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A REFLECTION OF CHARLES DICKNES' CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES IN OLIVER TWIST

THESIS



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PADANG 2010**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

All praise belongs to **Allah SWT**, the Almighty, for the wish, blessing and mercy. The greeting and shalawat are upon the Great Prophet **Muhammad SAW**, the messenger of Allah.

First of all, the writer wants to express her deep gratitude to **Dra. Isramirawati, M.Litt** and **Seswita, S.S, M.Hum**, her first and second supervisors, for the best guidance to supervise and help me in accomplishing this thesis. Next, the writer addresses her thanks to all teaching and academic staff members and the librarians of Faculty of Letters for the knowledge shared, and advices given to her.

The writer's deepest gratitude goes to her beloved parents, "**Ayah and Umak**" who were given their love, pray, care and patience. The writer also addresses her love and care to her brothers and sister, Ricky, Epi, Rahmat and Dayat, for the moment shared and moral support.

Lastly, a special thanks goes to **MAPASTRA** for the togetherness, the adventure and the spirit. We are here because our hobby, adventure. Lestari!

Padang, July 2010

Silvia Nofrita

ABSTRAK

Skripsi ini membahas tentang kehidupan Oliver Twist, tokoh utama dalam novel karya Charles Dickens dengan judul yang sama dengan nama tokoh tersebut, *Oliver Twist*. Kehidupan tersebut lebih spesifik lagi dibahas melalui pengalaman-pengalaman hidup Oliver pada masa revolusi industri di Inggris dimana pengalaman-pengalaman tersebut juga terdapat di dalam kehidupan masa kecil Charles Dickens.

Dalam membahas novel ini, penulis menggunakan pendekatan biografi pengarang sebagai teori utama untuk menganalisa kehidupan masa kecil Charles Dickens yang tergambar di dalam novelnya. Penulis juga menggunakan teori mimetik untuk mengetahui gambaran situasi sosial pada saat novel tersebut ditulis. Selain itu, penulis menggunakan metode komparatif yang membandingkan antara novel dan kehidupan pengarang. Dan dalam penulisan skripsi, penulis menggunakan beberapa metode, yaitu metode kepustakaan yang digunakan untuk pengumpulan data; metode kualitatif untuk menjelaskan data dan metode deskriptif untuk penjabarannya.

Dari penelitian ini, penulis dapat menyimpulkan bahwa novel ini adalah refleksi dari kehidupan sosial Charles Dickens di masa kecilnya yang dapat terlihat dari pengalaman-pengalaman yang dialami oleh Oliver Twist dalam perjalanan hidupnya.

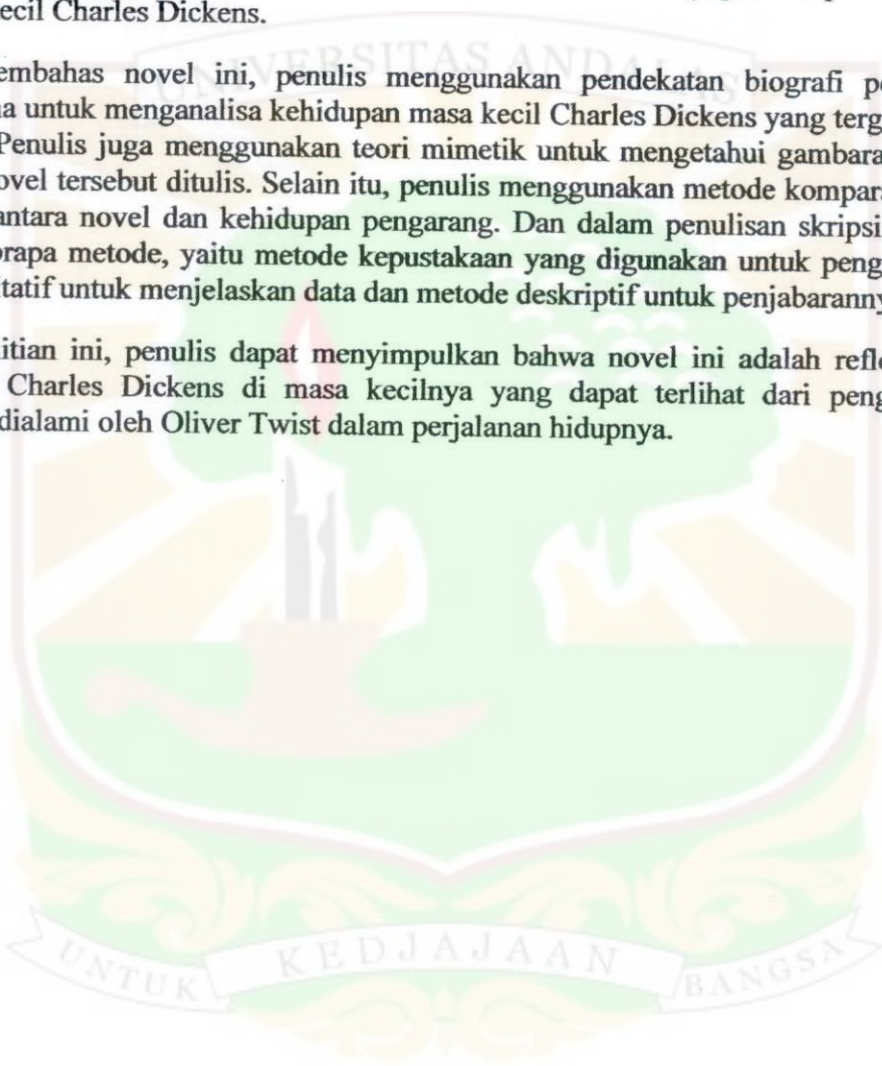


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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

I. 1 Background of the Study

An author has an important role in the literary work. In producing literary work, an author normally uses two ways to express his/her idea or feeling. The first is by using his/her imagination, and the second way is by using the real fact that he/she once experienced as the main source of the story. This second way often found in the literary works such as novel. It means the literary work can be considered as the reflection of the author's life or it can be considered as the reflection of the life of the author.

One of the novels that reflected about the life of the author is *Oliver Twist*. It was written by Charles John Huffam Dickens. He is one of the greatest novelists of the past who created a number of masterpieces such as *Oliver Twist* (1838), *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *Bleak House* (1853), *A Tale of two Cities* (1859) etc. *Oliver Twist* is his second novel which is published in 1838. The title of this novel was taken from the name of the main character within this novel, Oliver Twist. In this novel, Dickens tries to portray the life of a child named Oliver Twist during Industrial Revolution in England. The life of Oliver Twist is a reflection of the life of Charles Dickens on his childhood. It can be seen through the experiences of the author and Oliver Twist. In *Chamber Twenty Century Dictionary*, the definition of experience is "the passing through any event or course of events by which one is affected: anything receive by the mind, as sensation, reception or knowledge" (460).

Based on the definition above, every human passed their life through the experiences including Charles Dickens. It can be sadness, happiness, despair, etc. Charles Dickens as an author tried to show his experiences in his writing. There are some of his experiences especially in his childhood which are reflected within *Oliver Twist*. What are Charles Dickens experienced in his childhood are expressed in his novel *Oliver Twist*. It can be seen in <http://www.directessays.com/viewpaper/42186.html>:

“With all of the symbolism and moral issues represented in *Oliver Twist*, all seem to come from real events from the life of its author, Charles Dickens. The novels protagonist, Oliver, is a good person at heart surrounded by the filth of the London streets. Filth that Dickens himself was forced to deal with in his everyday life. But through morals and mere chance Oliver becomes a living symbol. It’s probable that the reason *Oliver Twist* contains so much fear and agony is because it’s a reflection of occurrences in Charles Dickens’ past. During his childhood, Charles Dickens suffered much abuse from his parents. This abuse is often expressed in his novel.”

It means that the life of Charles Dickens on his childhood affects his works, *Oliver Twist*. This is the reason of the writer choose *Oliver Twist* as the primary source for her research.

Therefore, the writer intends to apply biographical approach since this research relates to the author’ life. Besides, analyzing works by using the biographical approach is the way to see the reflection of the life of the author at that time (Guerin; 1999, 22).

Having considered the above reasons, the writer decides to entitle her research:

A Reflection of Charles Dickens’ Childhood Experiences in Oliver Twist.

I. 2 Statement of the Problem

The experiences of Charles Dickens in his childhood are expressed in his novel *Oliver Twist*. Therefore, the writer will focus her analysis on some experiences (live in poverty, work as a child-labor, accept inheritance) of Oliver Twist as the main character that is reflection of the life on his childhood. By comparing the story of the novel and the biography of the author, the writer will find the experiences of Oliver Twist within the novel which reflected the life of Charles Dickens' childhood.

I. 3 Objective of the Research

The aim of the research is to prove Charles Dickens experiences in his childhood which are reflected by Oliver Twist. The writer found in the novel there are some experiences of Oliver Twist that also experienced by Charles Dickens in his childhood. They are: lives in poverty, works as a child-labor, and accept inheritance. Thus, the objective of the research is to describe the experiences that may happen in the author's life and the main character of the novel.

I. 4 Limitation of the Problem

Based on the topic that being analyzed, the writer needs to limit her analysis on questions:

1. How is the real life of Charles Dickens in his childhood?
2. What are the experiences of Charles Dickens in his childhood reflected in Oliver Twist as the main character in his novel *Oliver Twist*?

I. 5 Method of the Research

In conducting the research, the writer does some steps. They are collecting the data, interpreting and analyzing the data, and presenting the data.

At first step, collecting the data, the writer collects all the data that are needed by doing library research in order to find primary and secondary data. The primary data of this research is the novel which is written by Charles Dickens entitled *Oliver Twist*. The secondary data are books, and articles that support the research.

The second steps are interpreting and analyzing the data. In this step, the writer applies qualitative research method because the data are collected in the form of words, statements, or paragraphs, not in the form of numbers. The writer takes one understanding about qualitative method from Bogdan's statement in his book;

“Qualitative research is descriptive. The collected data is the form of words of pictures rather than numbers. The written result of the research contains quotation of the data to illustrate and substantiate the presentation...”(20).

In addition, the writer applies descriptive analysis in interpreting the novel, as Leedy says that descriptive is the method that simply looks with accurately at the phenomena at the moment and then describes it precisely (79). The writer also applies the second perspective of sociology of literature whereas a literary work might be considered as the reflection of the social life/condition of the author.

For the last step of the research, the writer will report the result of her analysis. The writer will use descriptive method whereas all of the analysis will be reported descriptively.

I. 6 Review of the Previous Research

Oliver Twist has ever been analyzed by students of Faculty of Letters Andalas University. They are Riri Octa Handayani (01185033), Firdiansyah (00185083), Jaehn Wartono (98185074), Wurdaningsih (96185022), and Evelyn Diana Fitri (91185026).

Riri Octa Handayani focused her research on the grammatical features of English used by the lower class people during the 19th century in Charles Dickens' novels (*David Copperfield*, *Hard Times*, and *Oliver Twists*). It means that she conducts a linguistics research. Next, Jaehn Wartono talks about child exploitation as one of the problems in England during industrial revolution and she applies the theory of Sociology of Literature. Then, Firdiansyah focused his research on children exploitation based on the view of moral values that Dickens tries to show in his novel, *Oliver Twist*. He describes exploitation toward Oliver, the main character in the novel, as the representation of children and find moral values behind the exploitation in the novel. On the other hand, Wurdaningsih focused her research on the interaction between direct-indirect and literal - non-literal speech acts that were found in *Oliver Twist*. It means that she conducted linguistic research. Then, Evelyn Diana Fitri focused her research on childhood disharmony of *Oliver Twist* as the impact of social discrepancy during Industrial Revolution in England. Her research focused on social condition of British society as the impact of Industrial Revolution. In the research, she used sociological approach.

Meanwhile, the writer will focus her research on the experiences of the author that are reflected in his novel *Oliver Twist* through the main character of the novel. It means that the writer will see the similarities between the story of the novel and the real social life or social condition of the author.

Besides, there is some previous research about this novel that has been published in some books. They could be used to compare the writer's analysis with others.

One of the books entitled *A Background to English* which is written by P.S Tregidgo. In this book he said that:

“ Charles Dickens wrote more about the working class. He is recognized as one of the greatest creative writers who ever lived. Each of the hundreds of characters in his books stands out as an individual, with his qualities boldly exaggerated as if by a cartoonist: the meek and the bold, the tragic and the comic, the cunning and the innocent, the heroes and the hypocrites, the merry and the miserable, the simple and the complicated. Dickens often exposed social evils, like poverty in *Oliver Twist*...”(154)

According to Tregidgo, Charles Dickens is one of the greatest novelists that put about the working class as his theme. *Oliver Twist* is one of his novels which put poverty as the most of the story concerned, whereas poverty is one of social evils in English society.

Half of Dickens' work may consist in the field of his observation and his own experience in London especially about the working and lower-middle classes. *Oliver Twist* is one of them. In *An Introduction to English Literature* (1947), John Mulgan and D.M Davin stated that “In *Oliver Twist* (1837), *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *Hard Times* (1854), and other works he devoted himself to the novel of social conditions with a reforming purpose” (118). It means that *Oliver Twist* was one of Dickens' works which talk about social condition and the story of the novel based on his observation and his own experience in London.

In addition, in Introduction of the novel, Michael Slater, assumed that:

“In *Oliver Twist* he determined to dramatize the harshness of the new legislation by showing its effect on a representative of its most helpless victims, an infant born (and immediately orphaned) in a workhouse.”(xv)

It means that *Oliver Twist* exposed some negative effects of the new legislation toward the orphan in the workhouse. In other words, Dickens wants to show that the orphan was the victims of the new legislation which have make them to the bad condition.

I. 7 Theoretical Framework

In order to help the writer in doing her analysis, the writer chooses to apply mimetic theory by Abrams (1976) that states: “the mimetic orientation-the explanation of arts as essentially and imitation of aspects of the universe”(8). This theory is used to see the novel as a kind of literary work, which is an art, and the event in this novel is related to the real life. It can be said that the events in that novel are the imitation of the real life in the world. Therefore, *Oliver Twist* could be assumed as a reflection of The Industrial Revolution in England around nineteenth century.

To make the analysis, the writer uses biographical approach. In *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*, Guerin states, “this approach sees a literary work chiefly, if not exclusively, as a reflection of its author’s life and times or the life and times of the characters in the work” (22). It means that a literary work is a reflection of the author’s life. It can be thought, feeling, action or experience of the author. In another words, what are the author passed in his or her life, then, he or she tried to express in his or her works. Therefore, by using this approach the writer can prove the correlation

between the stories in the novel *Oliver Twist* with the real life of Charles Dickens' childhood.

In addition, by applying biographical approach to a literary work, the writer can have a better understanding of the ideas, messages or purpose that the author wants to convey through his works.



CHAPTER II

PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS

A literary work has some elements in a unity and called by elements of fiction. Each element is influenced and bounded each others. In this chapter, the writer analyses the elements of the novel, *Oliver Twist*. This analysis aimed to describe all of the aspects of elements in the novel, which consists of the plot, setting, characters, and lastly the theme. This structural analysis will help the reader understand the story of the novel more easily.

II.1 Characters

In order to understand the novel easier, the writer starts her analysis by studying the characters of the story. It will also help to analyse other elements as the object of the analysis. Characters have an important role in order to deliver the message in a literary work through their action. In *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens creates several characters with their own behavior which can represent the behavior of the person on British society in eighteenth century. As Kenney tells in *How to Analyse Fiction*, "Character is an imaginary person that is created by the narrator" (21). Kenney also classified the characters into two categories. They are simple or flat and round characters. In addition, he defines that "Flat or simple character is less the representation of human personality than the embodiment or a single attitude or obsession in character" (28). It means that the character of this category does not show the obvious changing in personality.

Otherwise, round character is obviously more lifelike than the simple one, because in life people are not simply embodiments of single attitude.

Each of characters in *Oliver Twist* has various behaviors. It was reflected from their thought, social class and action. Based on the social class, the characters are placed in three different social class; the upper-class, the middle-class and the lower class. In addition, Industrial Revolution in England had influenced negatively the characters that come from the lower-class. In the other hands, Industrial Revolution only brings some advantages for the upper-class and not for the lower-class. By seeing these facts, the writer can be helped in analyzing all of the characters in this novel.

In *Oliver Twist*, the writer finds that Oliver Twist, one of the orphans in the workhouse that comes from the lower-class, is the main character and there are also several characters that get involved in this novel.

1. Oliver Twist

He is a good boy and lives in poverty in the beginning of the story. Physically, he was thin and small for his age. He is very naive and innocent. It can be seen when Fagin asked him about his intention to know the way of take something in someone's pocket without knowing by the owner and people around them;

“ You'd like to be able to make pocket handkerchiefs as easy as Charley Bates, wouldn't you, my dear?” said the Jew.

Very much, indeed, if you'll teach me, sir,' replied Oliver

Master Bates saw something so exquisitely ludicrous in that reply that burst into another laugh:...(61)

He is an orphan. His mother was died after his birth and his father was unknown. He lives in an orphanage but then he was moved to the workhouse when he was nine years old. It does not make his life better than before. He was starving even more when he lived there. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of sow starvation for three months: at last they got so voracious and wild with hunger.”(12)

He does not have any intention which related to the crime. It means that he has good personality. Although he was a kid and lived in bad social condition, but he knows about the norms and rules in a society. In other words, there are some moral value insist in his behavior. His poverty and the bad social condition around him do not influence him doing everything especially by using the wrong way to get money. His good behavior brings him to the lucky life. In the end of the story, the history about himself and his family was disclosed. His life turns into the upper-class after inheriting his father heritage.

2. Fagin

He was a leader of pickpocket gang. He has bad behavior and performance with his red hair. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“In a frying pan, which was on the fire, and which was secured to the mantel-shelf, some sausages were cooking: and standing over them, with a toasting-fork in his hand, was a very old shriveled Jew, whose villainous looking and repulsive face was obscured by a quantity of matted red hair.”(56)

He comes from the lower-class, jobless, unskilled, and uneducated. This is the factors made him involve in a crime. He was the man who recruits and trains boys for

thievery including Oliver. When Oliver was living in his house, he taught him how to take something in someone's pocket without knowing by the owner. In the other words, he was a kind of people that took some advantages from the efforts of his boys pickpocket while he just sitting in home. It means that he was a lazy person. In addition, he also can be involved into a criminal and an antagonist character.

3. Bill Sikes

He was a violent thief and eventual murderer. He has a close tight relationship with Fagin in doing a crime. He also comes from the lower-class, jobless, unskilled and uneducated. His behavior is not different with Fagin. He is bad temper and performance. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“The man who growled out these words, was a stoutly-built fellow of about five-and-thirty, in a black velveteen coat, very soiled drab breeches, lace-up half boots, and grey cotton stockings, which inclosed a bulky pair of legs, which large sweeling calves;...”(86)

He looks like a strong man even he was thirty-five years old. He has a white dog named Bull eyes with spooky face and twenty-four scars in whole of its body which shown the brutality of Sikes.

4. Jack Dawkins

He was also known as the Artful Dodger. Oliver met him in his journey to London. He was about Oliver's own age. Physically, he was short of his age; with rather

bow-legs and little, sharp, bad eyes. He was one of the weirdest looking boys that Oliver had ever seen. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“The boy who addressed this inquiry to the young wayfarer, was about his own age:but one of the queerest of looking boys that Oliver had ever seen. He was a snub-nosed flat-browed, common-faced boy enough; and as dirty a juveniles one would wish to see; but he had about him all the airs and manners of a man. He was short of his age: with rather bow-legs, and little, sharp, ugly eyes.”(52-53)

He was one of Fagin’s boy pickpockets and seems born for a life for a crime. He was a boy that introduces Oliver to Fagin and his crime job.

5. Charley Bates

He was another Fagin’s boy pickpockets. He was a partner of Jack Dawkins in teaching how to pick something in someone’s pocket at the first day of Oliver out of Fagin’s home. He likes drinking and smoking. Those are not good for his health and he was too young. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“Seated round the table were four or five boys, none older than the Dodger, smoking long clay pipes, and drinking spirits with the air of middle-age men.” (56-57)

“When the Dodger returned: accompany by a very sprightly young friend, whom Oliver had seen smoking on the previous night, and who was now formally introduced to him as Charley Bates.”(60)

Besides, he also has bad behavior with the same background of his associates. In the end of the story, he becomes an honest citizen and work to reach the prosperity.

6. Nancy

She was a prostitute girl. She was still young. She loved Bill Sikes very much and dedicated her life for him even in the end of the story her life was end in Sikes

hands. She lived with Bill in the same home even though they are not a couple of wife-husband. She has an important role in Oliver Twist's life. However, she still has a little kindness even though she lived in "unhealthy" environment for along time. It can be seen when she stop Fagin blowing a club toward Oliver;

"The Jew inflicted a smart blow on Oliver's shoulder with the club; and was raising it for a second, when the girl, rushing forward, wrested it from his hand. She flung it into the fire, with a force that brought some of the glowing coals whirling out into the room."(114)

Besides, her effort to save Oliver's life by telling Rose Maylie and Mr. Brownlow about the crime planning of Fagin and Monks can be said as her mercy to Oliver with all the bad consequences that she has to receive after that. From deep in her heart, she, actually, cares toward Oliver.

7. Monks

He was about 28 years old. He has a dark skin with a red scar which looks like burning scar on his neck. He was tall and his performance makes everyone who saw him scared. It can be seen on the quotation below:

"he is tall," said the girl, "and a strongly made man, but not stout; he has a lurking walks, constantly looks over his shoulder, first on one side, and then on the other. Don't forget that, for his eyes are sunk in his head so much deeper than any other man's, that you might almost tell him by the alone. His face is dark, like his hair and eyes; and although he can't be more than six or eight and twenty, withered and haggard. His lips are often discoloured and disfigured with the marks of teeth,; for he has desperate fits,..."(352)

"Upon his throat: so high that you can see a part of it below his neckerchief when he turns his face: there is-
'A broad red mark, like a burn or scald?' cried the gentleman."(353)

He was Oliver's paternal half-brother and a type of criminal. He knows about Oliver's parentage and tries to destroy all of the facts about that. He does not want Oliver get a half of his father inheritance. In the novel, the character of Monks appears in the middle of the story and he was one of the trouble makers in Oliver's life.

8. Mr. Brownlow

He is a wealthy old gentleman and Oliver's savior. He was one of protagonist characters in the novel. He comes from the upper-class and has a good personality. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“The old gentleman was a very respectable-looking personage, with a powdered head and gold spectacles. He was dressed in a green-bottle coat with a black velvet collar; wore white trousers; and carried a smart bamboo cane under hid arms.”(65)

He lives in the big house with an old housekeeper before Oliver's arrival. In their first meeting, he helped Oliver to leave Fagin and his criminal associates and takes him home. He was an old friend of Oliver's father and knows about the history of his family. He also has an important role in Oliver's life besides Nancy. Based on the story that he heard from Nancy about Monks, he gets a clue about Oliver's parentage. He makes Oliver's life better by helping him to find about his parentage. In the end of the story, he adopted Oliver as his son and live together with the happiness around them.

9. Rose Maylie

She was a kind young woman and Oliver's second savior. Her name echoes her association with flower and springtime, youth and beauty. She was about seventeen

years old and lived with his aunt. She was a beautiful girl with the blue eyes and friendly smile. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“She was not past seventeen. Cast in so slight and exquisite a mould; so mild and gentle; so pure and beautiful; that earth seemed not her element, nor its rough creatures her fit companions. The very intelligence that shone in her deep blue eye, and was stamped upon her noble head, seemed scarcely of her age, or of the world; and yet the changing expression of sweetness and good humour, the thousand lights that played about the face, and left no shadow there; above all, the smile, the cheerful, happy smile, were made for Home, and fireside peace and happiness.”(212)

She comes from the upper-class. She was not an arrogant person like another high-class woman. It can be seen from his behavior toward Nancy in a meeting. She sets Oliver's meeting with Mr. Brownlow. In the end of the story, she was merry with Harry, her lover, and she was known as the long-lost sister of Oliver's mother, Agnes. Automatically, she, then, becomes Oliver's aunt.

10. Mr. Bumble

He was the lord of the orphanage where Oliver lives in suffering. Physically, he was a fat man and he also has bad behavior. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“Now, Mr. Bumble was a fat man, and a choleric; so, instead of responding to this open-hearted salutation in a kindred spirit, he gave that little wicket a tremendous shake, and then bestowed upon it a kick which could have emanated from no leg but a beadle's.”(6)

He comes from the middle-class. He was a hypocrite man. He was an officious and corrupt man. He exploited the orphan to be a worker. He does not like them including Oliver. One day, Mr. Brownlow announced about Oliver' lost in newspaper and will pay some money for those who have any news about him. Mr. Bumble read the announcement and come to Mr. Brownlow. He told that Oliver was a bad boy and take

home with some money. He also sells Oliver to Mr. Sowerberry and gets five pounds upon it. In this novel, he was an antagonist character.

11. Mrs. Bedwin

She is an old housekeeper and dedicated her life to keep Mr. Brownlow. She was a good woman. She nurses Oliver when he was sick and gives her best attention toward Oliver. It can be seen on the days of Oliver lying because of his sickness:

“Hush, my dear,” said the old lady softly. “You must be very quiet, or you will **be** ill again; and you have been very bad,-as bad as bad could be, pretty high. Lie down again; there’s a dear!” with these words, the old lady very gently placed Oliver’s head upon the pillow; and, smoothing back his hair from his forehead, looked so kindly and lovingly in his face, that he could not help placing his little withered hand in hers, and drawing it round his neck.”(76)

She was a character in the novel who makes Mr. Brownlow sure that Oliver was a good boy.

12. Mr. Sowerberry

He was an undertaker who took Oliver from the workhouse. He took Oliver home by ordering him from Mr. Bumble in order to help him at his shop and got five pounds of it as written on the bill. He treats Oliver well. He was not a bad man and rather likes Oliver. He was a tall and thin man. His countenance rather seemed to professional jocosity. It can be seen on the quotation below:

“Mr. Sowerberry was a tall, gaunt, large-jointed man, attired in a suit of threadbare black, with darned cotton stockings of the same colour, and shoes to answer. His features were not naturally intended to wear a smiling aspect, but he was in general rather given to professional jocosity.”(22)

Mr. Sowerberry who only appears on the beginning of the story, can be categorized as protagonist character.

13. Noah Claypole

He was a charity boy like Oliver. He is idle, stupid and cowardly. He works to Mr. Sowerberry. He does not like the Oliver's absence in Mr. Sowerberry's house. It has shown on their first meeting. He tends to hurt Oliver and make him uncomfortable by his attitude. It can be seen on the quotation below:

"I'm Mister Noah Claypole," said the charity-boy, "and you're under me. Take down the shutters, yer idle young ruffian!" With this, Mr. Claypole administered a kick to Oliver and entered the shop with a dignified air, which did him great credit."(30-31)

He likes to mock on Oliver's mother. Thus, it makes Oliver angry and gives him a heavy blow until he felled to the ground. He, then, becomes Fagin's associates.

II.2 Plot

The next element of fiction is plot. Plot in *Oliver Twist* is the important events where Dickens begins his work until he finishes it, whereas the events create the process of the story moving from the beginning, through the middle and the end of the story. As Kenney defines that "Plot is an ordered sequence of events in the story. Plot describes what happen in a story and the reason why it occurs. The arrangement of these events will make up the story in novel" (20). Plot consists of four parts; exposition, rising action, climax and falling action.

Oliver Twist begins with Oliver Twist's birth in an orphanage in an unnamed town. Oliver Twist was an orphan. He was born into the world without knowing who his father is and his mother died after his birth. When he was nine years old, Mr. Bumble, the leader of an orphanage, sent him to the workhouse in order to work as a child-labor. Mr. Bumble was portrays of a greedy people who takes some profits from the orphans who live in the orphanage. Children who are sent to the workhouse never get any sufficient foods and good treatment. Therefore, most of them are suffering and hungry.

The rising action comes when Oliver decided to run away from Mr. Sowerberry's house. Mr. Sowerberry was the man who bought Oliver from Mr. Bumble and pays five pounds to him. Oliver went to London. He met Jack Dawkins, who is affectionately known as the Artful Dodger, during his journey to London. Jack Dawkins brought him to Fagin, a leader of pickpocket gang in London, and recruits him as Fagin's boy pickpocket. He, lately, realizes that what Fagin and his gang done is a crime. He intends to leave Fagin and the gang.

Then, the climax sets when Sikes killed Nancy whom told to Rose Maylie and Mr. Brownlow about a planning of Fagin and Monks which related with Oliver's background. Before her dying, Nancy visited Rose Maylie in a hotel, telling her what she had heard from the conversation between Fagin and Monks. She told that they have a crime planning. Monks asked Fagin to recruit Oliver back to be his boy pickpocket and also a murderer. Then, Oliver will die in hanging as the punishment for his brutal acts. Nancy also heard that Oliver was Monks' paternal half-brother. That is the reason of Monks seeing Oliver died in hanging punishment. After his dying, Monks can receive all of his father inheritance. Nancy was followed by Noah Claypole when she has a meeting

with Mr. Brownlow next two weeks after her meeting with Rose Maylie. She does not realize about that. She tells about Monks to Mr. Brownlow whom thought that he knows about the man. Then, Noah Claypole tells Fagin about the meeting. Fagin thought that his life is in trouble now and soon he goes to Sikes and tells him about the meeting. Sikes was angry and killed Nancy in his home. Sikes tries to run away after killing Nancy, scared that he will send to the jail and sentenced to the death.

Finally, the story moves to the falling action whereas in this part the conflict of the story solved step by step. It sets when Mr. Brownlow asked Monks about his background. He wants to listen Monks' confession about Oliver's parentage and he wants Monks to confess that Oliver is his paternal half-brother. Mr. Brownlow is Leeford's old friend. Edward Leeford is Oliver and Monks' father. In addition, he knows everything about the history of Leeford's family. Finally, Monks can not lie much more and he was asked to inherit a half of his father's heritage toward Oliver. He wants Mr. Brownlow keep what he has done toward Oliver and not send him to the police. In addition, Mr. Brownlow obeyed that. Monks then moves to America, where he squanders his money, reverts to crime, and ultimately dies in prison. Sikes tried to run away from the law, but his efforts only killed himself. He died in hanging when he was trying to safe himself from the police by jumping from the roof by using a rope. Besides, Fagin was sent in the condemned cells and waiting for the hanging punishment. Charley bates who horrified by Sikes' murder of Nancy, becomes an honest citizen, moves to the country, and works his way up to prosperity. Noah, the boy who always offends Oliver in Mr. Sowerberry's house, becomes a paid informant and Mr. Bumble losses his job and is reduced to great poverty, eventually ending up in the same workhouse he once

lorded it over Oliver and the other boys. In the other hands, Oliver lives happily with his savior, Mr. Brownlow. In addition, on a happier note, Rose Maylie turns out to be the long-lost sister of Oliver's mother, Agnes. She is therefore Oliver's aunt and she marries her long-time sweetheart, Harry.

II.3 Setting

The next element of fiction is setting. It is very important since the setting can give detail information about the time when the story was lasting and the place where the story takes place. It is impossible to analyse the social condition of the story without knowing when and where the story is set. By knowing the social condition of the story, it will help the writer in reveals the social condition of the author. A good setting is able to describe the realistic place, environment, time and social atmosphere in which the story is set. In *How to Analyse Fiction* (1996), Kenney stated that " Setting is the element of fiction which reveals where and when the events happen. In the other words, setting refers to the point of time and space, which the event of the plot occurs " (39). Based on the quotation, the writer concludes that setting divided into two; setting of time and setting of place.

After analyzing the novel, the writer can describe the setting of the novel. In setting of place, the writer concludes that this novel is set in England in British society background. There are some places or towns that mentioned in the novel. These are London, Barnet, Chertsey and Jacob Island in Thames. London is the main setting of the novel in which most of the activities in the novel was done in this place. This is also the

place in which Oliver started his life struggle. This statement was supported by an article in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oliver_Twist.

“On the way to this happy ending, Dickens takes the opportunity to explore the kind of life of an orphan, outcast boy could expect to lead in the London of the 1830s”.

Besides, based on the quotation above, the writer takes the conclusion that this novel sets around 1830s. In addition, the writer also analyses about the phenomena which happened in this novel. The writer finds that there is exploitation toward the children to be a worker and this phenomenon is the negative effect of Industrial Revolution which happened in eighteenth century in England.

II.4 Theme

Theme is “the meaning of the story release; it may be the meaning of the story discovered” (Kenney, p. 91). After reading the novel, the writer finds that the theme is about life struggle. The writer finds that all of the activities which are done by the main character, Oliver Twist, are all about life struggle. The writer also concludes that this struggle brings Oliver to the better life or it can be said “misery brings to the glory”.

The novel begins with Oliver’s birth, whereas it happened in an orphanage in an unnamed town within 75 miles of London. His mother was died after his birth. Since that day, Oliver lives in an orphanage with the others orphan and nine years later he was moved to the workhouse to be a worker. His moving to the workhouse is not better than in an orphanage. He does not get enough foods and good treatment. However, he tries to survive in that bad condition. He receives the unfairness without resisting and just obeys

what was commanded to him. This is one of the ways to struggle his life. He only makes his life more suffer instead get happiness if he resists the rules.

Another fact that shown about his life struggle is sets when he decided to run away from Mr. Sowerberry's house in order to get a better life. Most of people in Mr. Sowerberry's house do not like him and they always offend him. He went to London by walking and met Fagin, a leader of pickpocket gang. In Fagin's house, he was taught how to take something in someone's pocket. He, lately, realizes that Fagin and his gang do a crime job. His life was saved by Mr. Brownlow who takes him home and cares of him.

Besides, the writer also finds the struggle of Oliver Twist in surviving his life when he almost dies. He shouted when he was following Sikes and Toby robbing a rich family. His struggle can be seen from his effort to get up and tries to find someone in order to get any help and save him, even though he was very weak and the rain was go down heavily.

In addition, the writer also finds the other theme, poverty and the social class. In an early chapter, Oliver attends a pauper's funeral with Mr. Sowerberry. He sees a whole family crowded together under miserable conditions. The mother actually starved and finally died because her husband was unable to find work. This condition describes about poverty in this novel. In addition, the apparent plague of poverty tied with social class theme.

CHAPTER III

THE LIFE OF CHARLES DICKENS

In this chapter, the writer will explain about the life of Charles Dickens who was the author of *Oliver Twist*. Generally, biography consists of whole of the life of someone. However, in this case, the writer will tell more specified about his childhood since the analysis will be more concerned on Charles Dickens' childhood.

Charles John Huffam Dickens was born in Portsmouth, England on 7 February 1812, but he spent most of his childhood in London and Kent where he set many of his novels. He was the second child of eight children of John Dickens and his wife, Elizabeth. His father was a clerk in the Navy Pay Office. Dickens often moves from one city to another one because of his father's job. It explains in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Dickens;

When he was five, the family moved to Chatham, Kent. In 1822, when he was ten, the family relocated to 16 Bayham Street, Camden Town, in London.

Dickens and his family live in the big house. They have good quality in education. His father provided them with some private education at William Gile's school in Chatham. It shows that Dickens comes from the upper class. The prosperity of his family does not last longer. It was ended because his father spent the money beyond of his means in entertaining and retaining his social position. The time of prosperity was ended. They have to move from their big house. They move to the poorest part of the London suburbs with bad environment in Bayham Street. They live in the small house and eat a little food. The situation becomes worse. His father, then put into the debtor's prison in Marshalsea. All of the family except Dickens also moves to the Marshalsea

residence. Their life turned into poverty. It happened when Dickens was twelve years old.

While his father was in jail and young Dickens lived apart from his family in a lodging house, he works in a shoe polish factory to get the money to feed and clothe him. He had begun working ten hours a day at Warren's Blacking house on Hungerford Stairs. He got payment for his pasting labels on jars of thick shoe polish. He earned six shillings a week. This was the most miserable time of Dickens' life and he feared he might never see his family again. This also influences the works of Dickens. As stated in the quotation below in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Dickens;

The mostly unregulated, strenuous—and often cruel—work conditions of the factory employees (especially children), made a deep impression on Dickens. His experiences served to influence later fiction and essays, and were the foundation of his interest in the reform of socio-economic and labor conditions; the rigors of which he believed were unfairly borne by the poor.

This quotation also described Dickens intends to revealed the social theme in his works. Most of his works told about the working class and the poverty as it happened in the Victorian age. It can be seen on the quotation below;

In Dickens it had its greatest master whose influence upon the Continent was only less than Scott's. (It was particularly strong upon the Russian writers.) his novels in their infinite invention and inexhaustible humour, provide a portrait of a whole society: the "lower orders" of the Victorians, especially the lower middle class to which Dickens belonged. (Rowse; 133)

Besides, the quotation also shows that Dickens uses the Victorian age as his setting of time in his works where the industrial revolution was happened. Charles Dickens lives in this period. Therefore, he is able to describe the society at the time in his works vividly.

Industrial revolution brought great advantages toward the living progress. All human activities could be done easily since the human power and traditional tools had been replaced by the mechanization. Factories and industries have great increase in productivity after the processes depended on machines not on individual skills anymore.

“ According to Smith, a single worker ‘could scarce, perhaps with his utmost industry, make one pin a day, and certainly could not make 20’. The new methods enabled a pin factory to turn out as many 4,800 pins a day.” (Gwinn 922)

Besides, industrial revolution also brought some disadvantages, especially for the lower class society. English people were divided into three great classes; Upper class or aristocrat, middle-class, and lower-class or the working class. The effects of industrial revolution to each class were different from each other since they are coming from different level of strata and education (Palmer, 1978, 422).

For the upper-class, they saw the industrial revolution as a good chance to invest their capital and built factories as many as they could in order to get profits. For the middle-class, they thought that industrial revolution was a convenient time to improve their life and increase their income by using their skills and education. On the other hands, the lower-class got the most pathetic effect from the industrial revolution since most of them were people who move from country to town in order to improve their lives. Ironically, they were generally unskilled and uneducated people. They came to town and did not get what they want so they only added the town population. Most of them were jobless or at least they worked as laborers and workers at the factory, even their wife and children were forced to earn their poor life (Palmer, 1978, 423). Charles Dickens and his family were being in this condition.

Fortunately, it took no longer. After four months, his father was let out of the prison because of inheritance. John Dickens receives £450 from his mother inheritance. This money used to pay the debt. In addition, Dickens was able to return home to live with his parents and go back to school. This condition makes his life better. In *Illustrated History of English Literature*, Ward said;

He then took to parliamentary reporting and Charles had two or three years of further schooling in a 'Classical and Commercial Academy' at Hampstead...(202)

When he was fifteen years old, he left school and went to work as a legal clerk in a solicitor's office. There he learnt shorthand and was phenomenally fast and because of this he got a job as a reporter, reporting dull court case, and boring parliamentary debates. He get intend to theater which reflected on the quotation below;

His leisure was meanwhile divided between study in the British Museum Reading Room and preparation for the life of an actor, since he intended to take the stage if circumstances allowed. (Ward; 203)

In 1833, he then decided to write his own stories under the name of Boz. Dickens published the first six or seven of his Monthly magazine. He also contributed similar sketches to the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Evening Chronicle* and to *Bell's Life in London*. It was successful. In April 1836, Dickens married Catharine Hogarth. They have ten children. At the same, the first monthly part of *The Posthumous Papers of the Pickwick Club* came out. Dickens writes the words and a man would draw pictures for them. They were published in cheap monthly installments. For the first one, they published it only 400 copies but by the fourth, they had to print 40.000 copies. The main character, Mr. Pickwick served time in a debtor's prison like Dickens' father. Within four months of

publishing his first story, Dickens was internationally famous. It can be seen on the quotation below;

By the fifteenth number the circulation of *Pickwick Papers* had soared to 40.000 copies, and Dickens for the rest of his life experienced a more widespread popular fame than any other novelist has known.(205)

He became an editor of monthly magazine called Bentley's Miscellany which he made instantly successful by his serialization of *Oliver Twist*, which is one of his great novels. The novel is about a struggle of an orphan in industrial revolution era. In addition, Dickens takes about the social theme in this novel, like poverty and hypocrisy.

In 1842, Dickens went to America and lectured in favor of international copyright, which meant that authors would get a royalty when their books were published in another country. He also campaigned for the abolition of slavery, (slavery had been banned in British colonies in 1834). He returned home and continued his writing. He published a lot of novels likes *Oliver Twist* (1838), *A Christmas Carol* (1843), *Bleak House* (1853), *A Tale of two Cities* (1859) etc.

Dickens continued to use his books to tell about the bad condition of the working class and poor people whereas they had to live in poverty. He hoped that through his writing, it will bring a changing in the England society.

In 1858, he separated with his wife. There is a long disharmony in their household which is reflected on the quotation below;

Catharine Dickens bore ten children and was a devoted mother, but not the intelligent and companionable wife that Dickens desires.(Ward; 204)

The quotation shows that Catharine is not the ideal wife for Dickens. The final stage in their long disharmony when Dickens fell in love with Ellen Ternan and the marriage was ended.

On 8 June 1870, Dickens suffered of stroke at his home. The next day, on 9 June, he died at Gad's Hill Place.



CHAPTER IV

A REFLECTION OF CHARLES DICKENS' CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES IN *OLIVER TWIST*

In this chapter, the writer describes some experiences of Oliver Twist which reflected the life of Charles Dickens on his childhood. This analysis will apply biographical approach toward the novel. This analysis will focus on some experiences of Oliver Twist as the main character of the novel which reflected the life of Charles Dickens on his childhood. The writer found that there are some experiences of Charles Dickens on his childhood that expressed in *Oliver Twist*. They are: lives in poverty, works as a child labors, and accepts inheritance. Poverty and child labor has a close tight relationship with the social problem at the time in England. These two terms are the impact of Industrial Revolution for the working class and the lower class. In addition, inheritance usually only had by the upper class. Thus, this term related with the social class in the society. Those three experiences will be discussed more detail on the subchapter below.

1. Lives in Poverty

Poverty is a chronic problem in England society. Since Industrialism has touched this country, the social effect of industrialism toward the population of England can not be avoided. Industrialism makes all activities focused in town. This condition stimulated people moved in a great number. It was called urbanization.

There are some of them come with their family. They thought that living in town will make their life better. Most of them are unskilled and uneducated. Therefore, what they dream before moving to the town was hopeless. They live in poverty with dirty and miserable condition. Their house was just poorly built and under-equipped, unconnected to water or sewer system. Some of them live on the workhouse. By the industrialization, England put itself as the greatest number urbanization in the world at that time.

“Throughout the nineteenth century only London, for centuries a large and ever-growing trading, manufacturing, administrative, and financial center, and always the largest city in the nation, provided a real counterweigh in the south. New towns and cities sprang up on the coalfields as industrialization took hold, and by the middle of the nineteenth century England was the most urbanized nation in the world.” (Roebuck, 2)

In England society, there were a wide gap between the rich and the poor. It can be seen on many aspects of life such as life style, manner, appearance and income. The rich has luxury on their life style. They can get what they want easily. On the other hands, the poor people have miserable life. Most of their income was spent on food and they were so close to poverty. It can be represented on the main character of the novel, *Oliver Twist*.

Oliver Twist comes from the lower-class. He was born as an orphan. He did not know about his parents. His mother was died after giving him a birth in one of the workhouse in that town. As the quotation below states:

“The surgeon deposited it in her arms. She imprinted her cold white lips passionately on its forehead; passed her hands over her face; gazed wildly round; shuddered; fell back-and died. They chafed her breast, hands, and temples; but the blood had stopped forever. They talked of hope and comfort. They had been stranger too long.

‘it’s all over, Mrs. Thingummy!’ said the surgeon at last.

'Ah, poor dear, so it is!' said the nurse, picking up the cork of the green bottle, which had fallen out on the pillow, as she stopped to take up the child. 'Poor dear'."(2)

Based on the quotation above, there are a surgeon and a nurse who helped Oliver's mother in bearing process. They have been keeping her since they had found her lying on the street where nobody knows where she comes from. It can be seen on the quotation below.

'She was brought here last night,' replied the old woman, 'by the overseer's order. She was found lying in the street;- she had walked some distance, for her shoes were worn to pieces; but where she came from, or where she was going to, nobody knows.

The surgeon leant over the body, and raised the left hand. 'The old story,' he said, shaking his head; 'no wedding-ring. I see. Ah! Goodnight!'. (3)

No wedding-ring regarded as an old story by the surgeon reflected the unmarried woman who gives birth to a baby was just a common thing in England at the time. This condition made many children did not get any food treatment from their parents, since their single parent was too poor to clothe and feed them.

In the novel, most of the orphan lives in the workhouse. Since they do not have parents and home including Oliver Twist, workhouse is the last choice for them. In the other words, living in the workhouse does not give them a better life. Hunger and bad illnesses were the common thing for the orphan during living inside the workhouse. Those two things are so close to the poor since they live in poverty. The condition of the children is reflected in the quotation below which is represented by Oliver Twist:

Oliver Twist's ninth birthday found him a pale thin child, somewhat diminutive in stature, and decidedly small in circumstance. (5)

'Bless their dear little hearts!' said Mrs. Mann with emotion, 'they're as well as can be, the dears! Of course, except the two that died last week. And little Dick.'

'Isn't that boy no better?' inquired Mr. Bumble.

Mrs. Mann shocks her head.

'He's a ill-conditioned, vicious, bad-disposed parochial child that,' said Mr. Bumble angrily. Where is he?' (121)

In addition, Oliver often receives unfairness from the leader of the workhouse, named Mr. Bumble. It means that people who come from the lower-class often receive the unfairness. Mr. Bumble as the leader of the orphan always takes the advantages from the orphan.

In England society, orphan was a proscribed child. Their absent can not be accepted in the environment. Most of the orphans were born from the unmarried women. Oliver Twist is one of them before his parentage was revealed later. The environment always treats them bad like they are not a human. It can be reflected when Oliver was living in Mr. Sowerberry's house. He ate foods which actually set for a dog. It can be seen on the quotation below:

'Here, Charlotte,' said Mrs. Sowerberry, who had followed Oliver down, 'give the boy some of the cold bits that were put by for Trip. He hasn't come home since the morning, so he may go without 'em. I dare say the boy isn't too dainty to eat 'em,-are you,boy?' (27)

In addition, Oliver did not get a convenient room where he can take a rest inside. Mrs. Sowerberry show him a place which is dark and dirty. It was the undertaker shop which full of coffins. He would sleep among the coffins. With a flock mattress which look like a grave. It reflected that most of people who comes from the upper class or the middle class in England society will give bad treatment toward the lower class. It is shown on the quotation below:

'Then come with me,' said Mrs. Sowerberry : taking up a dim and dirty lamp, and leading the way up stairs; 'your bed's under the counter. You don't mind sleeping among the coffins, I suppose? But it doesn't much matter whether you do or don't, for you can't sleep anywhere else. Come ; don't keep me here all night!' (28)

Oliver, being left to himself in the undertaker's shop, set the lamp down on a workman's bench, and gazed timidly about him with a feeling of awe and dread, which many people a good deal older than he, will be at no loss to understand. (29).

Furthermore, Oliver does not have any material that can be supported his life such money, home or good clothes. As the writer explains before, his mother was died after giving him a birth and his father was unknown. It makes him does not inherit anything before his parenting was revealed then.

Oliver decided to go away from the undertaker's shop. Since he lived there, there is no day for him to live in peace. Noah Claypole, another worker in the shop, always does something sickens toward Oliver. Oliver can not receive it any longer and decided to go away. He only brought a few money, an old shirt and a small amount of food. He does not know where to go. He does not have any relatives in that town since he was an orphan. As the quotation below states:

He looked to the right and to the left, uncertain whither to fly. He remembered to have seen the wagons, as they went out, toiling up the hill. He took the same route ; and arriving at a footpath across the fields: after some distance, led out again into the road : struck into it, and walked quickly on. (48-49)

He had a crust of bread, a coarse shirt, and two pairs of stockings in his bundle. He had a penny too ; a gift of Sowerberry's after some funeral in which he had acquitted himself more than ordinarily well-in his pocket. 'A clean shirt,' thought Oliver, 'is a very comfortable thing ; and so are two pairs of darned stockings ; and so is a penny ; but they are small helps to a sixty-five miles' walk in winter time.' (50)

It shows that Oliver represented the lower class who lives in poverty and comes to the town just for adding the population in town.

Most of the lower class involved in crime. It was because they are uneducated, unskilled and unemployed. They have to fulfill the basic requirements. Therefore, they need money to fulfill their needs and unfortunately they were unemployed. They choose the bad way to get money quickly by doing criminality such as robbery, burglary, prostitution etc. In the novel, it was described by some characters. They are Fagin, Bill Sikes and Nancy. As the writer explained in the point of characters on the chapter III, Fagin and Bill Sikes were robbery whereas Fagin is the leader of a pickpocket associate. Meanwhile, Nancy was a prostitute girl.

Besides, Oliver Twist was also involved in crime. Dickens presents how young Oliver gets involve in the world of thieves. Oliver does not realize that Jack Dawkins was one of pickpockets and brings him to Fagin, the Jew who leads the associate. Fagin intends to make Oliver to be one of them. He has a tricky way to persuade him by introducing him a game. It is not exactly a game, since it is only an exercise that they usually do to practice their skill. Young honest Oliver does not realize that it is a pick pocketing game.

When the breakfast was cleared away, the merry old gentleman and the two boys played a very curious and uncommon game, which was perform in this way. The merry old gentleman, placing a snuff-box in one pocket of his trousers, a note-case in other, in a watch in his waist coat pocket, with a guard-chain around his neck...in imitation in the manner of which old gentleman walk about the street any hour in the day... all this time, the two boys followed him closely about, getting out of his sight, so nimbly, every time he turned around, that it impossible to follow their motions. At last the Dodger trod upon his toes, or run upon his boot accidentally, while Charley

Bates stumble up against him behind; and in that one moment they took from him, with the most extraordinary rapidity, snuff-box, note-case, watch-guard, chain, shirt-pin, pocket-handkerchief, -even the spectacle-case. If the old gentleman felt a hand, in anyone of his pockets, he cried out where it was; and then the game began all over again.(61-62)

Dickens wants to show that most of poor children, who are involved in crime, have to do that since they have to fulfill their needs. They do not have much choice, so they prefer to live with the thief master. It also revealed that lives in poverty had forced them to get involved in crime world.

This experience is also seen in Charles Dickens' childhood. The writer finds that Charles Dickens as the writer of the novel has passed the crisis with his family on his childhood. Charles Dickens comes from the upper class before the tragedy happened. As written in http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Dickens, it stated that:

His family's early, moderate wealth provided the boy Dickens with some private education at William Giles's School, in Chatham.

It shown that Dickens has a good life which reflected on the quality of education he may receive. Another data that shown the prosperity of Dickens' family is reflected on his father job and home. As John Forster said in his article:

His father, John Dickens, a clerk in the navy-pay office, was at this time stationed in the Portsmouth dockyard.

Their home, shortly after, was again changed, on the elder Dickens being placed upon duty in Catham dockyard; and the house where he lived in Catham, which had a plain-looking whitewashed plaster-front and a small garden before and behind.

The quotation above explains that Dickens and his family have a good facility for supporting their life. They live in the big house even though they often move from one place to another one. It was because his father's duty as a

government clerk. This job indicates that they come from the upper class. All of the fact showed the prosperity of his family. However, the time of prosperity was ended when John spent his money beyond his means in entertaining and retaining his social position.

The crisis comes to Dickens' family. Soon afterwards, his family moved to Bayham Street, Camden town. Bayham Street is the poorest part of the London suburbs with bad environment. Charles Dickens and his family turn to be the lower class and lives in poverty here. It can be described by the home where they live. The writer finds that they only have a small house with a wretched little back garden abutting on a squalid court. Their condition went on badly. They do not have enough meal to eat. As stated by John Forster in his article,

“But I know that we got on very badly with the butcher and baker; that very often we had not too much for dinner;”.

No longer after that, his father's money involvements become worst. Thus, his father put into the debtor prison at the Marshalsea. The family except Charles also moves to the Marshalsea residence. It was happened when Charles Dickens was twelve years old. How young he is when this trouble came to his family. In addition, Charles was one of John's children who get the impact of this. He does not get a good quality of his education and he also forced to work in a factory. As Jovanovich stated in *Adventure in English Literature* on the quotation below:

“the son of a government clerk who become bankrupt and was thrown into prison, Dickens received little education and was forced to work in a factory at an early age.”(607)

This is bad experiences for young Dickens and his family. They were equal with the lower class whereas their life was so far away with the prosperity. Dickens has described his painful on Oliver Twist's life that also lives far from the prosperity. His life turned into poverty and this condition, then, influences his writing. As Robert Langston (2002) says, "his private, upper-middle class life that briefly turned into poverty would later affect him and his writings". It showed that Dickens lives in poverty at his childhood and he poured this experience in *Oliver Twist*.

2. Works as a child labors

The growth of factories as the effect of industrial revolution in England is one of the reasons people moved to the town in a great number. They hope by living in the town, they can make their life better than before. Unfortunately, they were unskilled and uneducated. Most of them were jobless or at least they worked as laborers and workers in the factories. The work was long and hard with low wages. Men could not hope to keep the large families on their pay alone, and their wives and children often have to work too in order to support them.

The factories paid good wages by the standards for unskilled labor at the time. But these standards were very low, too low to allow a man to support his wife and children. This had generally been true for unskilled labor, in England and elsewhere, under earlier economic system also. In the few factories the work was so mechanical that children as young as six years old were often preferred. Women, too, worked for less and were often more adapt at handling a bobbin.(Palmer, 423-424)

In addition, some of the children come from uncontrolled births that are derived as the cause of unmarried woman's pregnancy. Most of them were sent to the workhouse, since their single parent was too poor to fulfill their needs. In the

workhouse, the children were forced to work without considered about their age. Some of them were too young to do that job.

Workhouses had existed since at least 1776. They were places where poor homeless people worked and in return they were fed and housed. In 1834, the Poor law Amendment Act was introduced which wanted to make the workhouses more of a deterrent to idleness, as it was believed that they were poor because they were idle and need to be punished. Thus, people in the workhouses were deliberately treated harshly and the workhouses were more like prisons.

The workhouses, which had been organized by the poor law Amendment Act of 1834, were supposed to work along utilitarian lines and divided the poor into two groups, the deserving and the undeserving. There were supposed to be one kind of establishment for the deserving poor, where the young, the old, the sick-the worthwhile poor who were victim of circumstance- would get human treatment, and a different kind for the undeserving poor, where the idles, the wastrels, and the drunks – the worthless wretches who were responsible for their own poverty – would be encouraged to go out and find work. (Roebuck 26)

In the novel, *Oliver Twist* is one of children in England who forced to work. Since he does not have any parents to keep him, he sent to the workhouse and lives with another orphan. He was nine years old when Mr. Bumble, the beadle, took him from the orphanage.

‘And now about business,’ said the beadle, taking out the leathern pocket-book. ‘the child that was half-baptized, Oliver Twist, is nine year old today.’(7)

‘Well, well,’ said the beadle, evidently gratified with the compliment; ‘Perhaps I may be, Mrs. Mann.’ He finished the gin-and –water, and added, ‘Oliver being now too old to remain here, the board have determined to have him back to the house. I have come out myself to take him there. So let me see him at once.’ (8)

Living in the workhouse is not better than living in the orphanage. The children in the workhouse are forced to work early in the morning including Oliver. He has to pick oakum everyday with another orphan. It was started at six o'clock. It can be seen on the quotation below:

'So you'll begin to pick oakum to-morrow morning at six o'clock,' added the surly one in the white waistcoat. (10)

In addition, the children in the workhouse do not get good nutritious. The workhouse feed them once a day whereas the meal that serves for them was unhealthy and nutrient less. On the other hands, the children have to work along the day. It was not balance between the meals and the work. They treated badly there. As the effect, the children are hungry and become wild for their hunger. It can be reflected on one of the child labor in the workhouse.

He was afraid he might some night happen to eat the boy who slept next him, who happened to be a weakly youth of tender age. He had a wild, hungry eye; and they implicitly believed. (12)

Besides, they also got thin since they were fed in small portion with bad quality of nutritious. The starving of the children can be seen when they were fed on the supper on the one evening.

The bowls never wanted washing. The boys polished them with their spoons till they shone again; and when they had performed this operation (which never took very long, the spoons being nearly as large as the bowls), they would sit staring at the copper, with such eager eyes, as if they could have devoured the very bricks of which it was composed; employing themselves, meanwhile in sucking their fingers most assiduously, with the view of catching up any stray splashes of gruel that might have been cast thereon.(12)

This illustration depicts us how bad the children treated in the workhouse. Therefore, they become wild and rude for they are suffered in hunger. Another quotation which shows us this condition is:

Oliver Twist and his companions suffered the tortures of slow starvation for three months: at last they got so voracious and wild with hunger, that one boy, who was tall for his age, and hadn't been used to that sort of thing (for his father had kept a small cookshop), hinted darkly to his companions...(12)

Workhouse is not the only place where Oliver sent to work. Oliver almost presented as a chimneysweeper. Chimney sweeping is a job that often recommends for poor children whose bodies are small and it has a bad risk for their safety. It was a very dangerous job that is not supposed to do by children. Many children are died by accident in doing this nasty work. Children often clog up in the chimney and often fall down which would caused their death. Dickens tells the reader how dangerous this job is through the conversation between Mr. Gamfield with Mr. Limbkins and another gentleman as the quotation below states:

'It's a nasty trade,' said Mr. Limbkins, when Gamfield had a gain stated his wish.
'Young boys have been smothered in chimneys before now,' said another gentleman.
'That's acause they damped the straw afore they lit it in the chimbley to make 'em come down agin,' said Gamfield; 'that's all smoke, and no blaze; vereas smoke ain't o' no use at all making a boy come down, for it only sinds him to sleep, and that's wot he lies. Boys is wery obstinit, and wery lazy, gen'lmen, and there's nothink like a good hot blaze to make 'em come down with a run. It's humane too, gen'lmen, acause, even if they stuck in the chimbley, roasting their feet makes 'em struggle to hextricate theirselves.'
(16)

Some parents of the lower-class often keep their children small in order to get the job as the chimneysweepers. In the novel, Dickens describes it in part where Mr. Gamfield intends to take Oliver to help him as the chimney sweepers. Oliver has

small and thin body that suitable for this job. It can be seen when Mr. Gamfield was trying to convince Mr. Limbkins about his intention to take Oliver for his apprentice.

‘if the parish would like him to learn a right pleasant trade, in a good ‘spectable chimbley-sweeping’ bisness,’ said Mr. Gamfield, ‘I wants a ‘prentis, and I am ready to take him.’(16)

Oliver was lucky at that time. Mr. Gamfield can not take Oliver with him as a chimney sweeper. The magistrates refuse to sanction the indentures. He was avoiding from the dangerous job. Then, the bill on the gate was informed to public once more. The quotation below will describe it.

‘We refuse to sanction these indentures,’ said the old gentleman : tossing aside the piece of parchment as he spoke. (21)

The quotation above also shown the bad treatment from the upper class toward the lower class and it was represented in Oliver’s life.

At the next time, Oliver Twist was offered by Mr. Sowerberry. He works as a funeral worker and employs Oliver as a helper in the funeral. Oliver was ten years old at that time and he was small. Mr. Sowerberry thought that by employing an orphan he will not put too much food for him. As stated in below quotation:

Mr. Sowerberry was closeted with the board for five minutes; and it was arranged that Oliver should go to him that evening ‘upon liking’ – a phrase which means, in the case of a parish apprentice, that if the master find, upon a short trial, that he can get enough work out of a boy without putting too much food into him, he shall have him for a term of years, to do what he likes with.(25)

Working as a funeral worker is better for Oliver than sent him to sea. Oliver will be sent to sea if there is nobody takes him as apprentice boy. In great families in industrial revolution era, when an advantageous place can not be obtained either in possession, remainder and expectancy for the young man who is growing up, it is a

very general custom to send him to sea. Here Dickens wants to emphasize about the unfairness which was receive by the child labors of the workhouse. Besides, It is also a punishment for Oliver for his asking for more in a supper in the workhouse. This work is not proper for children since life in the sea is a hard life. It can be seen on the quotation below:

The board, in imitation of so wise and salutary example, took counsel together on expediency of shipping off Oliver Twist, in some small trading vessel bound to a good unhealthy port. This suggested itself as the very best thing that could possibly be done with him: the probability being, that the skipper would flog him to death, in a playful mood, some day in after dinner, or would knock his brains out with an iron bar; both pastimes being, as is pretty generally known, very favourite and common recreations among gentleman of that class. The more the case presented itself to the board, in this point of view, the more manifold the advantages of the step appeared; so, they came to the conclusion the only way of providing for Oliver effectually, was to send him without delay.(22)

The quotation above shows the reader how brute is the skipper of the ship toward the child-labors who work in the ships.

Oliver once more was lucky. Being a funeral worker is better that send him to sea, even in the workhouse. He was not the only workers on the coffin shop. There is also Noah Claypole. He was a charity-boy, but he is not a workhouse orphan. Both of them work as a child labor in Mr. Sowerberry's shop.

Being a child labor is a consequence of the orphan or the children who comes from the poor family. It is a must for them since the wages of their parents is not enough to fulfill their needs, and so does an orphan in the workhouse.

Same with Oliver, the writer finds that young Charles Dickens also has to work as a child labor when he was still twelve years old. As Michael Slater stated in Introduction of the novel;

“When he was twelve years old his parents’ financial difficulties obliged them to remove him from school and he, ‘a child of singular abilities, quick, eager, delicate, and soon hurt, bodily or mentally’, was, to his lasting horror, sent to work ‘with common men and boys, in Warren’s Blacking Warehouse, a crazy tumble-down old house’ with ‘wainscoted rooms’ and ‘rotten floors and staircase’ ”(xvii).

Based on the quotation beside, young Dickens works at Warren’s Blacking Warehouse pasting labels on jar of thick shoe polish. It was the impact of putting his father into the debtor prison. Since his family needs money to fulfill their needs while his father was in jail, young Dickens has to work in hard. Besides, he was the eldest son in his family. It means that he has responsibility of his family when his father was not with them.

Charles Dickens began working ten hours a day at the warehouse and earned six shilling a week. The writer finds that it was not balance between the wage and the work time. Besides, as explain before, *Oliver Twist* starts to pick oakum at six o’clock in the morning while young dickens starts his putting labels on jar of thick shoe polish at eight in the morning and ends at eight in the evening. As sated on the quotation below in <http://www.fathom.com/course/21701768/session1.html> :

In early February, only a few days after his twelfth birthday, young Charles was sent to work pasting labels on bottles at a tumbledown, rat-overrun shoe polish factory on the Thames. Pay was six shillings a week, hours 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Furthermore, Dickens states that the warehouse is a dirty place whereas the rats can be found at the place with their squeaking. As he describes it to John Foster in his article, *The Life of Charles Dickens*, on the quotation below:

“It was a crazy, tumble-down old house, abutting of course on the river, and literally overrun with rats. Its wainscoted rooms, and its rotten floors and staircase, and the old grey rats swarming down in the cellars, and the sound

of their squeaking and scuffling coming up the stairs at all times, and the dirt and decay of the place, rise up visibly before me, as if I were there again. The counting-house was on the first floor, looking over the coal-barges and the river. There was a recess in it, in which I was to sit and work."

Another source that supported the above fact is the statement of Gilbert Keith Chesterton. In <http://www.online-literature.com/dickens/olivertwist/>, he stated, "he enters the workhouse just as Oliver Twist enters it, as a little child". It convinces the writer about the similarity of the experience between Oliver Twist and Charles Dickens on his childhood.

Based on the explaining above and comparing between the novel and the biography of Charles Dickens on his childhood, the writer can prove that the experience of young Dickens as a child-labor was also poured in his novel which was reflected through the main character, Oliver Twist. The writer concludes that Dickens wants to emphasize the bad effects of industrial revolution toward the children of the lower class in England

3. Accepts inheritance

As explaining in the previous subchapter, Oliver Twist was an orphan who does not know about his parents. He has been living in the workhouse since he was born into this world. Lives in poverty and works as a child labor are two experiences of Oliver Twist whereas these two experiences were also described on Charles Dickens' childhood.

In this subchapter, the writer will reveal a changing of Oliver Twist which is the reflection of Charles Dickens' childhood of their life. It happens because both of

them accept inheritance. It changes their life better than before. The changing was poured Charles Dickens into his novel that experienced by the main character of the novel, Oliver Twist.

In the novel, Oliver Twist parentage was revealed through Mr. Brownlow. He is the savior of Oliver Twist and his father's old friend. Oliver Twist meets Mr. Brownlow in London. He was trapped on a pickpocket associated at that time. This meeting is a good starting for Oliver. It brings him luck even he has to pass it with many difficulties. Mr. Brownlow touched and get interested with Oliver. He has seen something in Oliver's face which he has seen before. It can be seen on the quotation below:

'There is something in that boy's face,' said the old gentleman to himself as he walked slowly away, tapping his chin with the cover of the book, in a thoughtful manner; 'something that touches and interest me. Can he be innocent? He looked like. – By the bye,' exclaimed the old gentleman, halting very abruptly, and staring up into the sky, 'Bless my soul! Where have I seen something like that look before? (70)

Seeing Oliver's face reminds him of someone. His past recollections appeared and wandered on his mind. However, he does not exactly remember of someone countenance which trace on Oliver's feature.

There were the faces of friends, and foes, and of many that had been almost strangers peering intrusively from the crowd; there were the faces of young and blooming girls that were now old women; there were faces that the grave had changed and closed upon, but which the mind, superior to its power, still dressed in their old freshness and beauty, calling back the lustre of the eyes, the brightness of the smile, the beaming of the soul through its mask of clay, and whispering of beauty beyond the tomb, changed but to be heightened, and taken from earth only to be set up as alight, to shed a soft and gentle glow upon the path to Heaven.

But the old gentleman could recall no one countenance of which Oliver's features bore a trace.(70)

From the previous quotations, the writer interpreted that Mr. Brownlow get pity toward Oliver. It means that Mr. Brownlow was touched and get interested with Oliver who reflected through his kindness toward Oliver. This kindness, then, brought a great luck for Oliver and changes his life. Besides, there is another quotation which also dscribed about Mr. Brownlow's kindness.

'Poor boy, poor boy!' said Mr. Brownlow, blending over him. 'Call a coach, somebody, pray. Directly!' A coach was obtained, and Oliver, having been carefully laid on one seat, the old gentleman got in and sat himself on the other.(75)

The quotation above convinces the kindness of Mr. Brownlow toward Oliver. In addition, it also indicates that Mr. Brownlow is a representative of the upper class people who does not differentiate people by the social class. He saved Oliver without asking where he comes from. By his kindness, Mr. Brownlow initiates to find the truth of Oliver parentage and makes Oliver receive a half of his father inheritance. It is shown by the quotation below:

It appeared, on full and careful investigation, that if the wreck of property remaining in the custody of Monks (which had never prospered either in his hands or in those of his mother) were equally divided between himself and Oliver, it would yield, to each, little more than three thousand pounds.(412)

By receiving some inheritance of his father, Oliver lives in a better life than before. Besides, he has fond of his true family and living together with them in happiness. Mr. Brownlow who was his father's old friend adopts Oliver as his son. In addition, Rose Maylie then knows as his mother's sister. She is therefore Oliver's aunt.

The writer then relates the data which is shown in the novel. As well as the fact about this experience, accept inheritance was also found in Charles Dickens' biography. As Langston (2002) stated in the quotation below:

However, within four months, the family was doing well again after inheriting some money.

From the quotation above, the writer finds that Dickens family gets inheritance and it gives good effect for the life of his family. Based on the situation, automatically their life changed to be better after inheriting some money. The quotation also mentioned how long they live in bad condition and it is only about four months.

In addition, the money was inherited from John Dickens' family which left by his mother. It convinces that Dickens comes from the upper class. With this money, he arranged for payment of his creditors and left the prison. As stated by A. C Ward in his book:

A few months after release from Marshalsea (the debt of £40 having been paid by his brother from money left by their mother) John Dickens was retired from the Navy Pay office on a small annual allowance. (202)

Based on the explanation above, the third experience of Oliver Twist who reflected the experience of Charles Dickens in his childhood is accepting inheritance. Both young Dickens and Oliver have the same experience that brings them into the better life. Through this experience, Dickens wants to show that property or inheritance can change the social class of someone. Therefore, the writer concludes that this experience was also poured by Charles Dickens in his *Oliver Twist* which was represented through the main character.

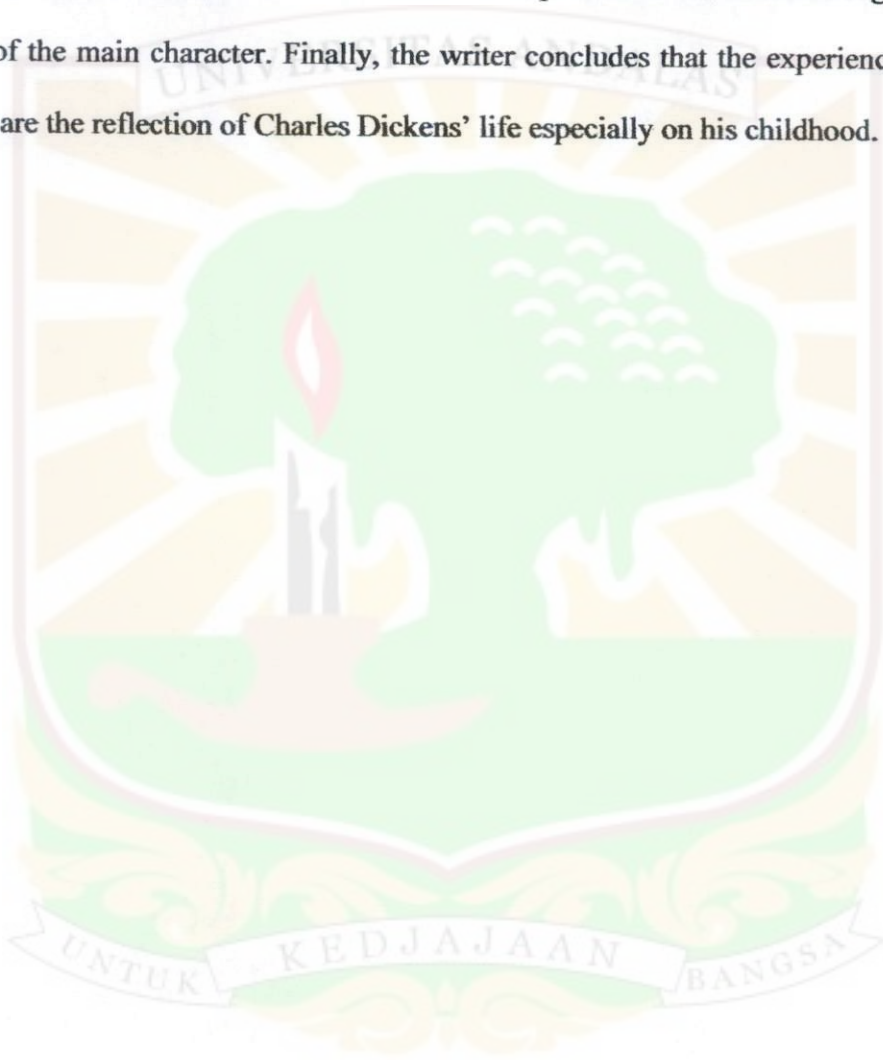
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

After analyzing the novel and reading some sources that related to the condition of England during industrial revolution, the writer gets the description of Oliver Twist's life through his experience. There are three experiences of Oliver Twist within the novel are described on the analysis. They are: lives in poverty, works as a child labor, and accepting inheritance.

At the first experience, lives in poverty, Dickens wants to describe his painful life after his father put into the debtor prison on Oliver Twist's life. Meanwhile, the second experience, works as a child labor, Dickens wants to emphasize the bad effect of the industrial revolution toward the children of the lower class in England. In addition, the third experience is accepting inheritance. Through this experience Dickens wants to show that property have a great influence to social class of someone. In other words, these experiences except accepts inheritance are the effects of industrial revolution toward the lower class. Oliver Twist as the main character of the novel is the representative of the lower class who gets the impact of industrial revolution at the Victorian Era. In addition, the experience of accepting inheritance related with the social class whereas this experience will change the social class of Oliver Twist and makes his life better.

By applying biographical approach toward the novel and comparing between the novel and biography of the author, the writer finds that these three experiences of Oliver Twist are also experienced by Charles Dickens on his childhood. It means that what are experienced by Charles Dickens on his childhood is expressed in his novel through the experiences of the main character. Finally, the writer concludes that the experiences of Oliver Twist are the reflection of Charles Dickens' life especially on his childhood.



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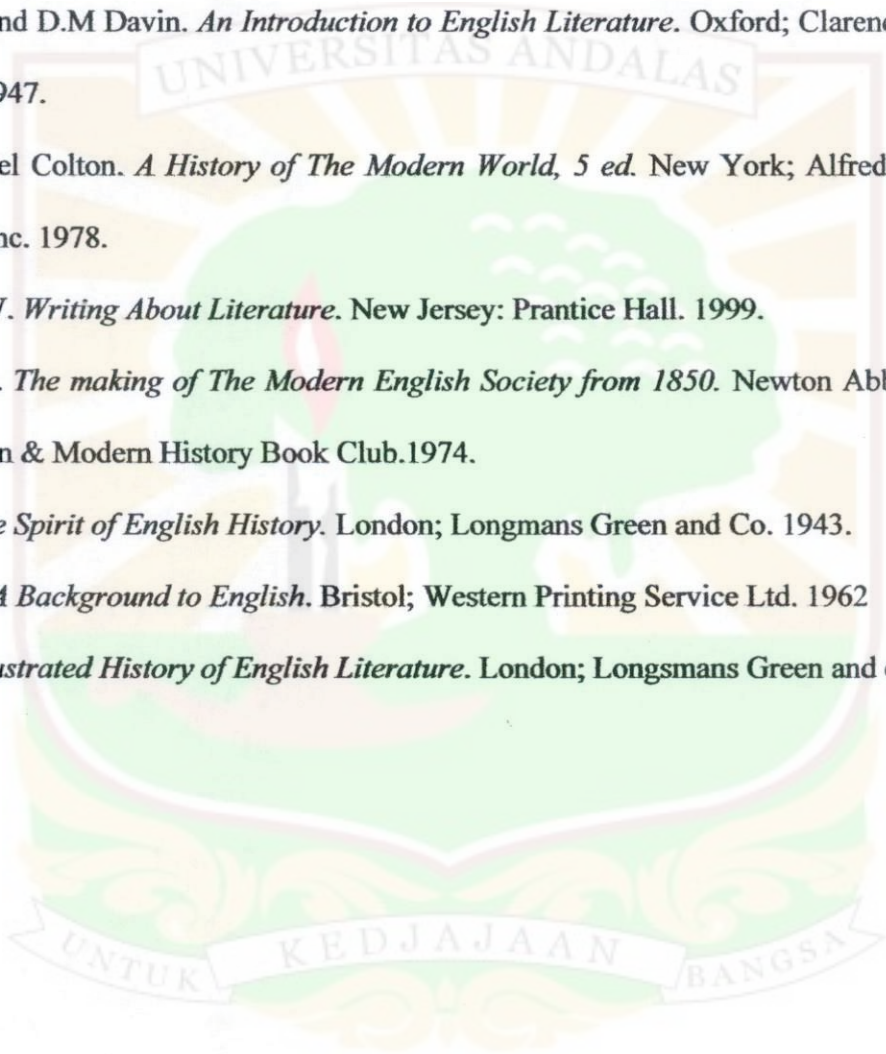
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SYNOPSIS OF *OLIVER TWIST*

Oliver Twist is an orphan who was born into a life of poverty and misfortune in a workhouse in an unnamed town. His mother died in childbirth and his father's unexplained absence. Oliver spends his first nine years of his life at a baby farm in the care of a woman named Mrs. Mann. In this place, he and another orphan get a little food. When he was nine years old, Mr. Bumble, the leader of the workhouse, removes him from the orphanage and put him to work picking oakum at the workhouse.

The workhouse feeds the child laborers in a small portion with bad nutrition, meanwhile they have to work a long day. This condition makes them suffering and hungry, until one of them decided to draw lots. The loser must ask for another portion of gruel. The task falls to Oliver who walks to the copper of gruels with a trembling bowl in hand and makes the request. "*Please, sir, I want some more.*"

All of the people in the hall were surprised of Oliver's done especially the board of the workhouse. The board of the workhouse punished him. Finally, they offer five pounds sterling to any person wishing to take on the boy as an apprentice. A brutal Chimney sweep almost claims Oliver, but, when he begs despairingly not to be sent away with that dreadful man, a kindly old magistrate refuses to sign the indentures. Later, Mr. Sowerberry, an undertaker employed by the parish, takes Oliver home in order to help him in his coffin shop. He treats Oliver well and uses him as a mourner at children's funeral because of his sorrowful countenance. However, his wife does not like Oliver because her husband seems to like him and loses few opportunities to underfeed and mistreat him. Besides, Noah Claypole, another worker in the coffin shop, also does not

like him and bullied Oliver and so does Charlotte, the Sowerberry's maidservant who is in love with Noah.

One day, Noah insults Oliver by saying something bad about his mother. The unexpected passion flies to Noah. Oliver attacks him even he has was smaller and thinner than Noah. Mrs. Sowerberry helps Noah and spans Oliver. She asked her husband to beat the young Oliver. Alone that night, Oliver decided to run away. He wanders aimlessly for a time, until a well-placed tableau sets his wandering feet toward London.

During his journey to London, he meets with Jack Dawkins who is also known as the Artful Dodger. Dodger provided Oliver with a free meal and tells him of a gentleman in London who will give him lodgings for nothing. Oliver then follows Dodger to the gentleman's residence. Oliver does not realize that he will be brought and involved to crime. The old man who is Dodger talking about is a leader pickpocket named Fagin. Oliver lives with Fagin and his criminal associates.

One day, Oliver goes out with Dodger and a boy named Charley Bates to make handkerchiefs. Oliver realizes then that their real mission is to pick pockets and it was too late. Although he does not participate, he is chased down and arrested while Dodger and Bates run off and escape. Oliver takes to the court for getting the punishment. Fortunately, a witness who saw Dodger commit the crime come to the court and clears Oliver. A wealthy old gentleman named Mr. Brownlow, whom Oliver was previously thought to have robbed, takes Oliver home and cares for him.

Oliver stays with Mr. Brownlow and recovers rapidly. Meanwhile Fagin fears Oliver will makes his gang in dangerous. He then sets to kidnapped Oliver. When Mr. Brownlow sends him to pay for some books, Nancy and Bill Sikes, the partner of Fagin

caught Oliver and bring him back to the gang. The thieves take the five pound note Mr. Brownlow had entrusted to Oliver and strip him of his fine new clothes. Nancy, however, is sympathetic toward Oliver and saves him from beatings by Fagin and Sikes.

In an attempt to involve Oliver in a life crime, Fagin forces him to participate in a burglary. Nancy reluctantly assists in recruiting him, all the while assuring the boy that she will help him if she can. Sikes as the leader of the burglary asks Oliver to enter a small window in order to unlock the front door. The robbery goes wrong, however, and Oliver is shot. Oliver wounded and he was taken care of by the people he was supposed to rob, Rose Maylie and Mrs. Maylie. They nurse him until he is back to health.

Meanwhile, a mysterious man named Monks has found Fagin and sets a bad mission to destroy Oliver. Nancy, who has a sympathetic toward Oliver thought to destroy the mission. She comes to Rose Maylie and Mr. Brownlow and tells them about the mission. This meeting was known by Fagin, whereas he asks somebody to follow Nancy at that time. Fagin told this to Sikes which makes him in a much angry toward Nancy. It brings Nancy to the death in Sikes hands. Realizes that he has murdered Nancy, Sikes goes out of the city. One day, in order to escape from the punishment, Sikes does something that only killed himself. He accidentally hangs himself while fleeing across a rooftop from an angry mob.

Monks is forced by Mr. Brownlow (an old friend of Oliver's father) to divulge his secrets that he is Oliver's paternal half-brother. Although he is legitimate, he was born of a loveless marriage. Oliver's mother, Agnes, was a true love of their father. Monks has spent many years searching for his father's child, not to befriend him, but to destroy him in order to get all of their father's inheritance. But it failed and Oliver receives a half of

his father inheritance. Monks then moves to America, where he squanders his money and involved to crime. He ultimately dies in prison. Fagin also gets the punishment of his crime that is hanging.

Finally, Oliver lives around the people who love him. Mr. Brownlow adopted him as his child. Rose Maylie turns out to be the long-lost sister of Oliver's mother, Agnes, she is therefore Oliver's aunt. She marries her long-time sweetheart Harry. On the other hands, Noah becomes a paid informant, Mr. Bumble loses his job and is reduced to great poverty, and charley Bates becomes an honest citizen, moves to the country and works his way up to prosperity.

