

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

In this chapter, the methods applied and the data that were analyzed in this study will be described. Methods come from the words *meta* that means aim, through, follow, after; whereas *hodos* means way, style, and direction, method is the ways, strategies to understanding the reality; the systematic steps to solve the series of the next cause effect (Hudayat, 2007: 7).

Methods are used to simplify the problem so it becomes easier to be solved and understood. Descriptive qualitative method is used in this study in order to show the meaning of the symbols. Descriptive method is the way to solve the problem actually by collecting, arranging, classifying, analyzing, and interpreting the data (Winarno in Hudayat, 2007: 106). The description of this thesis will include research material, research design, and reading process and data analysis and interpretation.

#### **3.1 Research Material**

One of the steps of the descriptive method is research material or the selected data. The description of collecting and selecting data or material technique (sample) and classifying data or material technique should be presented so that the process of descriptive method can be drawn clearly (Hudayat, 2007: 106). The material object of this thesis is the eleven symbols in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. Some symbols are included because they are important to support the plot, setting, and theme of the story. Moreover, to reveal the messages of the story are still hidden. They are as follows:

- 3.1.1 Christmas Tree
- 3.1.2 Macaroons or Forbidden Macaroons
- 3.1.3 Skylark
- 3.1.4 Squirrel
- 3.1.5 Clothes or Dress
- 3.1.6 Tarantella or Tarantella Dance
- 3.1.7 Black Cross
- 3.1.8 Letter
- 3.1.9 Doll
- 3.1.10 Ring
- 3.1.11 Doll's House

These are the symbols that will be analyzed in this research.

### **3.2 Research Design**

Research design has the purpose to take apart and explain accurately, thoroughly, and deeply the relevance all elements and aspects of literature works which are together produce the totality (Teeuw in Hudayat, 2007: 107). This thesis efforts to get information and interpretation concerning with the symbolism in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. Baxter and Jack (2008: 549) elaborate "in addition to identifying the 'case' and the specific 'type' of case study to be conducted, researchers must consider if it is prudent to conduct a single case study or if a better understanding of the phenomenon will be gained through conducting a multiple case study". This thesis is a textual study with single case study in which only analyzed the meaning of symbols in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. "Case study is used to describe an entity

that forms a single unit such as a person, an organization, or an institution” (Hancock, 1998: 6). Considering the object of the research, descriptive qualitative method is used. Some step is used in this study. First, read the text of *A Doll's House* repeatedly in order to understand the theme, setting, and plot. Second, reread the text in order to understand what symbols that are important of the story. Third, list some selected symbols of the story. Fourth, analyze the meaning of the selected symbols by using compatible theories. The writer only includes some symbols which is important in the story. They are reputed important to support the theme, plot, and setting of the story.

### **3.3 Reading Process**

In literature research, there are field research and library research (Hudayat, 2007: 6). Field research is like the social science, because both of them are using the same instrument with the same method and technique. Whereas, library research specifically for examines the text with the technique that is used primer data and secondary data. Semi in Wulan (2010: 20) defines that library research is the research that is done in the researcher's work place, or in the library that is place to get data and information for the research from books. One of the important steps in a library research is reading process. Reading process is conveyed because this study is a library research which is examines the text from books, encyclopedias, articles, and internet. There are some steps which are used to collect the data of this thesis. The steps of the research as follow:

3.3.1 Search complete information about drama *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen from books, articles, and internet

3.3.2 Read the text of *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen repeatedly while collect some important symbols

3.3.3 Find and list some selected symbols of the story

3.3.4 Search and collect the theories of symbol and available data which are related to this thesis and compatible to analyze the meaning of the symbols

3.3.5 Analyze the possible meaning of the selected symbols in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen based on the theory of symbol.

### **3.4 Data Analysis and Interpretation**

Hancock (1998: 16) defines “Analysis of data in a research project involves summarizing the mass of data collected and presenting the results in a way that communicates the most important features”. Because this research uses descriptive qualitative method, the writer tries to explain, analyze, and interpret the data which is the symbol. Ratna (2004: 44-46) states that descriptive analysis is the way to describe the facts and followed by analyzing.

In analyzing the possible meaning of the symbols in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen, first observes, rereads the text of *A Doll's House*, classifies some selected symbols, collects some applicable theory of symbol, and finally analyzes the possible meaning of the symbols based on the theory of symbol.

In analyzing the meaning of the symbols, some symbolism theories are used that are supported by Kennedy and Gioia in their book *An Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama* (2005), Wilson in his book *Literature of 1870-1930* (1959), Stanton in his book *An Introduction to Fiction* (1965), Symons in his book *The Symbolist Movement in Literature* (1919), J.E Cirlot in his

book *A Dictionary of Symbols 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (1971), and Chadwick in his book *symbolism* (1971). Then, the symbols are interpreted in order to answer the question that was stated on the problem statement.

The symbols of this research will be analyzed in the following step. First, find and list the eleven symbols in *A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen. Second, analyze the possible meaning of the symbols based on the symbolism theory. Third, describe the conclusion based on the analysis.