

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a work of art that explains the imagination of the author's idea. It is the reflection of the author's experience in the daily life and how far the imagination had been ascended. According to Edward H. Jones in his book entitled *An Outline of Literature* "Literature is simply another way that we can experience the world around us through our imagination, feelings, and thought (1968: 1)". The quotation above describes that people can express their emotion, feelings, ideas from anything that happened in their daily life. Usually people read and try to understand literary work because they want to get some satisfaction, to enrich their experience in life, and to add knowledge. Through reading the literary work, people can refresh their mind and try to imagine the situation, and condition that happens in the story about.

Another definition of literature which can support the explanation above is explained by William Henry Hudson in his book entitled *An Introduction to the Study of Literature*.

"Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it which have the most immediate and enduring for all of us (1965: 10)".

Literature is divided into three groups, namely: prose, drama or play, and poetry. In this research the writer would like to analyze one of the forms of literature, drama or play. The writer thinks that drama is a work of literature telling about

human being, Sometimes it could describe something that people do in their daily life. Furthermore, drama is presented by human being to express the emotion effectively.

According to Christopher Russell R in his book entitled *How to Analyze Drama*, Drama is work of literature composition which delineates life and human's activity by means of presenting various action and dialogue between group or characters (1966: 14)". Drama is performed by some actors and actresses through some actions, and dialogue on the stage.

The writer concerns with drama entitled *A Raisin in the Sun* written by Lorraine Hansberry. Lorraine Hansberry was the greatest playwright in America. *A Raisin in the Sun* is one of Lorraine Hansberry's best plays that she has ever created. The story can drift the imagination of the writer and obtain a deep understanding of the play.

The story of Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun* tells about a struggling black family. Walter Lee is the main character of the play. He works as a chauffeur for a white man, but he dreams opening a liquor store with his buddies and making more money for his family. His ambition is one of the examples of American dreams.

In this research the writer wants to analyze the influences of American dream toward Walter Lee Younger's dream in *A Raisin in the Sun* and the effect of American dream toward the main characters.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

There are two problems that will be discussed in this research:

1. What are the influences of American dreams toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition in *a Raisin in the Sun* written by Lorraine Hansberry?
2. What are the effects of American dream toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition in *a Raisin in the Sun* written by Lorraine Hansberry?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In order to answer the problems about the influences of American dream, the writer determines two problems. They are as follow:

1. To analyze the influences of American dreams toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition in *a Raisin in the Sun* written by Lorraine Hansberry.
2. To identify the effect of American dream toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition in *a Raisin in the Sun* written by Lorraine Hansberry.

1.4 Limitation of the Problem

In this section the writer would like to give the limitation and make the reader easier to understand the discussion. The writer limits the discussion into two parts. Firstly, the writer focuses to analyze the influences of American dreams toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition. Secondly, it is about the effects of American dreams toward Walter Lee Younger's ambition.

1.5 Significance of the Study

In the research, the writer wishes that the result can be useful for the readers and make them understand well about the topic of the research. Therefore, the readers learn about the influence of American dream described in *a Raisin in the Sun*. Specifically, this research will give the readers more knowledge and some important things about drama. Furthermore, the writer aims to make the other writers easier to do further research on the different topic with the same data and become a guidance for the readers.