

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

2.1 Literary Theories

2.1.1 Movies Treated as Work of Literature

There are so many opinions about how movies are treated as works of literature or not. Some people said that movies are literature because they can be analyzed and interpreted in the same ways as traditional written literature. Sonnenschein, E. (2019) said that movies can be treated as works of literature as a matter of opinion. Movies can be literature but with qualifications. Sonnenschein (2019) stated again that literature includes the good, the bad, and the mediocre. There are many books, films and television programs that are like bad fast food, they give you nothing to be good enough for your mind. Great films, like great books, make you smarter and stronger. They give you problems to think about. But Masiello (2018) said that film is a film, an actualization of words by actors on location, enacting events that accompany and inflect those words. A film is the actualization of more than its words, just as an opera is more than its *libretto* (it is an Italian word that means booklet. It is used to communicate during the performance of an operating collection of texts sung during the performance of an opera and any musical events). Michael also gives a statement that literature is all words. No other elements cooperate with words to create the *Gesamtkunstwerk* (German word, in English it is called aesthetic).

Can movies be considered as artworks similar to great works of literature such as poems, plays and novels? The answer to that is yes. Obviously, they are more similar to plays, especially if the movies were taken from novel or book, it would be creating

an amazing literature work. Film is more similar to plays. It is great when a great screenplay is perfectly actualized, and all the fundamental elements work together.

2.1.2 Intrinsic Elements Used to Explore the Main Character's Representation of Girl Power

According to Diniejko (2010: 253), “intrinsic is interior; approaches to literary works which depend solely on literary criteria”. Hence, the term intrinsic element used in the study refers to the internal elements of *Captain Marvel*. It is the elements of drama that contained story and plot, characters, dialogue, monologue, theme and motif, conflict, and setting and staging. The elements of drama become one of the theories used in this research because it has comparative elements as it is used in movie.

Character and Characterization

A character is a figure that appears in a literary work such as novel, poetry and drama (Barnet, 1988). Character is people who appeared in a narrative prose and it is interpreted by the readers as a person who has moral quality and certain tendencies such as being expressed in what they say and what they do (Abrams, 1982). Character is the person who can contribute to a story in several ways (Dickinson, 1996).

Characterization is describing the physical and mental behaviors of the characters (Djasi, 2000). In most cases, the author would introduce new characters before they are shown in the story. These days characterization is done indirectly through dialogues or conversations. In other words, the characters and characterization are known through the dialogues among them. According to Nurgiyantoro (1955), characterization is a figure or people's character who is put in narrative work which

interpreted by the readers that have a moral quality and certain tendency through dialogues and their behavior.

There are two kinds of characterization; there is direct characterization and indirect characterization (Patmarinanta, 2016). Direct characterization tells the audience what the personality of the character is, while indirect characterization shows things that reveal the personality of a character. The readers assume that direct characterization is easier to understand than indirect characterization. It is simply because indirect characterization is more complicated than direct characterization. On the other side, indirect characterization can make us specifically know about the character in a novel or story (Patmarinanta, 2016).

2.1.3 Mise-En-Scene

Mise-en-scene in a French term meaning “putting in a scene”, refers to all the visual elements of a theatrical production within the space given by the stage itself. Filmmakers have borrowed the term and have extended the meaning to suggest the control the director has over the visual elements within the film image. Control of these elements provides the director an opportunity to stage events (Lathrop & Sutton; 2016). Using these elements, the film director stages the event for the camera to provide his audience with vivid, sharp memories. Directors and film scholars alike recognize mise-en-scene as an essential part of the director’s creative art (Lathrop & Sutton; 2016). Based on Gail Lathrop and David O. Sutton, there are four aspects of mise-en-scene which overlap the physical art of the theatre. They are setting, costume, lighting, and movement of figures.

1. Setting is an important visual element of film. This aspect of mise-en-scene plays an important role in film and can be more important in the total film as

the action, or events. Setting helps to enhance the quality of film's vision by setting the mood and characters' state of mind.

2. Costume, or clothing and its accessories, is also an important visual element in film. Costume can be the main role to give a different meaning in every characters. A little change in costume could give such huge differences in every actor/actress's role. Costume can serve to enhance the story, for instance, by showing the social level of the characters. Costume also can hint a character development in the film. When an innocent normally dressed in pale gown switches to siren red, the audience recognizes a gain in experience. Therefore, costume becomes a special tool in the director's kit.
3. Figure expression and movement are important elements of mise-en-scene. It has a purpose to support the actor/actress narrating the story in a film. Figure expression refers to the facial expressions and the posture of an actor, while figure movement refers to all actions of the actor, including gestures. Because the actors in a film are used as a "machine of expression" by the director, the viewer must keep in mind that an actor's performance should be examined in terms of how well it shows the message behind the movie, contrast with how actor's behavior in real world.
4. Lighting, like the other aspects of mise-en-scene, is a tool used by the director to convey special meaning about a character or the narrative to the viewer. Lighting can help define the setting of a scene or accentuate the behavior of the figures in the film. The quality of lighting in a scene can be achieved by manipulating the quality and the direction of the light. When the director

manipulates the quality of the lighting, he can control the impact of the setting, or the figure's behavior on the viewer.

2.2 Critical Theories

2.2.1 Feminism

Feminism is a social phenomenon related to women. Feminism is a belief about gender equality, especially equality for women. The theory of feminism is divided into four waves: first-wave feminism (1848-1920), second-wave feminism (1963-1980), third-wave feminism (1990-2012) and fourth-wave feminism (present-day). First-wave of feminism is known as the right to vote. In the 18th century, when all the sacrifices of the introduction of feminism began, in the form of associations, they wanted to stop male domination and deny the behaviour of women at that time (Hannam, 2007: 6). On the other side, first-wave still has to faced problem that Black women and other colour women have to face many obstacles and judgment from society. Second-wave feminism was focusing on gender equality and anti-discrimination. In this wave, the issue of discrimination of Black women and other colour women started to blow up in public. Some Black women build their own organization named National Black Feminist Organization (NBFO). But unfortunately, the movement have to stop and lose momentum by 1980 because of Ronald Reagan swept to the white house. Third-wave feminism is related to the equality of gender and race. In third-wave feminism, there was identically about backlash to the second-wave's problems that still exist. Second-wave feminism was only limited to the movement for white women and college-educated women. This wave was focusing on embracing the spirit of women to show their true selves and express their sexuality. Present day. Women still have to fight for their equality of

gender compared with men. But the situation is getting better. Women nowadays become stronger and braver to speak for their voices. Both men and women become more open to showing their sexuality.

Around the middle of the century, women in Europe, North America and Canada, New Zealand and Australia set up the first joint time in the group and community reaches the changes in social, economic, and political women. The organizations become the historical movement of feminism. They continue to educate and want their ideology will be recognized in the future.

There are four types of feminism:

1. Liberal Feminism.

Liberal feminism is about giving equality rights in occupation or education. Every human being is created with the same rights and women especially must have the same opportunity in developing their future. Liberal feminism is trying to make women and men equal, independent, and free to decide their own futures.

2. Radical Feminism

Radical feminism known in the United States since 1960s. This feminism believes that women and men must be educated from a female perspective.

3. Marxist Feminism

Marxist feminism spread out in the second wave during the late 1960s and 1970s. Marxist feminism is about determining the quality and nature of our experience. According to Pilcher and Whelehan (2004:50), they consider that changes in women's society are from the economic, social and political structure related to capitalism.

4. Socialist Feminism

Socialist feminism is about the roles that are allocated to women related to the independence of class status. According to Tuana and Tong (1995:262), socialist feminism's purpose is to construct society to achieve its goal, gender equality.

2.2.2 Girl Power

According to Forbes, written by Shelley Zalis (2019) who wrote about the power of the pack, women who support other women are more powerful and successful. A woman alone has power and gives an impact. But if we gather all the women into the pack, it becomes more powerful. The most important thing to achieve the spirit of Girl Power is to make sure that women must support other women. Girl Power gives positive attitudes toward women's femininity. It declares that femininity is not a trap that makes women fall into a patriarchal society. Femininity can even make women gain power in society. Girl Power can be understood as a response to old feminist critiques of feminine gender roles that define femininity as a patriarchal symbol of female powerlessness and domination (Genz and Brabon, 2009:77).

Girl Power defined that feminine and empowered are not antonym. Girl power is that girls can make their own decisions, speak their minds, raise their voice, and be aggressive, while engaging in the production of normative femininity (Hains, 2005). For example, there is a study of copreneurial power. It is a study about the understanding of power relations between men and women. Woman's positions at the head of the business are officially acknowledged that has the same level as her male partner. This form of governance could encourage gender equality that the role

of women could be recognized in the workplace. It offers a level of flexibility that is impossible to achieve in form of an entrepreneurial organization (Brannon et al., 2013).

But in reality, achieving this idea is not easy. British actress and Goodwill Ambassador for U.N. Women, Emma Watson have given an amazing speech. She gave a smart and moving speech about gender inequality. She persuades women to fight for gender equality. Related to the campaign, she encourages women to end gender inequality. She said that women should be paid the same as their male counterparts. People should not hate being feminist because what matter is the idea and the ambition behind it. Until this day, many women still have not received the same rights as men. Hillary Clinton gave a famous speech in Beijing about women's rights in 1995. She said in her speech about power abuse in work regulation. There was no longer occurred gender equality in the workplace. Sadly, the fact that she wanted to change is still happening. Workers have to adapt to discrimination or sexism. Women's workers often get judgment because of how they look and how they dressed. Women more often get sexual harassment easier because they have more lack power than men. Gender equality is not a women's job but it is also men's issue. Men and women should feel sensitive about their surroundings. Both men and women should feel free to be strong too. It is time that people can see gender on a spectrum, not just two sets of opposing ideas.

Girl Power is often compared with feminism. People are still confused with the thought of Girl Power and feminism. Is there any differences or are they related? The researcher found that both of the theories have different meanings and ideas, but they are related. Girl Power is gaining spirit for other girls and supporting each other. Girl

Power is focusing on the idea to love yourself, and accept your imperfection because it is what makes you beautiful. While feminism is about gender equality. People who are support feminism (feminist); they have supported the equality. In simple terms, feminism is about empowerment while “girl power” is the spirit of empowering others. Action that can be pictured in society about “girl power” such as supporting their sexuality, giving a genuine compliment about their appearance and not trying to give a standardization or judgment about women's nature to only give birth and take care of family, especially that stereotypes were already known in Indonesia. However, the action of feminism can be seen as a movement to achieve gender equality fully in law and environment, and stop sexism and sexist exploitation.

2.2.3 Stereotype

Stereotypes are generalized for the personal characteristics of people (Allport, 1954). The stereotype has a long history and was created as a result of a particular economic, political or social situation. Stereotypes are learned and people can be taught or reinforced explicitly and implicitly through many different social impacts. The flaws and emotional responses of stereotypes can be harmful in many ways to mental health and the overall health of these stereotypes.

The effect of gender stereotypes on women is irrespective of the level of position women belong to in an organization. Because women are more caregiving, the characteristics are described as being nurturing, caring, and concerned with personal relationships. By contrast, men are typically seen by society as showing masculine characteristics, such as leadership, strength, and assertiveness (Vogel, Wester, Heesacker, & Madon, 2003; Skelly & Johnson, 2011). Feminine behaviour showed by women is not accepted in positions ruled by masculine manner. An important

issue here is that women adopting a post-feminism approach (it is a reaction or critique against contradiction in feminism, especially in second and third-wave feminism) might face rejection due to hyper-feminine characteristics. This rejection would attach to them as individuals rather than to their minority status within the workplace. Unlike developed countries where women have a powerful voice and good positions in organizations, in developing countries women tend to take more of a moderate feminist approach and in most cases, are silent (Khayria & Feki, 2015). Male dominance and cultural understandings are still very much a reality in many countries. However, in recent years, there has been a change in the participation of women at work. The new wave of feminist theory is aimed at recognizing the current behaviour of women in different organizations and management cultures under different social, economic, and cultural conditions.

2.3 Earlier Studies

For the earlier studies, the researcher has already searched some information wheatear other scholars have already conducted a similar analysis using the theory of Girl Power in a related movie. But we found that no scholar has already conducted such an analysis using the same approach as *Captain Marvel*, therefore the researcher is the first person that conducted the analysis of Girl Power in this movie. There were studies that have similar movies and analyses compared to the researcher's thesis. The first recent study is by Amanda Resy Prafitra entitled *An Analysis on Andrea Sachs' Girl Power Aspects and Women's Dis/Empowerment in Weisberger's Chick Lit the Devil Wears Prada* (Prafitra, 2013). This study focuses on finding the Girl Power aspects reflected in Weisberger's *The Devil Wears Prada* to show how Girl Power empowers or disempowers Andrea Sachs in this novel. The theory of

feminism, post-feminism, and Girl Power become the bases of analysis employed in this research. The writer used a qualitative approach. Content analysis was used as the technique of analysis. The subject of this research was a chick lit entitled *The Devil Wears Prada* written by Lauren Weisberger. The data were sentences and discourses showing Andrea Sachs' Girl Power aspects and Andrea Sachs' empowerment and disempowerment. To obtain trustworthiness, the researcher used the triangulation technique. There are two results of this research. The first one is to show there are four Girl Power aspects that are shown by Andrea Sachs' character in *The Devil Wears Prada*: celebrating femininity, making individual choices, being independent, and being confident, and the second one is Andrea Sachs' Girl Power Aspects of celebrating femininity, making individual choices, being independent can empower her to survive in her workplace but Andrea Sachs' Girl Power aspect of being confident can disempower her life and relationship with her family, friends, and boyfriend.

The second thesis is from Friska Angraeni entitled *An Analysis of Gender Stereotype Experienced by Peggy Carter and Her Representation of Girl Power in Marvel Agent Carter Movie* (Angraeni, 2017). This thesis deals with the terms: Gender Stereotype and Girl Power, which are related to Gender Studies on *Marvel Agent Carter*. *Marvel Agent Carter* is an American television series produced by Marvel Cinematic Universe in 2015. It is supposed to be the continuation of the superhero movie *Captain America: The First Avenger* which was released in 2011. This research shows that Peggy's actions toward gender stereotype experiences represent Girl Power.

After figuring out the findings of those earlier studies, it can be proven that this analysis is offering something completely different. First, the choice of a movie entitled *Captain Marvel* as the main source of data is completely different from those conducted by the earlier two researchers. From the first study, the researcher, Amanda Resy Prafitra uses a novel by Lauren Weisberger as the main source of data and in the second study by Friska Angraeni uses *Marvel AgentCarter* for her thesis. Both of the earlier studies used the same theory which is Girl Power, but this study uses Carol Danvers as the main character to represent the side of Girl Power. This thesis is trying to contribute to the analysis of Girl Power in the movie entitled *Captain Marvel*.