

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Nowadays, literature becomes human's best work that anyone can receive all the possibilities inside. It is not only reflection of society, but representation of an idea of the world on sociological realities beyond the time. The best work of literature is the work that makes contribution to society. The relevance of literature with society cannot be separated, because literature presents a life and largely consist of social reality (society), although the literature itself imitates nature and the human subjective world (Wellek and Warren 109).

In the development, literature has developed from the classical literature into modern literature thus people know popular literature today. The term of popular literature is defined by some figures in different suggestions. Cawelti states that literature has been undergoing some development in its forms and genres. In popular field, people read and find special pleasure and delight in the literature and put interest in certain types of series which have highly predictable structures that guarantee the fulfillment of conventional expectation. For many people, the types make up by far greater portion of the experience of literature (Cawelti 1). Another statement revealed that popular literature is the literary works which these works are certainly fiction, undeniably popular and it is also can be placed under the rubric of more than one genre, and some (Hamilton and Jones 5). Hence, to provide a broader perspective that we are no longer limited to a single genre, Saricks organizes genres into four genre appeal groups: the emerge

of various genres of fiction, such as adrenaline genre, emotions genre, intellect genre, and landscape genre (Saricks 3). Saricks also divides each genre into some narrow genres. In emotions genre, there are still some genres such as gentle reads genre, horror genre, romance genre, women's lives and relationships genre (Saricks 92). Dealing with horror genre, there are many people know horror genre from television, movies, even if people are familiar with the novels.

Horror certainly includes stories of ghosts, ghouls, werewolves, and vampires of wide variety. Horror novels are stories of nightmares come to life; complete with monsters of various descriptions; and as in all our nightmares, surprise is a crucial element (Saricks 112 - 113). Many of horror stories are taken from lore, legend and myth which developed in society. The origin of the myth is without one single author. The story evolves through the telling of it by many people. In other words, the mythology of a particular culture is created through the oral renderings of its people. Therefore, there is often more than one version of the same story (Bolton 2). It means that myth is originated by many authors, and pass from mouth to mouth. Myth in each culture is always different, because it is the creation of people who lives inside, such as vampire myth that there is no single definition of a vampire is same. There are many mythologies about vampire who lives among people from all around the world and all of these have different definition of vampire.

Theresa Bane states that the definition of vampire is presented on basic human fear. No matter when or where, how it hunts or what it hunts, the vampire attacks that which man considers most precious. The reason that there is no single

definition of a vampire is because each culture of people, from their various time periods and from their various locations, has feared different things. The definition of vampire is only found in literary fiction. A “fictional” vampire is a vampire that is the creation of an author or group of creative-minded individuals (Bane 3). *Dracula* is one of fictional vampires which becomes famous all of the time. It was published in late eighteen century by Bram Stoker. Nowadays, there are many fictional vampires emerge such as *Let the Right One In* by John Ajvide Lindqvist. This novel is best seller Sweden novel in 2004 and it was filmed in two version, Sweden and America.

Let the Right One In is raising vampire within the novel by different image of vampire in common. Unlike the other vampire novels, this novel describes that the vampire is considered weaker than others vampire, in which the vampire gets the blood by human helping. Therefore, vampire character in *Let the Right One In* will be compared to *Dracula* as old vampire. This study will uses new criticism theory and comparative approach to analyze both of vampire novels.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

This study is conducted to answer the problems formulated in the following questions:

1. How is vampire characterized on Bram Stoker’s *Dracula*?
2. How is vampire character described in the novel *Let the Right One In*?
3. How are the similarities and the differences of vampires character in Bram Stoker’s *Dracula* and *Let the Right One In*?

1.6 Method of the Study

This study will use literary based and applied qualitative research as method. It means that it will describe and analyze by words and sentences.

1.6.1 Research Design

To answer some of the issues that will be discussed in statement of the problem, this study uses literary research using some books and other references such as articles, journals, and websites related to the subject matter to be analyzed. This study applies qualitative research method.

1.6.2 Data Source

The data will be taken from two novels, Bram Stoker's *Dracula* and *Let the Right One In* written by John Ajvide Lindqvist as a primary source. Headed for collecting the data, this study uses the novels and will be helped from other book as source which related also online source as supported.

1.6.3 Method of Collecting Data

Methods of data collection are one of the research methods sections that will explain how data collected to support the research. In gathering the data collection measures are:

1. Preparing and reading *Bram Stoker's Dracula* and *Let the Right One* novel.
2. Re-reading the novel many times to get a good grasp on the whole story.

