CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Literature is the art of written text, it is considered as the reflection of human imagination. The writer build or imagined their story by using their life experience. This experience everyday life may emerge as ideas to create a story. In general, Literature is life experience uttered in words to become a beautiful writing. Taylor states “Literature is essentially an imaginative act; that is, an act of the writer’s imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experience, (Taylor, 1981: 1).” Literature can be classified into three categories, they are: 1. prose fiction; 2. Poetry; and 3. Drama.

The words prose derives from the latin ‘prosa’, which is literally translated to ‘straightforward’. Edgar V. Robert and Henry E. Jacobs (1995:2) classify prose into two, fiction and non-fiction prose. Prose fiction or narrative fiction includes myths, parables, romances, novels and short stories. Fiction prose is made based on author’s creation and imagination. Non-fiction prose describes facts and opinion.

Novel is the longest of all literary forms, and the more popular. Novel is a normally a prose work of quite some length and complexity, which attempts to reflect and express something of the quality or value of human experience or conduct (Taylor 1981: 46). Novel made by authors as an expression their idea about their life experiences. Novel represents human activities in daily live
through characters and setting. There are six elements of novel, they are: 1. Plot; 2. Character; 3. Setting; 4. Theme; 5. point of view; and 6. style. In analyzing this thesis the writer focuses on the character than the other five aspects.

Character is an important element in novel. Character is an imagined person who exist in a story, the author creates the characters from the aspects of the ordinary people that portray the personalities of human beings, and then develops these aspects and puts them together in a story as the author likes. The characters have important role in creating the conflicts in a story. The author tells the characters qualities from the description the story narrator gives and through the actions and deeds of the characters revealed in the story and through what other characters say or do to this character. Characters attitude usually described behavior and moral value, whether the characters have good value or bad value according to moral standard. Moral standard from some rules, which acceptable in society, is believed as a universal truth.

A moral (from Latin morális) is a message conveyed or a lesson to be learned from a story or event. According to Dewey (1953:1) says that: “The word ‘moral’ comes from latin, which means manners, custom or habit is concerned. This habit is concerned with right or wrong, good or evil, a good lesson in behavior, the right way of leading one’s life.” Moral is concerned with the judgment of the goodness and badness of human action and character, pertaining to the discernment of good and evil, designed to teach goodness of character and behavior, instructive to what is good and bad. Everyone cannot separate from the arrangement based on the principles of right in their custom and obey to life norm as a moral standard which acceptable in society.
Encyclopedia Britannic (1982: 253) writes, “Morality is a standard of human behaviour determined either subjectively and based on what is considered ethically right or wrong”. Morality has something to do with the action of human being as members of social groups. The sources of morality are custom or culture, religion and ideology. Morality consists not only of particular statements of conduct, but also in the general working rules by which we often justify and individual cases.

In judging moral, we have to pay attention to the action and motivation of a person. Encyclopedia Americana (1972: 610) states, “Moral judgment can be divided into two groups. They are theory of value and theory of obligation.” In theory of value, which deals with the nature of good, we find both particular and general answer to the question: “What things, persons, motives, state of affairs and character traits are good and bad”. Happiness, power, wealth, honor, an equal distribution of goods, knowledge, friendship and various traits of character are the nature of good. For example, some pleasures are good since one ought to act as so to bring about the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

In the theory of obligation which deals with conduct we find both particular and general answer to the question: “What actions are right and wrong?” or alternatively the question, “How ought a man to live?” A good motivation without a good action will produce a bad result. On the contrary, a good motivation which is accompanied with good action will produce good result.

Furthermore, the novel that the writer going to analyze is Mirror Image. In this thesis the writer would like to discuss about moral lesson depicted from this novel. As we know everybody has a moral, even it is good or bad. The writer
would likes to discuss some moral value from this novel such as kindness, honesty, selfishness, theft, fabrication, abortion, and infidelity that described through some characters of this novel. The moral value in this novel deals with the human problem in life. The writer wants to convey some moral lessons from this novel through the character.

1.2 Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the analysis above, the writer point out that problem of the analysis are:

1. How are the moral values such as kindness, selfishness, abortion, and infidelity described in Mirror Image through the characters?
2. What are relations of kindness, selfishness, abortion, and infidelity with moral?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In accordance with the problem above, the object of analysis in this thesis are:

1. To find out kindness, selfishness, abortion, and infidelity in Mirror Image.
2. To find out relations of kindness, selfishness, abortion, and infidelity with moral.

1.4 Scope of the Study
The scope of the analysis in this thesis is moral which is analyzed in the novel through character. The scope of the analysis is limited to the moral analysis of the major characters in mirror image, they are: 1. Avery Daniels, 2. Carole Rutledge, and 3. Nelson Rutledge which analyzed based on moral standard that can be accepted in universal society.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This thesis is expected to give significance for the writer and reader. Theoretically, the writer hopes to increase the literary understanding in terms of literary works and characters through the novel, and to enrich our knowledge about moral analysis and moral value. Practically, this thesis is expected to provide some valuable information, particularly to another researcher who would like to conduct a deeper research on moral analysis.

1.6 Review of Related Literature

In analyzing of moral value in Sandra Brown’s *Mirror Image*, the writer also reads several books which are related to the topic discussed to support the idea of analysis. The books use as sources to find and to get data or some information which are designed to assist the thesis. One of them that becomes the main review of the writer in analyzing moral in Sandra Brown’s Mirror Image is a thesis titled *An Analysis of Moral Lesson in Charles Dickens’ A CHRISTMAS CAROL* by Junastri Elfina R. Siahaan, 2010.
Siahaan wrote thesis about *An Analysis of Moral Lesson in Charles Dickens’ A CRISTMAS CAROL*. In her thesis she discusses about moral lesson from *Charles Dickens’ A CRISTMAS CAROL* and finds some moral lessons that can be learnt, such as greediness, miserly, selfishness, kindness and charity.

Siahaan describes in detail about general concepts of moral, and moral principal meanings, and also adds the general form of moral theory. All the definitions and moral principal given from Siahaan thesis are the sources data and become theory of the writer to complete this thesis.