CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

There are three subchapters in this chapter. This chapter contains some theories that support this research. The theories include theory of drama (2.1), theory of sociology (2.2), theory of historicism (2.2.1), the social background of *Waiting for Godot* including the historical moment and the condition after the Second World War (2.3), and the last is the review of previous study (2.4).

2.1. Theory of Drama

Drama is a part of literature. Drama is a one of some literary works in literature. Drama is a literary works that written and there are some actors that must be played the script in the stage. Klarer states,

> The dramatic or performing arts, however, combine the verbal with a number of non-verbal or opticalvisual means, including stage, scenery, shifting of scenes, facial expressions, gestures, make-up, props, and lighting. This emphasis is also reflected in the word drama itself, which derive from the greek "draein" ("to do." "to act"), thereby referring to a performance or represeentation by actors (2004:43).

Abadi and Kiaee also state in their article that drama is "literature intended for performance" (2008:240).

The statements are not only from Klarer and Abadi and Kiaee, but also Abrams give the explanation about what drama is. Abram states,

> The form of composition designed for performance in the theater, in which actors take the roles of the characters, perform the indicated action, and utter the written dialogue. (1999:69)

Based on the statements above, the researcher can conclude that drama needs so many properties for perform, like actors who utter the written dialogue or the

script of drama, stages as the place for actors perform the indicated action, scenery, and so on because it must look like the real life. So, the dramatist must have high imagination if they want to write script of drama. Usually the dramatists write the drama appropriate with their life, so that drama can be the reflection of life.

Drama has some types, they are absurd drama, tragicomedy, tragedy, comedy, pantomime and so on. In this research, the researcher analyzed the absurd drama *Waiting for Godot*. The researcher would like to explain what absurd drama is.

2.1.1 Absurd Drama

Waiting for Godot is one of the most absurd dramas in this literature world. Absurd means the unreasonable condition of human. Abrams (1999:1) said that aburd is literary works that provide the condition of human who essentially absurd, and this condition usually reflect in literary works that themselves absurd. Esslin (in Bolick, 2009) said that absurdists focused on the idea that life is irrational, illogical, incongruous, and without reason after World War II.

It means that absurd drama provides the conditions of human that have meaningless life, unreasonable life, uncertainty life, irrational life. They also think that life has no reason. Baldick states the absurd is,

> A term derived from the existentialism of Albert Camus, and often applied to the modern sense of human purposelessness in a universe without meaning or value (2001:1).

Based on that statement, the researcher can explain that the absurd drama comes from the existentialism of Albert Camus. The absurd drama rise and apply for all of mankind in this world in the era of modern that live without meaning and purpose.

2.2 Theory of Sociology of Literature

Sociology and literature are two different studies. Although they are different, these studies are interesting for discussion. In this era, so many researchers analyzed literary works using sociology of literature theory. In here, the researcher would like to discussed about it from the meaning of sociology itself, the meaning of literature itself and about sociology of literature.

Sociology is a knowledge that related with human, including all about social life of human including behaviour, economy, beliefs, value, culture and so on. Saraswati said that the word "sociology" is come from the word "socio" or "society" and "logi" or "logos". Sosio or society means human in society and logi or logos means knowledge. So, it can be concluded that sociology is a knowledge that discussed about human or social life of human (2003:2). August Comte in Sumarjan (in Saraswati, 2003:2) said that mathematic is easier study than sociology because mathematic has certain object that is number. It is different with sociology that has human as the object, in sociology, it must study about human behavior that difficult to understand.

In short, sociology is a study about human behavior including culture, beliefs, economy, politic and so on, social process of human and also the position of human in society. Damono (in Saraswati, 2003:3) said that when people study about sociology with all the problems in society like economy, politics, beliefs, and all other social structure of human, all people will get the point how human can adapt in their behavior.

After the researcher discussed about sociology, here, the researcher discussed about literature. Actually, Many people can define by itself about the concept of literature. Literature is imaginative and creative act that can make the readers enjoyed, literature usually focused on writing. Wallek and Waren state that literature is creative act, a literary works (1977:3). Klarer also states,

> Literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word (2004:1).

From the statements above, the researcher can conclude that all of creative act including expression written, can called literature.

All of people can define what literature is by themselves. Eagleton states that so many attempts to define what literature is. Eagleton also gives the example of literature is like imaginative writting in the sense of fiction (1996:1). Although literature is like imaginative writing, and literature come from the author's imagination, literature can be influenced by the situation of the author's behavior. The authors inspired from the situation arround them so that the authors can create a literary works. The authors create them from their imagination and their experience so it makes the people enjoy a literary works.

Based on the explanation above about sociology and literature, here, the researcher would like to explains about sociology of literature. Like the researcher write before, actually, sociology and literature is a different study. Darmono (in Saraswati, 2003:3) said that sociology does objective analysis, in the other hand, literature tries to understand about social situation in society deeply. Darmono also give an example that if two sociologists do research in one group of society, the result will same. It is different with literature. If two novelists tries to write a

novel about the situation in the same group of society, the result will different, because they understand about the situation with their different feeling.

Sociology of Literature is a knowledge that is related with literature and the social life of human, including the culture, beliefs, politics, religion, the situation arround of people, and so on. Abrams states,

> Most literary historians and critics have taken some account of the relation of individual authors to the circumstances of the social and cultural era in which they live and write, as well as of the relation of a literary work to the segment of society that its fiction represents or to which the work is addressed. (1999:288)

From the excerpt above, it means that the authors write their literary works influenced by the situation arround them. In that excerpt, the researcher concluded that there is a relation between literary works and social of the authors. The authors draw the situation in their literary works using their imagination.

Wellek and Warren (in Saraswati, 2003:11) said that they try to formulate the relation between literary works and society that can analyze in some ways, those are:

a. Some factors in outside of text, like the position of authors in society.

b. The relation between literary works and society. In this part, the researcher is not only analyze about the relation between the author's social network and the author itself, but also the researcher have to understand about the author's view.

Wellek and Warren (in Saraswati, 2003:17) have a concept about sociology of literature. They also said that sociology of literature has a relation between sociology of authors, sociology of literary works and also sociology of reader.

1. In sociology of authors, it related with sosial background, economic source, ideology and social integration. Here, the authors are society, so that the

researcher can study about them as social human not only about their biography, but also about their behavior or milieu, the background of the author, their family, their economic status, and so on.

2. In sociology of literary works, it related with contain of the literary works, purpose of the literary works and also the social problems.

3. In sociology of reader, it related with social background of the reader, alteration and also the social development.

2.3 Theory of Historicism

Historicism is a theory that related with the situation or the sociology of the author like social, culture which influences the author to create a literary works. Culler states,

> The model for historical explanation is thus the logic of stories: the way a story shows how something came to happen, connecting the initial situation, the development, and the outcome in a way that makes sense. (1997:19)

The story, especially literary works has something that happened and gives the initial situation of that. So, it means that the authors create the story or literary works influenced from the situation around them.

The explanation about that is more clearly when Guerin et al give the explanation also about that explanation. Guerin et al also state in their book *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*,

> Put simply, this approach sees a literary work chiefly, if not exclusively, as a reflection of its author's life and times or the life and times of the characters in the work. (2005:51)

That excerpt shows that literary works as a reflection of the authors' life. It means that the authors portrait their condition in their works so that the readers know and understand about the situation around the authors.

Kennedy and Gioia supported that explanation. Kennedy and Gioia states about the historicism,

> Historical Criticism seeks to understand a literary work by investigating the social, cultural, and intellectual context that produced it-a context that necessarily includes the artist's biography and milieu. (2005:666)

That statement means that historicism is a criticism which understands a literary works based on the situation around the authors, such as social, culture, and other contexts that related with social milieu and the biography of the authors.

From three statements above, the researcher concludes that a literary works influenced by the time or the situation where the authors live and the phenomena that happened in that era. Based on the statements above, the researcher also conclude that literary works is reflection of the author's life or times of the characters in the works. Although all literary works consist of the author's imagination, the situation of the authors also influenced them to create the literary works.

2.3.1 Historical Moment of *Waiting for Godot*

As the theories above, historicism is a theory that describes about the relation between the authors' life including the social background and their works including the historical background of their works as the researcher explains in this chapter. In this subchapter, the researcher would like to describe the historical background of Beckett's drama *Waiting for Godot*, including the historical moment in the era of *Waiting for Godot* created, and also the condition of religion after Second World War.

Before the researcher explains about the condition of Post-World War II, the researcher would like to explain about the condition of World War II based on the

encyclopedia that the researcher summarized. World War II happened when Germany forced attacked Poland on September 1st 1939, and two days later after that, France and Britain decided to declared war with Germany because both of them promised to protect Poland. It can be concluded that World War II began on 1939 although some historians give the opinion that World War II happened two years before it that is on 1937 when Japanese attacking of Chinese. The conflict to be bigger when the condition of value of human and economic to be terrify and it is not only about it, but also about the annihilation or total deconstruction of power structure of Europe and all continental empires to be collapse. (Summarized from *World War II A Student Encyclopedia,* 2005:3)

In addition, Sajid said that the Second World War happened on 1st September 1939 until 14th August 1945. This war happened in Asia, Europe, and also Africa. Sajid also said that there are more than 50 million people passed away in that war (2014). Actually, so many causes that make the World War II began, including general and specific causes. Sajid said that there are some general causes and specific causes to make World War II began. First, the general causes of world war II is United Nation or UN cannot handle world peace in this world. Second, there are arms races in each country in this world; it is the effect of First World War. The last is, there is an alliance politic in some country of Europe like France bloc as Democracy, German bloc as Fasis, and Russia bloc as communist. The purpose of alliance politic is to revenge for their defeat in the First World War (2014).

Whereas, Sajid said that the specific causes of the world war II is German attack Poland on 1st September 1939. The reason why German did it because

German wants to get Danzig back from United Nation but Poland refused German's ask. Since that, German makes an alliance with Russia to attack Poland (2014). From those statements above, it could be concluded that there are some causes to make World War II began.

Like the statement above that German attacked Poland on 1st September 1939, and two days after that Britain and France declared war to German, Feldman explains that, in several weeks that is on 27th September 1939 Poland stated that Poland surrendered to German. In the same year, Britain evacuating all children from German air raid. Britain brought all the children from London to rural town or small town. Britain did it because Britain wants to protect them. Feldman also explains that on 10th April 1940 German attacked Norway and Denmark. Denmark surrendered to German, but Denmark get aid from the force of British and France to attack continues to Norway. In several months, German attacked some countries like Netherland, Belgium, Luxemburg, and France. German did it on 10th May 1940. Then, Netherland and Belgium surrendered to German in several weeks. Netherland surrendered on 14th May 1940 and Belgium did the same thing like Netherland on 28th May 1940 (2000: xiv-xv).

The war was still happened year by year. Feldman explains that on 10th June 1940, Italy declared that Italy wants to invade France and Britain. In the same year, England was invaded by German. German began bombing England in that year, but German defeated by Britain's pilot war successfully and it made Hitler has the plan to attack Britain. Year by year the war still happened in all countries in this world, such as Europe, US, Asian, and Australia. Feldman also explains that on 8th May 1945, the new government of German surrendered

unconditionally. Not only German, but also Japan declared that Japan surrenders unconditionally with the Alliance on 15th August 1945 (2000: xv and xix)

German military did a very cruel activity during World War II. Many countries get the impact of World War II, one of them is French. So many civilians passed away in that war. Scholz explains, on June 10th 1944, German shattered Oradour sur Glane, one of most villages in French. German asked all women and children to go to the church and German burned them. German also asked all men to go to the shed and German shot all men. German military killed all people in other villages in French. Scholz also said that one day before it, German hanged 99 men in Tulle, French (2013).

World War II is the unforgettable history moment for all people in that era. It causes some effects after the Second World War. The effect of post-World War II is there are so many people passed away. In *World War II A Student Encyclopedia* stated that there are more than 50 million of people including civilians passed away in the war. Although the Second World War ended, the sufferings of human still happen and it happens in part of Europe and part of Asia. They are still feeling starving and also they are still live in temporary shelter. They have no home or it can be called displaced, so that they go to the Reich. They go there because they want to work as slave laborers in German industry and agriculture (Summarized from *World War II A Student Encyclopedia,* 2005:21).

The effect of Post-World War II was not only happened in Human, but also the impact of Post-World War II happen in transportation that disturbs human activities, some of Central Europe and West Europe and also in Japan, so many stagnation of transportation such as so many broke bridge, broke rail, and also

broke street. The harbors difficult to access and some of them need to rebuild (*ibid,* 2005:21). Based on the explanation about the spectacular war above, all of them like human passed away in war, broke transportation in anywhere, starving caused by the war.

2.3.2 The Condition of Spiritual Life

Ahmad (2011:212-213) said in his journal that in 18th century, Nietzsche said that "God was passed away", so that after World War I, this situation to be more complicated. The life looks uncertain, anxiety and so on. These characteristics more complete when Marxism rises. This concept was spread by Stalin and Hitler in World War II. After World War II, many scientists in Europe lost their beliefs about sense of human. Therefore, so many negative comments about life that related with God. They thought that if God still exist, why God let the people suffer because of the war, like the people who lost their child, they lost their part of body, and so on. In France, Thompson explains that after the Second World War, there was a crisis of moral order in France (2014).

Based on the explanations above, the researcher can conclude that the spiritual life in that era was so uncertain for all people and it made them feel anxiety. They will confused where is the right side and where is the wrong side because Thompson also explains,

> The eventual elimination of the Nazi influence led to some vague, undefined, and unique philosophies of morality. The two sides in World War II had extremely different ideas about what was right and wrong for the human race. Such widespread rejection of the traditional organization of morality reflected the philosophy of post-structuralism, which focuses on the instability of the human sciences (2014).

It means that there are two sides of different philosophies or different idea about the sense of human, it happen in France because France lost its moral order. It means that the people in that era did not know what the right of morality was and what the wrong of morality was.

2.4 Review of the Previous Study

In this part, the researcher found 2 (two) the previous which have been done by 2 (two) researchers, they are Angelia Desi Kisandi (UMSurabaya, 2009) with the title *Personal Historical Background of Amy Winehouse and the Messages of Lyric Song "Rehab"* and Zaenal Makhfuddin (UNESA, 2014) with the title *Meaning of Life in Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot.*

First, the researcher would like to explain the first research that is Kisandi's research. Kisandi is using expressive approaching in her research, because Kissandi analyzed the relation between personal historical background of the song's writer that is Amy Winehouse and the song "Rehab". Kissandi also analyzed the messages in that song that also related with the writer of the song. In her research, Kissandi found that the song is an expression and the real story of the song's writer. Kissandi found and describing the personal historical background of the song's writer that caused the song's writer created the song. Kissandi found that there are some messages in that song that the writer of the song tried to show (2009).

Second, the researcher would like to explain the second research that is Makhfuddin's research. Makhfuddin used theoretical approach because Makhfuddin matched the meaning of life in *Waiting for Godot* and *The Myth of Sisyphus* by Albert Camus. Makhfuddin focused on analyzing the meaning of life

in *Waiting for Godot* that focused on the main characters of that drama. Makhfuddin found and described the meaning of life in the main characters of the drama, they are Vladimir and Estragon, and also Makhfuddin found and described the impact of meaningless and nothingness to the life of the main characters (2014).

From those researches that the researcher has been read, the researcher has inspired to write this research. In this research, the researcher analyzed *Waiting for Godot* by Samuel Beckett from the historical background of the drama and also the social milieu around of the dramatist. Although the data same with the second of previous study that the researcher read, the researcher analyzed in other side of it. The researcher uses sociology of literature which focused on Historicism as the theory to analyze the data. It is different with Makhfuddin's research because Makhfuddin analyzed the meaning of life of the main characters in *Waiting for Godot* without analyzed how the social background of that drama. This research is also different with Kisandi's research although this research has almost same theme. Kisandi provided the personal historical background that happens in the data, while this research provides how the social background of the data *Waiting for Godot.*