

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the Study

There are many kinds of problems in one's life; family, social, economy, or even occupation that can destroy a country that is occupied by an other country. In living the life, human needs courage in order to be able to handle every problem or obstacle that comes to them.

Everybody has ever heard of courage, but some of them do not know what courage is. According to Peterson and Seligman (2004:29), courage is one of the six virtues that they have identified in their research. It is emotional strengths that involve the exercise of will to accomplish goals in the face of opposition, external or internal. Without courage people can not hold against the worst in themselves or others. The virtue of courage can be achieved through such strengths as bravery, perseverance, integrity, and vitality.

Struggle is a must to do to find another thing to survive and avoid from other threatens to keep the life. The courage must be kept in their soul because it is the most important thing to make people keep spirit in enduring life. In the novel the main character must be able to fight with their fear and never give up to be able staying alive when Hitler sucks them into his war even they put their life into danger to help others.

Struggling for courage can be found in *The Nightingale*. It is a fiction novel that is written by Kristin Hannah and published on February, 2015. Kristin Hannah is the New York times bestselling author of twenty-two novels. She writes about the courage, strength, and endurance of Frenchwomen during World War II.

In the quiet village of Carriveau, Vianne Mauriac says good bye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the front. A German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food, money, nor hope, as danger escalates all around them, Vianne is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive. She kills a German captain at her home to save her sister, Isabelle, who joins resistance. Vianne also help to hide Jewish children at the orphanage to save them from Nazis.

Isabelle, Vianne's younger sister, refuses to accept France surrender. She does not care what anyone thinks although her sister's pleading to stay quiet and safe. She follows her heart and meets a young man named Gaetan who believes the French can fight the Nazi from within France. Isabelle decides to take matters into her own hands. Regardless of what anyone tells her, she joins an underground group, The Resistance, that risks her life to make a difference and help as many others as she can.

The brief summary of the story above shows that struggling for courage has been done by the woman characters, Vianne and Isabelle. The writer finds this problem as an interesting topic to be analyzed. There is previous study

about the topic of struggle for courage. It is written by Rica Andriani Haryono (2011) entitled *Mafatu's Struggle for Courage in Armstrong Sperry's Call it Courage*. She analyze the main character's struggle, the ways of the character to achieve the struggle purpose and the obstacles during struggle. She uses psychology approach to analyze the character of the novel psychologically because the main character of this novel has a trauma which is a part of psychology which influence his motivation and behavior. In the present study, the writer gathers a different source from the previous study and the problem that will be analyzed based on the concept of courage and strength relate to courage by Peterson and Seligman. The writer also uses some theory of character, characterization, and setting.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study above. The thesis writer is interested in woman's struggle for courage in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*. The statement of the problem is formulated as follows:

- 1) What are the reasons that motivate Vianne and Isabelle to struggle for courage in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* ?
- 2) How is courage exposed in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* ?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

Related of the statements of the problem above, the purposes of this study are:

- 1) To analyze what the reasons that motivate Vianne and Isabelle to struggle for courage in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*.
- 2) To analyze how courage is exposed in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*.

#### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

By analyzing the novel, the thesis is expected to benefit of the thesis readers on the woman's struggle for courage which is shown in Kristin Hannah's novel entitled *The Nightingale*. The writer hopes that the thesis readers will get more knowledge about analyzing character in studying literature. Therefore, the study could give the readers better understanding about courage in a literary work, *The Nightingale*.

The writer also expects that this study can be useful and good reference for the student especially students of English Departement, Faculty of Letters, University of 17 Agustus 1945 Surabaya.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale* has many interesting aspects for analysis such themes and conflicts faced by woman characters, especially about their strength during the darkness part of their live. In the present study, the writer focuses the discussion on analyzing the courage on two sisters, Vianne and Isabelle, and the reasons that motivate them to struggle for courage.

## **1.6 Organization of the Study**

This thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and organization.

The second chapter is review of related literature which applies some theories and references in analyzing the novel. It deals with concept of courage and the strength that relate to courage.

The third chapter is research method that consists of research design, data source, data collection, and data analysis procedure.

The fourth chapter is the analysis of the study. It discusses the courage on Vianne and Isabelle and the reasons of motivate their struggle for courage in *The Nightingale*.

The last chapter is the conclusion of the study, which contains the conclusions of the whole discussion, bibliography and two appendixes which consist of biography of the author and the synopsis of the novel.