

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with background of research, research question, research objective, research significance, definition of key terms, and organization of paper.

1.1 Background of research

Detective fiction was begun 1840 by Edgar Allan Poe who in later known as “the father” detective fiction and continued by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle with his Sherlock Holmes as detective character in his novel in the end of the nineteenth century and it becomes famous in that age. Cawelti (1976: 89) argues that

The classical or ratiocinative detective story was first clearly articulated by Edgar Allan Poe in the 1840s, but it did not become a widely popular genre until the end of the nineteenth century. Its period of greatest popularity was initiated by the enormous success of Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories, and it flourished in the first four decades of the twentieth century.

The popularity of detective fiction by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle with his Sherlock Holmes was continued when Agatha Christie created Hercule Poirot as detective in her novels and it was remarkable reward and also it was a golden age for detective fiction. Scaggs (1976: 25) state that

In Britain, the Golden Age has a convenient point of origin in the publication of Agatha Christie's first novel, *The Mysterious Affair at Styles*, in 1920, and the reign of the ‘Queen of Crime’ continued until long after the Golden Age is normally considered to have ended, in the wake of the Second World War.

Agatha Christie had created many popular novels such as *The Mystery of Blue Train*, *Death on the Nile*, *Cards on the Table*, and *Sad Cypress*.

Death on the Nile is a work of detective fiction and published in the United Kingdom on 1 November 1937. This novel is about a wealthy and beautiful woman Linnet Ridgeway who predestined her death when taking honeymoon in Egypt with her husband Simon Doyle. This tragedy had been settled by Jacqueline de Bellefort and Simon Doyle. After that incident, there were so many tragedies of murder happened.

Nurgiyantoro (1995: 25) believes that “every novel has to be three important elements there are main character, main conflict and main theme.” Based on the statement above, in a novel there must be some characters and conflict which is made a story live. Moreover, both of them were important things to make a story of novel interesting to read. J.W. Marriot (1951: 51) claims that “basically, to distinct the whole story through characterization.” It does mean that to know exactly what the content story, the first thing readers have to do is to know every character in novel because in every character will be shown the plot. Summer and Edgar Whan (1960: 13) argues “that is what the characters grow the plot, or plot moved by characters.” Moreover Adi (2011: 47) claims that “characterizations are one of the most important elements in a novel, because without character to act or to do in the novel, there is no story.” In every character there must be action to make a conflict exist. In detective fiction conflict is more valuable to make a story has suspense in every story.

In the way of character's life in the novel, the conflict always appears to make the story meaningful and interesting to read. Even, the conflicts can be a concern for the reader when they read the novel. Nurgiyantoro (2002: 16) states that “*Bahkan sebenarnya, yang dihadapi dan menyita perhatian pembaca sewaktu membaca suatu*

karya naratif adalah (terutama) peristiwa-peristiwa konflik, konflik yang semakin memuncak, klimaks, dan kemudian penyelesaian.” The conflict usually occurs between two or more sides. There are two types of conflict based on Stanton (1965: 16).

1. External conflict are the conflict which is happen between a character to something outside him or herself, or maybe with surroundings nature or human environment.
2. Internal conflict is something happen in his or her soul of characters in a story.

It does mean that conflict divide into two, there are external and internal conflict. External conflict is a character that has a problem between man to man because something happen unlike between them or conflict that human being against the nature such as flood, rain etc. Internal conflict is a conflict between a character between he/she against his/her emotion or sometimes like a dilemma which is appears. It could be a character who has two sides such bad and good behavior in his or herself.

According to the statement above the conflict in *Death on the Nile* are showing more about external conflict which means the conflict between characters to another characters such as Jacqueline de Bellefort has vengeance against Linnet Ridgeway because Linnet took her boyfriend Simon Doyle and killed her when they were celebrated honeymoon in Egypt.

The researcher is interested to analyze the characterization and conflict in *Death on the Nile novel*, because there are many characters effected many conflicts which related a story to another stories in novel and supported the readers to like the stories. Like another researchers who analyze the characterization in the novel; Ikanurhosnaf's *Characterization in Sophie Kinsella's Remember Me?: A study of Popular Fiction*. The different between the researcher and what Ika's research is genre of novel. The

researcher using genre detective story entitled *Death on the Nile* by Agatha Christie whereas Ika Nurhosnaf using romance genre by Sophie Kinsella's entitled *Remember me?*. Genre detective story has different with romance in the aspect of conflict. Genre detective tend has more conflicts than romance. Moreover the conflict on detective story itself has suspense on it which is made the story more interesting to read.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of research, the problems can be divide into two research questions as follows:

1. What characterizations are there to the characters in *Death on the Nile*?
2. What conflicts are there in *Death on the Nile*?

1.3 Research Objective

The purpose of this research comprises such points below.

1. To find out the characterization in the characters in *Death on the Nile*.
2. To find out the conflicts in *Death on the Nile*.

1.4 Research Significance

This research is not directed only for lecturer or student of literature who understand what the words are as well, but also for all people who interesting to the characterization and conflict in a detective story.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

- a. Detective fiction: is story about a character who solve the mystery of crime using the evidence and some clues.
- b. Character: According to Klarer (2004: 135) “character are figure presented in a literary text, including main character or protagonist and minor character. Recurring character types in drama are called stock characters.”
- c. Characterization: is a means by which author present and show characters by direct description, by showing the character in action, or by the presentation of other characters who help to define each other.

Klarer (2004: 135) argues that “characterization are the figures in a literary text can either characterized as types or individuals. Types that show only one dominant feature are called flat characters. If a figure is more complex, the term round character is applied. In both cases, a figure has to be presented either through showing (dramatic method) or telling (narration).”

- d. Conflict: According to Cambridge Advance’s Learning Dictionary (third edition) conflict is an active disagreement between people with opposing opinions or principles. Moreover Wellek and Warren (1942: 225) believes that “conflict is "dramatic," suggests some matching of approximately equal forces, suggests action and counteraction.”

1.6 Organization of paper

The writing of this research is organized into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction. This chapter provides the background of research, research questions, research objective, research significant, definition of key terms and organization of paper. The second chapter is Theoretical Foundation. This chapter presents the theories

that are relevant to the research. It describes the theory of characterization based on E. M Forster which is introduce flat and round character and theory of conflict introduced by Robert Stanton. The third chapter is research method which is consists of some steps of doing the research. This chapter also includes research design, data, Source of data, technique of collecting data, and technique of analyzing data. The fourth chapter is analysis data. This chapter elaborates the finding data analysis and discussion of this research. The next is chapter fifth, as the last chapter of the research, consists of conclusions report of this research and the suggestions.

