**Chapter II**

**The Intrinsic Elements of Novel and the Japanese Culture**

**2.1.Novel**

The longest work among any other literary work is novel. Such as drama and poetry, novel is also closely related to daily life. Because novel usually use a variety of themes and conflicts over their daily life. In other words, novel is a literary work which is written in a narrative and also is more complex than short stories, at least a minimum of 40.000 words to create a novel.

Novel is a fictional story in writing and has intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Generally the novel tells the story of the characters and their behavior in daily life. According to Wellek and Waren (1995:29) essentially, novel is a portrait of a human’s life and the environment around it.

Novel not always writen based on imagination. Therefore, novel has two types there are fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a story based on fantasy from the author and not based on a true story. Whereas Non-Fiction is story content based on a true story. Novel also has several genres there are mystery, horror, inspirational, comedy, and romance.

**2.2 Intrinsic Elements**

Intrinsic element is elements that build the literature itself. These element that caused the present literature as literary work that is factual be found if people read a literary work. Intrinsic element of the novel is the element that directly participates in building a story.

According to Wellek and Warren (1995:75-135) intrinsic element is the writer’s subjectivity on his or her act, faith and life perspective will affect every story that she or he wrote.

Those are which includes intrinsic elements are as follows:

**2.2.1 Character**

Character is traits and behavior that are on an individual to distinguish it from other individuals. Character can also be interpreted as a way of thinking and behaving that is characteristic of each individual to live in cooperation both within the family, community and state. According to Abrams (1981:20), the people or character shown in a narrative text, or a drama which interpreted by the reader has morale quality and some tendencies in their words and every action they did.

**2.2.2 Theme**

Theme is the main idea which is in a story, the main idea of a thing to make an article. Such as novel, short stories and other literary works. Theme is also the most important thing seen by the reader. If the theme was interesting, it will give more value to the text. According to Stanton (1965:20) and Kenny (1966:88), the meaning contained and offered by the story. Theme can also be used as a starting base fivtion author describes what he told be a literary works.

**2.2.3 Setting**

Settings are time, place, and atmosphere when the event takes place in literary works. Setting usually used in short stories, novel, drama, or performing arts. According to Abrams (1918:175), setting or background also called off fulcrum, to suggest there is a sense, the relationship of time, and the social environment where there occurrence of the events described.

In other words, setting term refers to the point in time and space of the events in the plot that occurs.

**2.2.4 Point of View**

Every story is certainly told by someone that usually called a narrator. Point of view is a device for in narrator to indicate the position from which an action is observed and narrated. An author of a fiction must choose a point of view from which he will narrate his story.

According to Hamalian (1967:445-447), was stated that point of view is a term for who tells the story and how the story gets told. Because it is bound up with the story, point of view could have been in the section on character obviously, and the nature and personality of the narrator will determined in part what is seen and how it is seen. But, because it also bound with knowing how the story gets out, point of view is intimately connected with style.

Point of view direct to the way of the story telling in a novel. It is the way of perception which is used by the author as a device to appear characters, action, setting and many kinds of events which may form the story in a fiction to the readers.

According to Peck (1994:68), point of view is a technique that is used by the author to find and tell the meaning of his artistic work to the readers. The author expects that the readers can accept his technique. Point of view has psychological connection to the readers, and the readers need clear perception about the point of view. The readers understanding about the novel will be influenced by a clear point of view.

Point of view is not only considered as the way of dramatic limitation but also considered as serving the thematic definition, because a novel offers values, attitude, and life perception which is controlled and served by the author intentionally through point of view.

**2.2.5 Plot**

Plot is an important element of literary work, because the plot tells the important events that occur in a story. Plot or the structure of action is used to indicate almost any kind of action that found in a story, including the closed plot, the open plot, and the straight narrative with little or no serious complication.

According to Staton (2007:26), was stated that plot is a series of the events in a story. How a certain event affecting another event that cannot be ignored, since the event will be affecting for all the story. Plot is very close to the existence of the character. If the story only has a little in character, there will be more close and simple to plot; in contrast a novel that has many characters in the story the plot will be more complicated.

Plot also helps the reader in understanding the story of the novel. The clarity of the plot makes the reader easier in understanding the story. Usually a good or popular novel uses simple plot, so the strength of the novel also depend on the plot. If we do not know the plot of the story, it will be hard to understand what the story tells about. Like another intrinsic elements, plot also have his own rule. There should be clear, real, and logic, where the beginning, middle, and the end of the story.

The existence of the plot it self depends on two essential event: conflict and climax, these event usually have a close in relation. Conflict is a dramatic thing which direct to the competition between two balance powers and shows action reaction. Conflict brings out the extremes of human energy, causing characters engage in the decision, action responses and interactions that make up most stories. Nearly all fiction focuses on conflict.

The plot divided into 5 stages, according to Lubis (1978:10), distinguish stage of the plot into five sections, those are; Situation, Generating Circumstances, Rising Action, Climax, and Dénouement.

**Climax **

**Rising Action **

**Generating**

**Circumstances  Dénouement**

**Situation** 

**2.3 Culture**

Culture is a habit that people do in their everyday life from generation to generation which aims to help people in the hold of their life of society. According to Linton (1945:30), culture is a whole way of life of the community.

Each country must have its own culture. Culture can also be interpreted as the identity or characteristic of a country. A lot of countries which have an unique culture, one of them that has a diverse and interisting culture is Japan.

**2.3.1 Japanese Culture**

Japanese culture is very diverse and has many changes from year to year, of the original culture, called Jomon to Japanese culture which has now been affected by Asia, Europe and North America.

Jomon is designation prehistoryJapanese archipelago. Human activity at that time was looking for food depending on the place of residence. There is a tendency Jomon culture is more developed in eastern Japan.

Japan experienced a long period of the outside world unter the rule of Keshogunan Tokugawa until Meiji era (25 January 1868 – 30 July 1912). As a result, the Japanese culture is different from other Asian cultures.

Based on the novels Primasari’s Fench Pink and Rikako’s Girls in the Dark, there are Japanese culture and Japanese people’s confidence, which are:

1. **Yami-nabe**

As seen in the novel Rikako’s Girls in the Dark, there is a tradision of Japanese society called Yami-nabe or literally “Pot of Darkness”. Where participants will carry food stuff which is kept secret from others. Everyone should put it in a pot of boiling water and then eat it. Because the did not each other’s foodstuffs, usually the food came bitter tasted. If they are lucky, the food comes out nice.

The tradision contained in literary club of Santa Maria high school headed by Sumikawa Sayuri, with the aim to strengthen the friendship and fill a regular meeting in the literary club.

*“Pertemuan rutin kali ini bertema Yami-nabe. Iya. Semua peserta akan memasukan bahan-bahan aneh yang mereka bawa ke dalam panci dan semua orang harus memakannya di dalam kegelapan.” (chap I: pg. 9-10) .*

“The theme of this regular meeting is Yami-nabe. Yes. All participants will add strange foodstuffs which are they bring into the pot and they must eat it in the dark.” (Chap I: pg. 9-10) **.**

Yami-nabe usually do in a gathering of five people or more. Men and Women and also the age difference does not matter in this tradision. In other words, children can also participate. There is not considered with a myth in this tradision, only to strengthen the relationship among humans, especially for people who do not each other yet.

1. **Osechi**

Osechi is a preferential dish prepared to celebrate the change of seasons and now used for greet the New Year in Japan. Called Osechi or Shougatsu-ryori (New Year dish) which can be arranged neatly in a wooden boxes called Juubako.

There is discussions about Osechi in Girls in the Dark, where Kominame Akane explained about her father’s dish when new year, Osechi dish.

*“Masakan ayah satu-satunya yang bisa dimakan di luar restoran hanyalah osechi yang diberikan kepada pelanggan setia.” (Chp. III pg 71)*

“Dad’s dish the only thing that can be eated outside the restaurant just Osechi which given to loyal costumers.” (Chp. III pg 71)

Generally, only food which be styled inside a stacked wooden boxes could be called Osechi dish. Stack wooden boxes for Osechi food were believed to be a symbol of big luck. Osechi traditionally consis of several durable foods. In addition, besides Osechi is a durable food. Osechi dishes also have their respective meanings, such as:

• *Kazunoko* is marinated herring’s eggs. Herring in Japanese means “parents”, in other words Kazunoko has a meaning “of good relationship, many children have born”

• *Kuromame* is roasted soy beans, it tastes sweet. Kuromame affecacious that gray hair does not grow fast or stay young. A first “mame” means healty and strong. But now, “mame” means serious. In other words, in this New Year hopefully blessed with health and seriousmess in working.

• *Tazukuri* is small fish who cooked sweet-salty tastes. Tazukuri has a meaning “for a good rice field”. In earlier times, this small fish used for fertilizer, and rice field who fertilizered with small fish will thrives. With this meaning of Tazukuri is in order for the large harvest or sustenance also come in the new year.

• *Kurikinton* is sweet potatoes are stamed and mixed with chestnut. “Kinton” can be mean with gold grains. Has a meaning that the current bussiness in the New Year and plentiful sustenance. Sweet taste, make it a favorite food for children.

• *Kobumaki* is Herring fish and other materials are entwined with seaweed, and then boiled with sweet-salty seasoning. “Kobu” derived from the word “yorokobu” which means happiness. Meaning contained in this dish is much happiness in the New Year.

• *Datemaki* is eggs mixed with ground beef and other condiments seasoning which is fried and rolled. “Date” mens something trendy, that this year was given something to be proud of. The form is similiar to a Japanese book, means that their knowledge is expanding from year to year.

• *Ebi* is long grouse shrimp which means that they live healthy despite they are already have a thick beard and have bent back.

• *Namasu* is pickles mad from radish and carrot. Radish and carrot which are white and red, as a manifestation of thanksgiving and celebration.

Japanese people cultivate to make Osechi dishes because it is prayers and their hopes for the New Year. But usually, nowdays most families could ask what dishes should be served for New Year celebration.

1. **Shinigami**

Some Japanese people belive that there is a Shinigami or can be called by “The Gods of Death”. Shinigami began emerging from Japanese folklore Ehon Hyaku Monogatari by Takehara Shunsen. Shinigami or sprit of death is believed can invite people to death or incite feelings of people beings want to commit suicide. However, in Shinto and Buddha religion Shinigami known as well as Izanami, godess who created death for mankind to avenge herself on her husband, god Izanagi.

Shinigami itself is contained in the novel Primasari’s French Pink. When Hitomi and Mika talking about the god of death because they suspected Hane, a mysterious man as a Shinigami who will take Hitomi into death.

*“Shinigami.” Hitomi berkata selirih mungkin sembari menoleh ke kanan dan ke kiri. Para pelayan karyawannya sedang sibuk sendiri-sendiri.” (chap II: pg: 20).*

”*Shinigami*.” Hitomi said softly while she turning to the right and to the left. Her employees busy with their own works.” (chap II: pg: 20).

Because the term of Shinigami has entered in Japanese people’s confidence, they belive that seven days before the person dies, will appear a stranger who follow wherever that person goes. After seven days progresses the person will die, whether it is because of an accident, ilness or other unforeseen incidents. After that a stranger will disappear.

**2.4. The Relationship between Japanese Culture and Indonesian**

**Culture**

Relationship or interaction between Japan and Indonesia has been around a long time, even before Japan came to colonized Indonesia. Start from diplomatic relations and cooperation between Indonesia and Japan, a lot of Japanese culture goes into Indonesia.

Things that most affect relations Japanese culture and Indonesian are in economic affairs, trade and investment. Japan imports a lot of natural resources from Indonesia in the form of natural gas. However, in this development not only in economic matters, but almost all aspect, particulary in the field of education and culture. Japan provides scholarships to study at universities in Japan, and the manufacturing center of Japanese culture as a means of cultural infiltration. Student exchange to learn and know the culture of each country which included Japanese cultural relations with Indonesia in the present.