

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is a literary work that is written to express thoughts, feeling and attitude of human being in their life. It is not surprising that people read literary work, for it is one of the sources that can be used as a standard of personalities. So, it is not strange if in literature a writer often expresses his feeling or the condition around him. According to Hudson (1965:10) in his book entitled *An Introduction to The Study of Literature*, "Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it which have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us".

Thus, literary works will give the information of someone's experiences. Literature is imagination of our feeling that arises in our life through our experiences to fill our desire. Literature can be as the reflection of our behavior in the past time also as a direction to lead our time in the future.

As we know, there are many kinds of literary forms. They are novel, drama or play and poetry. In this study, the object of analysis is poetry. Poetry is the oldest literary works, this is proved when we found greatest a literary work, that is monumentally written by our ancestor long time ago. Kennedy (1996:407) says, "Poetry is rhythmical composition of words expressing an attitude, designed to surprise and delight and to arouse an emotional response". Similarly, Johnson (1965:64) in *An Introduction to The Study of Literature* states, "Poetry is metrical

composition or the art of writing pleasure with truth by calling imagination to the help of reason". Therefore, both quotation means that the use of imagination is very important to understand certain poems.

When we are discussing about poetry, sometimes most people start to say that poetry is nothing. When we are approaching a poem, we need a special knowledge and pleasure. It means that we must know well some devices which are not available in poem such as rhyme, rhythm and etcetera. Apart from that, the writer of the thesis is also interested in analyzing poetry since she knows that poetry can add her understanding to beautiful things, feeling or thought of the other and also the history. Besides that the poem can give human being knowledge of life, which is constructed in a poem.

In this thesis, the writer analyzes two poems, namely *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode to Heaven* by Percy Bysshe Shelley, the major English Romantic Poet. He is a poet from England who lived in Romantic Period. Almost of his works contain a subject matter that indicates his protest against established institution and orthodox religion and he is obsessed with his revolt against all existing laws, customs and religions.

As his radical ideas and unique way of life, so he is alienated by his own society. Percy Bysshe Shelley feels that he is a lonely wanderer who keeps on traveling in search for the achievement of a new society freed from repression of the current establishment and orthodox religion. Percy B. Shelley in the first stanza of *The World's Wanderers* wants the reader to understand that is a person

who does not seem to stop wandering. See how he shows to the readers that the poem is building by images in the following:

“Tell me, *thou Star*, whose *wings* of light  
Speed thee in thy *fiery flight*,  
In what *cavern* of the night  
Will thy *pinions* close now?

Shelley has unconventional life and uncompromising idealism, combined with a strong skeptical voice; make him a notorious and much denigrated figure in his own life ([www.google.com](http://www.google.com)). See how he shows the readers that *Ode to Heaven* is building by imagination in the following:

“*Palace Roof* of cloudless nights!  
*Paradise* of golden lights!  
    *Deep immeasurable, vast*  
Which art now, and which wert then  
    Of the *Present* and the *Past*,  
Of the Eternal Where and When,  
    *Presence-Chamber, temple, home*  
    *Ever-canopying dome*  
    Of *acts* and *ages* yet to come!

The writer is interested in analyzing those two poems *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode to Heaven* by Percy Bysshe Shelley because each poem expresses Shelley's condition and situation as a Romantic Poet who has unconventional ideas and radical idealism. Therefore, he becomes a person who suffered and felt alienated from his own society.

## 1.2 Statements of the Problem

It is necessary to limit the problem in order to avoid complicated discussion and also to avoid the discussion becomes broader. The writer of thesis



would like to present the problems which are going to be analyzed. Those problems are answering the following questions :

1. How Imagery is used to describe alienation in *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven* ?
2. How Symbols are used to describe alienation in *The World's wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven* ?

### **1.3 The Objectives of the Study**

Writing this thesis has several purposes. Based on the statements of the problem, the writer of the thesis presents the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To analyze imagery used in describing alienation in *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven*.
2. To analyze symbols used in describing alienation in *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven*.

### **1.4 The Scope of the Study**

In this study, the writer of the thesis will discuss only on imagery and symbol. The poems here are the poems that were written by Percy Bysshe Shelley, those are *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode to Heaven*.

The writer will analyze many kinds of imagery and symbol, which represent alienation, as they are expressed in the two above poems.

### 1.5 The Significance of the Study

Hopefully this research is significant for the writer, the readers and the other researchers. In reading Percy Bysshe Shelley's two poems, namely *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven*, the writer is able to understand more that poems are written not only to communicate the information but it brings a sense and perception of life as well. Moreover, the writer is able to widen, and enrich her imagination with the experience of life that happened in Romantic period.

The writer hopes that this analysis can improve the readers' knowledge about the beauty of Percy Bysshe Shelley's poems, namely *The World's Wanderers* and *Ode To Heaven*. Furthermore, the readers can live more fully, more deeply, and more richly through their imagination by reading the poems. Besides, this study is significant since it can be the reference for further research on poetry. This is significant for the other researchers in analyzing the alienation in Shelley's poems.