

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents sub chapters, namely background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significances of the study, scope and limitation of the study which all describe the study in general.

1.1 Background of The Study

Everyone has a different way to improve their abilities or feelings, one of them is creating literary work. They often use their feelings to express their ideas and problems. Prose is one of literary work. Literature is the writing of books valued as works of arts which can be divided into three genres; they are prose fiction, poetry, and drama (Wellek and Warren, 1967). Prose fiction includes novel, short stories, romance, parables, and myths.

According to Abrams (1999), fiction is any literary *narrative*, whether in prose or verse, which is invented instead of being an account of events that in fact happened. It means that the event in the story is not real, but it is just imagination. It may include myths, romance, novel, and short stories. Novel is one of the kinds of fictional prose. Novel is fictional prose which is based on human experiences or human historical (Abrams, 1999). There are some kind of genres in the novel which are found in contemporary publishing which are action-adventure, fantasy, detective, crime, mystery, horror, and romance.

Fantasy is one of fiction genre in literary work. Novel is one of literary work which has fiction genre. Fantasy have magic and the supernatural elements. Fantasy is related to the creativity of human's imagination. In fantasy story, there are fantastic creatures and places, vampire or werewolve and other extraordinary things that actually do not exist in real-world (D'Ammassa, 2006). It means the human activities in the story are not real. The real world is when the people are live, sleep, eat, walk and can do the human activities. Fantasy can operate in two ways, it can tell of manifest or show desire, it is an expression in the sense of depiction, representation, manifestation, mention, and description, or it can expel desire, when this desire is a disturbing element which threatens cultural order and continuity, it is an expression in the sense of pressing out, squeezing, expulsion, getting rid of something by force (Jackson, 1981).

In literature, fantasy usually is defined as an imaginative fiction. There are some fantasy elements which can be found in the novel. The characters in the story focuses on the conflict between good and evil with use magic and involve heroes. The elements of fantasy usually cannot exist in reality. Fantasy also can be categorized for some kinds. For example, Contemporary fantasy, dark fantasy, heroic fantasy, high fantasy, and historical fantasy (Stableford, 2005). Here, one of novel fantasy is *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins.

Rachel Hawkins is an American writer who was born on 23 November 1979, in Virginia. Her literary work entitled *Hex Hall* was the New

York Times best-selling, due to her literary work presents a new view of the origins of the history of magic. She also was famous with the trilogy of the fantasy, romance and mystery novel. *Hex Hall* is one of her literary works which most interesting, because Hawkins's proficient and entertaining debut is jam-packed with magical creatures and mystery, it is the praise for *Hex Hall* (Hawkins, 2010).

Hex Hall is a story about a school for Prodigium. Prodigium is just a fancy Latin word for monster (Hawkins, 2010). The students in Hex Hall (Hecate) are witches, vampires, fairies, and werewolves. Sophie Mercer as the main character is a witch who has a magic power than the other. Therefore, the other Prodigium try to harm and to seize her to joint with them. It makes many conflict in Hex Hall (Hecate), some of people try to kill her with various ways.

Based on the background of the study above, the writer focuses on *Hex Hall* on analysing the aspects of fantasy in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins. The writer emphasizes this study in fantasy genre theory. The writer is interested in analyzes novel *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins because this novel contains the aspects of fantasy. The writer also wants to reveal that the novel is fantasy novel. Based on the novel, it can be concludes that there are many studies which can be analysis by used genre theory especially fantasy created by John H. Timmerman (Characteristics of fantasy), Ben Hoare (functions of fantasy), and Brian Stableford (kinds of fantasy). This study focuses on analyze the aspects of fantasy in the novel by using fantasy genre theory. It makes the

writer chooses fantasy genre theory to elaborate this study entitled “Revealing Fantasy in Rachel Hawkins’ *Hex Hall*”.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of study, the research questions of this study are formulated as follows:

1. What are the characteristics of fantasy represented in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins?
2. What are the functions and kinds of fantasy in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins?

1.3 Objectives of The Study

The objectives of the study are:

1. To describe the characteristics of fantasy represented in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins.
2. To describe the functions and kinds of fantasy in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins.

1.4 Significances of The Study

Hopefully, this study will be useful in helping readers toward a deep and better understanding of fantasy found in the novel. The writer wants to give explanation to the readers about fantasy genre theory. The writer hopes that the results of the study are useful for this department in order to develop the upcoming research.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of The Study

This study discusses the aspects of fantasy found in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins published in New York, 2010. The scope of this study is fantasy genre theory. The limitations of this study are the author's narrations and the characters' utterances in *Hex Hall* by Rachel Hawkins which are related to the research questions.