CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature has been regarded as anything related to creativity for a very long time. It is dated back to the time when (Wellek & Warren, 1954 p.3) stated that literature is a creative activity. Further, Wellek and Warren stated that literature is imaginative works that are written or printed. In short, it can be said that literature is a medium to express a person's creative and imaginative activity.

Literary works consist of some elements that are generally divided into two major categories: the intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Wellek & Warren (1954) explain that intrinsic element is the element that directly builds the literary work. The intrinsic elements are plot, character, theme, settings, point of view, and figurative language. Whereas extrinsic element is the element outside the text such as the history, the social condition, the environment that becomes the background of the literary text.

Character is one of the intrinsic elements that is important for a story (Forster, 1956; Wellek & Warren, 1954). The character is the "who" in the plot because it is the representation of the human being, or other creatures in the text. Without characters, the work of literature will not be interesting because the characters play a role to support and create the story. In a story, there are some categories of character. They are the major characters and minor characters (Kennedy & Gioia, 1995), protagonist and antagonist character (Abrams, 1999; BARNET et al., 2008; Kennedy & Gioia, 1995; Phillips &

Huntley, 2004), flat and round character (Forster, 1956). Those categories are classified based on the character's role and importance in the story; on their intensity of appearance in the story.

In this study, the researcher looked for several previous studies as a comparison material in completing this study. first research conducted by Putri Rachmawati from Kanjuruhan University Malang in 2018 with the title "The Analysis of Conflicts Reflected by Mai Character in *"Rise of The Guardians"* Movie" that the trigger of conflict in a story is not only from supporting characters and antagonistic characters because the main character can also be the cause of a conflict occurring in a story. Second research from Novita Rossalia Indah, Dyah Rochmawati, and Joesasono Oediarti S. from PGRI Adi Buana University Surabaya in 2018 with the title "Character Analysis Peter Kavinsky *"To All The Boys I've Loved Before"* In Jenny Han's Novel (2014)" that In assessing a character in a story, it can be seen from how often he appears, how much dialogue he has, how the external and internal actions are, and the reactions of other characters. Research from Dinah Indriani, Surya Sili, and Setya Ariani from the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Cultural Studies Mulawaman University 2019 with the title "An Analysis of Intrinsic Elements in *Mama* Film by Andreas Muschietti" it can be concluded that the characters in a story are not just animals, and humans but can be supernatural beings, even supernatural beings in this story are the main characters. The fourth is research from Susanto, STKIP PGRI Trenggalek 2019 with the title "an Analysis on Intrinsic Elements of *Kungfu Panda 3* Movie" that intrinsic elements are not only characters, themes, plot, point of view, and background. but also moral values and in the story, there are 2 kinds of moral values, namely the value of existence and the value of giving. The last previous study the researcher got was from Ketut Nundhi Angga

Bramaditha, and Yana Qomariana from the English Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University 2020 with the title "The Analysis of Conflict of the Main Character in the Movie *I am Sam*" that the main character This story has a static character or a flat character, which is a character that doesn't change from the beginning to the end of the story. The conflicts he experienced were due to the mental disorders he had, but his kindness made this story a happy ending.

In this study, the writer analyzes the characters in the drama series of *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo* . The drama series is adapted from a Chinese novel *Bu Bu Jin Xin*. The major characters in the drama are Wang So, The Fourth Prince, that is played by Lee Joon-Gi; Go Ha-Jin / Hae Soo that is played by Lee Ji-Eun; and The Eighth Prince Wang Wook that is played by Kang Ha-Neul. The minor characters in the drama series are Hong Jong-hyun as The Third Prince Wang Yo, Yoon Sun-woo as The Ninth Prince Wang won, Byun Baek-Hyun as 10th Prince Wang Eun, Nam Joo-hyuk as 13th Prince Baek-ah, Ji Soo as 14th Prince Wang Jung. Each character has different characteristics and the writer wants to thoroughly explore these seven characters.

As mentioned earlier, the seven characters are featured in *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo.* The drama series tells about a girl from the 21st century, Go Ha-Jin, who is suddenly transferred to ancient time Korea, during the time of the Goryeo Dynasty, 1,100 years ago during the reign of King Taejo who is the first King of Goryeo. In the past, she lived as Hae Soo who was the cousin of Prince Wang Wook's wife. Because she is cheerful, Hae Soo was liked by all the princes, especially Prince Wang Wook, who was her brother-in-law at that time. When Prince Wook's wife, Lady Myung Hee, died, Prince Wook told Hae Soo that he loved her. Likewise, Hae Soo loved Wook. Hae Soo was helpful, she does not hesitate to

extend her hand to anyone. When the 4th prince, Wang So, was in trouble, Hae Soo helped him without being asked. She was even not afraid of the scars on Wang So. Wang So, who had a cold temper, finally fell in love with Hae Soo. Hae Soo also repeatedly reminded Wang so that she loved another man, but Wang So does not give up. When Hae Soo suffered unfair treatments at the Palace, Wang So was the one who defended her. He was willing to sacrifice anything to save Hae Soo. Finally, Han Soo's love for Wook slowly disappeared and she began to fall in love with Wang So. But their love life was not as smooth as they thought, it was full of pain, sacrifices, and even casualties. Like other dramas taking place in the same period, this drama contains the conflicts in matters of love, competition, politics, and friendship among the princes in its plot. Various battles and wars to fight over the king's throne can be seen in this drama. Other than that, the drama also shows interesting main characters, the cold and fearful Fourth Prince and a female time traveler. Moreover, this K-Drama is interesting because it is set in two different periods, ancient and modern Korea.

1.2 Field of the Study

The field of study is literature especially on the Korean drama series *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo.*

1.3 Scope of the Study

This research focuses on the characters in the K-drama, *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo*.

1.4 Problem Formulation

In this reseach, the researchers have a problem statement "How are the characters in *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo* described?"

1.5 Objectives of the Study

Based on the research question, the purpose of this research is to describe the characters in the Korean Drama series *Moon Lovers: Scarlet Heart Ryeo* to find out the main and supporting characters, and also to better understand the dynamic or round characters and static or flat characters in this drama.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The writer hopes this research can give contribution to the study of literature especially on Korean drama series. The writer also expects that the Korean drama (K-drama) lovers' especially the historical genre drama can learn that understanding the characters in the drama is very important to understand the story.

1.7 Definition of Term

Intrinsic Elements

Intrinsic elements are elements that directly build literary works. The intrinsic elements are plot, characters, themes, settings, points of view, and figurative language. This element is contained in the text which can make the story come to life (Wellek & Warren, 1954).

Character

Character is that person's collection of character traits, and these can be defined as relatively stable dispositions to think, feel, and behave in certain ways in certain situations. The main character is sometimes called the protagonist whose conflict with the antagonist can trigger a conflict of stories. Supporting the main character is one or more secondary or minor characters whose function is partly to illuminate the main character (Webber, 2006).