CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

The title of this paper is "Main Character's Byronic Hero in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel (2015)". The contain of this chapter are background of the study, limitation of the study, statement of the problem, the objective of the study, the significance of the study, and definition of key terms.

A.   Background of the Study

Byronic hero is a character of hero that is popularized by Lord Byron in the 19th century through his romantic poets. The byronic hero is a type of character an anti-hero, an anti-villain, or just a villain popularized by Lord Byron (Thorslev, 2010). Most literary scholars and historians consider the first literary Byronic hero to be Byron's Childe Harold, the protagonist of Byron's epic poem Childe Harold's Pilgrimage. The characteristics of byronic hero based on his poet are the same as romantic hero where they are psychologically injured and like to against the social norms. Even if they do good things, the goodness is often invisible because of their dark sides are dominant. However, this is precisely what makes women love them.

For the women themselves they are attracted to byronic hero not only from the characteristics. Usually the byronic hero tend to be handsome, although on the other hand he is the type of person who is dangerous to be loved because of their extreme emotions and sometimes tend to be bipolar sufferer. The term Byronic in Byronic Hero itself is an adaptation of the name of the creator, Lord Byron. He is known as the author of the Romantic era with challenging works. He often despicts stories about 'wild' natural beauty such as storms, mountains, and oceans. In term of satire, many of his works contain social criticism triggered by various weaknesses in the human nature. Lord Byron describes the concepts of Byronic as a melancholy, observant, challenging person, but haunted by regret for the dark secrets he had ever done in his life (Bloom, 2009)

While the byronic hero characters in this *Frankenstein* novel (2015) is portrayed by the main character Victor Frankenstein who is

loner, ambitious, intelligent, likes to do experiments, likes to break the rules, even he tries to do things outside of common sense like revive people who have died and create living things.

The researcher choose this novel because the novel raised the theme of an uncommon hero which is unusual like most heroes in general who are described as benevolent figures and helpers. Whereas, in this novel the hero characters are portrayed as the opposite figure to the hero characters referred to as byronic hero. Besides, in this novel the main character and figure he created as if they had the same characters as if in this novel there were two main characters. Therefore, the researcher thinks this novel is very challenging and interesting to be analyzed.

In this research, the researcher focused on the general presentation of Victor Frankenstein and the traits of byronic hero that portrayed in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel (2015) based on the characteristics of byronic hero in Lord Byron's poets.

B. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of the study is describing Victor Frankenstein characteristics in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein novel. The limitation of the study is the traits of byronic hero did Mary Shelley portrayed through Victor Frankenstein character in her *Frankenstein* novel (2015).

C. Statement of the Problem

Based on background of the study, the writer wants to describe general presentation of Victor Frankenstein in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and the types of byronic hero did Mary Shelley portrayed in her *Frankenstein* and when it is changed into questions it will be as follows:

1. How is general presentation of Victor Frankenstein in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* novel (2015)?
2. What traits of Byronic Hero did Mary Shelley portrayed to main character in her *Frankenstein* novel (2015)?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the research, it has two objectives of the study. The objectives of the research are :

1. To describe the presentation of main character Victor Frankenstein through (Thorslev, 2010) the byronic hero: types and prototypes.
2. To describe the traits of Byronic Hero in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* novel (2015) through (Thorslev, 2010) the byronic hero: types and prototypes.

E.   The Significance of the Study

Based on the problem and the purpose of this research, it can be known the general presentation of Victor Frankenstein and the traits of byronic hero and how it is appear in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* novel (2015). And the researcher hopes that this research can be beneficial for many people who want to know about the general presentation of Victor Frankenstein and the types of byronic hero in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel (2015). To make it clear, significances that can be proposed as follow:

1.   For the researchers
     The researchers can explore more about the recent theories related to byronic hero and find more results about general presentation of Victor Frankenstein and the traits of byronic hero in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel (2015).
2.   For the readers
     This research can be used as a reference to understand general presentation of Victor Frankenstein and the traits of byronic hero in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, for the other researchers who want to explore more about the same topic in the different object.
3.   For the students
     This research can influence students psychology so that students are able to develop their curiosity and more enthusiasm to pursue their dreams inspired by the good side of Victor Frankenstein in Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel, also able to improve students' critical thinking skills towards the main character himself by analyzing the heroism that he has. This novel can be used as learning material for students so students can think more critically and not just analyze the moral values such as narrative story analysis in general.
3.   For the teachers

This research can help teachers to add reference of materials teaching through novel media with hero characters that are uncommon in the society, also able to help teachers to improve students' critical thinking skills through Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* Novel (2015).

F.   Definition of the Key Terms

To make it easier in reading this research, therefore it is very important to see this part because it can guide and lead anything important to understand in the intended context. The key terms are described below :

1.   **Byronic Hero**
Byronic hero is described as a variant of the romantic hero which the characteristics are psychologically injured and like to against the social norms based on the theory of (Zhao, 2015).

2.   **Anti-hero**
According to (Steiner, 2013) said that an anti-hero character is different from byronic hero because he has no romantic and wounded traits in the past, he described an anti-hero as a main character in a story who lacks the typical heroic qualities, eventually the anti-hero became an established form of social criticism which reflects an anonymous protagonists.

3.   **Anti-villain**
Anti-villain is the opposite of a villain as in an analysis of Michel Martin del Campo (2017) *An Analysis of the Villain Archetype Since the Nineteenth Century* that the villain has traditionally been the antagonist in many works. So, the opposite of the characteristics are the traits of anti-villain.

4.   **Romantic Era**
Based on Stephanie Forward article (2014) Romantic era or romanticism was an intellectual and artistic movement that originated in the second half of the 18th century, it covers a range of developments in art, literature, music and philosophy.