CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Love is one of the most elemental human emotions. It is said that even wicked people have love. Nobody can describe the true meaning of love precisely although love is universal. People experience love differently so that it is believed that there is not a single definition of love that is accepted by everyone. Love may have a positive effect when it changes someone's characteristics from bad to good and makes life more meaningful. Love may boost someone's confidence and make the world seem beautiful. However, love can also have a negative impact. It may make someone become selfish, possessive, and anxious to get what they want. The most extreme opinion about love is that love is something to feel and not to define. Whatever the definition is, some people believe that the power of love is the strongest among all powers. It can make someone willing to do anything for the one he/she loves. Love can also make people do anything to reach what they want. Even a person with excessive ambitions for studying may

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feel compelled to pursue love when he/she is in love.

I have chosen the novel <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u> because the story is interesting to read. This novel mostly tells about love and sacrifice. Mr. Lewisham is a man who has a great ambition in his life but when he falls in love, he gradually sacrifices his ambition to be a lecturer. After reading this novel, whose theme is closely connected with love, I want to analyse the theme more deeply using formalism approach.

The author of this novel is H.G. Wells, a novelist who mostly writes science fiction. However, <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u> is not a science fiction; it is mainly concerned with love. Through this novel, he wants to tell the reader about his life when he meets his first wife. <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u> is an autobiographical novel. 'It was his first serious novel of social manners, which he took much time over. For it is essentially a memorial to his meeting his cousin Isabel Wells, to be his first wife'. (Lung, n.d)

In my thesis, I would like to discuss the theme of the novel because through theme I can understand the meaning of the story better. In <u>How to Analyze Fiction</u>, William Kenney states: 'Theme is the total meaning discovered by the writer in the process of writing and by the reader in the process of reading' (94). The theme of the novel is revealed clearly through the portrayal of the protagonist, Mr. Lewisham, an ambitious teacher who is no longer very ambitious for studying after he has fallen in love with Ethel Henderson, a typist.

Statement of the Problem

The problems which I would like to analyse are:

1. What is the theme of <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u>?

2. How does the portrayal of the protagonist help to reveal the theme?

Purpose of the Study

The purposes of the study are:

1. To show the theme of <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u>.

2. To show how the portrayal of the protagonist helps to reveal the theme.

Method of Research

The method of research is library research. First of all, I begin my analysis by reading the primary text, <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u>, by H. G. Wells. I then continue by reading several books that can be used to support the analysis. I search for some references and material from the Internet to support the analysis. Finally, I gather and use the data for my analysis before I draw the conclusion.

Organization of the Thesis

I present this thesis in three chapters. Chapter One is the Introduction, which contains the Background of the Study, the Purpose of the Study, the Method of Research and the Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two deals with the analysis of theme through the protagonist of the novel. The Conclusion of the thesis is presented in Chapter Three. This thesis ends with the Bibliography,

which provides the reader with a list of references that have been used in the writing and the Appendices, which contain the synopsis of <u>Love and Mr. Lewisham</u> and a brief biography of the author.