CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Research

Literature works provide insight and context to all societies in the world. As one example of a literary work, there is no doubt that prose fiction is the most popular and widely consumed literary genre. Prose fiction is presented in the form of prose and is an imaginative art which means it is a product of the writer's imagination. In prose fiction, the writer tells a fictional story to their readers to educate or entertain or even do both. It will inspire, confuse, frighten, and concern us with new ideas. It can help us see ourselves and our world in new and interesting ways.

From time to time, fiction works well. The elements that make up a work of fiction have increasingly high artistic value so that the work of fiction can be enjoyed with different beauty. Fiction is built by elements that make it a real literary work. Elements in fiction are the most important things in fiction because every element represents a different explanation and interpretation of what is the meaning that the author wants to deliver to the readers. Every element in fiction also helps the writers to develop a story and increase the reader's enjoyment and understanding of different literary pieces.

According to (Kennedy and Gioia, 2010) there are 7 elements of fiction, plot, point of view, characters, setting, tone and style, theme, and symbol (p. 24).

Among the seven elements, the symbol is one of the most incredibly significant facets of fictional works that enable authors to compress much meaning into a short space. This makes the symbol something that must exist in a work of fiction. (DiYanni, 2000) state that symbols in fiction are simply objects, actions, or events that convey extends beyond their literal meaning (p. 75). sometimes, inanimate objects are the representations we encounter in fictional work, but other objects like persons, situations, locations, characters, sometimes even a part of a character's body or an attribute may convey symbolic meaning. They generally do not stand for one meaning, not for definite, because they point, they hint, and they cast long shadows. Symbol exists to represents something else and to offer a different meaning that is much deeper and more significant.

Symbolism allows writers to communicate big ideas efficiently and artfully. The author can convey something to their readers in a poetic way, instead of saying it plainly. To illustrate, where a male character is very happy to hug his woman because he feels happy, safe, and peaceful, the writer does not use flat sentences like "I'm happy when I hug you because I feel peaceful" but the writer can use symbols to express it into "I was like in the clear blue

sky when I hugged you". The phrase 'clear blue sky' symbolizes happiness and peace, it is appropriate to describe the feeling that is being felt by the male character. The expressions feel more beautiful and have a deeper meaning. Symbolism is often used in literature to paint colorful scenes. It affords the writer artistic expression that supersedes bland writing. Like the previous example, the reader will wonder why the author says 'clear blue sky' then the reader will use their imagination to interpret the meaning of 'clear blue sky' related to 'peace and happiness'.

Of course, the function of symbolism does not only for the author but also the reader that will interpret and help them to understand literary works. Symbolism in literature evokes curiosity in readers as they have an opportunity to gain insight into the mind of the writer on how he sees the world, and how he thinks about specific objects and behavior with wider implications. Maybe there are those readers who think symbolism can be overdone or run into the round but symbolism that handled well can be added touch that just might take the story stand out and be remembered years later.

Symbolism can be applied in poetry, prose, and plays, as well as in all genres of literature. A novella is a narrative prose fiction work that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel. Novellas are more often focused on the personal and emotional development of one character rather than on

problems of a large scale. An insight into a specific character, circumstance, or plot line may be provided by a novel. A story may deserve its attention but it doesn't fit into any of the other categories altogether. A novella is not a short story but a work of fiction in its own right, with its focus, pitch, and direction. Many novellas contain a concrete symbol which is the steady point, as it were, at the heart of the narrative. So, the writer determines to choose the novella as the object of this research.

The Little Prince is one of the fantasy novellas. This novella was first published in English and French in the USA in April 1943, written by French aristocrat, writer, and pilot Antoine de Saint-Exupéry. The story follows a little boy who traveled the universe gaining wisdom. He left his small planet to visit various planets in space, understanding adult behavior vagaries through a series of remarkable experiences. His odyssey began on a trip to Earth and other adventures. The novella has been translated into 361 languages and dialects and has sold some 200 million copies worldwide, making it one of the best-selling books in publishing history.

Besides its theme as a book for children, The Little Prince makes insightful observations about life and human nature. It also addresses themes of loneliness, friendship, love, and loss. Through the written style that is like a children's book, this novella looks ordinary but has a deep meaning. The Little

Prince teaches us that adults need to be told more than children of the homilies and the plain truths of what counts and what does not matter in life. The most fascinating feature of this book is the fact that the author's writing style uses symbols to deliver his message to adults. The author's style may sound childish but his way to convey symbols has significant meaning when people see it differently. That is why I decided to choose symbolism in The Little Prince's novella to be the object of analysis in this research.

Based on the consideration above and supported by Kennedy and Gioia's theory, the writer carries out research on The Analysis of Symbolism Found in Novella The Little Prince by Antoine De Saint – Exupèry.

B. Questions and Scope of the Research

1. Question of the Research

According to the background of the research, the writer formulated the statements of the problem as:

a. What symbols are used in novella The Little Prince?

b. How does each symbol represent and stand for their meaning in the story in novella The Little Prince.

2. Scope of the Research

The scope of this research will focus on Literature and limited the research with the meaning of the symbol in the story of novella The Little

Prince use Kennedy and Gioia's theory. The writer will not discuss all of the symbols in the novella but the writer will focus on identifying the actions, characters, objects, and places as a symbol in this novella.

C. Objective and Significance of the Research

    1. The objective of the Research

        Related to this problem of this research above, the objectives are:

        a. To identify symbols used in novella The Little Prince

        b. To analyze the meaning and the usage of each symbol used in novella The Little Prince

    2. Significance of the Research

        This research is expected to give significance theoretically and practically as follows:

        a. Theoretically

        Theoretically, the writer hopes that this research will give the readers information about the symbolism in novella The Little Prince. Besides, this research is helpful to give more knowledge about symbolism in literature like the definition of symbolism, how to understand the symbolism in the novella, why symbolism is an important thing in literary works. Therefore, readers can understand and interpret literary works well and deeply.

b. Practically

- For the lecturers

    This research will be a teaching source for the lectures to teach the literature aspect. It will be useful for the lectures in giving additional input and reference about symbolism as the tool of literary works.

- For the students

    This research is useful to enhancing the appreciation and expected to motivate them to generate new ideas that will be more creative and innovative to make good literary works and cleverly use symbols as important elements in a work of fictional work.

- For the readers

    This research will help the readers to understand and analyze the symbol and the meaning of each symbol that contained in novella The Little Prince by Antoine De Saint – Exupèry

- For other researchers

    This study will hopefully benefit other researchers who are interested in conducting symbolism research. They can use this study as a

reference because it provides useful information about the symbol. Hopefully, they will enrich their symbol knowledge before conducting this study.

D. Operational Definition

1. Literature

Literature is any written works. Literature also is an important thing in everyday life because it is an expression of the culture of the human being. Universally, literature is regarded as an art and refers to works of the creative imagination. Literature is writing that is not reporting of facts but in which things are created or made up, usually a kind of fiction.

2. Fiction

Fiction is a category of literature that is created from the imagination. Fiction as literary narrative works is defined as something that is not real. The term fiction refers to written works, such as novels, short stories, plays, and poems. In building good fiction, there are several elements as plot and structure, characters, setting, point of view, language and style, theme, irony, and symbol.

3. Symbol

One important thing in fiction is the symbol. A symbol is somethings than means more than what it is. It can be a name, objects, actions, characters, etc. The symbol suggests on the surface and serves to reinforce and add or carry the meaning of a story. Symbols convey the meaning that extends beyond their literal meaning.

4. Novella

Prose fiction consists of many sub-genres. Some of these are usually defined quite simply by length. The main categories are the novel and the short story. A novella is a narrative prose fiction work that is longer than a short story but shorter than a novel. The novella is a part of a novel, it is called a short novel because the novella consists of at least 17.500 words but under 50.000 words. Novella focused on just one or two characters and has room to reveal in greater fullness and depth.

E. Systematization of the Research

This paper is divided into 5 interrelated chapters and each chapter discusses different issues. The following explanations are:

1. Chapter I Introduction

There are 5 parts to this section. First, the background of the research, explains the background and reasons why this research was conducted. The question and scope of the research tell the extent to

which the research area will be explored in the work and specifies the parameters within the study will be operating. The objectives and significance describe concisely what the research is trying to achieve. The last, the part of the systematization of the research contains the structure of the research with its explanation.

2. **Chapter II Theoretical Description**

This section explains the logical exploration of a system of beliefs and assumptions. This also includes theorizing or defining how a cyber system and its environment behave and then exploring or playing out the implications of how it is defined.

3. **Chapter III Research Methodology**

Research methodology tells about the specific procedures or techniques used to identify, select, process, and analyze information about a topic. The methodology section also explains how was the data collected or generated and how was it analyze.

4. **Chapter IV Data Analysis**

This chapter involves a review of gathered information for research and interpretation of the data collected using logical and analytical reasoning to determine trends, patterns, and relationships. This is a significant section of the research.

5. **Chapter V Conclusion and Suggestion**

In this chapter, there are conclusions and suggestions following the finding of the research. The first section is the conclusions of the research finding and the second is the suggestion dealing with the objectives of the research.