

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Having ethics is a must for every job, because every job can involve big risks that can have impacts on the society. Teachers must have ethics, because if they do not have ethics in teaching, they will teach only for getting money, they will not think about their students. Their students understand or do not understand about what they have taught, they will not care about that. Politicians must also have ethics in doing their job. Without ethics, they will just only enrich themselves by taking public's money without caring about people's condition which they must improve. In Dracula and Frankenstein, protagonists are a scientist, and having ethics is a must for scientists. Good scientists must have ethics in doing their jobs. As a scientist, they must do anything that can improve their society. When scientists' activity has a negative impact on the society, they must stop it immediately, so that there will be no victims. A scientist must also be responsible for what they have done as part of their job as a scientist.

Ethics is a system of moral principles. So, an ethical scientist will do his/her job in accordance with moral principles. For example, when a scientist

develops biological weapons for military purposes and he/she does not provide the medical cure for the victims, he/she will be considered an amoral scientist, because his/her invention may kill or harm a lot of people, including innocent civilians.

Both in Bram Stoker's Dracula and in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein, the protagonists are scientists. But, the characteristics of the scientists in Dracula and Frankenstein are very different from each other and their characteristics influence the result of their jobs. In Dracula, the protagonist has ethics in his job and he is very responsible in whatever he does, but in Frankenstein, the protagonist does not have ethics in his job and he does not take responsibility for his dangerous invention.

Bram Stoker is “an author of the popular horror tale Dracula” (Bram Stoker Biography). Until now, Bram Stoker is still very famous for his novel, Dracula. Bram Stoker is “chiefly remembered today as the author of this best-selling novel” (Merriman). It is said that when “published in 1897, Bram Stoker’s Dracula soon became known as a work of pure genius” (Lizabet). Dracula is very legendary, because “even today, it is much read across the world, and regarded as the all-time classical horror story” (Lizabet). Dracula has been “translated to dozens of languages, inspired numerous other authors’ works, and adapted to the stage and film” (Merriman). It is also still “widely read and [it] remains in print today” (Merriman).

Mary Shelley is an “English romantic novelist, biographer and editor, best known as the writer of Frankenstein” (Liukkonen). Until now, Mary Shelley is still famous for her novel, Frankenstein. She is known today as “a member of the

Romantic circle, as the daughter of Mary Wollstonecraft, and as the author of the Frankenstein novel, or the Modern Prometheus, published in 1818” (Lewis). Frankenstein “enjoyed immediate popularity upon its publication, and has inspired many imitations and versions, including many film versions in the 20th century” (Lewis). It “has inspired over 50 films” (Liukkonen).

In my major thesis, I am going to analyze the theme through the portrayal of the protagonist. I would like to analyze the theme, because “the theme of a piece of fiction is its controlling idea or its central insight” (Perrine 102). The theme covers the whole story and theme is “the central and unifying concept of the story” (Perrine 108). In this major thesis, I would like to show the themes of Bram Stoker’s Dracula and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein through the portrayal of both protagonists who have different characteristics from each other.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

1. What are the themes of the novels?
2. How does the portrayal of the protagonists help to reveal the theme?

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

1. To show the theme of each novel.
2. To show how the portrayal of the protagonists helps to reveal the theme of each novel.

METHOD OF RESEARCH

I use library research in writing my thesis. First, I read Dracula and Frankenstein as the primary texts. Second, I also read as well as compile some data from the Internet and other books so as to support my analysis of theme

through the portrayal of the protagonists of both novels. Finally, I make some conclusions from my analyses.

ORGANIZATION OF THE THESIS

This thesis consists of four chapters preceded by the Abstract and the Table of Contents. The first chapter is the Introduction, which consists of the Background of the Study, the Statement of the Problems, the Purpose of the Study, the Method of Research, and the Organization of the Thesis. The second chapter is the Analysis of Theme Through the Portrayal of the Protagonist in Bram Stoker's Dracula. The third chapter is the Analysis of Theme Through the Portrayal of the Protagonist in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein. The fourth chapter is the Conclusion. Finally, the thesis ends with the Bibliography and the Appendices, which contain the synopses of the novels and the biographies of the authors.