

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Reason for Choosing the Topic

A character is part of the intrinsic element in a literary work; Literature is considered as the reflection of human imagination which expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings and attitude to life (Eagleton 1983). Character in literature is an inner trait that influences all thoughts, behaviors, manners that belong to humans or other living creatures. The traits are basically formed through a setting that is a fairly long learning process, which is the formation or forging of the environment and also the people around them. The intrinsic element in literature can be analyzed in many literary works such as drama, novel, poetry, and prose.

Here the writer chose a novel to analyze the character in intrinsic element. The writer prefers to novel because novel has rich element that is contained some interesting things an application in life. The novel entitled *The Selection* by Kiera Cass who has the best seller writer The New York Times version. The novel published on 14 April 2012 by Harper Collins. This novel is the first novel from 5 other series that are followed by *The Elite*, *The One*, *The Heir* and *The Crown*. The writer will be analyzing *The Selection* one, because the writer only looks at the figure in the selection of a prince's wife selection which is only told in the first novel.

This novel has a time setting of 400 years after fourth world war in the future. In which the American country was surrendered by China. Illea Kingdom in the story divided people based on their wealth and work which consist of 8

castes who have different social class. The social class in the novel will be form the trait of the people in this environment. Another study that discusses the analysis of *The Selection* novel in literary work entitled *Social Stratification* by Nungkiasuti (2018), a study focused on social inequalities regarding castes and social classed that divided into this novel, and the grouping of jobs and the salary obtained are the differences between each caste. The previous studies show that there is no a study on Characters and Setting as Reflected in Novel *The Selection* by Kiera Cass. Social stratification will be related with the traits of the character in this study.

The writer can see that there is a fair choice of princess in Ille kingdom, princess who will be married with a prince, a son of king through selection from various castes. But they will fall based on the traits they have. Until the end of the story the main character America Singer will be the winner. The writer sees the prediction of the future based on what *The Selection* novel illustrates that the current America state, one day in the next 400 years after world 4 will be a kingdom where there will be social grouping.

In a novel, the writer analyzed the expresses of traits the character influence by setting. The main character is America Singer and the mayor characters are Ashlay Brouillette, Marle Tames and Celeste Newsome.

In this research the writer only focuses to analyze the formation of character traits that are influenced by the setting. And the characters that will be discussed are the characters traits that have related with the theme of the novel *The Selection*. Characters that can be use as a comparison of

the traits possessed by America Singer as the main character, dominant figure that chosen to be a future wife of the prince in *The Selection* novel by Kiera Cass.

From the explanation above, the writer is interested in studying the subject deeply, because the writer finds the unique thing in character of selected. The writer can see from illustration above which shows that how the characters. America is the girl chosen by Prince to be his wife although America comes from a low caste. In addition, the way of the writer describing the traits and to find the influence of setting, the sequence of even that happened, make the writer becomes more interested. The writer can see from illustration above which shows that how characters do.

## **1.2 The Objective and Scope of Research**

The objectives of the research can be started as follows:

1. To know how the character's traits of the selection girl in the novel *The Selection* by Kiera Cass
2. To describe what the setting influence the character's traits of the selection in the novel *The Selection* by Kiera Cass

By doing the research, the writer also wants to know the motives of the characters action and influence of setting toward the characters. To figures out the problem above, the writer decides the scope of this research only focus in the characters and setting was presented in the story about selected candidate, without relating it the world outside of the

novel and also does not related with the author and the reader. By limiting this research, the writer can analyze this research correctly, focus, and clearly.

### **1.3 The Formulation of Problem**

The writer wants to find the traits of the character which are found in the story. In order to get aim of analysis, the writer makes two researches question that help to analyze the object, they are:

1. How are the characters traits reflected in the Novel?
2. How does the setting influence the characters traits in the novel?

### **1.4 Review of Related Literature**

#### **1.4.1 Previous Study**

The writer fined previous studies from few of people which discussed about this novel with a different aspect. The previous of study on *The Selection* novel just is analyze by one only. The discussion about *The Selection* has been held by previous research Fauzia Damas Nungkiastuti (2018): *Social Stratification* Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

“This thesis is purpose to show the social stratification a used Marxism theory analysis. In *The Selection* novels there is eights caste. Based on Social Stratification there is eights caste in The Selection novel.

The caste as follows:

1. The first caste, the higher caste and owned by family kingdom and spiritual figure. This family kingdom consists of King

Clarkson, Queen Amberly, and the prince; Maxon. There are highest caste and have big power or authority.

2. The second caste is actress (that includes likes professional athletes, pop star, model, politicians, police) military member, fireman, and guardian.
3. The third caste is the thinkers, inventor, teacher, philosopher, doctor, architect, library officer, therapist, film director, music producer, prosecutor, and writer. But in this novel, the girls who follow the selection their caste is change became third caste, although there are from caste number four until eight, during they follow the selection as Elite.
4. The fourth caste consists of businessmen, leader of chef, real estate agent, factory worker, and farmer. This caste is the middle caste of the castes. Because the financial is average, but it can be worst or good depend on the caste that decided and rule their life.
5. The fifth caste is an artist too like second caste, but the fee is not reliable with second caste. Who include in Fives are stage artist, classic musician, singer, dancer, photographer, and circus man.
6. The six castes are secretary, housekeeping and driver. Sixes in Illea Kingdom majority is as a servant. Since child, Sixes think that they were born to serve.
7. The seventh castes are blue-collar workers, farmer, construction laborer, rubbish compiler, beggar and such.

8. The eight castes or the lower caste likes medicine, sick people in mental and psychic, outcast, and country traitor. In Illea Regulation there is a role that must be obeyed in every caste (except Ones). The goal from the regulation is to keep the original line of the caste. In each caste have different passion in Illea Regulation there is a role that must be obeyed in every caste. The goal from the regulation is to keep the original line of caste.

## **1.4.2 Theoretical Framework**

### **1.4.2.1 Structuralism**

One of exponential approach is commonly used in literary research comes from structuralism approach. Generally structuralism approach has two branches; Structuralism dynamic and structuralism genetic. Structuralism dynamic is approach that only focus to analyze intrinsic aspect or element of the novel. And structuralism genetic is approach that analyzes both of intrinsic and extrinsic aspect or element of the novel. It is suitable with Harsono's book (1999:48), structuralism dynamic is also called exponential approach. It focuses on some intrinsic aspects of literary work. The approach moves up from an assumption that literature as a creative work has an autonomy that is separated from the elements outside of it. It means the study of exponential approach should be focused on analyzing some intrinsic aspects of literary work.

In analyzing, *The Selection by Kiera Cass*. The writer focus on intrinsic element that find the object of the research "the characterization

and setting as reflected in the novel. This research only analyzes about how the characterization and setting as reflected in the novel. So, this research only focus on intrinsic element without relating it to the word outside. And the writer uses Structuralism theory. According to Roberts in his book, writing about Literature, “principle of structuralism stem from the attempt to find relationships and connections among element that appear to be separate and discrete”(269). It mean that intrinsic element of literary work have relationship each other. Character in the literary must be connected with other such us setting, conflict, plot, point of view, style of language, and theme. It make each other cannot be self supporting.

Structural analysis of literature is also called an objective approach and analyzes its intrinsic elements; Fananie (2000: 112) argues that an objective approach is an approach that bases on a literary work as a whole. The approach is assessed from the existence of literature itself based on prevailing literary conventions. The convention, for example, is the intrinsic aspects of literature which include unanimity of meaning, diction, rhyme, sentence structure, theme, plot (setting), and character. What is clear, the assessment given is seen from the extent of the strength or value of the literary work based on the harmony of all its constituent elements. In this aspect all literary works can only be called valuable if each of its constituent elements (intrinsic elements) is reflected in their structure, such as themes, characters, plots (settings).

### 1.4.2.2 Characters Trait

According to Pierre in "*Literature, Structure, Sound, and Sense*". Statement (1984:90) characters are the people in the text: there is part of the ordinary life that meets when the readers read. That mean characters are the entire figure in the story, whether in the form of people, animals or living thing that have role in it. Where the reader imagines someone doing and acting as describe by author in the novel.

Writer uses definition which can help in studying the existence of the character. According to Roberts (1964:53): "A character is a verbal representation of a human being presented to us by authors through the depiction, though action, speech, description and commentary. Author portrays characters who are worth caring about, rooting for and loving, although there are also characters you may dislike, laugh at, or even hate".

Based on Roberts quotation above the character is will explain by the character behavior. It is clear that what the characters act although verbal representation can give the individual meaning.

Characters are an important element in a literary work, especially in a novel. The character was created by the author to convey several ideas about something that happened in a story. Character is personality invested with distinctive attributes and qualities, by a novelist or dramatist (Hawton 1972:141).



According to the statement above character makes an action to pursue their goals in a story and represents a human being attitude in real life. Character can be divided into two types. They are main character and minor character. A main character is portrayed as a nice person who dominant the whole story while the minor character appears rarely, it just support the action of main character.

### **1.4.2.3 Setting**

“Setting is ‘a work’ nature, manufactured, political, cultural, and temporal environment, including everything that characters know and own. Characters may be either helped or hurt by their surroundings. And they may fight about possession and goal. Further, as characters speak with each other, they reveal the degree to which they share the customs and ideal of their time,”(108) It mean that setting is ever aspect of characters and all of character have, that can build one character whether it is tangible or intangible and take influence in the characters personality. Setting in the novel will be support how the characterization described.

Setting is one of intrinsic element of literary work that authors write in the literature; setting doesn't just concern nice description passages about houses, woodlands, mountains, and road and so on. Setting doesn't mean merely ‘scenery’, setting are;

1. Directs the reader's attention to significant details of character or action
2. Plays off character against the environments in which they live and act

### 3. Enhances the credibility of piece of writing

Based on according above setting is a lot more than just the place where the events of the story happened. Author choose their settings carefully, just as they choose their narrators, characters and events. As readers, can expect that the author did not choose the setting at random, and so the writer can expect it to have some significance to the author's meaning. The setting around a character can help the reader to understand the nature of that character. Very often when a setting function to characterize someone, that character has created the setting themselves and that is why the setting reflects their nature.

Setting has a close connection with all intrinsic elements that exist in the literary works. Like the relationship between settings and conflict, something related to setting such as place and time can cause conflict in a story. And the closer relation setting is character. Where settings can affect the character traits, such as the environment in which the character live will greatly affect the figure of the character itself. Therefore setting is an important element in a literary work.

### **1.5 Method of Research**

To do this research the writer need some processes that will make this analysis accurate. By using the structuralism theory. The writer will analyze data from intrinsic aspect with close reading technique. Jacobus state that:

“Close reading takes the form of writing, discussion or silent observation, should be based on questioning the text. Close reading requires that you take the text seriously enough to study it. To read and read it, search for details that might otherwise go unobserved, examine the text for special words and term and refer to the dictionary to be sure of their meaning when necessary”.(6)

To get an accurate analysis result, the writer starts the research step by step where the first thing to do is close reading, which is to focus reading the text in a silent area by analyzing and underline the important sentence that related to structuralism of character and setting theory. In getting the interpretation from the intrinsic aspect especially from the character elements, the writer uses the way of research as follows

- a) Action by the characters in the novel.
- b) What the character say and though
- c) How the author explain the characters
- d) How the opinion the other character

After collect the data with the way above, the writer can get the information clearly about traits or action of the characters and setting in the novel. In this analysis, the writer uses the qualitative method. Qualitative is a method to get or produce the description about the data or get the meaning of the data that collected. In literary work, the source of data is texts, sentence, word and script (Kutha Ratna 2004).

Based on the explanation above, the writer uses qualitative to do analyze the research in getting description from the text about characterization and setting is causes of the trait or action can happen and also the effect of the traits by herself. The writer gets all from the source of the data that is showed in The Selection novel by Kiera Cass.