

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

Ambition is strong desire to do or to achieve something, typically requiring determination and hard work. Almost every individual has ambition in life. Ambition leads an individual to a definite goal in life, which would enable him or her to be more focused to reach the goal. Different individuals have different ambitions. Some want to be rich to gain prosperity in life. Some have a desire to become famous artists. Others have a desire to become leaders of the country to gain power. It depends on their choice or interests.

Ambition would different from person to person. Some may want to be social servants, while others to be into arts and crafts and so on. It all depends on one choice and interest as to what one would like to become in life when they reach a particular stage. Almost every individual would have an ambition in life. Ambition leads us to a definite aim in life, which would enable us to be more focused and help us to strive to reach that goal have in our selves. An ambition is very essential in one's life. Only having an ambition is not enough. A person should also work hard to achieve ambition, different people have different ambitions.

Ambition can be positive or negative. It depends on the way someone attains his or her ambition. Ambition is negative when someone who has a certain ambition wants to reach her or his ambition quickly without considering whether his or her ambition can harm other people. Ambition is positive when the goals are good for oneself and for other people. Something that a person hopes to do or achieve.

Ambition can trigger motivation to attain goals. Having ambition means to have purpose to reach the goals. A person without any ambition is like a boat without rudder. Having an ambition needs continue efforts towards achieving it. Someone cannot achieve anything if one just day dreams and does nothing, who has certain ambition in his or her life is able to plan and account for the goal. Therefore, having ambition is necessary for someone as long as he or she knows the difference between what is wrong and right. Ambition can also be found in Jane Green's novel, *Bookends*. One of the main characters of the novel, Catherine Warner, has ambition and she is brave to take a risk in order to achieve her ambition. She is willing to leave her job to make her dream comes true. There is no "give up" word in her dictionary, except ambition to achieve her dream.

The writer is interested in studying Catherine's ambition in Jane Green's *Bookends* for at least two reasons. First, it is a reflection of human attitude in real life due to the fact that ambition cannot be separated from people's life. Second, this story also contains values that can be taken as a lesson of life. One of the values that can be revealed from this story is that hardworking is never useless. When someone has a dream, he or she has to work hard to make his or her dream comes true.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the writer can state the following problems.

1. What is Catherine's ambition?
2. How does Catherine achieve her ambition?

1.3 Objective of the Study

This study is intended to answer the questions presented in the statement of the problems. Thus, the objectives of this study are to describe Catherine's ambition and to reveal Catherine's way to achieve her ambition.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The writer hopes that this study will be useful especially for herself, to enlarge her knowledge on literary work. For the students of English Departement, Faculty of Letters of University of 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya, the writer hopes it can give contribution as a reference to do further research. For the readers in general, by reading this thesis they can take lessons and values which can be applied for their real life.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is to analyze one of the intrinsic elements of literary work. The instrinsic element that is going to discuss is character. This study is limited on the discussion of one of the main characters of Jane Green's *Bookends*. The discussion is focused on the analysis of Catherine's ambition which is reflected in the novel.

1.6 Research Method

This study is conducted through qualitative research. In line with Blaxter's theory (1996: 60) qualitative research is concerned with collecting and analyzing information in as many forms, chiefly non-numeric, as possible. It tends to focus on exploring, in as much detail as possible, smaller numbers of instances or examples which are seen as being interesting or illuminating, and aims to achieve 'depth' rather than 'breadth'. This method was chosen because it has the advantage of providing an understanding of social phenomena. In this study, Jane Green's *Bookends* functions as the source of data. The data is words, phrases, or sentences in the novel that related to the topic of the study. In addition, in conducting the analysis, the thesis writer applies descriptive qualitative analysis. This applies the techniques of collecting, classifying, and analyzing the data in accordance with the topic as precisely as possible.

This study applies both intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. Intrinsic approach is employed in this study because the analysis is focused on character. The character analysis is represented by the main character in the novel, Catherine Warner. This is in line with what is stated by Wellek and Warren (1984: 139) that intrinsic approach recognizes that the study of literature should first and foremost concentrate on the actual work of art themselves. It means that intrinsic approach is focused on intrinsic values of literary work such as character. Therefore, it is suitable to apply intrinsic approach to analyze character. This study also employs extrinsic approach because the study aims to reveal the psychological motivation of one of the main characters. The psychological aspect discussed in this thesis is ambition.

1.7 Organization of the Study

The thesis is divided into four chapters. The first chapter deals with introduction because in this chapter, the thesis writer presents background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, research method and organization of the study. The second chapter explains about review of related literature discussing about the concept of ambition and character. The third chapter is analysis. The thesis writer explains Catherine's ambition to achieve his dream. The fourth chapter is the last chapter in which the thesis writer makes a conclusion which is followed by bibliography, and appendix consisting the biography of Jane Green and the synopsis of *Bookends*.