

Chapter I

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study

Literary works to this day have always been objects enjoyed by many people. Not only because of its beauty, but for some people, literary works can be used for entertaining. Literature itself is an expression of human expression in the form of written or oral based on thoughts, opinions, experiences, and feelings in imaginative forms, reflections of reality or original data wrapped in aesthetic packaging through language media. According to Esten (1978: 9) literature is the expression of artistic and imaginative facts as a manifestation of human life and society in general, through language as a medium and has a positive effect on human life.

Literary works have two characteristics, namely non-fiction and fiction. Literary works that are non-fiction have many forms: essay, critic, biography, autobiography, and others. Literary works that are fiction also have many forms: drama, poetry, novels, comics, films, and others. Novel is a work of prose fiction written narratively and usually written in story form. The novel comes from the Italian language, namely novella which means a story or a piece of story.

According to Nurgiyantoro (2012: 4), the novel is a work of fiction that offers a world, a world that contains a model of life that idealized, imaginative world, which is constructed through various elements intrinsic elements such as events, plots, characters (and characterizations), settings, angles point of view, and others who are also imaginative. It can be

concluded that the novel is a literary work created by the author from mixing imagination and picture of life around the author.

Reading novel for some people is a fun hobby to do, there are even some people who make it a lifestyle. They read novels in their spare time, when they need entertainment, or even before their bedtime. Without they realizing, it helps increase their knowledge and imagination.

Reading a novel can take people out of their daily lives and feel like being in a different world. A long with the times and technology, novels can now be enjoyed not only in the form of book, but also through the screen. So many online platforms that provide electronic novels right now.

Novels now have a lot of genre that can be enjoyed, such as romance, comedy, slice of life, horror or thriller, action, and another genre. Besides focus on the storyline, some people actually focus on the characters in it. Good character traits usually make readers fall in love with the character. Because good characters and good storyline can make all the scenes in the novel like real. Many stories from novels are made into movies so that the imagination about the stories from these novels becomes more alive.

Character is an important element in literary works. Character in a literary work created by the author to convey ideas and her feelings about something that is happening in this world. Character has power to dominate the whole story in a literary work. According to Hidayatullah (2010: 13), character is quality, mental strength, morals or character which is a special

personality as a driving force and differentiator between one individual and another individual.

One of the best literary novels that the writer had read is *Hujan Bulan Juni* by Sapardi Djoko Damono, which was published in 2015 by the Gramedia Pusaka Utama publisher, and has been reprinted several times. The *Hujan Bulan Juni* novel contains the love story of Sarwono and Pingkan, filled with the bittersweet relationship between the two. This novel has also been adapted into a movie in 2017 with the same title.

This *Hujan Bulan Juni* novel tells the story of Sarwono who is a native Javanese who now works as an Anthropologist lecturer at the University of Indonesia, while Pingkan is of mixed Javanese and Manadonese descent who is also a lecturer in Japanese Literature at the University of Indonesia. The initial story of this novel revolves around Sarwono, who first met Pingkan because Pingkan was the little sister of his friend named Toar. Sarwono and Toar have been friends since junior high school when they were in Solo.

There are many obstacles that they have to face because of several differences, but the storytelling seems relaxed with light conversation stories that make the relationship between Sarwono and Pingkan feel romantic.

The first problem arose when Sarwono and Pingkan received news that Pingkan had to go to Japan to continue her studies. He was sent from his campus and followed orders from his study program. Here, Sarwono felt

sad because he had to part ways with Pingkan for a long time and a long distance. Pingkan also felt sad. But no matter what, it couldn't be helped, and Pingkan had to go to Japan.

The second problem arose when Sarwono visited Aunt Henny's house, Pingkan's aunt. In the next problem, this became even more complicated because Pingkan's family disagreed with Pingkan choosing Sarwono to be his partner. The love story between Sarwono and Pingkan is hindered by various things, such as differences in religion, ethnicity, family opposition, and long-distance relationships. This novel also has a story that is not easy to predict, but in the existing story novel, it still has a half-hearted ending and will be continued in the next novel entitled *Pingkan Melipat Jarak*.

In this study, the writer is interested in finding and analyzing this novel because this novel has good literary values and also an interesting story. Specifically, the writer wants to find and analyze the characterization of the characters on this drama. Also, how the story conveyed it.

1.2 Identification of Problem

Based on the background described above, the writer is interested in choosing characterization in novel to be analyzed. Because novels are the literary works that could be enjoyed by everyone, but still have literary elements on it.

The writer is very interested in analyzing a novel as her research paper. Other than that, the problems in the novel are very interesting and can sometimes be found in real life. The characters in the novel can be said to be shine because of the problems in the novel.

1.3 Research Questions

From the background of the study and identification of problem above, the research questions can be formulated as follows:

1. How is the characteristics of the characters and their characterization in Damono's *Hujan Bulan Juni* novel?
2. How the author of *Hujan Bulan Juni*'s novel conveyed the characterization of the characters?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

According to the background of study and research questions, the objectives of the study in this paper are:

1. To analyze and explain the characteristics of characters and their characterization in the novel
2. To know which method that the author used to conveyed the characterization of the characters.

1.5 Significances of the Study

The significances of this analysis are to understand better the characterization contained in literary fiction, especially novel. Through this research, the writer is expected will be able to understand what is the author of the novel tries to present in this novel.

In addition, it is hoped that the study may benefit from dividing into two aspects. They are theoretical and practical benefits.

1. Theoretical

This research is expected to give valuable information and enrich the knowledge related to literature. This research is also expected to give information in analyzing character and characterization of novel entitled *Hujan Bulan Juni*. And can be a reference for conducting other research related to literary studies.

2. Practical

Practically, the benefits from this research can be used as be used as a reference for students to analyze literary works especially about character and characterization. It can also be used by lecturer who uses the research for teaching. This study is a means to gain experience as well as one of the requirements for graduation with a bachelor's degree in English literature.

1.6 Limitation of the Study

Many characters can be found in the *Hujan Bulan Juni* novel. Therefore, in this research the author focuses on researching two characters only and their characterization in the novel. This novel has been adapted into a movie, but in order to avoid discussing it too far, the writer retrieve data only from the work that still in the form of novel.