

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Literature is the expression of human's life in the form of written language. It is a literary work through a written language which expresses feeling, and attitudes towards life. Readers read it well to understand literature; however, everyone does not like reading. Literature is read by many people because it can entertain them and enrich their experience in life. The more readers know about language, the more they know about literature. Therefore, literature has closely related to human life.

Further, Hudson (1965:10) in *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* states that literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life and what they have taught and felt about those aspects of it. It is, thus, fundamentally an expression of life through the medium of language. It means that literature is the expression of life. In literature, people can express a great deal of their own thought and feeling that can be arranged by using a beautiful language.

According to Jones (1968:1) in *An Outline of Literature*, literature is simply another way that we can express the world around us through our imagination. It can be said that literature describes the life around us. One of the main aims of literature is to help people understand human nature experience. Another, literature is to entertain people (Funk and Wagnalls, 1988:144). It can be concluded that, the readers enjoy reading about other people's work and also their

experience. In general, literature often helps the readers understand more about people. The feeling of love, hatred, admiration, suffering, amusement, and cruelty can be described. Thus, literature helps people understand these feeling or emotions and their reason.

In writing this thesis, the writer chooses the forms of literature, that is, novel, written by Langston Hughes entitled *Not Without Laughter* as the object of the study. Novel is a long story. Some novels are exciting adventure stories set in the place that is far away by unusual and fascinating characters. Novels may suggest many things that happen every day to ordinary places. Meanwhile, Kennedy, in his book *An Introduction to Fiction*, says that "a novel is a picture of real life and manners and of the time in which it was written" (1983:182). It means that the story within a novel reflects the real life and the time. Therefore, novel is very interesting for the readers. It is like any forms of literature that are written to entertain the readers, to make them understand and to give experience.

Langston Hughes shows many events in his novel, *Not Without Laughter*. One of them is about Tempy's hypocrisy. Tempy is the supporting character in the novel. She is an ambitious, strong, and hypocrite woman. She experiences racial discrimination from the white people at that time. Such condition forces her to make up her mind to struggle and to get a good status although it is very difficult for her to get close relationship with the white people but she succeeds to be a career woman. Therefore, she becomes a successful woman and starts to practice her hypocrisy by having a good relationship with the higher class people instead of with the lower Negro. Moreover, her hypocrisy breaks up her relations with her

family especially with her mother, Aunt Hager, also her sisters and Sandy, her nephew. Therefore, the writer is interested to analyze Tempy's Hypocrisy in Langston Hughes' *Not Without Laughter* as the topic of the thesis.

1.2 The Statements of the Problem

The writer would like to present the problems of the discussion. They are formulated as follows:

1. What are the reasons of Tempy's hypocrisy?
2. How does Tempy conduct hypocrisy?
3. What are the effects of Tempy's conducting the hypocrisy towards herself and her sisters, Harriet and Annjee?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In regard with the statements of the problem, the study has the following purposes, they are:

1. To find out the reasons of Tempy's hypocrisy
2. To explain how Tempy conducts the hypocrisy.
3. To figure out of Tempy's hypocrisy towards herself and her sisters, Harriett and Annjee.

1.4 Limitation of the Study

In this novel, there are so many problems, which can be discussed. Therefore, the writer limits the problem of the discussion into three parts. Firstly,

the writer analyzes about the reasons of Tempy conducting the hypocrisy. Secondly, it is about how Tempy conducts hypocrisy towards her surrounding because of her bad background, that is, Negro's family. In this case, the writer focuses on Tempy's character. Finally, the writer analyzes the effects of Tempy's hypocrisy towards herself and her sisters, Harriet and Annjee.

1.5 Significance of the Study

By doing the research, the writer expects that the results can contribute some valuable things for the readers. Therefore, they can have a good understanding on hypocrisy conducted by Tempy in Langston Hughes' *Not Without Laughter* novel. Specifically, the result of the study is intended to stimulate other writers to do further research on the same topic.