

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter present the topics related to the research. Those topics cover background of research, formulation of research problem, objectives of the research, significance of the research, scope and limitation of the research, and definition of key terms.

#### A. Background of Research

Literature is an expression of the human person in the form of experience, feeling, thought, idea, passion, belief in a form of concrete image that generate charm with language tools (Sumardjo and Saini, 1997). So that literature has strong element such as experience that turn into thought and idea which are then put into writing. This is confirmed by Suryono's opinion (2009) that literature is a witness and commentary on human life.

Literary works appear as a tangible manifestation of a creative imaginative author with different processes between one author and another author, especially in the creation of works of fiction. Each author has his own creative imaginative process, such as expressing idea as a form of controlling the creative thoughts of the author so that they have quality, good, and interesting writing..

In modern times where almost all educational activity using gadget, it seem that someone doesn't only use gadget as a tool for learning. One alternative to learning is by reading novel. Certain genre novel such as teen-lit and fiction are widely liked and some of the English phrases in these novel is very interesting to learn (Rachmiati and Anita, 2019).

Student shouldn't be spoiled by constantly playing online games, but also by reading, especially novel. Moreover, many students only use gadget as an excuse to study, even though they are busy playing games. By constantly playing games, gradually student learning motivation will be eroded and they are no longer interested in learning.

One alternative that can be used for learning is reading novel. According to Effendy (2000) novel is an efficient and effective medium to convey educational messages to reader. Presentation of educational message in the novel by placing it on an object or event that attract the reader.

Moral values concern good and bad thing in human action as human being in life community life. The moral values contained in the novel can be used for lesson in everyday life. Esteban as quoted by Adisusilo (1990) states that moral values is universal truth that trusted by human, they are ethical principles that one strive to achieve and apply them in everyday life. The moral values in the novel can also be a benchmark for someone as a tool for self-introspection.

However, there is also a moral value which does not have to be learned, namely negative moral value. According to Hurlock (as quoted in Susana, 2018) moral is ethical norm, thought about life upheld by the majority of certain communities, especially with regard to understanding good and bad, then what is good is called moral, while the bad is considered as immoral.

Besides, moral is part of value but not all values are moral, and moral value also related to human attitude about good and bad. A person's opinion about moral and value is usually have a bad opinion about life (Susana, 2018). Moral value is important part to learn, in order to increase knowledge about the value of life. In life, it is not only about getting intellectual values, but also about moral. However, morality is the first variable that must be owned in life.

When we read novel, of course we will get new knowledge. By reading novel, we can play our imagination as reader through the characters used by the author. According to Stanton (2012) the depiction of the character in the story is shown by the attitude, emotion, and moral principles of the character so that they can convey the message or intent according to the story. Martin (1994) also think that characterization can be conveyed in the form of physical and non-physical characteristic of the people in the story so that the reader can visualize in the form of imagination.

Novel as a work of fiction has a strong moral message in every scene, whether it is conveyed through interaction between characters or narrative text (Stanton, 2012). Therefore, in this research, the researcher will try to analyze the moral values contained in the novel 'Memphis' written by Tara M. Stringfellow.

Novel is built by two elements, namely intrinsic and extrinsic element. Intrinsic element is element that build the literary work itself. The element in question is for example a theme, characterization or character, setting, plot, point of view, language style, and message. While the extrinsic element is the element that build the literary work from the outside. Beside that, moral values also related to the social

status of the character who concerned, how is the daily life of the character, both in the family environment and the community environment.

The researcher use the novel 'Memphis' as the object of research because the theme of this novel is different from several other novels so that it makes the storyline interesting to follow. The novel 'Memphis' tells the story of Joan in 1995 who was five years old, along with her mother and younger sister, trying to escape from the violence perpetrated by her father. They sought refuge in their mother's ancestral home in the Memphis area. Half a century ago, Joan's grandfather built this stately home in the historic neighborhood of Black Douglass, after which he was hanged days after becoming Memphis' first black detective. The characters in this novel have unique characteristics. There are many narrative flashback used by the author of this novel which makes this novel even more interesting.

The uniqueness of the Memphis novel lies in the theme it raises. The theme raised is social criticism of racism in South America. Memphis novel describe the life of three generations of black women, about trauma, tragedy, crime, violence, domestic and sexual, sacrifice and heartbreak, and the consequences for the next generation. A blend of fact and fiction, the story takes place against the backdrop of important event in American history, such as the experience and impact of South American racism..

This novel has also never been studied by anyone before because the novel Memphis by Tara M. Stringfellow is one of the new works published in April 2022. This novel is a form of appreciation from the author for his homeland of the perception of black women.

The Memphis novel is interesting to study because besides there has never been any previous research. The messages conveyed by Tara M. Stringfellow as the author are very interesting so that researcher are interested in starting an analysis of the moral values of this novel. Researcher will use the types of moral values contained in the novel to analyze moral values.

## **B. Formulation of Research Problem**

Related to the research background, the problem to examined in the present study is formulated as follow:

1. What are types moral values contained in the *Memphis* novel by Tara M. Stringfellow?

### **C. Objectives of the Research**

Based on statement of research problem above, the research objectives is formulated as follows:

1. To find out moral values in the *Memphis* novel by Tara M. Stringfellow

### **D. Significance of the Research**

Researcher hopes this research can provide benefit to readers both theoretically and practically. Theoretically, this research is expected to provide the following benefits:

1. By reading novel, readers are expected to increase knowledge in the field of literature
2. By reading and understanding the content of novel, readers are expected to add and enrich knowledge about moral values in novel

Practically this expected to provide the following benefits:

1. For student: this research is useful to increase the appreciation of literature and it's expected to motivate them to prefer reading book, especially novel
2. For general public: this research can provide knowledge and open insight broader thinking, especially for literature lovers
3. For other researchers: The result of this study are expected to provide a better understanding of literary analysis, especially for those who research about moral values in novel.

### **E. Scope and Limitation of the Research**

Many kinds of research can be observed by a researcher. In the research, novel was chosen as the topic. There are many kinds of novel and as well as the genre of the novel. In this research, researcher chose novel called *Memphis*. In this research, the researcher only analysis the moral values in the *Memphis* novel. Then the researcher focused on the analysis of eleven types of moral values that found in the *Memphis* novel.

### **F. Definition of Key Terms**

Definition of key terms need to be provided to avoid misunderstanding and misinterpretation, some of the terms used in this research need to be defined as follow:

1. Moral Values

Moral in literature are used as learning about attitude, action, moral, and obligation contained in a story. Moral values is standard of attitude that based on the determination of right and wrong which is regarded by those who makes the standard of moral (Utami and Restu, 2017). Moral value is a value that become a standard of good and bad for an event, character, nature, and habit of a person

2. Novel

Novel talk about life in a place or time. Therefore, the story in the novel is often related to the life of the reader so that the reader feel involved in every scene in the novel (Haryati, 2019). Novel is one of the good media which is very helpful in providing education to its readers. Most teenagers read novel even from children and adult (Irawan and Ariani, 2018).