

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Literary Theory

In this part the writer wants to focus to the character of Princess Jasmine as she represents the idea of socialist feminism. Therefore, the writer will explain the element theory of the movie, which consists of a plot, theme, characters, characterization, and mise-en-scene.

2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements of a Movie

1. Plot

According to (Pratiwi, 2022) plot is a structure of a series of events in a story that is arranged chronologically. Or the definition of a plot is a series of stories from beginning to end. A plot shows the actions in the story must be related to each other. For example, how an event is related to other events, then how the characters are depicted and play a role in the story related to a unit of time. There are five main points of elements;

- a. Exposition: The beginning of the story introduces the character and setting.
- b. Rising Action: The conflict starts to unfold, and the character is in crisis.

- c. Climax: A significant event occurs the main character faces a major enemy, fear, or challenge, and the source of conflict begins.
- d. Falling Action: The story begins to slow down and reach the end of the conflict.
- e. Resolution/Denouement: Resolves any remaining issues and ends the story.

2. Themes

According to (Glatch, 2021), the theme describes as the central idea(s) that a piece of writing explores. Rather than stating this theme directly, the author will look at the theme using the set of literary tools at their disposal. The theme is used to explore and decide through the character, plot, setting, and conflicts. Themes are essential because they underline the story, and it's how an author tries to convey to their audience what kind of story an author brought and it's meaning.

3. Character and Characterization

Character and characterization depict the people who take on a role in a story. Character and characterization are needed to support the course of a story. Without character placement, the story will become a plot without actors, which is rare in a story

script. Character characterization is essential to show the storyline because actors will represent the character that brought in the story to deliver the meaning behind it, describe the author's feelings through the person in a story, and strengthen the storyline according to the genre that brought in the story.

A character is a person that has a role in a story or a play, and characterization is the process of placement that describe their action. Characterization creates a picture of characters and defines the personality played by the main characters through their participation in carrying out their task to play their role in a story. Characterizations are about the main character's physical appearance, the main characters' social status, the main characters' social relationships, and the main characters' personalities of the main characters (Latif, 2016). Afterward, the writer will mention the characters and the characterization in the 2019 Aladdin movie;

1. Princess Jasmine

Characterization: The princess of Agrabah is a thoughtful woman, kind, beautiful, independent, intelligent, humble, and wise.

2. Aladdin

Characterization: A man who lives in poverty, is an orphan, is kind to others, is a thief/pickpocket, and has a big obsession

with being wealthy and arrogant, but in the end, he turns into a wise man.

3. Jafar

Characterization: The king's adviser, a malicious witch, is obsessed with taking over the Agrabah kingdom, has black magic, and has a grudge from the past, manipulative.

4. Genie

Characterization: A cursed man that lives in a magic lamp, flirty, he is blue, looks like smoke, can do magic, and can fulfill three wishes.

5. Sultan

Characterization: King of Agrabah, decisive but kind, easy to be deceived.

6. Abu

Characterization: A little monkey, Aladdin's little friend, and brilliant.

7. Dalia

Characterization: A handmaid to the Princess, kind, beautiful, elegant.

4. Mise-en-Scene

As the writer mentioned above, mise-en-scene is one of the essential things that occurs in a movie. MasterClass Staff (2021)

states, “Mise en scène, pronounced *Meez-Ahn-sen*, is a term used to describe the setting of a scene in a play or film. It refers to everything placed on the stage or in front of the camera-including people.”

What is needed to be in the Mise-en-Scene that supports the film consists of several components;

1. Actors: The performance that the actors bring has their crucial styles, and when actors are on the screen, they’re typically the focal point so that their presence carries much weight to the overall look of the story.
2. Location: The location will be very supportive of their action, which will be a set location that fits the required scene in the film. For example, in Aladdin’s movie, the site is set in Saudi Arabia, which supports the idea of the style of the middle eastern.
3. Set design: Refers to everything the audience sees in a scene. This detail will help to build out the world of location in the story. For example, if it’s about a kingdom, there will be a palace, throne, crown, and guard.
4. Lighting: It’s essential because it will support the tone and style of the film and help build the atmosphere. For example, if the story tells mostly about romance, the

lighting is bright and full of color to describe the situation, but if it's a horror movie, the lighting is dimmer.

5. Costume: The clothes actors wear and tailor the costume to fit them. At this point, a film production usually hires a costume designer to look at and decide which color will match the actor. Depending on the set location, characters, and parts that fit the color palette. The vibes of the middle east are the clothes that fit the culture of Aladdin's movie.
6. Hair and make-up: Similar to the selection of costumes, the hair and make-up will usually be adjusted to the clothes and characters.

From the components above, there are six components that the writer chooses as a result and discussion of the writer's analysis related to the 2019 *Aladdin* movie: actors, location, set design, lighting, costume, hair, and makeup that support the vibes of middle eastern.

2.2 Critical Theory

In writing the work, the writer uses some theories to strengthen and explain the definition of feminism study applied in the work. The purpose of feminism itself is mainly about the resistance of women and class hierarchies in facing the world for the place and recognition of several types of feminists. The writer will only focus on socialist feminism as it represents Princess

Jasmine's action in the 2019 *Aladdin* movie and how the patriarchal system occurs in the film.

Marxism study state that socialist feminism is the oppressive structure of capitalist society. In contrast, radical feminists state that socialist feminists oppressed women, especially in a patriarchal system of society. But feminist socialists not only recognize gender as the basis of all pressure, at least feminist socialists still recognize that class and gender are also one symbiosis that can still consider other things. Feminist socialists also integrate recognition of sex discrimination in work to achieve justice and equality for women same goes for the working class, the poor, and the rest of society (Napikoski, 2021). However, radical feminists resist reducing oppression to economic or class issues as socialist feminists did (Lewis, 2020).

2.2.1 Definition of Feminism

In this part, the writer explain how women are considered ones who can't have privileges like men and only use them according to their needs. Women are underestimated as a common thing when it comes to society and does not get rights because society assumes that men are the ones who should be more dominant and take control. Essentially it is centered on gender inequality and the environment in a community where the male side is the most powerful and the female

is only a supporter or complement of a man, being an object that can't have any rights to speak and have aspirations to be heard.

In the 2019 *Aladdin* movie, related to the discussion of feminist theory, several actions show how Princess Jasmine not only wants to claim her rights but also wants to prosper the lives of her people. Well, the fact is, in Agrabah, there is oppression and injustice against the poor. Thriving the people's lives in Agrabah is Princess Jasmine's greatest wish, and she wants to see her country full of happiness under her leadership. The writer will also mention gender differences and gender oppression, according to Crossman (2020), and elaborate on what it is like when men and women have different situations that affect women's movement in terms of getting equality.

1. Gender Differences

Several feminist theories provide an analytic framework for understanding how placements of women and experiences in social situations differ from men. For example, cultural feminists see values different from womanhood and femininity as a measure of why men have backgrounds in the social world that differ from women. First, other experts believe that women and men have different roles in an institution that can better explain gender differences, such as the sexual division of labor overwork in the workplace and the household. Second, existential phenomenology

and phenomenology focus on how women are marginalized and defined as "other" in a patriarchal society. (Crossman, 2020).

2. Gender Oppression

Gender oppression states that not only do women have different rights from men, but in their activities, they are also oppressed, subordinated, and even abused by men (Crossman, 2020). Women are considered weak and do not have enough power. They are underestimated because they do not have the same privileges as men. The writer has mentioned two related theories about capitalism and patriarchy, Marxist feminism and radical feminism. In comparison, oppression of women occurs because they have become the second choice in society, and they are considered weak because whatever they do is so underrated.

In the 2019 *Aladdin* movie, the writer finds the action of Princess Jasmine when she's not recognized as the next leader by Sultan and Jafar. Sultan urges Princess Jasmine to find a husband and as a replacement for the new king. Princess Jasmine not allowed to be a leader is because of her inexperience. Sultan believes that the one with more experience is a man. Besides, he wants to protect Princess Jasmine because she is a woman that considers weak and inexperienced. A prince has more experience. Growing up in a tough life, they learn how to protect the kingdom, unlike a woman who lacks

leadership experience. It proves that everything builds in different roles and experiences as men and women in the social world. At the same time, women need a man to lead, and women are not suitable for being a leader or seen as having the same rights, and a man is higher in any situation for placement in experience and privilege.

2.2.2 Socialist Feminism

As the writer mentioned above, socialist feminism agrees with two studies: Marxist feminism in capitalism and radical feminism in the patriarchal system—Socialist feminism discusses gender recognition to achieve justice and equality.

Socialist feminists wanted to integrate the recognition of sex discrimination within their work to achieve justice and equality for women, for working classes, the poor, and all humanity (Napikoski, 2021).

Therefore, the writer will mention the characteristics of socialist feminism and the conceptual framework of socialist feminism. The characteristics of socialist feminism emphasize the economic, social, and cultural importance of women as people who give birth, socialize children, care for the other and the sick, and provide emotional labor that creates the realm of the home as a retreat for men from the realities of the workplace and the public arena

(Graff, 2012). Socialist feminism is called socialist because it emphasizes the nature of inequalities. Socialist feminism recognizes the interlocking character of the class, gender, and racial domination (Collins, 1986).

In part, the writer will give a brief explanation of the conceptual framework of socialist feminism according to Zajicek & Calasanti (1993), which consists of:

1. Patriarchy and the paradigm of domination.

Socialist feminists understand patriarchy and domination as two things related to women's oppression. After capitalism, gender dominance transcended the confines of family life into the realm of paid work, where the working class and capitalist men exploit women. In economics and politics, women are often segregated in work. The dominance of men who want to control their wages and benefits often coincides with capitalism, so women are paid low wages.

2. Gendering processes with organizations.

The process of gendering in organizations provides an overview of the relationship between production and reproduction. However, the socialist-feminist paradigm of gender, class, and race dominance can give a deeper understanding of the retirement experiences of different categories of women in the social aspect.

For example, older women of the African-American race and white women are similar in status and finances. Still, black women may risk living in poverty when they retire (Dressel, 1988). At the same time, men are more dominant in terms of workers and produce different retirement experiences for women and men.

3. Production and reproduction

Understanding the tension between work and family leads to recognizing that women and men have different relationships for production and reproduction because of the gender division of labor and gender ideology. Socialist feminists emphasize the reproduction of social relations in a broad sense, including not only biological duplication but also such things as the socialization, education of children, and the reproduction and maintenance of the workforce.

4. Family Structure and Process

The family is part of the organizational structure in which there is a process to complement each other. By showing the diverse family forms, a woman or wife has choices in work. Besides, biological reproduction is what women want. They need support in doing work freely but are shackled by the existence of male domination, which emphasizes capitalism and the patriarchal system.

5. The gendered welfare system.

The underexplored role of the law raises our awareness of gender/race-based poverty, which explains how, economically and politically, women do not have the same privileges as men and are seen as subordinates because men dominate.

2.2.3 Patriarchy

Several countries have a patriarchal system. In Saudi Arabia, the level of the patriarchal system is stringent. According to Nurmila (2015), women couldn't do their movement freely and were limited. They were expected to stay home and do housework. It is rare for women in Saudi Arabia to be outside the home to work. This cultural consistency is also supported by a family system that adheres to patrilineal. The patrilineal system itself is a system taken from the father's lineage only. Therefore, in Saudi Arabia, only boys can continue the family.

In the movie, the writer discovers that Princess Jasmine cannot be the next King because she is a woman. The background of the film is placed in Saudi Arabia. As the writer already mentioned, the women's movement in Saudi Arabia is limited, and they are asked to

stay at home. The one who can do work is a husband. It becomes the reason for Princess Jasmine to find a husband for the next Sultan and lead the Kingdom.

In Saudi Arabia, the patrilineal system is a common thing. The community was essentially strict about the rules. But in the 2019 *Aladdin* film, Princess Jasmine, a representative of Socialist Feminism, shows that she wants to break the law and change it, convincing her father to trust her and showing that as a princess, she deserves to be the next Sultan. She wants to prove that women have power and are not weak human beings. She wants to prove that she deserves to be the next king and lead the kingdom of Agrabah.

2.3 Earlier Studies

In this part, the writer will elaborate on the recent studies used as references that have the same research on socialist feminism and oppression against women. The first study the writer finds on the internet is a research paper entitled *Oppression Against Women in Marshall Herskovitz's A Destiny of Her Own: Socialist Feminism Approach* (Sulistiyani, 2008). The setting is placed in Venice. From a real-life movie that gives a view of the oppression that women faced. The character's action shows that the patriarchal system still exists in which men have the authority/privilege to control every aspect

of life, social, economic, political, and religious. An author wrote that the woman Veronica Franco, the movie's main character, has to face unfair life and go through many struggles to get her right as a woman. The sad thing is that Veronica can't marry her love Marco Vernier because of social status; Veronica is from a low-income family, and Marco is of high-class quality. It makes Veronica hurt very profoundly that she wants to make money for a living. Her mother then suggests Veronica be a courtesan, just like her mother and grandmother in the past. At first, she did not enjoy what she was doing, but after a long time, Veronica just became excited because of the pleasure and freedom she felt. She made herself able to socialize with the king and royalty. Veronica's action shows how Veronica is oppressed by her social status and becomes a courtesan, how a stereotype is dominant, and men are just living without any boundaries and oppression like women.

In the second study, the writer found another internet research paper entitled *Gender Injustice in Andy Tennant's Anna and The King Movie: Socialist Feminism Approach* (Ambarwati, 2008). This study gives a view about gender injustice on how gender differences are an excuse for men to have special authority but not for women. The issue formed because of cultural traditions before and then became a culture where women were placed in the second position. Gender injustice in society takes women being controlled by men, which happens between the domestic and public spheres.

For example, mostly the kings and presidents are men. At this point, women only have a chance to get their existence. After all, a woman tends to be a mother, a wife who takes care of their children and keeps the housework besides serving and fulfilling her husband's needs. When women get a chance to work and blend with society, the time they go back home and still need to do housework like the cultural tradition that women have to work twice in the public and domestic spheres. It shows how men have power and authority through a patriarchal system still dominant in society.