

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Living in this world must have a goal whether to lived or survive. In running live, the Lord has influence. When God plays a role, then we also tested for risking our purpose in this world so we have to struggle. The struggle is an effort made to achieve certain objectives which in reaching its goal is confronted by a problem. But still not giving up getting what we want. David (2016: p. 7) says that persuasion and consensus also rest on a status of forces and are the product of coercive struggle. Struggles whose outcome can be predicted need not be undertaken to be lost or won: some struggles need only be referenced to be won decisively. (David, 2016: 7). According to Adams and Balfour neither does a struggle necessarily involve human opponents, as the opposing forces can also be nonhuman, such as evil ideologies (Adams and Balfour 1998). We can assume that every people have to struggle for living. The result of struggle is depend on each individuals, whether we can survive or not. When we can do the best for something we reached, so that the result also follows us. There is no struggle there will be no progress.

Room novel is a novel which discussed about struggle written by Emma Donoghue. *Room* novel has been translated thirty-five languages. When it was published *Room* novelhas become an international best seller. It is also adapted into movie, directed by Lenny Abrahamson made in 2015. *Room* novel has sold over two million copies and it won many awards. They are New York Times bestseller (Fiction, 2010) Man Booker Prize (2010) Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize (2010) Indigo Books Heather's Pick (2010) New York Times Best Books of the Year (2010) New York Times Notable Book of the Year (Fiction & Poetry,

2010) Salon Book Award (Fiction, 2010) Governor General's Award shortlist (Fiction, 2010) Alex Award (2011) Publishers Weekly Listen Up Award (Audio Book of the Year, 2010) ALA Notable Book (2011) Hughes & Hughes Irish Novel of the Year, Irish Book Awards (2010) Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and the Caribbean, 2011) Indies Choice Book Award (Adult Fiction, 2011) Orange Prize, shortlist (2011) WH Smith Paperback of the Year, Galaxy National Book Awards (2011) International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award nomination (2012).

Room novel is told a boy his name is Jack who lived with her mom, Ma. They lived in a small room; there is a small kitchen, a wardrobe, a single bed, a bathtub and a TV. Every day Jack only saw all those things, and he is not sure that what he saw are real or not, he could not make a difference. Do not want to see her boy disappointed due to unknowing about anything about outside world, Ma always ask Jack to do exercise every single morning in that small room. She wants to keep her boy healthy and happy, either mental or physical. Jack never met other people before, the only people Jack has ever seen is Old Nick. Jack knew Old Nick because every night Old Nick always visits room while Jack was sleeping in the wardrobe. Old Nick always brings them food and their necessities. Jack do not know that Old Nick is person who kidnapped her mother Ma seven years ago when she was 19 years old. Old Nick rape Ma, and make her pregnant Jack.

One day a week after Jack's birthday, Ma is aware that Old Nick was got a sack from his office six months ago. Ma realized that Old Nick would kill them, so that Ma's was made a plan to get Jack out from Room. Ma convincing that Jack is ill. Unfortunately, Old Nick refuses to bring him to the hospital, so that Ma thinks again about her plan. Emma said to Old Nick that Jack has died. Then Old Nick removes Jack from Room. Finally Jack succeed reached stranger person, then that person called the police. Because Jack cannot speak fluently, then Jack gave police direction from Ma to go to the Room.

Jack and Ma are brought to the mental hospital. Old Nick found by the police, then he will likely lead to bring to the prison until 25 years. In the hospital, Ma meets with her family and try to learn interactions again, especially Jack that never seen people before. After that accident, public and media give them too much attention, so that Ma and Jack are harder to learn interaction. After come to Television Interview, Ma's mental become breakdown. Ma's try to suicide, she is depressed and trauma then she taken to the hospital. Jack is leaved home without her mother; he also confused to do some interaction. Finally Ma realized that she is still having Jack. He is her strange. After Ma come back to her parent's home, where Jack live. Ma and Jack make a plan; they want to live happy together. One day Jack asks to Ma that he wants visit Room. He wants to say goodbye to all those things for the final time.

Room novel got reaction from many people. Amimee Bender (2010) wrote that on the whole, Donoghue goes the distance with *Room* and she brings her story to a powerful close that feels exactly right. She said that *Room* novel is a truly memorable novel. It presents an utterly unique way to talk about love, all the while giving us a fresh, expansive eye on the world in which we live. (Bender, 2010)

Serge Brentov (2015) says *Room* novel is a fantastic book about a mother and her son Jack surviving in an 11x11 foot space. The whole of *Room* novel is written from the Jack's perspective, which truly adds a unique twist to the book. Serge wrote that he found that instead of hindering the book, Jack's perspective only helped to make it even more brilliant. (Brentov, 2015)

Conneion (2015) stated that it's hard to him to describe the dynamics of this book. The novel told from the perspective of the 5 year old child. *Conneion* says that he read that novel without distraction. He wrote that the story is pretty compelling. The descriptions of the most mundane of things are enlarged to a level of almost fantasy through the eyes of a child. (Conneion, 2015)

Beside got many positive responses from many people, *room* novel also got negative response from some people. Sarah (2017) says that she tried to love *Room* novel but she could not. It annoyed her that it was written from a child's perspective (Sarah, 2017). Miguelitoon (2017) wrote, *Room* novel came highly recommended, but he just could not get that in to it. He wrote that the author spent way too much time in the room. He finished reading the novel but he said that it was harder to pick it back up to get through (Miguelitoon, 2017).

Relating to the *Room* novel the author of the novel is Emma Donoghue. She was born in Dublin, Ireland on October 1969. She is the youngest of eight children of Frances and Denis Donoghue as the literary critic. Emma earned a first-class honors BA in English and French from University College Dublin in 1990. She moved to England and got her PhD from the University of Cambridge when she was 28 years old. Before settled in London and Ontario in 1998 with her husband Chris Roulston and her son Finn and Una her daughter, Emma was commuting between England, Ireland and Canada. (Donoghue, 2017)

Room novel is interesting to analyze due to several reasons. First is from the character and characterization. Ma's character is very strong. She describe as a strong, warm and smart mother. She could raise her boy alone in a worst condition. She hides her trauma and depression from her past, she is a good mother she try to understand her boy's desire also answer his entire question. Ma introduce to her boy about anything in a narrow room, she make a big world there so that boy could imagine his world. Everyday what she is to do is take a bath her boy, make a meal, play with him and tell him a story. Ma's world is her boy and also her boy's world is his mom, Ma. Ma has a high desire, she think about her children she does not want her children live in a narrow world, she know that her boy is a smart boy Ma wants to save him. Her strong character makes Ma make any plans to escape from the room. She helps Jack, her boy to exercise every day, practice to escape every day until the day she is waiting for is coming. Her characterization makes us inspired and motivated, how could she survive in the worst condition. She does it alone in a narrow world.

Second is from the setting, Emma succeed to make an extraordinary from a narrow room that is Jack and Ma's world. It also a place that full of heartwarming even though it is a prison for Ma. How they could a big world in a narrow world. They survive to not bore in there. Every day they make activity to make them forget that they are in a narrow world. In a narrow room Ma is cooking, washing, playing and sleeping. How small is their world. They cannot go outside, even only see the outside. They only see the sky by the roof which is very small roof. Even they live in a narrow room they could make a warm condition there, Ma's attention to her boy, their laugh and also his boy's imagination.

The third reason is *Room* novel take the perspective from the young children 5 years old. He could make empathy from the readers, how he tells about his story. He as the narrator of the story could tell detail about what happen in his live. Other reason is from the style of language. The style that Emma used is easy to understand. In this novel Emma include the matters of rape, mental disorder, trauma, and depressed. Due to the Emma's idea, many of readers are curious about the *room* novel.

The fourth reason is the researcher chooses this issue due to the author inspired by the real story it is the criminal in US. It is interesting how the Ma's struggle to save her children. We could know how big her love for her children. She does not want that her children do not know anything about the world. She has to choose, living in a narrow world or go in the big world. We can take the moral value from the story we can be a good mother. It makes an inspiration and motivation to us, a warm heart and smart mother make her boy and her save. She could raise her children alone in a narrow world. Based on the several reasons the writer is interested to analyze *Room* novel. The writer will construct the title of the paper: **Ma's Struggles Reflected in Emma Donoghue's *Room* (2010): A Feminist Approach.**

B. Problem Statement

The researcher proposes the problem of the study as:

1. How are the kinds of Ma's struggles reflected in Emma Donoghue's *Room* (2010)?
2. How the significant meaning of Ma's struggles?

C. Object of The Study

Based on the problem statement above the object of the study Ma's struggles reflected in Emma Donoghue's *Room* (2010): a feminist approach as follows:

1. To describe and reveal how the kinds of Ma's struggles in *Room* novel.
2. To reveal the significant meaning of Ma's struggles in *Room* novel

D. Limitation of The Study

The researcher will only focus on Ma's Struggles Reflected in Emma Donoghue's *Room* (2010): A Feminist Approach. The researcher focuses to describe and reveal the struggle of Ma. .

E. Benefits of the Study

1. Theoretical Benefits

This study is projected to give the information to the large body of knowledge. To enrich all literatures research and can be references to researcher who want to use *Room* novel.

2. Practical Benefits

The study is expected to give the positive knowledge to the writer and the other universities that are interested in literary studies especially student of Department of English Education in UMS. The research also gives

contribution about the process of analyzing of novel based on Feminist Approach.

F. Research Paper Organization

This research paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter one is Introduction which is include the background of the study, problem statement, limitation of the study, the objectives of the study, benefit of the study and research paper organization. Chapter two is literature review which is explains previous study and underlying theory (notion of feminist and struggle). Third chapter is research method. It consists of object of the research type of data and data source, method of data collection and technique of analyzing data. The fourth chapter is feminist analysis of Emma Donoghue's *Room* (2010) novel. The last chapter is conclusion, suggestion, and pedagogical implication.