

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 The Background of The Problem

Literature is closely related to human life, because literature is one of the ways for human being to describe the expression. Literature also entertains and enriches our knowledge and our experience of life. Literature is produced by human being, as a medium to express human's senses in attractive form. Moreover, literature is important for our life. The writer receives information through reading some books as well as a literary works. It is composed in interesting work and pleasure to be enjoyed. Considering to the relevance of literature and life, Rees (1973:2) explains the term of literature in *An Introduction for Foreign Reader*: Literature is a work which expresses and communicates thought, feeling, attitude toward life. Another opinion is from Hudson (1910:10) who defines the term of literature in *An Introduction to Study of Literature*.

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

Literature is one of the ways for human being to describe the expression and which can entertain our experience of life through our imagination. According to Jones (1968:1) in *An Outline of Literature*. Literature is simply another way that we can experience the world around us through our imagination feeling and thought. It

means that literature can tell about expression of human thoughts, feelings, intrigues, attitudes and efforts toward the life.

One of literary works is novel. Novel is length story in prose of which author tries to create the sense that we are reading, we experience actually in our life. According to Welleck (1984:205) in *Theory of Literature* says that: Novel is a picture of real life, manners, and of time in which it is written. So the novel presents human beings life that can be felt and enjoyed by the readers.

In this thesis, the writer will analyze the novel entitled *Our Mutual Friend* written by Charles Dickens as the object of the analysis. The writer knows that Charles Dickens is the great novelist. His best novels deal with victims of slums, the poor houses, the debtors' prisons and the seamy sides of London life. In this novel, the writer can see the intrigue in John Harmon's life. John Harmon has some problem with his father, in other way he gets a happy life after his father die. Much of this story takes place on or near the river Thames, where it flows through London. The Thames is very dirty and crowd with boats and ships. In this story John Harmon has not seen his country for fourteen years. His father makes him have a strange wish. John Harmon makes some intrigues to his father wish. Then John Harmon gets married with a girl whom he never sees yet before. Afterwards, he gets inheritance from his father. The writer takes the intrigue to be analyzed in considering that intrigues always exist in daily lives. According to *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English* (1987:553) in new edition, Intrigue is the actor practice of planning something secretly or a secret plan or activity between two or more people.



People always have their own characteristics, because without effort and plan people cannot get the new things or the new experiences in their life. The efforts and plans which faced by John Harmon is one of his problems in his lives, when he saves from the danger and finally he gets married with Bella Wilfer. It is so interesting that the writer chooses the title "An Analysis of John Harmon's Intrigue on Charles Dickens's *Our Mutual Friend*".

### **1.2 Statement of the problem**

In the discussion of this thesis, based on the background of the study, there are several problems that will be analyzed. Those are :

1. How is John Harmon's character presented in the novel?
2. What are John Harmon's intrigue?
3. How are the result of John Harmon's intrigue?

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

The main concern of this thesis is to present some intrigues of John Harmon in his life. By describing the characterization, the writer wants that the readers will understanding about human life. The objectives of the problem are:

1. To describe the characters of John Harmon.
2. To find out John Harmon's intrigue.
3. To elaborate the result of John Harmon's intrigue.

#### **1.4 Limitation of the Problem**

It is necessary to make limitation in the discussion in order to get detail information. To avoid many complicated discussion and unimportant things, the writer will classify the discussion into two parts, they are the characterization and the intrigue.

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

In this thesis, the writer tries to analyze the intrigue of John Harmon as the main character in *Our Mutual Friend*. It is interesting to discuss. The reader can get references from the way of John Harmon to solve or to avoid the problems. The writer hopes that this thesis can give input for the readers and the writer. For the readers, the writer hopes that they can take the goodness and leave the badness of the theme of the novel. The writer can get more knowledge about intrigue and the way to solve the problems.