

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Everybody likes to see, read, and hear things, such as a drama or film in the television or in the movie. They also can hear a story, poem or music in the radio. The people also like to read poems, short stories and novels. More or less they enjoy it. Further, all of them can be classified as the art. The art as the subjects of imaginative and creative study is more important than the exact measurement and calculation needed in science. Therefore, the art has relationship with literature. The literature is created to be enjoyed, to be known and to become the benefit for the society.

What the literature is sometimes makes the people get confused about it. The people know that literature is not a science but an art. The definition of literature is stated by Edward H. Jones in *An Outline of Literature*: "Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination" (1968:1). Literature selects from the facts of the world or makes up certain facts so that the reader can present a truth of human life. The other definition of literature is stated by R. J. Rees in his book *An Introduction for Foreign Readers*: "Literature is a writing which expresses and communicates thoughts, feeling and attitudes toward life" (1973:2). Everybody shows or makes to know a feeling, an opinion etc. by words, looks and actions.

The writer chooses a novel entitled *The Virgin and The Gipsy* by D.H Lawrence as the object of the thesis, because the writer wants to know and understand more about the novel. In *An Outline of Literature* Edward H. Jones defines that: "Novel is a long story written in prose, but because it is long it is differs from a short story in other ways" (1968:8).

Novel is any written material that is written by the author who wishes to share part of her spirit, vision, thought, emotion, experience and everything concerning with her. Therefore, it can be said that every novel is used by the author to express herself. According to my opinion, novel is everything that is written with such beauty, entertainment, art, value, complex characters, vividness that can be imagined in the real life. Besides, novel is one of the best examples to show how human being connects to each other.

Reading a novel also gives the reader a lesson about what the world is like. By reading the reader can enlarge their sense of life. There are many elements of novel namely, title, point of view, dramatic conflict, theme, plot, characterization, situation and style. As one of the elements of novel, characterization is needed to avoid monotonous story and to make the story more interesting. Characterizations of each character will make the reader involve emotionally in what is happening in the story. The readers will be interested with the characters of the story, and generally they tend to identify the protagonist and the antagonist.

By reading *The Virgin and The Gipsy*, the writer can find the conflict of the main female character's "virginity." Yvette as the main female character

experiences several events and conflict that make her mature, although she lost her virginity.

In *The Virgin and The Gipsy*, Yvette lives in a Rectory with her sister, her father, her aunt, and her grandmother. Her mother has left Yvette and her sister when they are still children. Living with that kind of background, Yvette feels that there is something lack in her life in which she wants to live better. As a “virgin,” she is in a condition in which she is under the power of other’s will surround her, unaware of herself and her surrounding and does not understand about her sexuality. Her “virginal” condition makes her face several conflicting conditions with her surroundings. This condition makes her in troubles, but when she meets the gypsies, there is something different happens to her because she gains her individuality. The influence and her situations with her family that finally make her different from her childhood. In this thesis, the writer wants to analyze Yvette’s “virginity.” The “virginity” that Yvette has is not only physical, but it is something mental as well. However, she eventually loses her “virginity” after she gets involved in several conditions. By losing of her “virginity,” Yvette also has a new awareness of life that shows her mentally that she lost her “virginity” and it also eventually makes her lose her virginity physically. Her complex character develops from the beginning to the end of the story.

1.2 The Statements of the Study

Accordingly, the problems that the writer is interested to discuss in this thesis will be on three main problems, as the following:

1. How is Yvette considered as a “virgin”?
2. What are the conditions that make her lose her “virginity”?
3. What are the changes that happen to Yvette after she has lost her “virginity”?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are to clarify the problems above. They are:

1. To illuminate how Yvette is considered as a “virgin”
2. To analyze the conditions that make her lose her “virginity”
3. To find out the changes that happen to Yvette after she has lost her “virginity”

1.4 The Limitation of the Study

The limitation of the study is about “virginity” in correlation with the will, unconsciousness and consciousness, and sexuality. The writer limits the analysis in discussing Yvette, the main female character, because Yvette is the one who has complex characteristics and experiences several situations that finally make her lose her “virginity.” The writer also explains the other characters that exist in the novels, such as her sister, her father, her aunt, her grandmother and the gypsies. They are analyzed in order to support what Yvette experiences in this story.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

By studying main female character as lacking the will, the consciousness and unconsciousness, and sexual experiences as seen in D.H Lawrence’s last and

most provocative novel *The Virgin and The Gipsy*, the writer hopes to introduce D.H Lawrence as a great writer. Hopefully, the reader can understand it as one of D.H Lawrence's best works. Everybody starts as a virgin in this world. Some may lose it after they experience particular situations like the one experienced by Yvette as seen in *The Virgin and The Gipsy*. However, some may stay a "virgin" for the rest of their life. In this context, "virginity" is not a desirable condition for everyone. Therefore, it is good to lose "virginity" in this case.

When the writer finished reading this story, it is important for Yvette to lose her "virginity" because by this way, it could make her more powerful as an individual. Without losing her virginity, she can be dissatisfied with her life. Hopefully, this thesis can be useful for other students of English Department as a basis for further research in D.H. Lawrence's other works.