CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Analysis

There have been various attempts to define what literature is. Literature can be considered as a written imagination of what human thinking, it reflects the result as the value of an art work. Taylor (1981:1) says that literature, like other arts, is essentially an imaginative act, that is, an act of the writer’s imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience.

The major forms of literature are novel, poem, drama and short story. In this thesis a novel is used as the material of the discussion, which the novel itself belongs to the literary work. Reeve (1785) says that novel is a picture of real life and manners, and of the time in which it is written. Based from the quotation above, a novel seems as the portrayal of human life and behaviour in reality. On the other words, the novel tends to be the representative of the activity of human real life, which concerns too many things and aspects such as: ambition, feeling, emotion, desire, obstacles in life, problem, etc.

Abrams (1981:20) says that character is the persons presented in dramatics of narrative work who are interpreted by reader as being endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say and what they do in action. Based from the statement above it can be concluded that character is the way of life on human being.
The Novel which deals in this thesis is written by Maria Joan Hyland entitle *Carry Me Down*. Maria Joan Hyland (born 6 June 1968) is a novelist. She made her debut in Australia in 2003 with *How the Light Gets In*. Her second novel *Carry Me Down* was shortlisted for the 2006 Man Booker Prize and won both the Encore Award and the Hawthornden Prize in 2007. Hyland currently lives in Manchester, England, where she is a Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Manchester.

The focus of this analysis is the conflict that faced by the main character in this novel. According to Robert and Jacobs (1995: 1694) says that the conflict is the opposition between two characters, between large group of people, or between protagonist and larger forces such as natural objects, ideas, modes of behavior, public opinion, and the like. Conflict may also be internal and psychological.

The conflict of the character is limited into two main types of conflicts: they are internal conflict and external conflict. The internal conflict is more commonly referred to as “Man vs. Self” and, deals with a character having to overcome something about his or her being that they are struggling with. Meanwhile, the external conflict is a struggle with a force outside one’s self, that is include conflict between man, man and nature, man and society, etc. Moskowitz (1969:309) says that conflict itself very close to frustrations stems for three sources: the inability to overcome obstacles in the psychical environment, the inability to overcome restrictions imposed by other people, and the inability to satisfy conflicting motives or to obtain incompatible goals.

Finally, the research of this thesis focuses on the main character conflicts that can be traced in the novel written by Maria Joan Hyland entitle *Carry Me*
**Down**, he is John Egan. That is included the internal and external conflict. This is the background as well as the reason why this thesis focus on the analyzing the conflicts of the main character in this thesis.

### 1.2. Scope of the Analysis

The analysis of this thesis is limited to internal and external conflict of the main character in the novel. An internal conflict suggests that a main character is in conflict within itself, meanwhile the external means that a main character is in conflict with other character, social, natural, and outside force. Therefore, the scope of the analysis is restricted to the main character conflicts internally and externally as portrayed in this novel.

### 1.3. Problem of the Analysis

Referring to the explanation of the background of the analysis above, problems that the writer would like to analyze is that how the main character’s internal and external conflict are portrayed in M.J. Hyland’s novel *Carry Me Down* and what are the conflict causes that occurred in this novel?

### 1.4. Objective of the Analysis

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The objective of this analysis is to identify the internal conflict of John Egan, which the internal that found within himself, and then to identify the external conflict of John Egan, which deals with the conflict to the others characters, social, nature and the outside force. The writer also wants to know which causes of conflicts occurred in this novel.

1.5. Significance of the Analysis

Theoretically, the significance of this analysis is to increase the literary understanding in terms of literary works and character through novel and to describe of conflict in novel Carry Me Down. Practically, it has significance for the readers to understand what conflict is.