

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY.

Literature is an expression of human's feeling toward their lives such as love, hatred, emotion, and ambition. Through literature some people try to express their idea, desire, and thought although perhaps it scarcely happens in reality. In the book *Literary Terms and Literary Theory*, Cuddon J.A states that literature is a medium to channel human expression out.

Literature is a vague term which usually denotes works which belong to the major genres: epic, drama, lyric, novel, short story, and ode. If we describe something as "literature", as opposed to anything else, the terms carries with it qualitative connotations which imply that the work in question has superior qualitative; that it is well above the ordinary run of written works. (Cuddon, 1998, p.472)

Novel is a part of literary works in which people can get knowledge and insight. Abrams.M.H says:

A novel is now applied to great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended work of fiction written in prose. As extended narrative, the novel is distinguished from the short story and from the work of middle length called novelette; its magnitude permits a greater variety of characters, greater complication of plot or plots, ampler development of milieu, and more concentrated modes. (Abrams, 1998, p.560)

A novel contains many values to make readers have imagination through fictitious works, readers can reflect it in their life and they will be wiser. In relation with novel T.S Elliot says," a major figure in the development of formalistic criticism"(James A.J, 1979, p.233.)

The writer uses *The Danish Girl* novel as the material of the research because it is an interesting novel for the writer. The theme of the novel which describes a real life situation is interesting for the writer. *The Danish Girl* by David Ebershoff is a novel about transgender. Transsexual world is an interesting thing to think about. As the people involved in this transgender group may have various problems from the physical to the emotional or psychological problems, it is worth to analyze a part of the complexity.

According to Harry Benjamin in *Abnormal Psychology: Disorder State in Gender* is:

The psychology or the soul of his life which contain inside his life was not supposed to be in there it caused he was male and then changed to become a female. The abnormal psychology usually has some serious problems in his life and was separated with the general community. In this case the abnormal psychology could be seen from Patagonis views that's mean an abnormal behaviors was caused with the clinical symptoms also know as with Disorder State (Harry Benjamin 1964,p. viii).

The history of transsexual and transgender start from the Greek mythology. Teresias was a good man who was changed by Gods from a male to a female as punishment of killing the snakes which were doing the sexual activity. At this time many people in this world like to change everything in their life including their body

and the mental state. That history has given some lessons to those involved in this matter including the person, doctor and the government in some countries. Some people do not really care about the negative effects of changing their sex identity.

This study is going to analyze a novel whose characters change his sex identity. It is Einar, the one who has changed his sex identity to get the power of freedom in his life. Einar starts to lose his own identity and it creates conflict in his family and his marriage.

He is a painting lecture in a university who married with Greta in Royal Academy when Einar was 27 years old and Greta 24 years old. Einar teaches how to make a good painting to Greta and even he becomes Greta's painting as a female model. That is when the problem begins. Einar enjoys being the Female painting model. He loves to do it every time and it makes him always wear female clothes and other accessories. Besides that his voice when he sings is very soft and clear. Anna (Greta's friend) and Einar's wife are so surprised when they listen to Einar's voices when he sings.

When Einar was a child, he always did women activities like cooking and painting. His father was so angry to Einar when he did those activities. That was not male routines but female activities. Although he understood and knew that his father hated him so much, the habits make Einar keep doing what he wants to do. It is the abnormal habit of Einar. When Einar grew up, he did those habits every time and that makes Greta fall in love with Einar. The marriage happened in august and they lived

together in a small apartment. As Einar teaches Greta to paint, Einar provide himself Greta's female painting model. His habit doesn't give negative effects to himself at once. Few weeks later, Einar begins to get some negative effect from his habits. For the writer, it is very challenging to analyze the factors which influence Einar's decision to change his sex identity and to see how his environment support his decision to change his sex identity.

Then the writer thinks it is important that everyone should understand about the transgender. As this novel provides a very interesting structure to analyze, the writer decides to analyze this novel with formalistic approach and purpose a study entitled: A Study of Danish Girl Novel: A formalistic Approach. The reason why the writer is interested to analyze the novel using formalistic approach because this kind of approach will be suitable which talks about transgender to analyze some basic elements of the novel.

1.2. Field of the Study

The field of this study is Literature.

1.3. Scope of the Study

This study will be focused on novel using formalistic approach which highlights theme, plot and character.

1.4. Problem Formulation

1. How does the title suggest the theme of the novel?
2. What are the conflicts in this novel?
3. How do the characters resolve the conflicts?

1.5. Objective of the study

1. To find out how the title of this novel supports the theme of this narrative
2. To find out the conflicts found in this novel
3. To find out how the characters resolve the conflicts

1.6. Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give new perspective for gender studies as it will reveal some factors which influence a person to change his sex identity. By using formalistic approach, the writer will explain about Einar character in *The Danis Girl* and the transgender in this novel. The writer hopes that this study will be useful for the readers and especially for the students of Faculty of Letters in understanding the novel. The writer thinks that such a study may provide general idea to study the novel deeper, because it will enrich the knowledge about intrinsic elements of the story.

1.7. Definition of Terms

a. Formalistic approach

His view of poetry as an independent organism, and his attention, in Blackmur's words, to "the facts in the work under consideration as they are relevant to literature as such" Based on Wilbur Scott, as cited T. S. Elliot, "Hound and Horn, I, Nos. 3 and 4 (1928), in Five approaches of Literary Criticism, p.179, (2000)

b. Plot

A plan, design, scheme or pattern of event in a play, poem or work of fiction and further the incidents and characters in such a way to induce curiosity and suspense in the spectators or readers. (Cuddon, 1998, p.676)

c. Characters

The person presented in a dramatic or narrative work, which are integrated by the readers as being endowed with moral, dispositional and emotional qualities that are expressed in what they say and what they do. (Kenney, 2006, p.127)

d. Conflict

The tension in a situation between characters or the actual oppositional of characters, (Cuddon, 1998, p.175)

e. Theme

Theme is the underlying topic or unifying focus of a paper, article or book. Theme also been used for the name of written works more commonly referred to as essays. The theme of a fable is its moral. The theme of a parable is its teaching. The theme of a piece of fiction is its view about life and how people behave. (Kenney, 1996, p.132)

