

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

In arguing the importance of teaching literature for ESL students, Howard Sage (1987) in his seminal work “Incorporating Literature in ESL Instruction” claims that using literary works in teaching English is not only for linguistic development but also personal development since literature “can train people’s sensory, intellectual, affective, social, and perhaps religious faculties” (p. 4). Moral values which are included in literary works such as novels, poems, or drama, show the readers about the lessons which could be learned from those literary works both directly and indirectly. Usually moral values guide people to do the right thing and avoid the bad thing, so moral values are more like differentiating the good side and the bad side. Moral values drive people to the right side and make them do the right thing therefore by doing the right thing people could improve their morality in society.

To learn the importance of the moral value, literary studies have been regarded as one of the best ways to do. Literature as reflection of society cannot help incorporating moral teaching in the society. It has been common from classical Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristoteles to philosophers of modern era that the function of literature is “to teach morality and to probe philosophical questions” (Guerin et al, 2004, p. 77). In society these days, there are often many people who commit crimes and bad things which could lead to the moral degradation in the society. If this continues to happen, the society will pose them as a threat to morality because their act will bring danger and inconvenience to society. Those people who act without any moral value could not

behave well in society therefore those people would often do bad things and the worst possibility is that they might not know if what they do is absolutely wrong because they have lack of knowledge about morality. In this study the writer will analyze the moral conflict about war from a novel titled 'Lost Stars' although in the novel there are some morals about society but the writer decides to analyze the moral conflict about war because the theme of the novel is about war.

The novel under study is titled 'Lost Stars', from one of the famous movie series *Star Wars*, can be a medium to learn moral value. This novel is about Thane Kyrrell and Ciena Ree from planet Jelucan who dreamed of becoming the best pilots in the galaxy, therefore they decided to take the flight test conducted by the Empire and they both passed the test, which resulted in the two characters enrolled in the Imperial Academy. Their graduation from the Imperial Academy led them to get involved in the conflicts among the galaxy. In the novel, there was a part of the story when one of the fractions named the Galactic Empire, which was the fraction that the two main characters were in, decided to test a lethal weapon called the "Death Star". However, they wanted to conduct the "Death Star" firepower test on a habitable planet which was believed to be the base of their enemy the Rebel Alliance. The weapon testing succeeds as the planet was destroyed along with the inhabitants of the planet. From the part of the story, the Empire did not only destroy their enemy but also kill the civilians who inhabit the planet. This massacre or genocide showed that the Galactic Empire had a little care for the civilian's lives, the incident of the planet's destruction made some members of the Empire fraction shock since the recruits of the Galactic Empire also had a family in the planet which the Empire destroyed, they might get a mental breakdown because they were not ready to lose their family. The fact that most civilians on the planet supported the enemy of the fraction should not justify the genocide. Maybe it was a victory from

the Galactic Empire who just successfully destroys their enemy but most people across the galaxy did not see it as a victory but rather a tragedy in history. The similar thing happened in the World War II when U.S.A launched atomic bombs to two cities in Japan to reclaim victory but ignoring the consequences that there were a lot of victims among civilians.

It is quite challenging to know the moral about killing innocents in a war as represented in the novel under study. The moral values through the story of the novel can be taken from the action or decision made by the main characters and how the characters have to struggle with the other character who disagrees with the decision or the action of the character. Through the conflicts faced by the main characters of the novel, the readers may be able to see how the main characters struggle against their mind and how they make a decision on the moral conflict that they face.

## **1.2 Research Problem**

The study is about the analysis of the moral conflicts from a Star Wars novel “Lost Stars” to understand the moral conflict faced by the main characters. The research questions are formulated as follow:

- a. What are the moral conflicts faced by the main characters in pre-war of the “Lost Star”?
- b. What are the moral conflicts faced by the main characters during the war of the “Lost Star”?
- c. What are the moral conflicts faced by the main characters in post-war of the “Lost Star”?

### 1.3 Objectives

The objective of this study is to analyze of the moral conflicts from a Star Wars novel “Lost Stars”. It is expected that through the analysis of the moral conflicts, readers of the “Lost Stars” novel will have better understanding of the morality in war, especially when it deals with the killings of innocent civilians

### 1.4 Theoretical framework

This study relies on philosophical theories engaging the morality of war. The first theoretical paradigm is taken from Richard Sorabji’s (2006) book entitled The Ethics of War. The author argues that there are five criteria for engaging in war as the bases of “just war theory”:

1. There should be a just cause for the war.
2. Attempts at peaceful resolution should have been exhausted.
3. The war should be decided on by an appropriate authority, and it needs to be clear which that authority is.
4. War will not make the situation even worse than it is already.
5. There should be a reasonable prospect of achieving the aims of the war.

Just war theory is the bedrock of Western ethics and law regarding the resort to force. In an imperfect world, just war doctrine balances the ideal of peace with the reality that violence and bloodshed occurs. There is a law in war which is called *jus post bellum* and according to Eric Patterson which is translated by Michael.W.Brough (2006, p.41) “*Jus post bellum* means ending wars well and should be conceptualized as multidimensional, involving the goals of order, justice, and reconciliation”. The objective of just post bellum is clear, that is to end the war according to the law of justice, *Jus post bellum* also includes punishment, when appropriate. From the

conception of *jus post bellum* there are laws that needs to be obeyed during the war and they require punishment for those who violate it.

### **1.5 Scope and limitation of the study**

The study focuses on moral conflicts of war so that other types of conflicts are not discussed unless they are related with the war. The study also limits the discussion on the main character Thane Kyrell and Ciena Ree, so that other characters will be discussed only as long as they are closely connected with the moral conflicts faced by the main characters.

### **1.6 Significance of the study**

This study is to bring benefit to the people about how important is the moral value of the novel brings effects to the readers who reads the “Lost Stars” novel. It is also beneficial for the people also to know the moral value from “Lost Stars” novel and they could apply the good decision or action from the novel in the society

### **1.7 Definition of key terms**

#### **Novel**

According to Stanton (1965, 44) which is translated by Fitriani R (2017, p.1) “A novel is one of the genres of literary work which presents in a detail the enlargement of characters, or complicate social circumstances, or a relation between many personalities.”

## **Moral values**

According to Veugelers (2008, p.1) which is taken from Fajar S (2017, p.2) “moral values are values that express ideas about the good life.”. Basically, moral values could be found in literature such as novel, short story, etc. It usually contains the value of morality from the story that could become lesson for us to be a person with better moral in society. Besides literatures there are moral values which could be found in real life. One of the examples could be taken from Catholic religion, in this religion there are some speeches in church and reading from the holy bible that teach us not to do violence to other people, instead they have to respond it with love. That is considered as moral value because it contains the ideas of something good in moral and society and it could be a lesson for the people not to do violence to other people.

## **Moral conflicts**

Moral conflicts are situations in which someone is pulled in contrary directions by rival moral reasons (Nina, S, 2019, p.1). In practice, morality is not black and white, so there are grey areas in which the truth becomes relative. Taking of a life support for people in terminal illness, for example, can create a moral conflict between an idea of defending life and the long-term effect of suffering for the patients and their family. Such a situation happens a lot especially during a war in which killing can be justified.

## **1.8 Organization of thesis**

The first chapter of the writer’s thesis consists of background of the study, research question, the objective of the study, theoretical framework, scope and limitation of the study, significance of the study, and definition of key terms.

The second chapter of the writer’s thesis consists of the moral approach in literary study, moral conflict and war which is divided into 3 sub chapter there are

pre, during and post war moral conflict, The novel and its writer, and the previous studies.

The third chapter of the writer's thesis consists of research design, data source, instruments, data collection technique, and data analysis technique.

The fourth chapter of the writer's thesis consists of the data analysis of the main characters which is divided into the pre, during, and post war moral conflicts

The fifth chapter of the writer's thesis consists of the conclusion and the suggestion.