

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of background of the study, the research question, the purpose of the study, the scope of the study and the significance of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

People have different ways in expressing their opinion related to an issue. A singer can express his opinion through his song lyrics; a diplomat can express his opinion through his public speech; even a writer can express his opinion through his works: novel, poem, play or comic. A writer's opinion can be a hidden message in his works, to find the meaning the reader should read critically. Some writers put their opinion by using satire expressions.

There are many medias that can contain satire, such as magazines, comics, broadcast media, literary works or movies. Hodgart (1969:10) says satire has its origins in a state of mind which is critical and aggressive, usually one of irritation at the latest examples of human absurdity, inefficiency or wickedness. According to Simpson (2003:112), "Satire is a genre of literature whose goal is not only to point out a social vice but to make it clear that this vice is intolerable". This means, satire can be used to mock and ridicule people or social class or government by showing their stupidity and foolishness. Satire is a way where the author uses some ridicules and humors that evoke laughter and make it against the

social condition. Hodgart (1969:108) mentioned that satire also uses some stylistic devices such as: parody, humor, irony, reduction and invective.

Since novel is one of the medias that can contain satire, the researcher takes *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel by a former Sweden journalist, Jonas Jonasson as the subject of this study. This novel used satire to criticize the social and politic condition in some countries which happened during the twentieth century through the main character. Jonas Jonasson created a Scandinavian 100 year old man named Allan Karlsson as the main character who jumped out from his nursing home on his 100 year birthday. Since that day, he began his unlikely journey involving criminals, a suitcase full of cash, and incompetent police officers.

Through his main character, the author criticized the social and politic issues in different countries including Sweden, China, United States, France, Russia, Indonesia, Iran and Spain. The author ridicules the contraceptives regulation in Sweden and Bolshevik's bad behavior in Russia through Allan Karlsson's father in chapter 4 of the novel. The novel's setting of time taken after World War I from 1905 till 2005. Jonas also mentioned some world leaders such as Soong May Ling, Mao Tse-Tung, Joseph Stalin, Kim Jong II, Roosevelt, Albert Einstein, President Harry S Truman, General Franco and de Gaulle which have a relationship with Allan, and unintentionally made Allan contribute in the twentieth century history in his early life such as helping to make the atomic

bomb, becoming friend with American presidents, Russian tyrants, and Chinese leaders.

In conducting this research, the writer is helped by some previous studies. Oduor (2014:2) in his thesis “Satire in Wamugunda Geteria’s novel Nice People” stated that the main object of his research was to examine the writer’s style and approach to his subject; to investigate the object of the writer’s satire in relation to his historical environment and identify his place and contribution to the contemporary tradition of satire in Kenyan literature. Oduor (2014:3) also stated that Geteria attacks pretense, hypocrisy, exploitation and other antisocial practices in the society in his novel. He also stated that satire is the use of humor to criticize folly or evil in the society. It uses sarcasm, irony and other stylistic devices to humorously reprove antisocial or evil traits that may manifest themselves in the society.

Nopika (2013:3) in her thesis “Satire Expression in Sinclair Lewis’s Babbit” stated that she was not only going to analyze the satirical messages but also to find out the way Lewis satirizes the political issue in America by using the techniques, target and function of satire theory by Matthew Hodgart and Paul Simpson. The reason why the writer (2013:2) takes a novel titled Babbit as the object of the study because she assumed Babbit is a satire novel which contains many satires toward the social condition in America after World War II. She stated that although satire usually means to be funny, its greater purpose is to criticize and correct the particular object by using wit as a weapon.

Another research titled “Satire on England Middle Class Society in William Makepeace Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair*” by Rosyadaa (2007:3) said that the reason why she took Thackeray’s *Vanity Fair* as the object of the study, because *Vanity Fair* is Thackeray’s masterpiece and it is considered as a classic of English literature and one of the great works of satire in all history. The novel she chose satirizes English middle class society in early 19th century.

In *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel, the author showed the imbalance of social and politic issues through the life of the main character, Allan Karlsson. In this research, the researcher will analyze the use of satire expression in the novel to criticize social issue in some nations.

The previous studies helped the researcher to conduct this research. The similarity among the previous studies and this study is the satire setting of place, they used country as the setting of place. “Wamugunda Geteria’s novel *Nice People*” used Kenya as the setting of place while “Sinclair Lewis’s *Babbit*” used America as the setting of place. *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel used several countries as setting of place such as Russia, Sweden, China, Indonesia, France, Spain and United States. In addition, *Babbit* is one of classic American literature written by American satirist, in the other side according to Oduor (2014:5) *Wamugunda Geteria’s novel Nice People* deals with HIV/AIDS issue related to Kenya on 1992, while *The 100 year old*

man who climbed out of the window and disappeared novel is twentieth century novel written by a former Swedish journalist, Jonas Jonasson.

Therefore, the researcher would like to analyze the use of satire techniques, targets and functions in *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel in expressing politic and social issues from Swedish's point of view. The reason why the researcher chooses this topic is because the use of satire needs critical reading to find out the real message which the novelist intends to share. Satire is also defined as the protest against a certain historical particulars. This research uses theory of satire by Matthew Hodgart and Paul Simpson since their theory would help the researcher to analyze and understand satire techniques, targets and functions used in the literary work.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background above, the researcher identified some research questions as follow:

- a. What is the dominant satire technique used in *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel?
- b. What are the targets of satire used in *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel?
- c. What are the functions of satire used in *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to find out kinds of satire techniques, targets and functions used in the twentieth century novel, *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* in expressing politic and social issues in worldwide from Swedish point of view.

1.4 Scope of the Study

This study focuses on analyzing the sentence in the narration and the dialogues of *The 100 year old man who climbed out of the window and disappeared* novel using Matthew Hodgart and Paul Simpson's theory of satire.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The main significance of this study is to give contribution in developing and analyzing literary studies using satire theory. This study is expected to help the students to conduct a research using five satire techniques theory by Matthew Hodgart and four satire targets and five satire functions theory by Paul Simpson, and also can be a reference for students especially English Language and Literature Department of State University of Jakarta students who want to take satire as their topic thesis. This research also expected to enrich students' knowledge toward satire expression and theory used in literature, so that students can be more aware to understand the implicit meaning behind the humor the author used.