

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this chapter, the writer will explain the definition of short story, characteristic of short story, classification of short story, and the elements of short story.

2.1 Definition of Short Story

The short story is a story about 4.000-5.000 words long or approximately 17 quarto double-spaced quartile pages complete on itself (Notosusanto in Tarigan, 2011: 180). According to Sayuti (2002), the short story ranges from 1000-1500 words so that the length of the short story can be read in a short reading time. However, both have the same element of storyline, story character, title, background story, theme, point of view, diction and language. The difference is the short story has only one conflict, one main theme and one climax. A crucial feature commonly identified with the short story is its impression of unity since it can be read-in contrast to the novel-in one sitting without interruption. Due to restriction of length, the plot of the short story has to be highly selective, entailing an idiosyncratic temporal dimension that usually focuses on one central moment of action (Klarer, 1998: 14).

According to Kurtus (2007), short story is usually in between 500 and 2000 words in length. It tells a complete story, including characters, setting, conflict and resolution. Often it has surprise endings. A subject of the short story is micro fiction, which only consists of around 300 words. This type of writing requires that every word is essential to the story. There is no room for detailed description.

On the other hand, Tarigan cited in (Junaedi, 2006: 7) states another classification of short story which is based on the quality of work. Tarigan states that short story is divided into two types: literary short story which contains the

norms demanded by literary art and entertaining short story which contains the material of the short story categorized as an entertainment.

Therefore, Poe in Nurgiyantoro (2002: 10) states that the short story is a story that can be read in one sitting, roughly between half to two hours, something that would not be possible for a novel. Short story is a short story and a roundness of ideas. In its abbreviation and density, a short story is complete, round, and brief. That is, all parts of the short story should be tied to a unity of soul, that is short, solid, and complete; no unimportant parts (Tarigan, 2011: 180). Short story deals with important elements that build the story itself. All of these elements take their own role to make the story sensible. They are theme, plot, setting, character and point of view (Anderson: 1993).

Based on the statement above, the writer concludes that short story is a story that has one climax and less than 10.000 words.

2.2 Characteristic of Short Story

The characteristics of short stories according to Sumarjo and Saini (1997: 36) are as follows:

- a. A short story should be short.
- b. Fictional, there are two types of fictional: short story and novel. Based on the types of fictional the writer choose short story because it is suitable with my ability and time.
- c. Narrative, According to Derewianka, (2004: 40) state that there are many different types of narrative, those are: humor, romance, crime, legend, myth, fable, real-life fiction, historical fiction, mystery, fantasy, science fiction, diary-novels, and adventure.
- d. Has a single impression. It means that, the story only has one plot.

But, According to Tarigan (2011: 180-181) the characteristics are:

- a. One short story should short, solid, and intensive.
- b. The main elements of the short story are scenes, characters, and motion.

- c. It depends on one situation. It means that a short story has a single theme or plot.
- d. A short story is the one that can be read in one sitting, no more than 10,000 words. Other definition is the maximum word length is 7,500 words. In contemporary usage, the term short story most often refers to a work of fiction no longer than 20,000 words and no shorter than 1,000.

2.3 The Elements of Short Story

Short story is constructed by elements which become intertwined. These elements are character, plot, and setting (Suyanto, 2012: 46).

a. Character

The characters in a literary work usually are imagination but those characters are important elements in a story. Nurgiyantoro (2000: 165) stated that the characterization is the image of characters in the story which is showed by interest attitude, longing, emotion, moral principle that is belonged by those characters. As Lee A. Jacobus (1996: 69) says that character is a person presented in a dramatic narrative work, and characterization is the process by which a writer makes that character seem real to the readers.

b. Plot

Nurgiyantoro (2000: 113) stated that plot is story which contained series of events but every event is connected just by causal relationship and others events. Abram (2009: 265) explained that in addition to the conflict between individuals, there may be the conflict of a protagonist against fate, or against the circumstances that stand between him and a goal he has set himself. According to Andri Wicaksono (2014) plot is the arrangement of the story related to each other or usually the conflix happen by the author. While according to Aminudin (2002) plot is a series of stories formed by the stages of events to present a story. Staton (2007: 29) was stated that the character is affecting the plot, if the story only has a few in

characters, there will be more close and simple story. If we do not know the plot of the story, it will be hard to understand what the story tells about.

c. Setting

Abram (2009: 330) explained that 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 the work is the particular physical location in which it takes place. Basically, there are two types of setting physical setting and historical setting. Physical setting is the general locale of a work. In other words, it is the place of the scene. The geographical location of a work is not synonymous with where it is written. This is referred to as the time setting, temporal setting or the historical setting.

2.4 Genres of Short Story

According to Permana in Purnama (2014) there are some genres in fiction story, they are:

1. Sci-fi (Science Fiction): This genre has concept of technology and science that is often not real.
2. Horror: The genre that the story and plot are built to give eeriness to the readers. Horror can be about ghosts and can be about serial killer.
3. Fantasy: This genre has magic and supernatural elements, the story is from manifestation of high level creativity that demands free imagination, but also still logic and rational.
4. Romance: The story is about daily life or slice of life. Romance has the characteristic where the dictions written are so poetic and romantic so that can create a heart-warming situation that make the readers can enjoy its beauty.
5. Comedy: The story more emphasizes on comedy and parody elements.
6. Mystery: Mystery is different from horror. Mystery has to make the readers curious along the story because there are many things hidden and will be revealed one by one.

7. Adventure: This genre is about an adventure. An adventure is not always wandering to far places, it also can be an event that can change something.

A story is very likely to have multi-genre, especially fantasy and romance.