

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is an important thing for human being. Through language, people can express their thought, feeling and ideas. In literature, an author creates a literary work using language as its medium. Furthermore, literature, generally, is the study of art and usually is composed in written. Literature is important because it gives knowledge to the people since literature is an expression of human life. Literature talks about the problems of life. The problems in literature are often faced by the people in the real life then literature is interesting because it gives an entertainment to the readers. The readers can enjoy literature to fill their time.

Hudson (1965:10) in *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* says in the following

Literary is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experience of it, what they thought and felt about those aspect of it which have the most immediate and enduring for all of us. It thus the expression of life though the medium of language.

It means that literature is created based on the situation or phenomenon which is seen by an author in the society. Moreover, 'literature' is the way of the author in expressed his idea and thought through language as its medium.

According to Kennedy (1966: 231) in *An Introduction of Fiction, Poetry, and Drama*, novel is book-length story in prose whose author tries to sense that, while we are reading we experience actual life. Novel is different from short story since novel is longer and has more complicated conflict and problem. Moreover, according to John and Coyle (1984: 102), in *Literary Terms and Criticism*, novels are concerned with ordinary people and their problems in the society in which they find themselves. On the other hand, novel talks about some issues concerning to human life. It may talk about love, discrimination gender, revenge, and etc. Then, novel is chosen as the source of data because novel offers more complicated problems, and by reading novel people can experience the real life since most the topics discussed in novels are about human lives.

One of famous English novel is *Frankenstein*. *Frankenstein* is a gothic novel written by Mary Shelley. This novel is interesting in describing a story of a monster's life. There was a man namely Victor Frankenstein. He studied natural philosophy and chemistry in Ingolstadt University, who tried to discover the secret of life. Then, he created a creature out of death body parts. Unfortunately, it was not as beautiful as he expected. It was a monster. Then, he left his creation. In another time, Victor found that the creature murdered his youngest brother, but people and court convinced that the murderer was Justine Monitz. One day, Victor met the creature, who asked his to create a mate for the creature, but Victor refused it. Then, the creature ran some terrors, he tried to destroy everyone who had relationship to Victor Frankenstein. The creature also tried to disturb Victor Frankenstein and his family.

The issue which is talked in this novel is different from the general issues in other novels. When most of novel talks about human lives and their conflicts with their society, this novel talks about a monster's conflict with human. Thus, the writer of this novel, Mary Shelley, is one of famous novelists in England. She is the wife of a poet, Percy Bysshe Shelly.

The writer of this study discusses about the main theme of this novel that is revenge. According to Hornby (1995: 1006) in *Oxford Advanced Learned's Dictionary*, revenge is deliberate punishment or injury inflicted in return for what one has suffered. Revenge usually includes a deep disrespect for the offender it is an expression of ill toward the offender. Further, the revenge in this novel is done by a monster, who is disappointed by his creator for ignoring him.

Revenge is chosen as the topic of the study because it is a very interesting conflict of the story that can cause many effects in certain environment. Revenge may cause suffering for the doer and also the offenders. Talking about revenge means talking about an expression of ill toward another person. Someone will take revenge because he feels disappointed or hurt by the others. In *Frankenstein*, the revenge is acted by the creature, Victor Frankenstein's creation. The creature takes revenge to his creator, because he feels disappointed to Victor who ignores him. The creature takes a revenge by destroying Victor's and his family's lives. Then, because of this revenge, Victor and his family get suffering.

Therefore, the writer of this study chooses the title *Revenge in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*. It will discuss the revenge done by the creature and its effects toward himself and the other.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

In relation to the background of the problem, the writer finds three problems which are interesting to be discussed. Those problems are as the following:

1. What are the causes of the revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*?
2. How does the monster take revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*?
3. How are the effects of the revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In line with the statements of the problems above, this study has some objectives. They are:

1. To mention and explain the causes of the revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.
2. To describe the revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.
3. To find out and describe the effects of the revenge in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

In order to make this study easier to be conducted, it is necessary to limit the discussion. Moreover, this study is limited on the revenge of a creature. It discusses about the causes of the revenge, the revenge itself and the effects of the revenge as well.

The revenge that will be discussed in this study is done by the creature. The effects of the revenge happen toward the creature himself and Victor Frankenstein.

1.5 Significance of the Study

Hopefully, this study will not only be significant for the writer and the readers of this thesis, but also for the other researchers. For the writer, this study gives a clear explanation about the revenge which is done by the creature in the novel. It also gives brief explanation about the negative effects of revenge toward human lives.

For the readers, this study gives an understanding that one should responsible on what he or she has done. If it is not, it may destroy his or her own life and even the others. Further, this thesis is hopefully will be useful for the other researchers. It can be a reference for those who want to do a research with the same topic.