

## Chapter 1

### Introduction

#### 1.1 Background of Study

The term of 'literature' comes from Latin Language, "littera" means a written or printed words. But, literature not only writing literature but also oral literature (Rene and Werren 11). Minderop says that literature is a work that was delivered with beautiful language and contain moral values (74). Based on the explanation above the literature is any kind of writing or orally works that has the beautiful language and moral values as characteristics and functions.

In another book, Susanto said that literature as a work of imaginative, fiction and innovative (1). In the same book, the romantic believes that literature is a form to express a thoughts or feelings of the authors (5). Therefore, literature is a imaginative work by the authors to express of thought or feelings.

Generally, genres of literature are divided into three types; poetry, drama, and prose (Okunoye 22). According *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Literay Terms*, prose is a form of written language that is not organized (218). The prose could be fiction or non-fiction. A fiction prose is the events presented did not occur in real life, although they might be real life. Non-fiction prose is more or less true life stories. It included biography, autobiography, travels and adventures and the essay. The novel falls under prose (Isaac and Okunoye 8)

Novel as a literary works had been known since eighteenth century in England. Novels are works of fiction; they were written in prose; and at least 150

to 200 pages long (Spurgin 6). Novel is human creation. So, the story in a novel is a world created by imaginative author with character creation to play in his story.

In a novel there are some elements can be analyzed, like extrinsic elements and intrinsic element. The extrinsic elements are the elements outside of a literary works, but indirectly give influence the literay works. There are elements such as biography, psychology of the author, economi, social, politic, and etc (Rene and Warren 65). While intrinsic element is the interpretation and analysis of the works of literature themselves (Rene and Warren 139). There are elements such as themes, character, charcterization, plot, and setting, all these elements are connected to each other. The study analyzed the intrinsic elements such as themes and conflicts in the *Prodigal Son* novel, because of the conflict and the theme is an important element in making the story into a good work until the reader can enjoy and understand the whole story.

My study is to analyze the novel by Danielle Steele. Danielle Fernands Dominique Schuelein-Steel (born August 14, 1947) is an American novelist. She had published many novels and five non-fiction books. All her novels have been bestseller, including those issued in hardback. Her books have been translated into 28 languages, with 22 adapted for television, including two that have received Golden Globe nominations (Wikipedia). The author choosed the novel with the tittle *Prodigal Son* (2015).

The writer choose the work of Danielle steel to be analyzed for being interested in the whole of his work which is usually in accordance with the realities that exist in real life. One of her works in accordance with the existing

reality titled *Prodigal Son* selected writer to be analyzed. This novel tells about twins brother whose relationships are like a enemy. Usually twins brother are always compact and interdependent if there is a conflict between them usually will not carry over to adulthood. Whereas in this story many conflicts occur between twins until they grow up. So I felt interested to know the cause of conflict occur between twins children. Besides that this is bestselling novel, it also has never been analyzed by students of Department of English Literature at UINSA.

The story is about twins children grow up in the same family, same town, they are Peter and Michael. Peter has bad attitude and Michael had good attitude. Peter is stupid, Michael is smart. Peter is always considered bad in every way. So, Peter decided to leave his house after Senior High School graduation. After a long time away from his house, Peter succeeded as a financial in New York and Michael as a doctor same with their dad's at hometown. One day, Peter's career as a financial shattered in an instant because of the company which he worked bankrupt due to the global economic crisis. He lost all of its work, mansion, apartments, and car. Now he is a jobless, therefore his wife gives the option is move to L.A and stay in one of pavilions by his father. He refused her advice because his life in New York. In the end, he also lost his wife and childrens for his decision. Peter just got lakeside house from the parents and he decided back to his hometown. Finally, after few years Peter and Michael reunited.

This study is entitled "Revealing Theme Through Conflicts in *Prodigal Son* novel by Danielle Steel." The writer choose the title because of the conflict is one of element that helps in determining the theme of the story.

## 1.2 Statement of problem

- 1) What are the conflicts that happen to Peter's life in *Prodigal Son* Novel by Danielle Steel?
- 2) Based on the conflicts in Peter's life , what is the theme of the novel *Prodigal Son* by Danielle Steel?

## 1.3 Purpose of Study

- 1) To describe of the conflict that happen to Peter's life in the novel *Prodigal Son* by Danielle Steel.
- 2) To reveal theme in the novel *Prodigal Son* by Danielle Steel.

## 1.4 Scope and Limitation

The writer focused on the intrinsic element of the novel *Prodigal Son* by Danielle Steel. The writer limited the data only on conflicts that happen to Peter's life and theme.

## 1.5 Significances of study

The significances of this analysis is to enrich literary studies, especially in literature trough novel as one genre of it besides drama and poetry. The writer expected this study could help literary student to understand how to reveal theme from conflict in a story. The writer also hope this analysis could become reference for further study of literary works whatever forms they will be.

## 1.6 Research Method

This research was library based. The writer used descriptive qualitative method, this means that the source data will be analyzed derived from words or sentences, not numbers. The writer use two sources of data: The primary data and

secondary data. The source of primary data is the novel by Danielle Steel *Prodigal Son*. The secondary data of this research was from the related books, journal, and online resource which related with the novel. There are steps to collect and analyze the data:

1. The first step, the writer read the novel and understanding the whole story of novel.
2. Found the data which related with the statement of problem of the study about conflict and theme.
3. Selecting and collecting the data from the narration or conversation from the novel related to the problem of the study.
4. Analyzing the data collected which related with the statement of problem and selected theory. Firstly collect the data which related about conflict and analyze the conflict, that appear in Peter's life then analyzing the theme based on the conflicts.
5. Making conclusion based on the result of data analyzing.