

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of The Study

Language is very important means of establishing and maintaining relationship with other people. It means that language is important in human life to communicate among people. Language is used to develop culture, science, and also literature. Jones (1968:1) in *Outline of Literature* states that literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination. It is usually written to offer pleasure, joy, and entertainment. Literature also expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings, and desires towards life through a written language.

Literature is a written work which is of artistic value (Longman, 1987:611). They reflect of human's imagination and contain of some values in society, religious messages, and the experiences of human life. Similarly, Eagleton (1983:1,10) in *Literary Theory: An Introduction* states that literary is an imagination writing in the sense of fiction-writing that is not literary true, then literary is highly valued kind of writing.

Novel is one of the most interesting and popular forms of literature. It entertains and enriches our experience of life. Novel in Victorian Period rose quickly. A lot of people in this era were just able to read novel, poetry or prose at home. They had no time to see plays, so the plays did not develop at the period. Victorian is usually called the golden age of novels. Novel is not only used to

express the nature of life and to reflect the life, but also to send a message to increase the moral of people. Most of the novelists in this period concerned their writing about society. The novelists in this period are Charles Dickens, William Makepeace Thackeray, George Eliot, Bronte's sisters, and et cetera.

One of the novels in Victorian Era that the writer chooses to analyze is *Jane Eyre* written by Charlotte Bronte in 1847. The writer is interested in describing the inferiority of the main characters in the novels. Besides, how Jane Eyre, the main character in *Jane Eyre*, struggle for women's emancipation is also interesting to explore.

For the writer, women's emancipation is getting most important because recent struggling has greatly been blown up by the "conference for women" of United Nation in Nairobi, Kenya on July 1985. It is based on further research that during the period 1975-1985, they have been a lot of women in the world have amazing and miraculous progress within many aspect which have especially been in equality and development. We understand the world has changed and certainly the women's own role. They have gone beyond housewives and mother for her children, and then become a professional woman, for instance as politicians, stateswomen, minister, and many other.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The problems of the study are to answer the following questions:

1. What is inferiority of main character in the novel?
2. How does Jane Eyre struggle for her emancipation?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To describe inferiority of the main character in the novel.
2. To analyze how Jane Eyre struggles for her emancipation.

1.4 The Limitation of the Problem

There are many aspects that can be learned in the novel. However, the writer will not discuss all of the elements that may exist in the novel. The writer will emphasize the discussion on the content of novel that is related to the inferiority of the main character in the novel and Jane Eyre's struggle toward her emancipation. Jane Eyre is the main character of the novel *Jane Eyre* written by Charlotte Bronte published by Pocket Books, Inc in New York, N.Y in the year of 1956.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The readers will have the deeper understanding of problems that appear in the novel especially inferiority of the main character in the novel and the struggles of Jane Eyre for her emancipation.

The writer also hopes that the result of this study will enrich the research in the field of literature. It may consider as additional source for those who are interested in studying and also in understanding literary work from different point of view.