CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher discusses about the topic or issue raised in the research. This chapter includes (1) research background, (2) research problem, (3) research objective, (4) scope and limitation, (5) research significance, (6) a definition of key terms. These six subchapter are described in detail as follows.

1.1 Research Background

According to Elistia, Values provide direction in making decisions, forming attitudes, and determining behaviour in accordance with principles that are believed to be true and good (2020). From this definition, it can be concluded that value is something important because it is considered valuable and related to good and right, which is used as a standard for behaviour in life. More than that, values also have an important role in managing interactions between individuals and others, as well as with community groups. Values also become principles or standards that are highly upheld, so that they can guide everyone to behave in accordance with the norms that apply and become guidelines that direct the lives of individuals and groups.

Values and morals are interrelated, values are the foundation for morals. According to K. Bertens (2001: 7) Morality comes from the Latin adjective Moralis, morality is an action related to good or bad. Another opinion, Atkinson states that morals are principles or rules that control or limit human behaviour. Moral can also be defined as the values and norms that guide a person or group in managing their behaviour (1958). From these two opinions, it can be concluded that morals are values and norms that include

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definitions of good or bad, and are used as guidelines for a person or group in behaving and organising their behaviour in everyday life.

Based on those explanations, moral and values focuses on the view of goodness or badness of human action and characters. According to K. Bertens, Moral Values are important to have and serve as guidelines in everyday life in order to create a more meaningful and dignified life (2001: 142). Moral values can be defined as a value of how to evaluate and differentiate the right or wrong behaviour of a person in interacting with others. In other words, moral values are principles of good and bad that help humans determine attitudes, actions, and behaviours that should be carried out in social life in order to create security and harmony.

In this era, it is important for people to learn about moral values. Learning about morals can be obtained from the literary works we read. One of these literary works is the novel. Wahyuni Pradanti, stated that a novel is a story that has a long plot in a book which is an imaginative story in the lives of the characters in the story (2024). In writing novels, the authors usually convey moral values to help readers understand ethics and good behaviour, and invite readers to think about actions and consequences in real life. Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that novels contain messages about moral values that are interesting and also unique to readers. One of the novels that contains moral values is the novel 'Black Beauty' by Anna Sewell.

The researcher are interested in analysing the moral values in the novel 'Black Beauty' by Anna Sewell because in this novel the author conveys moral values about animals and humans. So in brief, Anna Sewell's classic novel 'Black Beauty' was first published in London on 24 November 1877. The novel revolves around the life of a horse named 'Black Beauty' describing his experiences from the horse's point of view. Throughout the story, 'Black Beauty' experiences alternating good and bad luck as it

changes hands from one owner to another. The novel was written with the aim of educating readers, especially children, to treat animals with gentleness and compassion. 'Black Beauty' is considered one of the classic works of literature that has been influential in promoting the animal welfare movement. Another reason researcher analysing the moral values contained in the novel 'Black Beauty' by Anna Sewell is that in the novel there are many moral values and lessons that researcher find by reading the novel which can be used as experience and guidance for life. In this research, the researcher emphasizes the moral values contained in 'Black Beauty' novel by Anna Sewell based on Kees Bertens' theory.

The researcher chose K. Bertens' theory in analysing moral values, because the novel 'Black Beauty' raises the issue of human treatment of animals, especially horses. The novel is about how humans are required to be responsible in treating animals well, and fulfilling their needs. The novel also tries to inspire the reader's concern and empathy to use their conscience to see the suffering of other creatures from the horse's point of view. In addition, 'Black Beauty' novel also emphasises that humans have an obligation to treat animals well that is formal or universal in that it can apply widely and generally everywhere. This explanation is in accordance with what K. Bertens said that the concept of moral values has four characteristics, namely 'Related to our responsibilities, related to conscience, obligation, and formal' (2001: 143-147). Therefore, the researcher prefers K. Bertens theory to be used in this research.

1.2 Research Problem

The problem in this research is as follow: "What kind of moral values in 'Black Beauty' novel by Anna Sewell?"

1.3 Research Objective

The objective in this research is to know the kinds of moral value in 'Black Beauty' novel by Anna Sewell.

1.4 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research focuses on the analysis of moral values in 'Black Beauty' novel by Anna Sewell. There are many characters in 'Black Beauty' novel, but this research is limited to analyse the moral values of the characters named Black Beauty, John Manly, and Jerry Barker in 'Black Beauty' by Anna Sewell based on Kees Bertens' theory.

1.5 Research Significance

The significance of this research can be theoretical and practical.

1. Theoretically

The results of this research are expected to provide benefits and increase knowledge about the moral values contained in 'Black Beauty' novel by Anna Sewell.

2. Practically

The results of this research are expected to provide benefits as a comparison and reference in taking the moral values contained in the novel for future researchers.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To avoid problem misunderstanding and misinterpretation of the research finding, the researcher would like to explain and define the definition of key terms are used.

1. **Value** is something that is considered important, sought after, and used as a guide by humans in living life and behaving to achieve perfection in life (K. Bertens, 2001: 139).

2. **Moral** is a obligation for every human being, and also the values and norms that guide a person or group in regulating their behaviour (K. Bertens, 2001: 14)

3. **Moral Values** according to K. Bertens have four characteristics, namely 'Related to our responsibilities, related to conscience, obligations, and are formal' (2001: 143-147).

4. **Novel** is a literary work that is able to portray human beings truly alive and prioritises the vitality of instinct and a connection with life (Lawrence, 1930).

5. **Black Beauty** is a novel written by Anna Sewell, published in 1877 and set in Victorian England. The novel is about a horse named Black Beauty who is telling his experiences from the horse's point of view. The novel gives voice to animal issues and promotes the kind and loving treatment of animals.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anna_Sewell