

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The thesis writer is interested in discussing a novel since she thinks that a novel is more special than the other literary works such as drama, short story, or poem. It is so because problems or conflicts in a novel are discussed more clearly than in a drama, short story, or poem for novel does not have time limitation and length limitation. Moreover, different from poem which often uses symbols and figure of speech, novel usually uses explicit words. Thus, the reader can understand the problems and conflicts easier in a novel than in a drama, short story, and poem.

There are many famous novelists in the world and one of them is Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Gabriel Garcia Marquez is a famous Colombian novelist. He was born on March 6th, 1928 in a small town of Aracataca, Colombia. He lived with his grandparents until he was eight years old. The storytelling that he has heard from his grandmother during his childhood and the myths and the superstitions that he heard from the townspeople took part in shaping Garcia Marquez's imagination. In 1947, Garcia Marquez enrolled to study law in University of Bogota. Unfortunately, because of a riot in 1948 he had to leave Bogota and move to Cartagena. When he stayed in Cartagena, he continued his study in University of Cartagena, but he took journalism as his major instead of law and worked as a journalist for *El universal*. Garcia Marquez found that he was interested in journalistic and literary endeavors, thus he discontinued his law studies. In 1950, he moved to Barranquilla in order to work for the daily paper *El heraldo*. He started to write short stories which were published in regional periodicals. In 1954, Garcia Marquez returned to Bogota and worked as a film critic and reporter to *El espectador*. However, in 1956 the military government of Colombia which was led by Gustavo Rojas Pinilla closed the *Espectador* and Garcia Marquez stayed in Paris (Draper, 1992, p.1355-1356).

Garcia Marquez has written many well known novels, novella, short stories, and plays. He wrote his former short stories in the late of 1940s and early 1950s which were collected in volumes as *Leaf Storm and Other Stories* (1972), *Ojos de*

perro azul (1972), *La increíble y triste historia de la cándida Eréndira y de su abuela desalmada* (1972), and *Innocent Eréndira and Other Stories* (1978). He started to write short fictions during the early 1960s such as *No One Writes to the Colonel* (1961) and *Big Mama's Funeral* (1962). *In Evil Hour* (1962) is Garcia Marquez's first novel and followed by *One Hundred Years of Solitude* (1967), *The Autumn of the Patriarch* (1975), *Chronicle of the Death Foretold* (1981), *Love in the Time of Cholera* (1988), *Of Love and Other Demons* (1994), and many more.

Garcia Marquez got popularity when he published his novel, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* in 1967. Many literature's critics consider *One Hundred Years of Solitude* as Garcia Marquez's masterpiece. A critic named Julio Ortega states that *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is a great novel as he praises that "these one hundred years of solitude find in the dialectics of several worlds and time the exorcism by which this novel makes them beautiful and terrible and also claims a different time, a time of innocence" (Draper, 1992, p. 1362). John Leonard calls the novel as "a recapitulation of our evolutionary and intellectual experience" (Draper, 1992, p. 1356). He also states that the novel is presenting Macondo as the "microcosm of Colombia and, by extension, of South America and the world. Characterized by nonlinear narration and long, free-flowing sentences, *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is acknowledged as a comic masterpiece for its labyrinthine structure, epic scope, and stylistic complexity" (Draper, 1992, p. 1356).

Praise is not only addressed to the novel, but also to the author, Gabriel Garcia Marquez. George R. McMurray says that the novel is the best example to show "Garcia Marquez's ingenious mixture of realism and fantasy" which results "a total fictional universe in which the commonplace takes on an aura of magic and the impossible is made believable" (Draper, 1992, p.1368). He also praises Garcia Marquez as "one of truly outstanding literary artists of our time" (Draper, 1992, p. 1368). Another critic, Curt Supplee, states that the novel made Marquez got "a place in the ranks of twentieth century masters" (Draper, 1992, p. 1357). As the admiration of his works, Garcia Marquez received Nobel Prize for Literature in 1982. He also

received French Legion of Honor in 1981. The awards that he has received prove his quality as a writer.

Marquez has special characteristics in writing which can be found in his works. He always uses magic realism, a genre that blends surreal events with fantastic imagery and imaginary scenes, in his works. For examples, in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Marquez described insomnia as an infected disease and a baby who is born with a pig's tail as the result of incestuous marriage. In reality, insomnia is not an infected disease and an incestuous marriage will not result a baby with pig's tail; however, in the novel, all the characters can accept the phenomena and do not think that those things are something unordinary.

The other Garcia Marquez's special characteristic is in his female characters. "Although Garcia Marquez's male characters have no monopoly on irrational conduct, his female characters are usually stronger, more down to earth, and less likely to be carried away by their emotions, whims, or abstract ideals" (Draper, 1992, p.1368). Marquez usually has unique female characters that he describes as strong and powerful women, yet still with their humanity. These kinds of female characters can be found, for example, in *Leaf Storms*, *No One Writes to the Colonel*, *The Autumn of the Patriarch*, *Of Love and Other Demons*, and in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. In *Of Love and Other Demons*, the main female character is Sierva Maria, a twelve-year-old girl who is suspected demonic possession by a Catholic bishop. Although, she is only twelve years old, Sierva Maria is described as a strong and also powerful girl. It can be seen from her relationship with Cayetano Delaura, a mid-thirties priest. Even though Delaura is much older than Sierva Maria, the one who is more dominant in their relationship is Sierva Maria. In the novel, it is described that Delaura's characters are shifted because of his love to Sierva Maria. Bit by bit Delaura starts to lose his faith and belief that Sierva Maria is possessed by demon. He also doubts about his status as a priest.

Sierva Maria is only an example of Marquez's strong female characters. Another Marquez's strong female character can be found in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. The main female character in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is Ursula

Iguaran. She is a woman who has to play multiple roles in her family as a wife, a mother, and also a bread winner that has to be responsible to the welfare of all the Buendia members. According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, role is "a function that a person or thing typically has or is expected to have". Thus, in the novel, Ursula is expected to perform roles as a mother, a wife, and also a family leader in her family. Ursula's responsibility in performing her multiple roles in the family is a tough job since the Buendia is a big family. She is not only having to take care and be responsible to her own children, but also to her children-in-law, her grand children, and even to her great grand children.

Beside using magic realism and having strong female characters in his works, Marquez's works are also "characterized by nonlinear narration and long, free-flowing sentences" (Draper, 1992, p.1356). The plots in his novels are not structured chronologically and it makes his novels, such as *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, are not easy to read. Another Marquez's characteristic is on the themes of his works. Most of his works are talking about "solitude, aging, death, and decay" (Draper, 1992, p.1356-1357); as can be found in *Leaf Storm* which tells about a colonel and the people of a small town who have conflict because of the death of a solitary and unpopular doctor. Another Marquez's works that talks about solitude, death, and decay is obviously *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, which is about the saga of the Buendia, who live in a town name Macondo, and their conflicts and solitude that eventually bring a decline to the family.

The thesis writer is interested in discussing one of Gabriel Garcia Marquez's works, which is *One Hundred Years of Solitude*. It is so because she is interested in women issue such as woman's multiple roles in a family as seen in Ursula Iguaran, the main female character in the novel who has to perform multiple roles in her family. Besides, the thesis writer decides to discuss one of Garcia Marquez's works since he is a well known writer who has special characteristics in his works that make his works, particularly *One Hundred Years of Solitude* becomes one of the world's masterpieces and enrolls him to receive Nobel Prize for Literature. Therefore, as an English Literature student the thesis writer is challenged and interested in discussing

One Hundred Years of Solitude. She also believes that it is an advantage for her to discuss one of Garcia Marquez's well known works since there are so many literary elements such as characterization, conflicts, and setting that she can learn from Marquez's works, particularly in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

The story of *One Hundred Years of Solitude* is about the saga of the Buendia family and its seventh generations in a fictional town named Macondo. The first generation is the founder of Macondo; they are Jose Arcadio Buendia and his wife, Ursula Iguaran. Jose Arcadio Buendia is a brave man who likes to do scientific experiments. Because of his fondness of science, he is very busy with his experiments so that he tends to neglect his family. These situations force Ursula to have multiple roles in the family. She is not only be a wife and a mother, but also be a bread winner to the family since her husband is absent from his role as the bread winner. Having multiple roles in the family is a great burden for Ursula. It happens because in performing her multiple roles, she has to face many conflicts, both outer conflicts with her husband, her children or other people, and inner conflicts. Moreover, Ursula has to face conflicting roles. Conflicting roles may happen when there is a clash between two roles at a time and Ursula has to choose whether she will perform a role or the other at that time and receives the consequence of performing particular role. From the novel, the readers can see the complexity of woman's multiple roles, particularly in the family, and woman's struggle in performing the multiple roles. Besides the complexity of woman's multiple roles, there are also many lessons that the reader can get from the novel for the novel talks about human's life and its conflicts.

In *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, the thesis writer is interested to find out the struggle of Ursula Iguaran toward the conflicts which are appeared when she performs her multiple roles as a wife, a mother, and also a bread winner in the family. The thesis writer thinks that the subjects are interesting because she can show the complexity of woman's multiple roles in the family and its conflicts as seen in Ursula Iguaran.

1.2 Statement of the Problems

As the main female character in Marquez's *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, Ursula is described as an energetic and tough woman. She has to play multiple roles in the family. She becomes a mother, a wife, and also a bread winner in Buendia family. From this situation, the thesis writer wants to know Ursula's struggle in facing the conflicts when she performs her multiple roles.

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Through the analysis, the thesis writer would like to find out the struggle of Ursula Iguaran as seen in her conflicts when she performs her multiple roles.

1.4 Importance of the Study

By analyzing the reactions of Ursula Iguaran in facing the conflicts, which are caused by her multiple roles in the family in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, the thesis writer wants to show the readers about the complexity of woman's multiple roles, particularly in the family, and how she reacts to the conflicts which are deal with her multiple roles. The thesis writer hopes that after reading this thesis the readers will get a better understanding about woman's multiple roles in the family.

The thesis writer also wishes that this thesis will be useful for the readers, especially English Literature students, who want to know more about Marquez's works. Since Marquez is a well known writer, who has received Nobel Prize for Literature, the students of English Literature might be interested to know about Marquez's works and, hopefully, this thesis can give some information about one of Marquez's works which is *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This thesis is limited to discuss only on Ursula Iguaran. The thesis writer limits her analysis only on Ursula Iguaran since she is the main female character in *One Hundred Years of Solitude* and she is also the one who has to perform multiple roles in the family. The other characters, who will be mentioned in the analysis, are

only foil characters of Ursula. The scope of the analysis is on Ursula Iguaran's multiple roles in the family.

1.6 Methodology

To support this thesis, first the thesis writer uses the primary data that is the novel itself. Then, for the secondary data, she uses the critics' opinion as the source for her to find out the literary criticism about Marquez's works in general.

In analyzing the novel, the thesis writer uses literary approach and employs literary devices of conflict and characterization, and it is also supported by concepts of women's multiple roles in the family. Characterization is used as the supporting tools to examine Ursula's character traits support her to have such multiple roles in the family. The thesis writer also uses conflict, both outer conflict and inner conflict, to investigate Ursula's struggles in performing her multiple roles in the family. Besides, the thesis writer uses concepts of women's multiple roles to help her in analyzing the complexity of Ursula Iguaran's multiple roles in the family in *One Hundred Years of Solitude*.

In other words, by using literary tools of characterization and conflict which are supported by woman's multiple roles concepts, the thesis writer wants to find out the struggles of Ursula Iguaran in performing her multiple roles in the family.

1.7 Organization of the Study

The thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter I is the introduction, consisting of background of the study, statement of the problem, purpose of the study, important of the study, scope and limitation, methodology, and organization of the study. Chapter II is the review of related literature and related theories that are used in the analysis which are literary approach, literary tools of setting, conflict, and characterization, and the concepts of woman's multiple roles in the family. Chapter III is the discussion on Ursula Iguaran's struggles in performing her multiple roles. Chapter IV is the conclusion of the whole thesis.