CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

The story of Bram Stoker’s Dracula and Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein is about smart scientists who try to overcome some problems, but have different ways in overcoming those problems. The scientist in Dracula has problems with Count Dracula, who is an undead from Transylvania, and the scientist in Frankenstein has problems with his own creature who becomes a monster.

The theme of Bram Stoker’s Dracula is: “A scientist with ethics will bring salvation to the society”. It can be seen from the portrayal of the protagonist in the novel. The protagonist, Dr. Abraham Van Helsing, is a scientist with ethics. He has some characteristics which show that he is an ethical scientist. Those characteristics are brave, helpful, hardworking, caring, and responsible. Those characteristics enable him to successfully overcome problems that endanger society successfully, because they influence Dr. Van Helsing to do his work ethically. By combining those characteristics with his cleverness, Dr. Van Helsing can do his work responsibly. He does his duty to look after Lucy Westenra, his patient, kindly and lovingly. More than that, he also tries to find the source of society’s problems and solve them completely, although the problems are
complicated and dangerous. In the end, he can defeat Count Dracula, who is the source of the problems. It means that he can save society from Count Dracula’s attacks. In conclusion, because Dr. Van Helsing has ethics in doing his job as a scientist, he brings salvation to his society.

The theme of Mary Shelley’s Frankenstein is: “A scientist without ethics will destroy society”. It can be seen also from the portrayal of the protagonist in the novel. The protagonist is Dr. Victor Frankenstein. He is portrayed as a scientist without ethics. He has characteristics that show he is an unethical scientist. Those characteristics are irresponsible, cowardly, inconsistent, and selfish. Those are unethical characteristics for a scientist and they cause Dr. Frankenstein to endanger society. It happens because those characteristics also make the problem worse. Dr. Frankenstein does not stop the problem, he makes it worse and it destroys society. He creates a creature, but he leaves him and this makes the creature angry. As a result, the creature kills some people who have a relationship with Dr. Frankenstein. I conclude that because Dr. Frankenstein does not have ethics in doing his job as a scientist, he destroys his society.

The similarity between Dr. Abraham Van Helsing and Dr. Victor Frankenstein is that both of them are brilliant scientists. Dr. Van Helsing is a well known scientist in Holland; that is why his friend, Dr. John Seward, asks him to cure Lucy Westenra’s illness. He is good at inventing medicines. Dr. Victor Frankenstein is a smart and famous scientist in Europe, especially in Switzerland. He has studied at a good university in Europe and he can create a very powerful creature. Besides, both of them must face some problems that might endanger
their societies. They must use their intelligence to overcome the problems. Both of them show that intelligence has the potential to save or destroy the society.

The difference between Dr. Abraham Van Helsing and Dr. Victor Frankenstein is their different ways in dealing with their problems. Dr. Van Helsing faces his problems ethically. His characteristics show he is an ethical scientist and those characteristics enable him to overcome problems successfully. On the contrary, Dr. Frankenstein does not face his problems ethically. When problems come, he becomes an unethical scientist. It causes him to make the problems worse and unsolved.

In Dracula, the author portrays Dr. Abraham Van Helsing as a good scientist. He gives Dr. Abraham Van Helsing good characteristics which show that he is an ethical scientist. Those characteristics enable him to bring salvation to the society. The author wants to show that ethics is very important for a scientist to bring salvation to the society. In real life, the character of Dr. Van Helsing reminds me of Marie Curie, a female scientist from Poland who discovered radium and polonium which are very important in medicine. She always worked hard to develop her discovery until she died because of leukemia, which was caused by the radiation from radium. In addition, she did not want to own the patent for radium and polonium, which could give her a lot of money, because she believed that as a scientist, the most important thing is not money, but society’s well-being. Today, radium and polonium is used for X-ray and medical treatment, especially in curing cancer.

In Frankenstein, the author portrays Dr. Victor Frankenstein as an unethical scientist. His characteristics cause Dr. Frankenstein to destroy the society. The
author wants to show that without ethics, a scientist can destroy the society. It means that intelligence is not enough for scientists, they also need ethics to do their job well. There are a lot of scientists who are obsessed with their work and turn out to be unethical scientists. One of them is Dr. Joseph Mangele, a German scientist in the 2nd World War, who used detainees in a Nazi concentration camp as guinea pigs for his medical research. A lot of people became the victims. They died or became disabled.

After I analyze the two novels, I find Dracula is more interesting than Frankenstein, because in Dracula, I can find an ethical scientist who is rare in today’s life. But, now, Frankenstein is a novel that is closer to real life, because a lot of scientists have no ethics in doing their job. A lot of scientists try to make biological weapons. In Russia, some scientists make pest disease’s virus that immunes from nineteen kinds of medicine and they do not make the antidotes. They make it as a biological weapon for war. People who get that virus will not be cured easily and can die quickly. Of course, what those scientists have done is very dangerous for people’s life if that kind of virus is used by irresponsible people, for example terrorists. So, a lot of scientists today use their intelligence without ethics. They are so smart, but they have no ethics and it makes the world becomes worse.

In conclusion, from the protagonist’s characteristics, the author of Dracula and Frankenstein show in their novels that having ethics is very important for scientists to bring salvation to society, because without ethics, scientists can destroy the society. Being clever and diligent is not enough for scientists, they also need ethics in doing their job.