

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

I decide to analyse drama for my thesis because I find drama easier to understand than the other literary genres. I am more familiar with drama than with the other literary genres because I am a member of and act in a theatre group in Bandung. I think drama could give lessons to people about life, which includes its problems and solutions.

From so many great dramatists in the literary world, I decide to analyse one drama from a Russian dramatist, Anton P. Chekhov. I am interested in analysing Chekhov's drama for several reasons. Chekhov is one of the greatest dramatists in the world. His works are famous not only in Russia but also in other countries. He is known as one of the greatest realistic playwrights. He has even become an honorable figure in the literary world. 'In January 17th (or January 29th in the rest of Europe) 1904, is known as Anton Pavlovich's name-day. On that day the literary and theatrical world honored Chekhov.' (Katzner, 1960) Chekhov is famous for his social realism. He touches the audience, who watch his plays with general problems or social problems, but he does not make the audience or the

readers feel bored. The audience and the readers of his script, including his players, can find that his dramas tell them about social problem so everyone who reads and acts his drama can understand what he wants to say the audience.

There are so many plays which are written by Chekhov, and I decide to analyse one of his dramas entitled Ivanov. The reason is that I think Chekhov as a playwright writes the drama which is close to life. As it is stated in Michael Pennington and Stephen Unwin's A Pocket Guide to Ibsen Chekhov Strinberg, '*Ivanov* show some of the economy and deatail of Chekhov's later writing, and the characters are often idiosyncratic. Comically subtle and morally ambiguous.'

(Pennington and Unwin, 2004: 142)

I would like to apply intrinsic approach in analysing the drama. The element that I am going to analyse is theme through conflicts. As it is stated in Laurence Perrine's Story and Structure, 'Theme is its controlling idea or its central insight. It is generalization about life stated or implied by the story.'(Perrine, 1974) I also believe that the the theme is the root of the work. While about conflicts, he states,

Conflict is a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills. There are three parts of conflicts. The first is social conflict. Sosial conflict happens when the main character may be pitted against some other person or groups of persons. The second is inner conflict. Inner conflict happens when the main caracter may be in conflict with some element in his own nature. And the third is when the main character may be in conflict whit some external force- physical nature, mental, emotional, or moral.

(Perrine, 1974)

The conflict in this play are the most prominent aspect that helps me reveal the theme. I will analyse the conflicts, which are faced by the protagonist.

I find in Ivanov, the protagonist faces the conflicts, which are caused by

himself and his social life. From all the conflicts, I will find the theme of Ivanov. Hopefully, people can learn what they must do if they face the same problem with the protagonist of this drama. I hope that when people read or watch this play, the readers and audience can draw the values of this play.

Statement of the Problem

Based on the discussion above, I state that the problems of this thesis are:

1. What is the theme of Chekhov's Ivanov?
2. How do the conflicts help reveal the theme?

Purpose of the Study

Viewing the facts mentioned in the statement of the problem, I decide my purpose of study as follows:

1. To show the theme of Chekhov's Ivanov.
2. To show how the conflicts help to reveal the theme.

Method of Research

In this thesis I use intrinsic approach. First I read the literary work and then apply intrinsic approach to analyse the work. In addition, I also read other books about the writer and his works.

Organization of the Thesis

I organize my thesis in the following procedure: in Chapter One I present the Introduction, which expresses my reason for choosing the topic. This chapter

consists of The Background of the Study. The Method of Research and The Organization of the Thesis. In Chapter Two, I present my Analysis of Theme through Conflicts in Chekhov's Ivanov. In chapter Three, I give my conclusion of my analysis. this chapter is followed by Bibliography and Appendices, which includes Synopsis of the Play and Biography of the Author.