

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

Human beings as one of the three alive-creatures besides animal and plant have a particular ability, which makes him so special that dominates the others. They are able to adapt, to survive and to analyze the universe phenomenon, which make their quality of life better and better since the past. They have the whole ability because God has granted them brain. Their curiosities are so great that they learn more and more. Besides, something that makes them more special than the others is they know the way to express their feeling, thought, and emotion. Something to provide “a place” for all of the people’s expression is literature.

Literature, according to Moleong as quoted by Spadlex (2000:13), is the knowledge which is earned by human beings arise conduct and it is used to reflect and express experience. Another opinion, Edward H. Jones said that “Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination”. It seems that something human being does deals literature, especially in communicating. To communicate to each other may be done by a means, such as by a letter, speaking directly, by phone etc. Even something they wrote or said, no matter what its content, could be called a literature. Well, in this life, in purpose or not in purpose, they have involved in a literature.

By using their mind they produced an expression of their feeling, emotion and thought to communicate with others. And this result of literature is called a literary work. Literary work consists of two types, namely imaginative and non-imaginative (Roberts, 1992:4). Both literary works are basically same, that is both are expressed aesthetically, but they have a different in expression. Imaginative type is commonly using connotative sentence to express an idea, while non-imaginative type is more realistic than the imaginative one. It uses denotative sentence.

Edgar V. Roberts stated that, non-imaginative type consists of essay, criticism, biography, autobiography, history, memoir, diary, and letters. And imaginative type consists of poetry, prose, and drama (1992:4). In this paper, the writer takes a prose especially short story as an object that will be further analyzed. Prose, sometimes called narrative fiction or prose fiction is chronological account of a series of events usually fictional, although sometimes the fictional events in a prose are drawn largely from actual and historical events. The two kinds of prose we most often read are such works as short stories, novella, novel, myths, parables, fable, romances and epics. A short story is usually about one or two characters undergoing some sort of difficulty or problems. The characters may undergo the ups and downs of the situation, and they never stay the same. Although the characters may interact with another character and with the circumstances surrounding them, the relationships are usually described very briefly. This is because the limitation space and time of a short story. The shortened form of the story does not allow

the writer to explore in detail the changes and development of human character and their response for human beings and environment.

According to Jacobs, to analyze a short story in a study there must be minimally two elements that support each other, such as plot and character. Plot and character are two significant elements and very needed in a story. Plot is the arrangement of the incidents or events in a story, which are interconnected each other that makes a story more interesting and easy to be comprehended (Roberts and Jacobs, 1994:55). The story contains problems appearing within the actions that make the character struggle to overcome the problems. Meanwhile, character is the player in the story. Of course there is conflict of the character that interesting to analysis. Therefore, the writer takes a topic “An Analysis of Conflict in James Thurber’s *The Secret Live of Walter Mitty* and James Joyce’s *The Eveline*”. The writer utilizes the characteristic of the main character and is supported by the plot to find out the conflict and characterization of the story.

In this study, the researcher choose *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* and *The Eveline*. It tells about the aging Walter Mitty on a trip into town with his overbearing wife, Mrs. Mitty. Walter is inept at many things; he is an absent-minded driver, he can't handle simple mechanical tasks, and he forgets things easily. What makes Walter exceptional is his imagination. This story explores the internal conflict refer to psychological of the main character, he can't handle his imagination. But he also has an overbearing wife.

In the other hand, James Joyce describe Eveline in *The Eveline* as poor girl. Eveline's home life was so unhealthy, she still didn't feel comfortable

there. Eveline was so frightened that she might not succeed in her future life, which overrides her fear of her father. One thing that she didn't understand was that her life will always be abusive and she will always be afraid of her father. But she made her decision by not leaving a last person of her family member.

Based on the reason explained in the previous paragraphs, the researcher has decided to make analysis of James Thurber's *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*. And James Joyce's *The Eveline*

## **1.2 Statements of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the statements of the problems are formulated as follows:

- 1.2.1 How is the characterization of the main characters in James Thurber's "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" and James Joyce's "The Eveline"?
- 1.2.2 What are the internal and external conflict which deal with the main character?
- 1.2.3 How is the comparison and contrast in "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" and "The Eveline".

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

In accordance with the problem the study, the objectives is formulated as follows:

- 1.3.1 To identify the characterization of the main characters by James Thurber and James Joyce.

1.3.2 To describe the internal and external conflict which deal with the main character.

1.3.3 To describe the comparison and contrast “The Secret Life of Walter Mitty” and “The Eveline”.

#### **1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study**

As there are many aspects in the James Thurber’s *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* and James Joyce’s *The Eveline*, the researcher makes a limitation of discussion to assure the theme of this thesis’ analysis, namely the main characters, and the characterization of the main character by James Thurber and James Joyce; the internal and external conflicts which deal with the main characters; the similarity and dissimilarity.

#### **1.5 Significances of the Study**

It is based on the background of the study; it is expected it will give reference of the students which related to literature. By analyzing this literary work, the researcher wants to know more about the psychological aspect of Walter Mitty and Eveline. The writer hoped that it can give contribution of knowledge for readers. The important thing is study tries to give the readers general literary wares about realities of human situation, feeling, and problem. In the other hand the writer hopes to the reader that this study would give better understanding about intrinsic and Extrinsic Elements on the literature work

## **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

### **1. Character**

Character is an extended verbal representation of a human being – the complex combination of both the inner and the outer self. (Edgar V. Roberts, 1992:137)

### **2. Characteriation**

Characterization is narrative description of character with explicit judgement. (Robert, 1994:38)

### **2. Conflict**

Conflict is the mainspring of plot in a play, which can be physical, psychological, social, or all three. (Robert, 1986: 1037)

## **1.7 Organization of the Study**

This thesis is divided into five main parts. The first chapter is the introduction that includes the background of the study, the statement of the problem, the purpose of the study, the scope and limitation, the significance of the study, and organization of the study. The second chapter is about the review of related literature in which review underlying and review of related studies are presented. The research methodology, which includes approach, source of data, main data, technique of data analysis, procedure of data analysis, is explained in the third chapter. The fourth chapter presents the analysis. The conclusion is put on the fifth chapter.