

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Reading literary works is pleasure, it brings the readers from the real world into an imaginative one. By reading literary works, the readers get some messages that make them wiser in facing up the problems of life.

Literature is a work of art that uses language as its medium to express the author's ideas. The use of language in a literary work is special in which different from language that is used by scientist or people in every day speech. Furthermore, the meaning of literature can only come through the study of literature itself. William Henry Hudson (1965:10) in *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* says that:

Literature is a vital record of what men have seen life, what they have thought and felt the aspect of which has the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. It is thus fundamentally an expression of life through the medium of language.

In another word, literature is the expression of human life. The author of the literary work focuses on the situation he or she has seen in the society. While R. J. Rees in *English Literature: An Introduction For Foreign Readers*, Literature is writing which expresses and communicates thoughts feelings, and attitudes toward life (1973: 2).

Literature is divided into three kinds: poetry, fiction, and drama. The writer in this thesis will discuss about drama. Reaske Christopher Russel (1966: 5) in *How to Analyze Drama* says that:

A drama is a work of literature or composition of presenting various actions and dialogues between a group of characters.

In other words the story in a drama is described through the actions and dialogue of the characters.

In this thesis the writer chooses Henrik Ibsen's play entitled *The Lady from The Sea*. Ellida's adaptation of new social class. It means the entire obstacle which is faced by Ellida for getting success in adapting with her new social class. Moreover it talks about how Ellida changes her status from lower class into higher class after she marries to a rich doctor whose name is Wangel. Ellida changes her social class through her marriage. Ellida's obstacle and success in adapting with new social class is chosen as the topic of the analysis.

Henrik Ibsen writes *The Lady from The Sea* in 1888. It talks about a woman namely Ellida who gets married to a widower with two daughters. Ellida's marriage to Doctor Wangel gives her a higher status. After her marriage she has all of the facilities; she has a luxurious car, and she can go to a beauty saloon as often as she wants. Her marriage to Doctor Wangel makes her become a real lady. This happiness does not last long; their marriage is disturbed by Wangel daughters, Bolette and Hilda. From the first time, his daughters seem to disagree if their married a woman who has the same age as their. And they will never accept Ellida as the member of the family because she comes from different social class. They think that Ellida is not more than a poor and uneducated woman, who marries their father to get better life and wealth.

The great obstacle for Ellida success is from her self. Ellida still thinks that she and Wangel are different. Ellida comes from poor family, uneducated person, and never socializes with the upper class before, While Wangel is rich and famous man that every body knows him. Ellida does not feel confident with this condition, she thinks that she does not know how to behave as rich woman after she gets married with Wangel.

Finally, Ellida's relationship with her two step daughters get better. Now, they can get along together as a happy family, although Ellida loves former fiancé, at last she chooses to stay with Wangel and his daughters, Bolette and Hilda.

The writer of this thesis is interested in analyzing Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady From The Sea*, because this drama is famous and it has been performed for many times in many countries such as: England, Norway, America (<http://www.certainup.com/ladyfromtheseaphila.html>: Thursday, 22 November 2007: 10.45 am). Henrik Ibsen as the author of this drama is also considered as one of the greatest authors in America. Ellida's adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea* is chosen as the topic of thesis because it describes about the struggle of lower class woman to get successful life. Moreover this topic is very interesting and challenging to be analyzed.

1.2 Statements of the Problem

The problems of the research are:

1. What are Ellida's obstacles adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea*?
2. How does Ellida get success adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea*?
3. What is the effect of Ellida success adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea*.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as the following:

1. To figure out Ellida's obstacles adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea*.
2. To find out Ellida's success adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's *The Lady from The Sea*.
3. To analyze the effect of Ellida's success adaptation of new social class in Henrik Ibsen's

1.4 Limitation of the Problem

To make this study easier to be conducted, giving limitation in the study is important. The analysis of this drama is focused on Ellida's adaptation of new social class.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This analysis hopefully can give some significance for the writer, the readers, and also the other researchers. For the writer, it gives a brief description about the woman's obstacles and success in adapting with new social class. For the readers, it gives description that to get success, they need to sacrifice even for love. For the other researchers, it can be the reference in doing further research about the obstacles and success and effect adaptation of new social class in other drama, because it is very interesting and there will be some researchers that are interested in analyzing this topic.