CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Literature is the expression of beautiful thoughts, feeling, human experience, and imagination in beautiful language to show the realism in the real and unreal story (Glover 20). Every person has imaginative thought in their minds and also can give inspiration about what they have known in this world. They think about something real or unreal things in the world. Moreover, they can share their imaginative thinking by getting inspiration in the real life to know what happen in this world. It can give inspiration about what that we have known in this world (Borges 18). Thus, literature can express someone's thoughts, feelings, and experience in life. It also can revealsomeone'simpression about life.

Broadly, literary works consist of nonfiction and fiction works. Nonfiction works are written form that relates to data and factual. It does notrelate to the imagination of the author. It consists of announcement, speech text, reports, journals, biography, scientific articles, etc. (Gutkind 8). Fiction works relate to imagination, invention, something unreal, and it does not happen because of real condition and unnecessary for searching the truth. All of the

events, settings, and characters are imaginative (Nurgiyantoro 3). Fiction

works consist of novel, short story, poem, drama, fairy tale, etc (9).It can be

defined that one of the literary work is novel.

Novel is one kind of a literary works. Novel is now applied to a great

variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended

works of fiction written in prose (Abraham 190). Novel is narrative because

it does not need to find the real condition and unnecessary for searching the

truth. Another explanation states that novel is a fiction which has elements

such as plot, theme, character, setting, point of view (Burhan 10). The

statement describes that novel does not escaped from story about real life

and also the condition around the author.

Novel, as one of the literary genres, is different from short stories,

poems, and narratives in a number of key respects (Ellis 2). In formality

aspect, novel is longer than short stories. Novel tells a story freedly, more

expansive, more detail, and more complex than short story. The element of

novel is detail and more complex than short story, such as plot, theme,

setting, unity, and character (Nurgiyantoro 9-14). All novels are books, but

not all books are novels. Novel is a fictional prose narrative and having plot

that is extended by the characters, speech, and actions.

Novel is part of fiction, which represents a character about human

nature more than psychology. E.M. Forster speaks of the very limited

number of persons whose inner life and motifations we know, and sees it as

the great service of the novel that it reveals the introspective life of the

characters (Wellek and Warren 23). So, it can takesome case experienced and also inspiration by the characters.

In a typical work of fiction, there are always many forces, both small and large, that influence the ways in which characters meet a deal with their problems (Roberts and Henry 55). It is often found in the story that characters is a problem in plot and also can take the reader to know the meaning of plot in literary work.

Character has significant rule. Characters live in a story, like a human being. As we know that a characer is someone told in the story. Characters are the persons represented in a dramatic or narrative work, who are interpreted by the reader as being endowed with particular moral, intellectual, and emotional qualities by inferences from what the persons say and their distictive ways of saying it-the dialogue-and from what they do-the action (Abrams 32-33). Like a human being that a character has own characteristic.

A character is interesting to be discussed in the novel *The Little Friend* by Donna Tartt. Tarrt wasborn on December 23, 1963 in Greenwood, Mississippi. When Donna Tarrt was born, she was very small in size and she was often getting sick throughout her childhood, suffering from such tonsillitis. Because Tartt was often sick, she rarely went to school, she spent many days home. When she was getting sick Tartt used that time and tried to read and started writting daily journal, poetry and sonnetto fill spare time in home.

The little Friend is set in the fictional community of Alexandria, Mississippi, which is similar to the two communities in which the author lived as a child, Greenwood and Grenada, Missisippi.

It tells about a mysterious adventure, centered on a young girl, Harriet Cleve Dufresness. She is living in Mississippi in the early 1970s. She lives with her sister Allison and her mother Charlotte. Because of she was smart, before she was a year old. Though she'd been less than six months old when Robin died, Harriet said she could remember him. Harriet always nightmares it was always dark, Sometimes Harriet saw the door opening but she always woke up before she saw a face.

One day, she felt worried about unexplained death of her brother, Robin, who was found hanging from a tree in his parents' yard in 1964 at the age of nine.

Twelve years later Robin's murder is still unsolved and his family remains devastated. So it is that Robin's sister, Harriet, tries to set out to unmask his killer. Harriet decides to take on her friend, Hely, to help her to find who killed her brother, Robin. Harriet decides one day that she must find out what really happened to Robin and who is responsible for it. She gets a clue when the housekeeper, Ida Rhew , she tells her that a boy named Danny Ratliff had fought with Robin shortly before his death.

The Ratliffs are a notorious family in the area who are known for stealing and dealing drugs. Harriet is convinced that Danny must be responsible, so she recruits her only friend, Hely, a boy two years younger

than her, and begins investigation. Harriet and Hely spy on the Danny and sneak into Eugene's apartment. Before they escape, they release several snakes and are seen by the brothers. Harriet continues to follow Danny until she knowswho killed her brother.

She tried to find out evidence the death of her brother. Strong-willed and smart, she also decides she want to bring Danny to justice but the murderer was never identified or caught. So Harriet is difficult to bring Danny to justice.

To understand the case, this study will explore about the character and characterization to reveal the actions of the main character in the novel *The Little Friend*. It also intends to find out what kind of effect that the characters get after doing the action. This novel is chosen because it carries much of meaningful of life knowledge.

1.2 Statements of Problems

Based on the background of the study explained above, this study will observe *The Little Friend* by questioning:

1. How is the character of Harriet in *TheLittle Friend?*

2. What is Harriet's motiveto know her brother's killer?

3. How does she find the killing mystery?

1.3 Purposeof the Study

In accordance obout the statement of the problem stated above, this study has three objectives that can be stated as follows:

1. To describe the character of Harriet

2. To find out Harriet's motif of her brother's killing

3. To find out the killing mystery

1.4   Significance of the Study

Through this study, it is expected that the reader will enrich the knowledge of the illustration of character and characterization which may be done by them. It is purposed giving both theoritical and practical contribution for everyone. Theoretically, the results of the study are expected to give contribution to develop the study and analysis on literary study on Harriet character in a novel *The Little friend* by Donna Tartt. Besides, the reader will be able to appreciate the literary work itself as a human's work which serves another side of human's life, especially Donna Tartt's literary work.

On the hand, the researcher hopes to provide valuable input to several parts: first, it is expected that this study will be useful for students of English as a reference. Secondly, it is expected that this research can give significant contribution for future researchers who are interested to do research like this study.

1.5   Scope and Limitation

This research aims to analyze the novel *The Little Friend* by Donna Tartt. It will not talk about other character but this study just focuses on Harriet character and characterization represented in the novel. To answer

statement of the problem stated above, Harriet Cleve Dufresness character and characterization becomes the most important poin to analyze. However, some other characters that Harriet interacts with will be also the object for analysis and will be limited to Harriet familly using New criticism theory.

1.6 Method of the Study

This chapter discusses how the research is conducted. It consists of 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, the research used the qualitative method and the way that uses by library based. Laurence Neuman says that it (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 972). This study uses *Little Friend* a novel written by Donna Tartt. It uses qualitative merhod, because qualitative taken to analysis is about analyzing and this study want to get a valid description about Harriet character and characterization and also to find out brothers' killing mystery. Based on the problem above, this study used the theory of new criticism.

2. Source of Data

   The main of source data for this analysis is the novel of Donna tartt under the tittle *The Little Friend*. This research analyzes Harriet character in the novel. The data will be taken by quoting the important

sentences in the novel and also related to problem of the study.supporting data will be taken by reading book, PDF, thesis and journal.

3. Procedure of Data Collection

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

a. Preparing *The Little Friend* novel as the main data.

b. Reading the novel to get the complete and well understanding on the story.

c. Collecting the data from the novel by comprehending reading to get the accurate data.

d. Selecting the related references that supported the data collection.

e. Collecting the data in novel to find forms of narrations and coversations in the novel which is related to problem of the study.

f. Searching the theory which is related to the problem.

g. Analyzing the data collection dealing with the statement of the problem.

h. Making conclusion based on the result of the data analysis.

4. Prucedure of Data analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher conducts analysis of the data. It is devided into some steps. First, the researcher classifies some phrases, sentence, paragraph and dialogue which show the motive to know her brother's killer as well as its effect towards the character's life in the novel. Then the researcher will connect the theory with the data. The last, the researcher tries to interpret and make thesis statements from the analysis of data.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

There are some definitions of key terms related to this study:

Imagination : The action of forming mental images (Glover 23)

Conflict : The opposition between two characters, between large group people, or between protagonist and larger forces such as natural objects, ideas, modes of behaviour, publict opinion, and the like (Robert and Jacobs 1694)

Mystery : A book, film, or play, especially about a crime or a murder, with a surprise ending that explains all the strange

events that have happened

(www.dictionary.Cambridge.Org)