CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Human is created differently from other God's creatures. They have been created as the perfect creature by God. Paula J.C. said in her book *Human Development*that human is creature who frees to choose meaning in every situation, taking responsibility for every decision in a sustainable manner, and was involved in drawing the pattern of relationships with others (50). Therefore, they have many abilities to choose something appropriate to their life, because they are given some abilities from God. One of the human's abilities is described to their relation with others. The relation to each other is needed in the life of a human who lives in the real world. The relation itself is divided into the smaller side that is family and the biggest side that is social community.

In a social relation, we often hear and say about friendship. There is no one who can live alone in this world. Everyone need friends. Friendship is naturally built among several people who know and understand each others. In the book of *Love, Friendship, and the Self,* Bennet W. Helm said that friendships are relationships that essentially involve considerably more intimacy than is apparent just by considering the loving attitudes that ground them (205). In this context, She also argue more strongly that making sense of friendship requires postulating cares and even values that belong not simply to the one friend or the other but

rather to both jointly. Consequently, the kind of control over and responsibility for these joint cares and values must involve the joint exercise of autonomy. All of this requires that we reject the individualist conception of autonomy, and it leads to a still richer sense in which we persons are essentially social (214). Basically, the researcher is excited to discussing about friendship, because in this study will proof that friendship gives more effects toward the character of a child suffering from leukemia than the effects of his proximity to the family.

Commonly, a literary work is the best place to reveal the readers about meaning of friendship. In Knickerbocker and Reninger's book, the literary works is stated as composed of words, not of objects or feelings, and it is a mistake to see it as the expression of an author's mind (4). Moreover, Knickerborker and Reninger also agreed that in the literary works, the human's feeling and thoughts will be seen by the readers only from reading. In modern theories, the literary works are divided into three parts; the first is fiction; epic, short story, and novel, the second is drama and the third is poem (277). Furthermore, in this research, the researcher has decided to choose the novel as primary source. It is because the novel has a complex storyline than with other literary works.

As one of the literary works, novel is only fictional narrative created by the author to inspired by the people's life. In *A Glossary of Literary Term*, Abrams said that novel is one of literary product that is applied to great variety in writing. It is common being extended writing of fiction written in prose (190). The novel often deals with human's character as a social being like in the real world. In

there, the character's behavior, thought, feeling and speech can be identified and understood as behavior, thought, feeling and speech people have. Therefore, characters in a novel represent the people in real life. Especially on the relation of friendship in children's area.

There are many novels which are discussing about friendship in children's area. In this research, a novel entitled *Ways to Live Forever* is taken by the researcher. This novel is published in United Kingdom at 7 January 2008 by Sally Nicholls. Sally Nicholls is a prize-winning British children's book author. Nicholls was born and grew up in Stockton-on-Tees. She attended Great Ayton Friends School until its closure and subsequently Egglescliffe School until 2001. On finishing school, Nicholls chose to travel around the world. The author reached Australia and New Zealand, following a period of working in Japan at a Red Cross hospital. She returned to the UK to begin a bachelor's degree at the University of Warwick, covering philosophy and literature. As of 2012, Nicholls lives in Oxford. In first, Nicholls wrote three novels all have death as a central theme. Her first novel, *Ways to Live Forever* was written during her time at Bath Spa (Water stones Brimigham news).

(https://www.waterstones.com/bookshops/birmingham/read/). Accessed on 2th May 8:00 AM.

Briefly, *Ways to Live Forever*novel is telling about eleven years old boy with leukemia cancer. His name is Sam Oliver McQueen. Sam has a closer friend who gave many effects in Sam's life. He is Felix Stranger. When his best friend

Felix dies, he doesnot know what to do because he always looked up to style ofFelix's life. Sam is puzzled by the sadness and writes in his book that everyone should have been happy and making jokes and Felix should have worn his favorite top. Having said, that he told in his book he wanted to make sure no one would do that at his funeral.

There are some reasons, why the researcher is interested to analyze Sally Nichols's *Ways to Live Forever* novel. They are; First, although the author talked about death in *Ways to Live Forever* as the central theme, she also talked about psychology of character in children's area. Especially in main character's behavior, Sam McQueen. There is the indication of psychology behavior in this novel. It can found in the friendship condition between Sam with Felix. In this story, Felix is described as stimulation to change Sam's character. It also refers to the theory for analysis later. The second, the researcher taken this novel because the whole of story contained is hilarious, imaginative, poignant and inspiring. The third is the words and the sentences in this novel are easier to understand, lightweight and worth reading, but remains contained of moral values. Based on those reasons, the researcher becomes curious and interested to apply the appropriate theories with the topic analysis.

Through the discussion above, Then, the researcher also uses New Criticism as main theory and concept of friendship from Aristotle to describes the friendship between Sam and Felix in this research. Then, the researcher wants to analyze the

psychological effects of friendship between Sam and Felix toward Sam's character changing by using Psychology approach from B.F. Skinner.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the research, this study is conducted to answer the problems formulated in the following questions:

- 1. How is the characterization of Sam Oliver McQueen Before Meets Felix in novel *Ways to Live Forever*?
- 2. How is the friendship between Sam Oliver McQueen and Felix described in novel *Ways to Live Forever*?
- 3. What are the effects of friendship between Sam Oliver McQueen and Felix toward Sam's character in novel *Ways to Live Forever*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problems above, the objectives of study are aimed:

- To describe the characterization of Sam Oliver McQueen Before
 Meets Felix in novel Ways to Live Forever.
- 2. To describe the friendship between Sam Oliver McQueen and Felix in novel *Ways to Live Forever*.
- 3. To explain the effects offriendship between Sam Oliver McQueen and Felix toward Sam's character in novel *Ways to Live Forever*.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Through this research, the researcher istrying to enrich the theoretical bases of literary studies, especially inNew Criticism theory. It is expected to be a source of information in understanding literature in field of knowledge. Then, the researcher will divides the significance of study into two categories. They are theoretically and practically categories.

Theoretically, the results of the research are expected to give contribution to develop the study and analysis on literary study related to New Criticism theory represented in Sally Nichols's novel entitled *Ways to Live Forever*. The researcher expects that it can give knowledge about the problems from the children's lives and the effects to their lives. Particularly, the effects to children's characters which illustrated by SamOliver McQueen as main character.

Practically, the researcher hopes by analyzing this novel, it will be useful to give other views and inspirations about meaning of friendship for every person and moral values to the readers about how to choose the better things and avoid the bad things in the real life, in order to get happiness in next top. Then, It hopes can be a helpful reference for other writer who are interested in conducting other research on analyzing novel *Ways to Live Forever* by Sally Nicholls. Especially to the students in English Department of UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

As the limitation, the research will be limited to the main character, Sam Oliver McQueen in novel *Ways to Live Forever* by Sally Nicholls, in order to

prevent non-relevant problems. Here, the researcher uses New Criticism as the main theory. Then, the researcher describes the relation between Sam with his best friend, Felix and the effects from their relation. Here, the researcher uses Psychological approach from B.F. Skinner and concept of friendshipas the approach. Based on those scope and limitation, the researcher can focus on the research problems and objectives.

1.6 Research Method

This chapter discusses about the methodology of the research. It consist of research data and source, data collection, and data analysis. This research is library based. The researcher applies descriptive qualitative research method. The analysis was conducted by descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative research is an inquiry process of understanding based on distinct methodological traditions of inquiry that explore a social or human problem. The researcher builds a complex, holistic picture, analyzes words, report detailed views of information, and conducts the study in a natural setting (Creswell 8). It means the researcher describes and analyzes the data which are not numeral data but the data are from words and sentences.

1.7.1 Data and Source

The researcher has the primary and secondary data in this study. The primary data is from the novel *Ways to Live Forever* by Sally Nicholls published

in 2008. The primary data are in form of the secondary data are from journals, essays, and other relevant sources to this research.

1.7.2 Data Collection

In collecting the data, the research followssome steps, They are:

- Reading the novel Ways to Live Forever by Sally Nicholls as the primary source, to get the complete and well understanding on the whole story.
- 2. Reading some references like; journals, essays, and other relevant sources as secondary sources, to complete the analysis.
- 3. Marking the text which related to description of Sam's characterization and the friendship between Sam and Felix and the effect of their friendship towards Sam's character.
- 4. Selecting and collecting the data in narration form and some conversations from the novel related to the problem of behavioral psychology toward Sam's character.

1.7.3 Data Analysis

In the presenting of the analysis, the researcher follows some steps. They are:

 Analyzing the data collected by categorizing them into two points, dealing with the statement of problems. Those are; describe the

- friendship between Sam and Felix, then explain the effects oftheir friendship toward Sam's characterin novel *Ways to Live Forever*.
- 2. Those points above are analyzed using New Criticism theory, the concept of friendship from Aristotle, and Psychology approach from B.F. Skinner, which refers to the objective of the study.
- 3. Then, the researcher will be giving the best conclusion and suggestion based on the analysis

