

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of the Study

People in the world must always study, not only for the intelligence but also for life. Actually people can study in two ways. Firstly is direct experience, it tends to the manner to solve the problems in daily life. Secondly is indirect experience, it is like reading novel, drama, poetry, and short story.

Novel, drama, poetry, and short story are the branches of literature. According to Jones (1968:1) in *An Outlines of Literature*, "Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination." It means that in daily life people will always get the experiences. Moreover, those can raise the imagination to write in story. People who read the story can learn indirectly how another experiences happened beside their problems. In this case, people also get indirect experiences to solve the problems.

People commonly use literature to cheer up themselves because they need it to make their life beautiful. Hudson (1965:10) in *An Introduction to the Study of Literature*, says as follows:

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

Actually people have different interpretation and different way to analyze the meaning in a topic of novel, poetry, short story and drama. Jones (1968:5) says as follows:

Literature then depends on both the reader and the writer. Probably no two readers get exactly the same thoughts and feelings from something they read, because their past experiences have been different. By the same, probably no two writers tell a story in exactly the same way because their styles are different.

It means the readers and the writers have different interpretation to analyze and to create the topic because of the fact that they have different feeling and experience to analyze the purpose. It is thus different for the writers to create the topic because of the different styles.

Literature has many branches such as novel, short story, drama, poetry, and prose. Literature, in its broadest sense, includes all written material such as magazines, newspaper, schoolbooks, and dictionaries. In its narrower sense, literature may be in the form of novels, dramas, short stories and poems.

Furthermore, Jones (1968:80) says, "Some respects a novel is like a short story, except that is longer. Novel is a long story written in prose." On novel there are many kinds of experiences of life can be found. The writer usually makes imaginative characters in their writing. They play their characters in novel, which is written on long page. On novel, main character may have conflicts with another character, with nature, or sometimes with him.

The writer is interested in analyzing Mary Ley's Principles in William Somerset Maugham's *Merry Go Round* based on two reasons. The first is the description of the novel that describes the meaning of life related to people in

marital status that is reflected in Miss Ley's principles. The second is Miss Ley's position as a spinster who always gives her helps for her society. It means that she gets an important role in her society because of her goodness.

### **1.2 Statement of the problems**

In *Merry Go Round* written by W. Somerset, the writer has a problem to be discussed. The problem is:

What are Miss Ley's principles?

### **1.3 The Objective of the Study**

In this analysis the writer tries to analyze based on the statement of the problems. The objective is:

To describe Miss Ley's principles.

### **1.4 The Scope of the Problem**

The writer analyzes the novel entitled *Merry Go Round* written by William Somerset, which is published in 1905. *Merry Go Round* serves several stories in life. These stories of life give several meanings to Miss Ley who is a spinster. This study, however, only analyzes about Miss Ley' principles. Her principles are seeing marriage as terrible and helping others.

### **1.5 The Significance of the Study**

By analyzing this novel, the writer gives a significance reference for other researchers to analyze the principles in life. The writer also wants to give a general message in understanding *Merry Go Round* especially about Miss ley's principles in life related to all her friends who get marriage. Further, by this study, the readers will know more about the meaning of life especially in marriage.