

CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents several aspects related to the topic being studied. It consists of background of the study, problem of the study, objective of the study, significant of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

Literature is a creative literary work that contains the author's intentions and goals. A literary work does not only have ideas, theories or systems of thought, but a literary work contains ideas and systems of thought. In other words, a literary work contains various ideas, theories and systems of thought. All of these aspects come from the author who has an important role in using creative ideas that are poured into their works. Character is an important element in literary works. Especially in novels, characters in a literary work are created by the author to convey his ideas and feelings about something that happens in this world. Characters have the power to dominate the whole story in a literary work. The author can take the character through many problems in different situations. According to Grolier (1977: 291), characterization is a unique characteristic of fictional forms such as short stories, novels, plays, and narrative poetry. When we read a novel, we will feel and see the story of the life of each character in the novel. The author writes a novel not only to make the reader feel good, but also to convey a message about the events and actions of the characters in the novel. Events and actions of the characters in the novel. The author describes that everyone has differences in character, such as temperament, feelings of belonging or sense of humor.

The same as in *Rules of Civility* novel written by Amor Towles, an American writer born in 1964. He was born and raised in the Boston area and attended Yale University then, received an MA in English from Stanford University. After collage, he worked in finance in New York City for over 20 years, which provided inspiration for the setting of *Rules of Civility*. Towles began writing in his spare time and eventually left his job in finance to focus on writing full

time. In addition to his novel, Towles has also published essay and short stories in various publication. His writing has been praised for its wit, intelligence, and richly drawn characters. *Rules of Civility* novel was published in 2011 and quickly became a bestseller. *Rules Of Civility* is set in 1938 New York City and tells the story of Katey Kontent, a young woman from a working-class family who is trying to make her way in the city's social elite. The novel explores themes of ambition, class, and identity, and is known for its vivid portrayal of 1930s New York.

Here are few reasons why *Rules of Civility* is considered a good novel: Beautifully crafted language; The novel is written in a literary style, with careful attention to detail and a keen eye for observation. Towles's writing is lyrical and poetic, and he often uses rich metaphors and similes to create a vivid sense of time and place. Fully developed characters; The characters in *Rules of Civility* are complex and multidimensional. They are flawed, nuanced, and often surprising, making them feel like real people rather than stock characters. Katey, in particular, is a compelling protagonist with a sharp wit and a strong sense of self. Evocative setting; The novel captures the glamour and excitement of New York City in the late 1930s, from the glitzy nightclubs to the opulent penthouses. The city itself is almost a character in the novel, and Towles's descriptions of its streets, buildings, and people are rich and evocative. Thoughtful exploration of themes; *Rules of Civility* is not just a story of one woman's coming of age, it is also a meditation on class, ambition, and the American Dream. The novel raises questions about the nature of success, the importance of social class, and the cost of pursuing one's dreams. *Rules of Civility* novel is a beautifully written, thought-provoking novel that is well worth reading.

The characters in a novel are always has their moral value and sometimes effect or inspire character education for the readers. Character education is one of the government programs who implemented through educational institutions start from the lowest level to the college level. This is to facilitate the government in constructing the desired character of the nation according to the expectations of the nation, so that through the student's character may grow

because it is used to be implemented and carried out both in the school, family and community environment (Fadilah, et al., 2021: 6). Basically, character education aims to build a strong nation with a society that is highly ethical, moral, tolerant, and cooperative. Then to achieve this goal, the students must be instilled with character-building values such as some inspirations of character education given by the main characters in a novel. Character education is expected to avoid despicable traits that damage themselves, others, and the environment so that they do not fall into deviant behavior.

The researcher has read some chapters in *Rules of Civility* novel and found that Katey Kontent is a central character in the novel and what makes her special is her intelligent, wit, ambition, and protagonist character. Throughout the story, Katey Kontent navigates the social and economic challenges of life in New York City during the late 1930s. Despite coming from a modest background, she is determined to make a better life for herself and is not afraid to take risks or challenge social norms. Katey's quick thinking and sharp wit often help her to succeed in difficult situations. She is also a keen observer of human behavior and is able to navigate the complex social hierarchies of the city with relative ease. In addition to her intelligence and ambition, Katey is also a loyal and caring friend. She forms close relationship with several characters in the novel and is always willing to offer her support and guidance. Throughout, Katey Kontent is a compelling and complex character who embodies many of the qualities that are valued such as hard work, intelligence, and perseverance. The reason why the researcher chooses the novel is that the main character gave positive impact for the readers especially for their character education. The clue is that the story in the novel basically explores themes of ambition, class, and identity related to the qualification on character education. The researcher analyzes *Rules of Civility* novel with purpose to describe the Character Education by the Ministry of Education and Culture found on the main character Katey Kontent. The researcher believes this study make better understanding for the readers in gaining positive impact from the Character Education by the main character Katey Kontent in *Rules of Civility* novel.

Therefore, based on the background above, the researcher is interested in conducting a study with a title “An Analysis on The Main Character in *Rules of Civility* as Inspiration for Character Education”.

B. Problem of the Study

Based on the background of the study that has been explained above, the researcher formulated as follow:

What are the Character Education values found on the main character Katey Kontent in *Rules of Civility* novel?

C. Objective of the Study

The objective of the study can be stated as follow:

To describe the Character Education values found on the main character Katey Kontent in *Rules of Civility* novel.

D. Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is as follows:

a. Theoretical

The final result of this research was expected to contribute, to prove, and to strengthen the theory of analyzing literary and character education.

b. Practical

The result of this research is useful for:

1. The students, to enlarge their knowledge about analyzing literary and Character Education.
2. The teachers or lecturers, to the reference in teaching and learning of analyzing literary and Character Education.
3. The readers or other researchers, to increase their knowledge in analyzing literary and Character Education.

E. Scope and Limitation of the Study

The researcher has limited the problem of the research, so the problems which are investigated are not too wide and the research is more effective to

do. Here, the researcher focused on analyzing the main character in *Rules of Civility* novel that relate with the character education.

F. Definition of Key Terms

There are some key terms in this study. The definition of key terms that used is the following term below:

1. Literature

Literature has been widely known by many people and expert. Literature can be said as creative writing by an author with aesthetic value which makes literature regarded as an art. Literature as a writing form differentiates its form of other art products, and its aesthetic or artistic values make it different from other writings. Literature represents and pictures out various aspects of life. In literature, the author presents a work to delivers his or her ideas to the reader. It means that, in every work has its own characteristic and author's objective. It is obvious that the author's ideas in a work can be very influential to the reader's mindset.

2. Character Education

Character education is a type of education that aims to instill positive values and virtues in students, such as respect, responsibility, honesty, empathy, fairness, and citizenship. It is an intentional effort to help students develop moral ethical principles that guide their behavior and decision making. Character education can take many forms, such as explicit instruction in classrooms, extracurricular activities that promote character development, modelling by teachers and other adults, and community service communities that provide students with chances to practice their values in action.

3. *Rules of Civility* Novel

Rules of Civility is a novel written by Amor Towles, an American writer born in 1964. The novel was published in 2011 and quickly became a bestseller. *Rules of Civility* is set in 1938 New York City and tells the story of Katey Kontent, a young woman from a working-class family who is trying to make her way in the city's social elite. The novel explores themes of ambition, class, and identity, and is known for its vivid portrayal of 1930s New York.

4. Amor Towles

Born and raised in the Boston area, Amor Towles graduated from Yale University and received an MA in English from Stanford University. Having worked as an investment professional for over twenty years, he now devotes himself full time to writing in Manhattan, where he lives with his wife and two children.