

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

I choose a novel to analyze in my thesis because it is interesting to read. It presents the story so clearly that it gives the readers important moral messages. According to Murphy (1972: 127), ‘novel is the most widely practiced and most widely read form of literature in the world today’. In a novel, I can see a more detailed description of the flow of events, characters and setting than in any other literary works. This is why I am interested in analyzing novel.

I choose Leo Tolstoy, a Russian writer in 19th century. I am interested in Tolstoy because he is well known as a religious, ethical thinker and he also supports the moral ideas towards the social conditions in Russia at his time. Leo Tolstoy usually writes a story about social condition especially humanity in his works. I am also interested in Tolstoy because of his ability to create a meaningful story and interesting characters in his novel.

From many of Tolstoy’s major works I decide to choose Resurrection, because in my opinion this novel presents moral values and also shows the

people's life in 19th century Russia. Moreover, I see that this novel shows the characters and events realistically and the characters in this novel can be seen clearly through their minds and ideas so that I can get a clear view about the characteristics of the characters.

I decide to analyze the portrayal of the protagonist in my thesis. The protagonist in this novel is Dmitry Nekhlyudov, a nobleman who feels guilty and tries to redeem his mistakes by doing good things. The protagonist can be defined as 'the main character in play, film/movie or book' (Hornby, 2005:1213). Through this portrayal of the protagonist, I want to show the image of someone who experiences changes from bad to good.

Statement of the Problem

1. How is the protagonist portrayed in Resurrection?
2. What are the author's purposes in portraying the protagonist?

Purpose of the Study

1. To show how the protagonist is portrayed in Resurrection.
2. To show the author's purposes in portraying the protagonist.

Method of Research

In writing this thesis I use the method of library research. Firstly, I begin to find some information about any literary books to be analyzed in my thesis and then I choose Resurrection by Leo Tolstoy as my primary text. I read the novel and several other books from the library as well. I am also browsing for relevant

information from the internet web sites. Finally, I analyze the portrayal of the protagonist and conclude my analysis.

Organization of the Thesis

I begin my thesis with Preface, Table of Contents and followed by Abstract. In organizing this thesis, I divide the thesis into three chapters, starting with Chapter One, in which I present the Introduction, consisting of Background of the Study, Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, and Method of Research. In Chapter Two, I present analysis of the Portrayal of the Protagonist in Resurrection by Leo Tolstoy. In Chapter Three, I put Conclusion of my analysis and this thesis ends with Bibliography which contains the list of the books and from internet sites, and Appendices containing a Synopsis of the novel and Biography of the Author.