

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

In *An Introduction to the Study Literature*, William Henry Hudson states that :

Literature is a vital record of what they have experienced of it, what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it, which have most immediate and enduring interest for all of us. It is thus fundamentally an expression for life through the medium of language ( Hudson, 1965 : 10 ).

With the statement above we can know everything, which have happen in our lives whether it is sad or happy. In addition, that such an author writer to be a story can be the record of what he has seen, what he has experienced, and what he has felt. Then the author develops the records in such away and what he writes becomes such interesting story (Hudson, 1965 : 10 )

In broadest sense, literary forms are prose, poetry, and drama. The writer of this thesis focuses on drama. At the same time, however, drama differs from prose and poetry. According to Christopher Reaste in *How to Analyze Drama*, Drama is a work of literature or composition which delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various action of an dialogues between a group of characters. Drama is the representation of life and characters through action and dialogue. Words, actions, sceneries, lightings, possibly music and dance all join to make that world within a world that we call theater (1966 : 5 ). There is also Crosby E. Redman said in his book *A Second Book of Plays*, that, "Theatre is a play perform a stage especially designed to enter a make believed world"

. A play is written to act, to see, to be felt by audience. Reading of plays can be exciting and rewarding. The careful reader who sets stage in his mind's eye and hears the words spoken in his inner ear can become his own one-man audience. He can experience the play as human conflict between a man and the circumstances around him. I can only imagine how much I would be satisfied seeing and reading the plays ( 1964 : 1 ) .

The writer thinks the experience of casting and reading the plays is so encouraging, beneficial and enjoyable that I do not know how to express it in words. This experience has inspired me to analyze plays, especially that which is written by Arthur Miller with the title of his play is *Death of a Salesman* and a play which is written by Sophocles with the title *Oedipus Rex*. Hence, it is very interesting to discuss about comparison of woman psychological state in facing a problem represented by Linda and Jocasta as the woman characters. So, the writer is interested to analyze further about it.

In *Death of a Salesman* the writer can find psychological state of Linda Loman as the woman character. In this drama Linda as a good wife of Willy Loman whose life with her two sons Biff and Happy. Linda Loman who always live in a short of money, to be patient as a mother taking care of her sons, patient in facing his husband who is very temperamental. With her husband act and her children's act; Linda as a good wife for her husband and as a good mother for their sons have so many problems to face it. For example, as a good wife, Linda always supports and believes to Willy's says with all his lies to her, even though she already knows that her husband is wrong, and as good mother, Linda loves her

children so much even though she don't know exactly how to love them, that they are not children anymore and it has time for them to stand alone, she cannot find certain ways to help them become independent sons, but she tried to take them care very well.

In *Oedipus Rex* the writer also can find the woman's psychological state of Jocasta as a wife of King Oedipus. In this drama Jocasta not only as a wife of King Oedipus but also as his mother, she face so many problems since she know about the prophecy. She lives with full of worried, scare, and frustrated, but she tried to be patient and keep on calm to facing the problem. The writer can show it when Oedipus love to Jacosta influences all of Jocasta's life. Jocasta is a lady who is very kind nice and romantic. Suddenly, she becomes into a women who is very frustrated. This condition caused by her mistake. She is bored of her surroundings while the people care her husband and they are belief of the oracles. She never knows before that love is very cruel and difficult for her life, after she knows everything about the true of the oracle.

So the basic reason for choosing the problem here is with comparing the two dramas above, firstly we can know more about the woman's psychological state it self, secondly about the similarity and the influence of woman's psychological state in facing the problem toward her self and her environment.

According to Helene Deutch (1944:viii) in *The Psychology of Woman*, the role of emotion is most important women seem to put more emotion into their life interest than men, hence their ability to observe and remember minutiae is greater. The women psychological state also talk about the state of woman psychology in

facing their problem, that is merely means she has seen so much that she recognize situations via mental short-cuts their strength to handle and to solve their problem relate with their psychological life, about her great knowledge of what woman do and great insight into why they do it.

### 1.2 The Statement of The Study

In this thesis the writer finds many interesting problem to be analyzed there are :

1. What is the similarities of women's psychological state in facing a problem ?
2. What is the influence of the women's psychological state in facing a problem towards themselves and their environment ?

### 1.3 The Limitation of the Study

Due to the title, the writer would like to limit the problem just the focus of the women's psychological state in those dramas. After reading *The Death of Salesman* and *Oedipus Rex*, the writer finds the women's psychological state of Linda Loman as the woman character in *Death of a Salesman* and Jocasta as the women character in *Oedipus Rex*. Therefore, the writer wants to analyze and compare only about :

1. The similarities of women's psychological state in facing a problem.
2. What is the influence of women's psychological state in facing a problem towards themselves and their environment.

#### **1.4 The Objectives of the Study**

In writing this thesis, the writer has some purposes, they are:

1. To get clear understanding about the similarities of women's psychological state in facing a problem.
2. To know further about the influence of the women's psychological state in facing a problem towards themselves and their environment.

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

The significance of the problem here, consist of three points. The first is the writer knowing more about the drama itself, which the dramas here not just for read but also in drama consist of the purposes and advices about the women's psychological state. The second is the readers can catch the purpose or the aims of this drama so in their real lives, they can understand and knowing more about the psychological state especially woman. The third is to add the number of literature study about the women's psychological state in facing the problem.