

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

A literary work exists because of society. Literature and society are like two sides of a coin, they cannot be separated. Through literature, we could see how the author depicts the society and their social circumstances. According to Wellek and Warren (1977: 94), literature reserve about life and life, in most part, is part of the real society.

Therefore, literary work is the reflection of the real life. It can describe the events in our life, and also contains the stratification which indicates that literature and society is closely related because literature expresses the situations and problems existing in society.

Social stratification is a distinction or grouping of members of the community as a vertical (rise). According to Pitirim A. Sorokin (2005:60) social stratification is a difference in the population / society into layers in stratified class (hierarchical). Pitirim A. Sorokin in his essay entitled "Social Stratification" said the coating system in the community is a common characteristic of a fixed and regular life in society.

According to Max Weber (Harold. R. Kerbo, 2006:229), social stratification is the classification of people who belong to a particular social system into hierarchical layers according to the dimensions of power , privilege and prestige. According to Astried S. Susanto (1983: 98) social stratification is the result of human relationships habits regularly and

structured so that every person, every moment has to do with the situation that determines the vertically or horizontally in the community.

Literary works has close relationship with human life. One of literary works is novel. Novel itself, as stated by Taormina (2005) is one of literature forms. It is a fictional piece of prose usually written in a narrative style. Novels tell stories, which are typically defined as a series of events described in a sequence. It has plot, character, point of view, theme and setting. Plot is something that happens in the story. Character is the man who involved in the story. The way the writer told the story called point of view. Theme is the main point of the story and setting is when or where the story takes place. These elements must be completed to make a good novel work. The novel, however, arises from the desire to depict and interpret human character. The reader of a novel is both entertained and aided in a deeper perception of life's problems.

The story begins with a news that a young handsome man with a huge fortune named Charles Bingley will come to live in Netherfield Park which is near the Bennet's house. Mr. and Mrs. Bennet has five daughters named Jane, Elizabeth (Lizzie), Mary, Catherine (Kitty) and Lydia. Mrs. Bennet is an insensible and narrow-minded woman whose the only joy comes from gossip and visiting the neighbours and the main goal is to get her daughters married.

Bingley is immediately attracted by Jane Bennet, a beautiful and gentle woman at the ball held in his house right after his arrival. His sister, Lady Caroline and his closest friend, Fitzwilliam Darcy, a noble wealthy man also attend the ball. Darcy is initially very proud so everyone finds him the most

disagreeable and arrogant man there. Especially, when he refuses to dance with Elizabeth because she is not beautiful enough to tempt him, he leaves a quite disgusted impression on her mind. Elizabeth Bennet is a very special girl whose intelligence, independence and wit always makes her different from other female characters in the novel.

A few days later, Jane is invited for dinner at Netherfield and has to stay there because of getting a bad cold. Elizabeth decides to go to there to look after her sister. This action make Darcy begin to change his thoughts of Elizabeth and he pays more and more attention to her. Knowing Darcy's feeling for Elizabeth, Miss Caroline who always wants to win Darcy's heart tries to insult Elizabeth by mocking rudely at the poor manners of her mother and younger sisters. Elizabeth continues keeping her prejudices against Darcy. Once when Elizabeth visits her aunt, Mrs. Phillips, she meets an officer named Wickham. He deceives Elizabeth by making up a so bad story about Darcy that makes her misunderstanding of him increases more.

Mr. Collins, a relative of Mr. Bennet who will inherit Longbourn after Mr. Bennet's death, comes to propose to Elizabeth but she refuses him as she finds Mr. Collins is a silly and snobbish man and she does not want to enter a marriage without love. Charlotte Lucas, the best friend of Elizabeth, immediately accepts the proposal of Mr. Collins few days later because she wants to have a firm financial security and a pleasant life from marrying to Mr. Collins.

At the beginning of the winter, Darcy and Bingley leave Netherfield to London making everyone, especially Jane shocked. After that, she decides to

go to London with the hope of seeing Bingley but she fails to do this. In spring, Elizabeth pays a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Collins and meets Darcy again. He makes a surprising proposal to Elizabeth but is rejected. Knowing the fact that it is Darcy who convinces Bingley to leave Netherfield and not to engage to Jane through Colonel Fitzwilliam, Darcy cousin, Elizabeth is so upset and cannot accept his proposal.

The next day, Darcy sends Elizabeth a letter in which he explains the reasons for his actions to Bingley and Wickham. After reading his letter, Elizabeth realizes that she misjudges Darcy's personality and he turns out to be a good man while Wickham is a wicked person. Afterward, Elizabeth with the Gardiners, her uncle and aunt, visits Pemberley, Darcy's estate. Here she hears the housekeepers tell about how kind and good-natured Darcy is and she becomes more interested in him. Darcy introduces her to his sister Georgiana.

One morning, Elizabeth receives a letter from Jane announcing that Lydia has eloped with Wickham, and they fear Wickham does not actually intend to marry her. Elizabeth and the Gardiner immediately return Longbourn. Hearing the news, Darcy silently helps the Bennets without letting them know. Finally, Lydia and Wickham are found and they get married. Elizabeth knows Darcy's help by chance and she has great appreciation of his action.

Bingley and Darcy return to Netherfield Park. After several days, Bingley proposes to Jane and she happily accepts. Darcy gives Elizabeth the second proposal regardless of his aunt's objection, Lady Catherine de Bourgh,

and this time Elizabeth accepts as she really falls in love with him. Mrs. Bennet is so pleased with her daughter's marriages.

This researcher analyzes one of the greatest English novels of the nineteenth century, *Pride and Prejudice* (1813) by Jane Austen. She is a British novelist from Steventon. She was born on December 16, 1775 and died on July 18, 1817 in Winchester. She was the seventh child and the second daughter of George Austen (1731-1805), the local rector, or Church of England clergyman, and his wife Cassandra (1739-1827). After a few months at home, she placed her daughter with a woman living in a nearby village for a year. As Austen grew into adulthood, she continued to live with her parents at home, carrying out these activities normal for women of her age and social standing.

Pride and Prejudice arguably is the greatest novel of the nineteenth century, in many ways it shows Austen's idealism towards marriage. It was originally titled *First Impression* because the appearances of the characters of the characters created the plot of the novel. *First Impression* was first written between 1796 and 1797 in Steventon, but it was never published under that title. However, the novel is also concerned with the effects of the character's first impression, which is their prejudice; Austen finally found the title *Pride and Prejudice* more appropriate. *Pride and Prejudice* was far more fortunate than its earlier incarnation and it was published to the world on January 28, 1813. *Pride and Prejudice* is like Austen's work which is written in gentle or Horatian satire. The main object of Austen's satire in this novel is the mercenary and the ignorance of the people common criticisms of the

nineteenth century. This novel belongs to Romantic Period between 1800-1850, which is signed with France Revolution.

Beside *Pride and Prejudice* (1813) as her works, Austen had written the other novels, they are: *Sense and Sensibility* (1811), *Mansfield Park* (1814), *Emma* (1815), *Northanger Abbey* (1818) and *Persuasion* (1818). All of her novels have theme about courtship and marriage. She achieved success as author. (www.wikipedia.org/wiki/janeausten). All of these works contain a strong moral message, although the moral message is not entirely consistent in all works and is presented in various ways. Actually Austen's work does not fully belong to in romantic periods, because she tends to use sense than sensibility.

Pride and Prejudice novel by Jane Austen is a romance novel. It has described clearly the condition of English social life in early 19th century such as social class and marriage. Therefore, the writer interested to analyze this novel because some reasons.

First, because the writer is interested in the story of the novel. *Pride and Prejudice* novel is a greatest work of Jane Austen. The novel is more interesting and useful as one of the tools to make people live in a better condition based on the novel's descriptions of life or novel's influence and the experience which was given by the author in the novel.

Second, the writer will analyze the issue social stratification including the main issue of the novel reflected as well because in the novel *Pride and Prejudice* there is the most prominent social stratification through Elizabeth and Darcy's relationship. Darcy who has everything (status, class and power)

has a relationship with Elizabeth who is in the lower social strata from him. As a result of this relationship, then there is conflict and contradictions because of the difference in their social classes, though, in the end they manage to overcome the social class differences with love, commitment and sincerity.

Third, in the novel *Pride and Prejudice*, some moral values can be found. The moral values may be useful for people improve their morality. As a moralist, Jane Austen implicitly conveys moral values to readers.

Fourth, the language of the *Pride and Prejudice* novel is not too difficult to be understood by the learners.

Because of some reasons above, the writer tries to analyze the novel, *in Jane Austen's Pride and Prejudice*. It is worthy to analyze it using sociological approach in order to know, see, and describe the social condition of the nineteenth entitled: **"SOCIAL STRATIFICATION REFLECTED AT JANE AUSTEN'S *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE* NOVEL (1813): SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH"**.

B. Literature Review

The study of *Pride and Prejudice* has ever been conducted by Sofia Fitrianiingsih (UMS, 2008), entitled "Rebellion Againsts Conventional Norms in Joe Wright's *Pride and Prejudice* Movie: A Sociological Approach". This research viewed that through this movie, Wright wants to criticize the condition of society at the time. People consider that money is everything because it influences the positions of the people in society. The upper class will marry only with the same class status. So, the lower class cannot move to

the upper class. But, in this movie, Joe Wright wants to show that marriage should not be driven by thoughts.

The second researcher who is interested in this film is Dimas Nur Baladi (UMS, 2008) in his study entitled “Material Oriented Marriage in Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice* Movie: A Sociological Approach”. His research is focused on the correlation between novel and social reality which have the background of making the novel. The social reality includes the social aspect, economic, political, cultural, religion and science and technology. They are reflected in structural elements of the novel such as character and characterization, setting of time and setting of place, plot, style, and theme. Besides reflecting the social reality through her work the author also tries to convey opinion and criticism toward social reality that has happened.

The third researcher is Axioma Dany Imamasari (UMS, 2008) in her study entitled “A Comparison between Novel and Movie Version of Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*: A Structural Approach.” This research views that the reason of production house uses novel as a source of movie is based on the market’s demand. It is because people will be more curious and fascinated by the product of literary for some reasons: they have read the novel and want to know the novel visually by watching the movie version.

The fourth researcher, Viona Evy Rachmawaty (UMS, 2011) in her study entitled “Dilemma or Making Moral Choices in Joe Wright’s ‘*Pride and Prejudice*’ Movie (2005): An Existentialist Criticism”. This research objectives are first, to describe the characters in the movie, second, to analyze

the personality development of the main character Elizabeth on *Pride and Prejudice* movie. Her research uses qualitative method to apply existentialist of the main characters as a mean of further research. The conclusions of this research are first, the main character Elizabeth and Darcy in the movie *Pride and Prejudice* by Existentialist stages shows development in adulthood which is characterized by the tendency of generatively stagnation by three symptoms importantly, the intimacy, generative and integrity.

The fifth researcher, Vima Setiyawati (UMS, 2013) in her study entitled Power of Love in '*Pride and Prejudice*' by Jane Austen (1813): Psychoanalytic Approach. She draws some conclusions as follows. First, based on the structural analysis, Jane Austen successfully delivers the moral message through the excellent unity of structural elements. Second, based on the A Psychoanalytic Approach, Jane Austen describes that the differences in the character and characterization are not important in a relationship. They can even bring a good luck to them.

The sixth researcher is Ayu Fauziah Sofy Citra Anggista (UMS, 2013) in her study entitled Deliverance of Self-Regard in Jane Austen's '*Pride and Prejudice*' Novel (1813): A Psychoanalytic Approach. Based on the analysis, the writer concludes that the problem faced by the major character is strived to go out of her condition, it causes the writer to use psychoanalytic perspective such as: Id, Ego, and Superego. By using this method, it is known how Elizabeth Bennet as the major character can solve her problem.

Based on the previous research, the writer tries to analyze this novel again but in different theory. The researcher want to analyze social stratification using sociological approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of the study is as follows: How is social stratification in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* novel (1813)?

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the writer focuses on social stratification in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* novel by using sociological approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the studies are as follows:

1. To analyze *Pride and Prejudice* novel based on structural elements of novel.
2. To analyze the social stratification of English society reflected in *Pride and Prejudice* novel (1813) on a sociological approach.

F. Benefits of the study

By presenting this research, the writer hopes that there will be some benefits as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To give some contribution to the understanding about the social stratification in Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* principally sociological approach.

2. Practical Benefit

To provide additional information that is useful for next researchers who are interested in analyzing any further.

G. Research Methodology

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Pride and Prejudice* novel.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Sources

a. Type of the Data

The type of the data is from of the text that is taken from the words, phrases, sentences, narration and dialogues in the novel.

b. Data Sources

The data source used in the research can be categorized into two sources of data:

1) Primary Source

The primary data source of the study is the novel *Pride and Prejudice* written by Jane Austen.

2) Secondary Source

The writer takes the secondary data source from many sources as references, the author's biography, the website from the internet about this novel and other resources that support the analysis.

3. Technique of Collecting the Data

In conducting the study, the writer uses the techniques of documentation in collecting the data:

- a. The researcher collects any data, which are relevant to the problem statement. He classifies the data into 2 groups; they are main data and supporting data.
 - b. The main data (novel) are read repeatedly and comprehensively.
 - c. The supporting data are collected and classified in accordance with the subject matter.
 - d. Both of data are analyzed in order to answer the problem statement.
 - e. The researcher draws conclusions from the analysis and proposes some recommendation.
 - f. The research selects the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which does not support the topic of the study.
4. Technique of Analyzing the Data

In analyzing data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The analysis is begun from the structural analysis of the work and finally the sociological analysis of the literary of literary works.

H. Paper Organization

The writer systematizes the research into six chapters, as follows : Chapter I is introduction, covering the background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of study, objective of study, benefit of study, research method and research paper organization. Chapter II presents underlying theory. It includes notion of sociology of literature, major principles of sociology of literature, structural elements of the novel and theoretical approach. Chapter III includes the social background with all

aspects of social reality of English in the nineteenth century. Chapter IV contains structural analysis of the novel. Chapter V discusses the sociological analysis of Jane Austen in *Pride and Prejudice*. Chapter VI consists of conclusion and suggestion of the research.