

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the background of study, where the thesis writer explains the reason why she chooses the drama. In addition, the thesis writer asserts her personal reason for choosing this study of the character's psychological problem as the topic of the thesis.

Furthermore, the thesis writer states the statement of the problem, the objective of the study, scope and limitation of the study, significance of the study, and the last method of the study.

1.1. Background of the Study

In literary works, there are ways to express ideas. They can be poems, songs, novel and drama. There have been various attempts to define literature. You can define it, for example, as 'imaginative' writing in the sense of fiction- writing which is not literally true (Eagleton, 1). Literature is an imagination or creation of an author to write the literary work. Literature can be developed and interpret language based on our interpretations. Literature also gives the readers pleasure and knowledge, and can emphasize our interpretation. In the literary work, we can find some genres. One of the literary genres is Drama.

Drama is a composition in prose form that presents a story entirely told in dialogue and action and written with the intention of its eventual performance before

the audiences (Dinurriyah, 5). Drama is not written in paragraphs like novel or short story, it is written as lines of dialogue in a script. It can be said that a drama is a piece of writing that is presented through dialogue and action. Like a short story or novel, drama has some elements, which are setting, plot, and characters. The characters in drama can generally be divided into major characters and minor characters. A good indicator as to whether a character major and minor is the amount of time and speech as well as presence onstage he or she is allocated (Dinurriyah, 114). Major characters usually have a lot to say and appear frequently throughout the drama, while minor characters have less presence only marginally. The plot structure of the drama does not differ from that in prose. There is an exposition, a rising action, a climax, falling action, and the last is the resolution.

One of American drama which is interesting is *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams. It is one of William's best-known works and his personal favorite. The drama set is in the plantation home in the Mississippi Delta. The owner of the plantation is Big Daddy Pollitt. He is a wealthy cotton tycoon. The play examines the relationships among members of Big Daddy's family, primarily between his son Brick and Maggie, Brick's wife. This drama presents about a girl, named Maggie who's married with Brick who is an alcoholic and has a psychological problem since his best friend Skipper died. Brick in this drama has some problem; one of the problems is the fact that Brick do not have children. It makes Brick's

parents and brothers questioned about their relationship in bed. The second problem in the drama is Brick being alcoholic.

The writer is interested in this drama because it tells about some aspects that occur in human life, for example, alcoholics. According MNT article, an alcoholic is a man or woman who suffers from alcoholism. An alcoholic is a person, while alcoholism is the illness (MNT article). It often occurs in human life. This study focuses on the psychological problem one of the character in this drama, Brick. The writer wants to know the causes of Brick being an alcoholic in this drama.

1.2. Statement of Problem

After reading the drama and determining the topic, there are questions that could be raised. The questions are as the following:

1. How is the characterization of Brick in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*?
2. What are the causes of Brick being an alcoholic?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem that has been formulated, the objectives of this research are:

1. To depict the characterization of Brick in this play.
2. To find out the causes of Brick being an alcoholic in this play.

1.4. Significance of Study

The first significance of this study is to give the reader knowledge about Drama entitled *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams. The study aims to explain about Brick's characterization and the causes of Brick being an alcoholic.

The second is to give contributions to the students of English Department of Islamic University, especially the students who major in literature. The writer hopes this study could be one of the references to study of American drama, especially about psychological problem that often occur in the human life.

1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study

This study will only focus on the character, Brick, as an alcoholic man in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* which is written by Tennessee Williams. In order to make the discussion more specific, this study will continue to describe the causes of one of psychological problem that occur in one of the characters in this drama.

1.6. Method of the Study

Methodology is sciences that learn about method procedure, and technique of research (Harsono, 6). Based on this statement, we know that methodology is one of important thing in doing the research. The writer used some method to conduct the research, which are:

A. Research Design

This study is designed to obtain the answers about the problem that found in one of the characters in drama *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method. The technique used in this method is library research, where all possible information in and literary review that have relation to the study are collected and takes as source of information.

B. Source of Data

The researcher will collect data by using method of library research. The source of data in this research consist of two, primary data and secondary data.

1. Primary data is the main data as an object of the research. Primary data in this research is the drama *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* by Tennessee Williams.
2. Secondary data is some literature that supports this research. The support data that used in this research are any references, for example books and electronic articles that related to the research.

C. Data Collection

The data of this study are paragraph and dialogue quoted from the drama. They have been collected based on the purpose of the study. There are some steps, which are used to collect the data of this study. They are as follows:

