

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents some subchapters, namely background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the study, significances of the study and scope and limitation of the study. They are necessary to be explained because they describe this study generally.

1.1 Background of the Study

There are many reasons why people enjoy to read literary work. One of the reasons is because the readers may get not only an entertainment but also knowledge of human life story. Many kinds of literary work can be the media to express the portrait of life; one of them is a novel. According to Gill, novel is a world especially made in words by an author and one of the form of literary works which has been popular for centuries, even today (Gill, 1995:77). It shows that novel contains a lot of information about life story in the world.

In a novel, there are many life stories that can be told by an author. For example, the authors usually write the story based on the social story, including human action. However, love is one of human action in the world. It is supported by Erich Fromm statement, "Love is an action, the practice of human power, which can be practiced only in freedom and never as the result of compulsion."

(Fromm, 1956:22). It means that love is an action which is done by human without any compulsion from the others.

A feeling of love or affection is an interesting action. Therefore, a literary work that contains theme of love can be a famous literary work. For example, the novel entitled *Romeo and Juliet* which tells about forbidden love. Besides, love is the main feeling that every man must have. Therefore, the application of theme of love becomes a favorite theme in literary work.

Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt, a French author, has a novella that tells about love. The title is *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*. Eric tells a feeling of love of a mother towards her child. The character of mother in this novella is Mamie-Rose. The character of child in this novella is Oscar. Mamie-Rose is an adoptive mother of Oscar. However, Mamie-Rose gives so big affection towards Oscar as like his mother. She gives her love before Oscar gets his death. Then, her love can change Oscar's mindset and Oscar's attitude.

Oscar and the Lady in Pink is chosen in this study because this novella had been translated into fifteen languages around the world after it was firstly published in 2002 in French. Including the English one. The original version of this novella uses French, because the author, Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt is a French dramatist, novelist, fiction writer also film director. Love story between a mother and his child that appears in Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink* is suitable if it is analyzed through Erich Fromm's Psychology of Love

theory. The compatibility of story between this novel and the theory of Psychology of Love by Eric Fromm attracts the writer to analyze this novel.

In this study, the affection that Mamie-Rose gives towards Oscar will be analyzed by using Psychology of Love theory from Erich Fromm to explain her affection and the effects of her affection towards Oscar's mindset and attitude. Psychology of Love theory is a theory that tells about love that human give to other human. Erich Fromm said in his book, entitled *The Art of Loving*, he said, "*Love is union under the condition of preserving one's integrity, one's individuality.*" (Fromm, 1956:20). It means that if someone gives love to the other person, he or she has to preserve the integrity and individuality of the loved person. Preserving the integrity and individuality is a way which can be chosen to show our love for the others.

In line with the elaboration above, the topic of this study is love of a mother towards her child. Then, the theory which is going to be used is psychology of love by Erich Fromm. It means that the writer only focuses on the psychology of love theory. Actually, "Love" is something important in this life, it encourages the writer wants to analyze this novella by using psychology of love theory. The writer also wants to get a deeper meaning of love, especially in mother's presence in the novel.

Previously, this literary work also has been analyzed by some researchers but using different theory. One of them is the study by Mahbubeh Fahim Kalam with his partner Mohamad Reza Mohseni in 2012, professors in University Azad

Islamic Arak Branch, Iran, who analyze *The Effect of Imaginary and Religious Elements Vis-À-Vis Death in Oscar and the Lady in Pink*. The result of this study is the explanation about the effect of imaginary and some religious elements Vis-A-Vis death that happens in Oscar and the Lady in Pink.

The other research about this novel that uses other theory is *Comparative Literature of Novel Surat Kecil Untuk Tuhan and Oscar and the Lady in Pink*, written by Andri Noryunita and Dewi Purwatiningsih from University of Trunojoyo Madura in 2015. The result of this study is the explanation about differences and similarities of both of the novel. These previous studies can be proof that this study is still original and never been analyzed before.

1.2 Statement of Research Problem

Based on the background of the study, this study is going to discuss about Mamie-Rose's affection towards Oscar in Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*. Then, the problems of it are founded as following questions, they are:

1. In what way Mamie Rose shows her affection portrayed in Eric Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*?
2. How does Mamie Rose's affection influence Oscar's mindset and attitude that is portrayed in Eric Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Related to the statement of research problem above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To describe Mamie Rose's affection that is portrayed in Eric Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*.
2. To describe how the affection influences Oscar's mindset and attitude that is portrayed in Eric Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*.

1.4 Significances of the Study

The significances of the study are:

1. Theoretically, this study will give better understanding of Psychology and Literature criticism especially Psychology of Love theory that has owned by Erich Fromm.
2. Practically, this study will guide us to keep good relation and love each other as a human being.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

In this subchapter, the writer emphasizes the scope of the study in using Psychology of Love theory which is explained by Erich Fromm. Especially, the way Erich Fromm sees the view of love of a mother. The data is limited on Mamie Rose's and Oscar's utterances and narration that related to the affection

between each other also the effect of the affection towards Oscar's mindset and attitude which happens in Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt's *Oscar and the Lady in Pink*.