

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The chapter consists of background of the study, statements of research problem, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Literary work is an art which has interesting things from the words. There are so many enjoyable things in literary works. The interesting things are shown by the words. Literature not only has aesthetic value, but also it has function. The function of literature is *dulce et utile*. It is called as Horatian Formula. It means sweet and useful (Wellek and Warren, 1963: 30). The statement of Wellek and Warren means that literature gives some information to the readers. The readers can understand about the ideas, history, culture, etc in the literature. Besides, literature is also interesting things to enjoy. In the other word, the words in literary works are a lot of fun.

There are three kinds of literary works. The kinds are prose, poetry and drama. All of those kinds have each specific genres, but the most unique work of them is poetry, because poetry has the complicated language. There are so many symbols, figurative languages, etc in the poetry. Most of poetry have implied meaning. Thus the readers have to think harder to interpret it. Poetry also has the elements that are divided into two parts. Those are intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. Both elements have the functions to construct the form.

Poem is the most unique genre of literary works. It is more interesting than the other genres to be read. Emily Dickinson in Kennedy (1991:77) states that if I read a book and it makes my whole body so cold no fire can ever warm me, I know this is poetry. If I feel physically as-if the top of my head were taken off. I know that is poetry. The statement means that poetry has the difficult word to be understood directly. The difficulty of the poetry is the interpretation. Poetry is probability to multi-interpret, because the word is full of ambiguity and implied meaning. Emily also shows from the statement that poetry is so unique and a lot of fun to be read. The uniqueness of poetry is the way to write. Poetry gets possibility to write from the unreasonable to become reasonable. This uniqueness makes poetry more fun to be read.

Since poem is a unique genre, so there are so many poems which have big influence to the readers, even though poems inspire to the next poets to create a new poem. Several of those inspiring poems are William Blake's works, due to mostly his works reflect on social condition and religion. Blake's works also affect to inspire to the world wide poets to write their works.

William Blake was a poet, an engraver and a painter in 18th century. Through his ability, he wrote poems and illustrated them in paintings. His characteristics in literary works, especially in poetry, were focused on social, politics and religion (retrieved from [//www.poemhunter.com](http://www.poemhunter.com)). It means that William Blake's poems are focused on social, politics, and religion. William Blake lives in England about 18th century, so mostly his works reflect on social,

politics, and religion in England about 18th century. Two of his famous poems which include the social, politics, and religion of England in the 18th century are entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"*. The statement is strengthened by Ayu Saraswati (2009: 2) Blake's works which involve his (William Blake) critics of social and religious life during his life. Saraswati strengthens that William Blake focuses on social and religious life in his works, especially in his poems. From both statements, those can be concluded that one of Blake's poems may interpret from the several point of views. Since William Blake has a focus more than one aspect. This study focuses on the social aspect, so the reflection of both poems is explained that focuses on social condition.

There are masterpieces works from William Blake's works. Several of William Blake's great works are *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"*. Both of them are great poems that have simple words, but they have powerful meaning. As like the others William Blake's poems, both poems reflect on social and religious condition, so those poems represent his other poems. Since Blake's poems have a focus on social condition, so both poems also reflect on the social condition. Both of Blake's poems have relation each others. A poem entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* is Blake's experience that criticizes economics conflict in society of England in 18th century. Great different economics of each societies are proceed from revolutionary industry. Revolutionary industry gives occasion to the ranks of

social status. The status between high class and lower class get contrast in the way of life. The poem is from the lower class point of view. For *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"*, the poem is the innocence of experience from the lower class. Thus both poems reflect on social condition, and those social condition mostly use point of view from the lower class.

Both poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* reflect on social condition, so sociology of literature is an appropriate theory which focuses on sociology of work. Sociology of work relates to the society where the literature is created. The relation of society and literature includes history, politics, and culture. From this theory, the study elaborates the reflection of England's social condition in 18th century. Therefore, the writer uses sociology of literature theory to analyze both poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"*. Besides both poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* are the appropriate source of data which can reflect on the social condition, so sociology of literature is the theory, that focuses on sociology of work used to analyze from the society where and when the literature is created. Both poems are written by William Blake who lives in England in the 18th century. Thus the theory is used to analyze the reflection of England social condition in 18th century.

The reflection of England's social condition in 18th century in Blake's poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* is the interesting thing to be analyzed. Since both of them elaborate

England's social condition in the religious language. First, the topic is Analyzed by Stanley Gardner in his books, *Blake* (1968). His focus is in the Background of William Blake on writing poems and intrinsic element of William Blake's poems. The second study is Riska Amalia (2012). Her study is England's social condition in 18th century in *Northanger Abbey* by Jane Austen.

1.2 Statements of Research Problem

1. How do the poems entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* reflect on the social condition of England in 18th century?
2. what do the similarities of the two poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* that reflect on the social condition of England in 18th century?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

- 1) To explain the reflection of England's social condition from the poems entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* in 18th Century
- 2) To explain the similarities of both poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"* that reflect on the social condition of England in 18th century?

1.4 Significances of the Study

Theoretically, this study uses sociology of works to contribute the development of sociology of literature theory. The writer hopes the readers understand well about England's social condition in 18th century in the poems *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Innocence"*. Practically, the study will be the cast of the next writer to develop this study.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is the social condition in both poems entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Experience"*. Sociology of works, the parts of sociology of literature theory is used as the theory in this study, so this study focuses on how the social condition that is displayed in the poem, especially the social condition of England in 18th century. The limitation of the study is words and phrases in every lines in the William Blake's poems entitled *Introduction to "Song of Experience"* and *Introduction to "Song of Experience"*.