



CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Student of teacher training department will deal with literary work. Literature is an element of culture and culture is something close to our life. The writer is interested in literary work for it contains the record of peoples, values, their thought, problems and conflicts (Little, 1966: 1). The main purpose of analyzing literary work is to enable the reader to comprehend and evaluate the characters, the conflicts and the themes. This will help the reader to get the meaning well. A literary work represents someone's idea about something whether it is figurative or imagery, and to explore this idea is, such an interesting action for the writer since to know and understand the idea concern with the direct involvement to the whole story and its aspects.

Literary works often give pleasures to the reader. More than just this, they also offer values, lessons. It is also true that literature offers a unique delight or satisfaction (Barnet, Berman and Burto, 1961: 8). William considers values in literature as Aesthetic values and he states :

They (aesthetic values) arise out of judgements relating to a piece of writing as a work of meanings, associated with their sounds in isolation and in relation to each other, and which they have acquired. (Williams, T.G., 1951: 8)

One of the famous authors in literature is Anton Chekov. He wrote short stories, novels, and plays. The writer intentionally chose Chekov for it is said that Chekov, in his dramatic works, has achieved an equal mastery over the internal as well as external truth...With the art of a true master he knows how to destroy both the inner and outer falsity of the stage presentation by giving us beautiful, artistic, genuine truth... (*Chekov, 1954: 1*). He looks for it in the most intimate moods, in the most secret corners of the human heart. This truth moves us by its unexpectedness, by its mysterious links with our forgotten past, by its inexplicable foreknowledge of the future, by that peculiar logic of living experience which baffles common sense, which seems to mock or even play malicious tricks on human beings, at times perplexing them utterly and at times making them laugh (*Chekov, 1954: 8*). So by this means that Chekov's works are full of comedy and also satire, and this is an interesting thing from his works. The writer thinks that it is a good thing to be discussed.

The writer chooses Chekov's play Uncle Vanya, because he is interested in the meaning of "Self-dissatisfaction". Next he studies this play because it contains jests and satires. There are comments about Chekov:

"His Characters are often charming in their indolence, and sympathetic in their suffering or their bewildered search for meaning and purpose in their lives; and yet, while he is too objective to assume the role of the moralist, there is evidence that Chekov wanted to do more than merely offer us a compassionate, half-humorous, half-

pathetic view of life. He wrote to a correspondent, "All I wanted was to say honestly to people: "Have a look at yourselves and see how bad and dreary your lives are".

(Chekov, 1954: 8)

In discussing this theme, the writer will still take the point of view by analyzing each character, the conflict and the plot of this play. So it leads the writer to determine a theme to be discussed.

As a student who studies literatures, the writer chooses this Chekov's play, for Chekov has already been known of his works. Most of his works are said humorous, however there is still a message offered to readers. And to get a message that is delivered in a humorous works can be interesting, even it is not something easy to do. This work may be an example for students who take literature class in analyzing a play, for a play is also an interesting literary work that also contains the aspects of literature.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Through this study the writer intends to analyze the meaning of self-dissatisfaction on Anton Chekov's play Uncle Vanya of some characters of the play by trying to answer and discuss these question:

1. What kinds are the characters' self-dissatisfactions?
2. Why do these self-dissatisfactions appear?
3. What are the characters' reactions to these dissatisfactions?

1.3 Objective of the Study

This study will analyze the meaning of the *self-dissatisfaction* on Chekov's play on "Uncle Vanya" in order to describe:

- ♦ What kinds the characters' self-dissatisfaction are.
- ♦ Why these self-dissatisfactions appear.
- ♦ What the characters reactions to these dissatisfactions are.

1.4 The Significance of the Study

This study is expected to give some contribution to the students taking literature class in English Department of Widya Mandala in comprehending such a literary work.

1.5 Limitation of the study

The subject of the study is four characters of the work of Anton Chekov's Uncle Vanya. The writer is interested in the focus of *self-dissatisfaction*. It is not really a great play but it is famous enough, has satires and is full of comedy. Although this work seems as a comedy, but some of the characters show a complex situation that creates a complex atmosphere.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid misinterpretation of this study, the writer will list some terms that are used in the discussion. Terms which have the common meaning to be meant, are not listed in this section. The terms are:

a. Play

A generic term applied to any work written to be acted and covering such more limiting terms as comedy, drama, farce, and tragedy (*Hartnoll, 1972: 420*).

b. Farce

A comedy that depends for its humor on laughable or exaggerated situations. It includes clowning, playing practical jokes and creating improbable situations by deliberately altering the dialogue. (*Hartnoll, 1972: 170*)

c. Character

It is an imaginary creation who possesses only these qualities, capacities thought and responses that a creator has granted. (*Kenzie, 1978: 25-31*)

d. Theme

It is the fundamental idea of the author which is seeking to convey to the reader's mind . (*Little, 1963: 8*)

e. Self-dissatisfaction

Since there is no precise definition, the writer combines the discussion about self and dissatisfaction. Dissatisfaction is an unhappy condition by some reasons. (Meriam, 1986: 656) While 'self' is an awareness of someone's being and functioning. (*Harriman, 1980: 176, 177*) . So, it can be said that self-dissatisfaction is an unhappy condition concerning with disbeing and disfunctioning some aspects of one's personality.

The other terms that are used in this study will have the common meanings to be interpreted. This play more or less looks like a farce but it has also a satirical atmosphere.

1.7 Theoretical Framework

In this thesis, the writer uses the psychological theory as a framework dealing with the focus 'self-dissatisfaction'. Specifically, theory of emotion. It is said that if there is stimulus, there will be reactional emotion. The physical activities should be realized as the other important aspects. This theory is related to the self-concept, that is the image one has of oneself. In this case, the image is viewed from the negative side.

As the last consideration, it is assumed that the characters are at least normal persons that can be applied with the psychological theory.

1.8 Organization of the Thesis

This thesis consists of five chapters. Chapter I deals with the background of the study, statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significant of the study; the limitation of the study; definition of key terms, theoretical framework and organization of the thesis.

Chapter II is a review of the related literature. Chapter III deals with the research methodology. While Chapter IV is such an analysis and findings of the story (in the play). Chapter V is the discussion of the conclusion.