

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Background of the Problem

Literature is all written materials which are expressed into writings by author. Literature in its broader sense includes materials such as plays, novels, poetry, and short stories as well. As one form of literary works, plays are not only composition to be read but also design to be acted on the stage through various dialogues and activities. Steinman (1966:313) states that drama is a work of imaginative literature which consists of dialogues, which is intended for actors to speak with accompanying gestures before an audience. It is incomplete until it is on stage.

Reaske states in *How to Analyze Drama* that drama is a work of literature or composition which delineates life and human activity by means of presenting various actions and dialogues between groups of characters (1966:79). Thus, further knowledge especially the one that is closely related to the problem of daily life can be obtained from the action of the characters.

In literary works, moral value can be obtained. It is very significant in human life, now that it can persuade human sense to do good deed. In *Budaya Sastra*, it is stated that a good literature always gives a message to the readers. The message of this kind is called moral (1964:79).

The play discussed in this thesis is *Streetcar Named Desire*, one of Tennessee William's works. Moral value can also be found in this play. Human being lives in connection with society which has rules and moral principles that must be obeyed. In their life, human beings often face facts which are contrary to what they expect. Facts govern man's behavior since when he thinks that something is a fact, he tends to behave accordingly. Further, fact, though contrary to what they expect, affects human behavior. When some people say that gambling is bad and makes poor, and another one tries gambling then he becomes rich and fortunate, he will say that gambling is not bad as a fact. This condition is included into an ironical circumstance in which what is said to be bad appears to be good. Based on the reason above, the writer takes "*An Analysis of Ironical Circumstances in Tennessee William's A Streetcar Named Desire*" as the title of this thesis.

1.2. The Statement of the Problem

Tennessee William's play entitled *Streetcar Named Desire* is really interesting to be studied. The writer finds some problems to be solved. The problems are to answer the following questions:

1. What are the kinds of ironical circumstances in Tennessee William's *Streetcar Named Desire*?
2. What are the effects of the ironical circumstances upon the main characters?
3. What are the effects of the ironical circumstances upon the other characters?
4. What are moral teachings of the play related to the ironical circumstances?

1.3. The Limitation of the Study

Tennessee William, almost in all of his literary works writes about the most evident and interesting conflicts about American life. The writer analyzes one of his works entitled *Streetcar Named Desire*. Actually, there are many characters in the play. However, the writer only focuses on the main characters. The main characters have many aspects that can be analyzed. In this case, the writer limits the study on one aspect only, that is, ironical circumstances. To be more specific, the scope of the study will be: the kinds of ironical circumstances, the effect of the ironical circumstances upon the main characters and also upon the other characters, and the moral teaching from the play.

1.4. The Objectives of the Study

Knowing the objectives of the study makes the readers easy to understand the intention of the writer. This study is purposed to the following objectives:

1. To find out the kinds of ironical circumstance in *Streetcar Named Desire*.
2. To describe the effects of the ironical circumstances upon the main characters.
3. To describe the effect of the ironical circumstances upon the other characters.
4. To analyze the moral teaching from the play *Streetcar Named Desire*.

1.5. The Significance of the Study

This study is a significant reference for other researchers doing further research on the ironical circumstances. It can be the normative implication of such study. Besides, the reader may take the advantage of the result of this study to get better understanding about ironical circumstances in daily life.

1.6. The Method of Writing

In writing the thesis, the writer uses library research to get some information and to analyze the problems easily in this thesis. The writer uses some books and references as the source of data and theories to support the analysis on the topic discussion. By reading and analyzing the references or books the writer tries to discuss the problem written previously. The writer also uses deductive method to describe the idea from widest one to specific one. Here, the writer just takes the main discuss of meaning to describe some theories in this thesis.

1.7. Thesis Organization

The writer will give the organization of this thesis in order to make the reader gets better understanding. This thesis will be divided into four chapters.

Chapter I Introduction

It consist of the background of the problems, the limitation of the study, the objectives of the study, the significance of the study, the method of writing, and finally thesis organization.

Chapter II Underlying Theories

Underlying theories explains the meaning of drama, main character, moral teaching, and moral teaching in literature, irony, and ironical circumstance. Research methodology deal with the data collection, the data corpus, and the data analysis.

Chapter III Analysis

This chapter consists of the analysis of ironical circumstance, dramatic irony, cosmic irony, the effect of irony upon the main character, and the effect of irony upon another character in Tennessee William's *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Chapter IV Conclusion

This chapter shows the conclusion that deals with the results of analysis.