out the alteration of somebody's character. Second, is about the researcher want to find out how the events of life and experiences of human can modify the character of themselves.

Based on explanation above, the researcher wants to analyze how the plot reveal the changing character of Laura King. New Criticism is a fixed theory to help the analyzing, because this study involves the intrinsic element including the plot, character and characterization.

## 1.2. Statement of Problem

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

1. How is plot described in the novel?
2. How does the plot convey Laura's changing character?

## 1.3. Objective of Study

In accordance with the statement of the problems, this study has an objectives that can be stated as follows:

1. To describe the plot in the novel.
2. To find out Laura's changing character from the plot description.

## 1.4. Scope and Limitation

To avoid extensive discussion, this study will be limited on the novel *The Constant Mistress* written by Angela Lambert. This study focuses on the plot represented in the novel. To answer problems of statement above, Laura King characterization also becomes the most important point to analyze. The scope of this study is focuses on the text to find intrinsic element especially on the plot and characterization. Within this study, the researcher will use Angela Lambert's *The Constant Mistress* which originally published by Black Swan edition 1998.

## 1.5. Significant of The Study

The significant of this study is to give contribute to the common readers to get knowledge more about intrinsic element especially in character because refers to human daily problems, events and behavior. And the researcher hopes this

research will be useful to the students of literature. Also the researcher divides the significant of study into two categories; theoretically and practically categories.

Theoretically, the results of this study is to contribute and to give knowledge to the study and analysis of the intrinsic element especially in the New Criticism in Angela Lambert's *The Constant Mistress*. Practically, the researcher also expects that the result of this study will give an inspiration to students, especially students of English Letters Department of State Islamic University of Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Also, the researcher hopes that this study can be a helpful reference for the other or people who are mostly interested in literature, this research could be comparison for the other researchers even this analysis can be debatable to be more perfect using the other theory based on New Criticism. And the researcher hope this study can be a reference for other helpful writer who are interesting in conducting future research on analyzing Angela Lambert' s *The Constant Mistress*.

## **1.6. Method of Study**

To conduct the analyze and in order to answer the research problems. To give explains toward the analysis process, the researcher will perform the descriptive-qualitative method. It uses a library based. It mean the researcher analyze the data from words and sentences.

### **1.6.1 Data Source**

The researcher has the primary and secondary data source conducting this study. In this research, the primary source is from novel *The Constant Mistress* by Angela Lambert. The secondary source is from books and online

resource, journals, some critical works that concern with the novel and explanation about New Criticism theory.

### **1.6.2 Data Collection**

In collecting data for the research which based on the qualitative method, the research follows the following steps:

1. Close-reading the novel Angela Lambert's *The Constant Mistress* to get the complete, accurate data and well understanding in the whole story.
2. Re-reading the novel about many times and collect the data from the text related to the statements problem.
3. Finding the structure of the plot form appear in the novel.
4. Selecting related references that can support data of the research.

### **1.6.3 Data Analysis**

1. Analyzing some data that have been collected based on the topic to the research problem.
2. Classifying the data based on the objective of study.
3. Identifying and analyzing the structure of the plot.
4. Analyzing the changing character of Laura that conveyed by the plot.
5. Giving the best conclusion based on the analysis.