CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1.Background of Study

The developments of literature in life of human beings cannot be separated because literature is reflection of real world that is described in different world through written imagination of writer. It reflects the writer's feeling and thought based on the life experience. Taylor states that literature is essentially an imaginative act; that is an act of the writer's imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience and the writers build the story by using their own life experience (1). Moreover, Marsh states experiences of our public and private lives as an ordinary life are important subjects in literary works (2).

Many of the ideas outlined in the writing of a literary work by the writers are a portrait of a social life that is found in communities such as relationships between societies, people and events occurred. Hudson states that some aspects of human life such as history, social, moral, psychological and many more is ideas of a literary work (10). Often all of them become the themes of literature because literature will not be apart of human life and society. Therefore, Hartono states that literary work is regarded as social phenomenon because it is written having relation with norm at the time (23).

Besides that, the presence of a literary work in society, of course, not only gives entertainment to readers with kinds of theme about human life or events occurred but also gives the readers something useful for their life.

There are values of life containing in literary works which writers put in their works such as religious values, philosophy, and etc. Wellek states that frequently literature is thought of as a form of philosophy, as "ideas" wrapped in form; and it is analyzed to yield "leading ideas." (107). It means that writers use their imagination of mind to create their works trying to show the certain philosophy found in society at the time or the writers directly state that they follow certain philosophy in their life and show in their works, so the readers can know or also follow what the writers believe. Therefore, Literature can be treated as a document in the history of ideas and philosophy (Wellek 108).

Existentialism is one of philosophy ideologies. There are many some figures professing this ideology and one of them is Jean-Paul Sartre. He is a philosopher and also literary author (Wibowo 7). As a philosopher, Sartre had written many literary works and his literary works, Sartre introduces his concept to people in the world. One of the famous works is *La Nausee* whose themes have connection with his concept about existentialism (Bertens 85)

Existentialism is philosophy ideology that views all phenomenon focusing on existence of human (Bagus 185). It represents that existentialism talks how human are existence in the world. The presence of this philosophy gives influence to growth of human perspective in understanding sense of life. Barret says that existentialism is a philosophy trying to make human understand about the reality of human life; about death, anxiety, choice, love, freedom, guilt, and awareness (792). It means that human is not only to exist

but also human can comprehend his existence through the inherent problems and conditions in human life. Hence, human's activity is human's existence (Dagun 20)

Besides Sartre as a figure of existentialism philosophy, there is a figure of philosophy who is professed in existentialism and he is known as Soren Kierkegaard. As a philosopher, Kierkegaard's concept describes the basic structure of human existence about analysis of what human life is and because of that, Kierkegaard is justly famous as the father of existentialism (Evans 18). In this concept, Kierkegaard explains that human existence is not static but always become because human self is not simply as a finished product, a kind of entity, but as a developing process (Evans 20). It means that human beings in the world are created as an individual who always undergoes developing process because it is the way of humans to show their existence. Therefore, Bagus states that existence creates everything active to become and to plan (187).

Every human in this world has freedom and responsibility to undergo his own life to show his existence because human can make choice for his life. Human can make choices only because humans have desires, hopes, fears, wishes, hates, and myriads of other interested attitudes (Evans 21). So the choice shows human existence. One of common ways that we can find it in human life is when human being makes relationship with other humans or called as love relations.

Love is not something strange in human life because every human has experienced it. Love is a need and it has been a part of every human life in this world because humanity could not exist a day without love. Strongman states love is as basic to the human condition, as involving strong, affectionately based social attachments, to be full of interest and joy (142). Love becomes the source of the power to create a dream because love can give strength to human when facing any problems and also provide force to human to make everything what she or he wants. Love is an action, the practice of a human power, which can be practiced only in freedom. (Fromm 17).

A love story that exists between people in society is a theme that is often expressed by the writers of their works because it is one of human experiences. Nurgiyantoro states themes in literary works always are related to human experience (32). Many writers who create their works use the theme because love is a very common in life of human and always remain attractive for disclosed. One of famous writers who has written many literary works is Paulo Coelho.

Paulo Coelho is an author coming from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He becomes one of the most important literary phenomena of the 20th century because of *The Alchemist* novel in the Guinness World Record for the most translated book in the world (67 languages)

(http://www.paulocoelho.com/engl/bio/shtml).

Instead, He has also written many books such as *The Pilgrimage: A Contemporary Quest for Ancient Wisdom, The Valkyries: An Encounter with Angels, The Devil and Miss Prym, Eleven Minutes, The Fifth Mountain, Veronica Decides to Die and By the River Piedra I Sat down and Wept.*

By the River Piedra I sat down and Wept Novel is one of novels of Paulo Coelho that is written at 1994 and this novel is interesting to be read because theme concerns love story and spiritual way of young Spanish woman (Britannica.com).

This novel tells about love relation between two characters in the novel who meet again after twelve years apart by space and time. Pilar decides to make a trip from Zaragoza to Madrid after she receives a letter from her childhood friend to ask her seeing him to deliver a lecture to a few people in Madrid. The meeting between Pilar and her friend bring them to memories when they were children in Soria Village until Pilar's childhood friend expresses the feeling that he has loved Pilar since their childhood. Love story between Pilar and her childhood friend makes Pilar's life become different. It brings Pilar to make decisions which change Pilar's life from the woman who does not believe in God to become believe in God after she knows about real life of her friend childhood as a seminarian.

Based on the story of the novel, the writer has interesting in analysing one of the characters in novel; she is Pilar. Pilar is one character in the literary work which shows her existence through life of love story between her and her childhood friend. Pilar experiences the process of life transformation to

become better after she meets her childhood friend and Pilar is aware of the meaning of love as total surrender to the God. Therefore, by using existentialism theory, the writer will analyse the existence of Pilar's character through Kierkegaard concept. The writer will formulate the problems of study below.

1.2. Statement of Problem

- 1. How is Pilar described in the novel?
- 2. How does Pilar show her existence through love story in the novel?

1.3. Objective the study

- 1. To reveal characterization of Pilar in the novel
- 2. To explore Pilar way to show her existence

1.4. Significance

There are several benefits that can be gained through *By the River Piedra I Sat down and Wept* novel research, especially in the literary world.

Theoretically, this research can enrich the research in the field of literature on the study of the novel. In addition, this research can be used as an additional reference for friends who want to conduct a study of literary works especially in analyzing existentialism about human existence in other literary works.

Practically, through analyzing in *By the river Piedra I sat Down and Wept*Novel using theory related to human existence, the writer hopes the reader can understand more about the existence of themselves.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

Analysing Paulo Coelho's *By the River Piedra I Sat down and Wept* novel, the writer gives limitation to characters in the novel which writer focuses on Pilar as one of main characters in the novel and the writer wants to analyse the existence of Pilar in the novel.

1.6. Method of Study

This study is a library based study. Therefore, the writer uses some books as data source having related with topic researched. There are two kinds of data source; they are primary and secondary data. In this case, the writer merely uses the novel of *By the River Piedra I Sat down and Wept* by Paulo Coelho as the primary data source. Besides that, the writer uses other sources outside the novel that are closed with the subject and it can support the primary data, such as theory books, text book, other thesis, and internet source to improve the knowledge. In presenting the analysis, I mainly use descriptive analytic. The research follows the following steps:

- Reading the novel to get the complete and well understanding on the whole story
- Selecting and collecting the data in form of narration and conversation from novel related to the problem

- 3. Analysing the data collected by firstly categorizing them into two points, dealing with two points of the statement of problems. Then, each point is analysed using related theories which refer to the objectives of the study
- 4. Making conclusion based on the result of data analysis.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

Love : is an action, the practice of a human power, which can be practiced only in freedom. (Fromm 17).

Existence: is ongoing, not static, a kind of "becoming" rather than a state of "being." (Michelman 202).

