

## **CHAPTER II**

### **REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE**

In this chapter, the writer mentions some theories of literature, which are used in this thesis. This discussion is important to support and strengthen the analysis of courage that belongs to Vianne and Isabelle in Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*. In addition, the writer enclose some theories of character.

#### **2.1 Character**

According to Robert (1977:53) character is used synonymously with person, human being, and literary figure. Character takes part in the story, narrative, poem, novel, or play. Character is one of the element that construct a story from inside.

A character is a person in a literary work. Characters have moral and psychological features that make them human in some way or another ( McGee, 2001:5 ). How the character portayed and how the character develop in the story is important for the reader.

By analyzing the character the reader can understand what the author means and what kind of character that the author wants to present. There are some characters in *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah but this study only focus on

woman characters, Vianne and Isabelle, that become the most important object to be analyzed.

## **2.2 Characterization**

According to Abrams (1999:33) characterization is the way to develop a character, the author may show not only external speech and actions, but also a character's inner thoughts, feelings, and responsiveness to events. The grounds in the characters' temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions are called their motivation.

Characterization is also revealed through direct characterization and indirect characterization. In a direct characterization the reader is told what the character is like. Indirect characterization refers to what the character says or does. In other hand, characterization is the way how the author inform about the characters. The characterization assist the author giving the reader more obvious image of a character. It is the way that is used to describe other information that is usually implied in character's appearance, action, thought, and speaking.

## **2.3 Setting**

According to Abrams (1999:284) the overall setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in

which its action occurs; the setting of a single episode or scene within such a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place. In other word, setting is concerned with the place where the story take a place. The circumstances of the character's life describe in setting is often influenced their conduct and reaction. They can react either negatively or positively toward their environment.

## **2.4 Courage**

Peterson and Seligman find the six core virtues such as: courage, justice, humanity, temperance, wisdom and knowledge, and transcendence. This convergence suggests a nonarbitrary foundation for the classification of human strengths and virtues. Virtue is Human goodness or good characters in individuals universally. It is Formed and displayed by 24 character strengths. Each character strength belongs to one of the categories established by the 6 virtues.

Between six core virtues that identified by Peterson and Seligman, the thesis writer only focus on the virtue of courage which becomes the topic to be analyzed. Courage 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 out against the worst in themselves or others. A courage can make anyone to do anything which is seemed impossible to accomplish. Every single person is actually has a courage. However, if there is a chance to prove it, then just prove it. The decision to prove something also needs a courage.

The most common approach was outcome-focused strategies in which individuals thought of the outcome of the courageous act- thinking of the person being helped, reminding themselves that it was the right thing to do, or remembering that there was an obligation to act. The second most common approach can be categorized as emotion-focused coping, which involves individuals reminding themselves to not fear, receiving encouragement from others, and keeping a positive focus. The least common approach was problem-focused coping, in which individuals reminded themselves of the action or mentally rehearsed their plans for the brave act

D. Putnam in Peterson and Seligman (2004: 36) offers an inclusive account of courage by delineating three types: physical, moral, and psychological. Physical courage is the type involved in overcoming the fear of physical injury or death in order to save others or oneself. Moral courage entails maintaining ethical integrity or authenticity at the risk of losing friends, employment, privacy, or prestige. Psychological courage includes that sort required to confront a debilitating illness or destructive habit or situation; it is the bravery inherent in facing one's inner demons. Based on Putnam's description above, Peterson and Seligman divide virtue of courage into four characteristic strengths as follows :

### **2.3.1 Bravery**

According to Peterson and Seligman (2004:213) bravery [valor] is the capacity to take action to aid others in spite of significant risks or dangers. This

strength allows people to avoid shrinking from the threats, challenges, or pain associated with attempting to do good works. Brave acts are undertaken voluntarily with full knowledge of the potential adversity involved. Brave individuals place the highest importance on higher purpose and morality, no matter what the consequences might be. Several elements of the definition warrant emphasis:

1. Valorous action must be voluntary, and coerced action cannot qualify.
2. Bravery must also involve judgment—an understanding of risk and an acceptance of the consequences of action. Hence, a courageous person must have a disposition to take risks, yet must also overcome a disposition to take unconsidered risks.
3. Bravery requires the presence of danger, loss, risk, or potential injury. Without a sense of danger, risk, or vulnerability, there is no bravery in an act. Bravery is valuable because it allows people to dampen their immediate response to danger and evaluate the appropriate course of action. Bravery involves the mastery of fear rather than fearlessness.

### **2.3.2 Persistence**

According to Peterson and Seligman (2004:229) Persistence [perseverance, industriousness] is the mental strength necessary to continue striving for one's goals in the face of obstacles and setbacks. This sort of

perseverance requires dedication, focus, and patience. Persistent individuals finish what they start, persisting in the quest to achieve their goals in spite of any hardships they encounter along the way. The broader and more ambitious one's goals are, the more necessary persistence is in order to achieve them. The connection between optimism and persistence is optimistic people are more likely to persevere than pessimistic people. When France is drawn into war by Nazi, Vianne and Isabelle also express their strength differently.

### **2.3.3 Integrity**

According to Peterson and Seligman (2004:249) Integrity [authenticity, honesty] capture a character trait in which people are true to themselves, accurately representing—privately and publicly—their internal states, intentions, and commitments. Such persons accept and take responsibility for their feelings and behaviors, owning them, as it were, and reaping substantial benefits by so doing

In other hand, integrity is manifested speaking the truth and presenting oneself in a genuine way. A person of integrity is open and honest about his or her own thoughts, feelings, and responsibilities, being careful not to mislead through either action or omission. This strength allows one to feel a sense of ownership over one's own internal states, regardless of whether those states are popular or socially comfortable, and to experience a sense of authentic wholeness.

Honesty refers to factual truthfulness and interpersonal sincerity. Authenticity refers to emotional genuineness and also psychological depth. Integrity refers to moral probity and self-unity; in terms of moral character, it seems the most generic of these terms.

Peterson and Seligman defined integrity in behavioral terms:

1. A regular pattern of behavior that is consistent with espoused values—(i.e: practicing what one preaches).
2. Public justification of moral convictions, even if those convictions are not popular.
3. Treatment of others with care, as evident by helping those in need; sensitivity to the needs of others.

#### **2.3.4 Vitality**

According to Peterson and Seligman (2004:273) Vitality [zest, enthusiasm, vigor, energy]: Zest and vitality is an approach to life marked by an appreciation for energy, liveliness, excitement, and energy.

A vital person is someone whose aliveness and spirit are expressed not only in personal productivity and activity—such individuals often infectiously energize those with whom they come into contact.

As an indicator of organismic wellness, vitality is directly and interactively related to both psychological and somatic reasons. At the somatic level, vitality is linked to good physical health and bodily functioning, as well as freedom from fatigue and illness. At the psychological level, vitality reflects experiences of volition, effectance, and integration of the self at both intrapersonal and interpersonal levels. Vitality refers to feeling alive, being full of zest, and also exhibit enthusiasm, which they direct toward whatever activities they choose to engage.