

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Literature is written expression designed to engage readers emotionally as well as intellectually, with the major genres being fiction, poetry, drama, and nonfiction prose, and with many separate sub forms (Mustofa 1). Literature helps us grow, both personally and intellectually. It provides an objective base for knowledge and understanding. As what Roberts say, literature links us with the broader cultural, philosophic and religious world of which we are a part and it enables us to recognize human dream and struggle in different places and times that we would never otherwise know (3). Therefore, literature represents real life of it. There are many authors who cover their conditional surroundings into their works. Thus there must be found a very close relation between one literary work and the era when it is made.

Fiction originally means anything made up, crafted, or shaped, but as we understand the word today means a prose story base in the imagination of the author (4). While fiction, like all imagination literature, may introduce true historical details, it is not real history, for its purpose is primly to interest, divert, stimulate, and instruct the reader. The essence of fiction is narration, the realizing or recounting of a sequence of events or actions (Nurgiyantoro 2). Works of fiction usually focus on one or a few major characters and deal with problems. Shortly, fiction is a story which presents a truth from human life but still has

imagination as creative as the writer can to make more interesting for the reader. As Wallek & Warren said however the condition of experience and problems of life, a work of fiction must be interesting story, have a coherent structure and have aesthetic purpose (3).

Every human has different experience in the real life. Based on their experience they can make imagination. Imagination helps grow personally and exercise our emotions through interest, concern, tension, excitement, hope, fear, regret, laughter, and sympathy (3). Human imagination has been linked to the power, motivation, history, moral, and struggles (Stephen 3). So that literature can be used to express someone's thoughts, feelings, imagination and experience in life. It can be analyzed by using psychology.

Psychology is the endlessly fascinating science of human mind and behavior. It can be a rewarding tool for enhancing our understanding and appreciation of literature and of ourselves (Gillespie 43). Psychologists define personality itself as enduring, distinctive thoughts, emotions, and behaviors that characterize the way an individual adapts to the world (Santrock 433). It means that kind of individuals' personality can be seen through his behavior in facing significant situations. There are many factors influence personality development such as biological and genetic factors, life experiences, the way individual thinks, and the way human beings behave toward each other (42). In a result by using psychology it can be known someone's self-confidence that changes a personality development base from their experience face the problems.

The portrayal of human's self-confidence illustrate in a novel *A Walk to Remember*. This novel tells about Landon Carters' self-confidence that changes his personal development from an uncontrolled boy to be a good one. His motivation begins when he gets punishment from school to go to an orphanage. In the orphanage, he realizes that he has a perfect life and always gets what he wants. Then he compares his life with the children in the orphanage. After that he meets Jamie Sullivan. He marvels that anyone is naturally good, selfless, and cheerful. At the same time, he feels pressure to be better and guilty over having been less than he could be all these years. It is a pressure and guilty that creates an opportunity for Landon to grow, not into just a typical teenage boy but an extraordinary young man.

A Walk to Remember is a modern novel, released in October 1999 and has been written by Nicholas Sparks. He is an American author which most noted for his romance novels and lives in North Carolina with his family. Nicholas Sparks is one of the world's most beloved storytellers. All of his books have been New York Times best sellers, with over 97 million copies sold worldwide. In more than 50 languages and including 65 million copies in the United States alone (www.wikipedia.org).

As with all good stories in the novel, there is a process for growth and development in Landon Carters' self-confidence from an uncontrolled boy to be good one. Erikson argues that in understanding a persons' personality, the important thing to do is analyzing how a person has mastered each of a series of significant life problems and how the inadequate mastery of early problems

incapacitates him in dealing with later problem (Erikson 52). Although Erikson assumes that the stages are universal feature of human development, he also believes that there is something cultural variation in the way that people deal with the problems of each stage and in the possible solutions to these problems. Therefore, there will be different personality development between one individual and others base on their experience to face the problems.

In analyzing the character focuses on the personality development Landon Carter character can be analyzed by recognizing how he is in each stage of development in his life and how his self-confidence deals with later problems. As the result, by analyzing his development based on Erikson's stages of psychosocial development, it is obviously seen how Landon Charter's personality development grows healthy and unhealthily.

B. Statement of problem

The following statements are intended to make clear focus on the analysis:

1. How is Landon Carter characterized in the novel?
2. What are the factors that influence Landon Carter's personality growth?

C. Objective of study

Based on the statements of the problem that are stated previously, the objectives of the study are:

1. To describe Landon Carter's character in the novel.
2. To find out the factors that influence Landon Carter's personality growth.

D. Scope and limitation

In order to make this research focus and avoid larger discussion, a scope and limitation is needed. This research will concentrate on Landon Carter as the main character in the novel *A Walk to Remember*. This research is also limited on Landon Carter's personality growth from an uncontrolled boy to be good one using theory by Erik Erikson.

E. Significance of study

This research aims to broaden the readers' point of view about aspect of self-confidence as well as provides personality growth. By reading this research, the reader will know how the main character changes his life from an uncontrolled boy to be good one.

In addition, this research is emphasized to give the readers more knowledge about human development, and also self-confidence. Furthermore, this research also attempts to give contribution to the study of literature particularly for students in English Letter Department in State University of Islamic Studies Sunan Ampel Surabaya. It can as the references of another researcher who have relation with their research.

F. Method of Study

This part discusses how the research is conducted. It involves four main sub chapters consisting of research design, source of data, procedure of data collection, and procedure of data analysis.

1. Research Design

To answer the problems of the study, this research uses the library research or it is called as qualitative research. Laurence Neuman says that library research is also called qualitative research in which the data are in the form of text, written words, phrases or symbol; it is not concerned with any number (72). This research uses *A Walk to Remember* a novel written by Nicholas Sparks. Thus, through qualitative method this study wants to get a valid description about the aspect of self-confidence as well as provide personality growth on male characters in the novel that is Landon Carter. Based on the problems above, this study uses the theory of characterization as a literary tool, and also uses new criticism, psychoanalysis, self-confidence and development theory.

2. Source of Data

The main source of data for this analysis is the novel of Nicholas Spark entitled *A Walk to Remember*. This research analyzes the phrases and sentences which relates to the aspect of self-confidence as well as provide personality growth by the man character through characterization, new criticism, psychoanalysis, and development theory.

3. Procedure of Data Collection

Since data are the most important aspects in conducting a research, so data must be collected effectively. Procedure of data collection is one of the research methods' parts which explain how the data are collected to support the research. In collecting data for the research which based on the qualitative method, steps of data collecting are as follows:

of human beings in process to overcome difficulty in life to motivate them toward progress and achievement of their goals (Pikunas 411).

4. Motivation : more or less conscious desires and strategies for attaining various goals in live (Munro 5).
5. Self Confidence : psychological state of mind of being sure of oneself in making right decision and doing right actions (Feist & Feist 4).

