

CHAPTER II

LITERARY REVIEW

2. Theoretical Framework

In this chapter discuss about the theories that uses to analyze *Ambition and Desire* novel by Kate William. New Criticism is used to describe Josephine Bonaparte's characterization and the way she gets her right on private property. Then, by leading Marxist Feminism is aims to identify Josephine's exertion in fights for her victories in private property. Marxist feminism also uses to identify the way how woman releases against people's fetter. Precisely it is also faced by Josephine in the novel *Ambition and Desire* by Kate William. As the supports new criticism utilized to describe the delineation of Josephine character in the novel. Moreover, to get well understanding about the woman condition during French Revolution. This study also uses historical criticism as approach. For the detail the explanation of the theory will be explained as follow:

2.1. New Criticism

The emergence of new criticism theory is firstly in America before the structuralism has developed (Rokhmansyah 68). New criticism is also known as a name applied to a varied and extremely energetic effort among Anglo-American writers to focus critical attention on literature itself. Like Russian Formalism, following Boris Eikhenbaum and Victor Shklovskii, the new criticism develops

speculative positions on techniques of reading that provide a vital complement to the literary and artistic emergence of modernism (Carter 22).

In simple way, new criticism emphasizes explication, or “close reading” of the work itself. It rejects old historicism's attention to biographical and sociological matters. Instead, the objective determination as to “how a piece work” can be found through close focus and analysis of literary work. New criticism is a theory which focuses on intrinsic element. Intrinsic element such as theme, point of view, plot, setting, symbol, character and characterization (Carter 23).

2.1.1. Character

Character is a person's representation which appears in prose or narrative text then by the readers will be interpreted through particular moral, intellectual, and emotion based on what the person says, the way they say, actions and their motivation that ground their action (Abrams 33). Simply, character can be identified as an object that has a forceful role in developed element of novel. Aristoteles mentions that the character is “number two” after plot in the story while composing the writing (Bennet and Royle 60).

According to James, character and plot are two elements on an equal importance and mutualism in a literary work, thus they cannot be separated. The shrewdness of a character displaying his or her unique character in a novel or drama can affect the reader's recollection of the story content that an author conveyed easily. Therefore, the character in the story is usually used as a term to represent the similar case which happens in the real world (60).

Nurgiyantoro, in his book *Teori Pengkajian Sastra*, mentions two kinds of characters in the story. Firstly, the main character as the players who often appear in the whole story and experience in every part of story is designed by the author. Secondly, the complement characters who complete the main character's role (78). Based on their roles in the story, characters are divided into protagonist and antagonist (Abrams 33). Protagonist is a chief character in the plot that interests the reader to follow. Picker and Hoepfer said that the major or central character of plot is called protagonist. It is mean that major character is protagonist (9). Then, antagonist is a character who against protagonist in the plot, usually along with opponent. The antagonist is an evil because they are cruel or trouble maker, usually mentioned as villain (Abrams 242).

Other characters are based on their characterization in the story. Those are flat character and round character. Flat character is a character that has one or two dimension in their personality. According to Henderson et al it means that flat character is figure that only has one or two dominant major personality which make them easy to remember and to know (16). It is kind of character which presented without individualizing in detail (Abrams 33). It means that the entire aspect of their character is already expressed in the story by the author. Usually, the authors also prefer to describe this character in simple way, at least in a single phrase or sentences. In other word, flat character also mention as static character because they do not changed. In several genre of literary work such as in melodrama, detective, or mystery, flat character usually role as protagonist (Abrams 154). The second one is round character or three dimension character

which has complex temperament and motivation. As in the real life, round character drawn as a person who has unpredictable action because of many experience changes them.

2.1.2. Characterization

The way how author describes and gives soul for their characters is usually called as characterization. The author creates the character based on the necessary of the novel itself. Esten states that characterization is author's ability to develop each character in the story. He also adds that a good characterization denotes the success of character in presenting the character played (Esten 27).

Waluyo also mentions that the characterization can be called as the way the author displays the characters as his intended (30). This is including determining kinds of character in the story and the relation among the character within the story. Thus, it can be called as the process of making appearance of the character by giving them disposition and habits to the figure who acts the story.

Characterization is one of aspect in literary work to understand the character in the novel and to know the differences from other characters. Abrams in *Glossary of Literary Term seventh edition* writes that the way to make the distinct to each character in the narrative story is by characterizing the characters (34). There are two methods usually used by the author to characterize it, those are (1) showing, the author present the characters talking and acting each other and let the reader interpret their characterization through the dialogue. In showing method, the author usually shows inner though, feeling and responsibility from the

The history of feminism can be divided into three waves. The first wave happens in nineteenth and early twenty centuries. This wave is influenced by the Woman's Right and Suffrage movement. The woman's right is focusing on equal contract and property right for woman and the child. In the early twenty centuries the feminist is active to gain the equality on political power, especially in suffrages right. One of the prominent feminist writers in this wave is Virginia Wolf. She states that in writing women also need to explore their own experiences as a female not only compare situation by the man views (Carter 92).

The second wave of feminism is marked by various liberationist movements which assert the equalities more loudly. The popular movement which emerged toward female is known as women's movement. This movement is started early in 1960s and 1970s which is called the Woman's Liberation (Carter 91). Extend to propagandize of the word "feminism" into general uses, and as lengthen it is (Walters 4). The movement is originally conducted in a private by saying "No" as a rejection toward the oppression within them and become visible massive movement in a whole country, then.

The third wave feminism originally turns up in the middle 1980s until present. In their action, feminist in third waves are more focuses on micropolitics of gender equality issue. By prefacing the work done by the previous waves of feminism, the feminist in third waves are still evaluated about the disparities in male and female pay and the reproductive right of woman. They also still are struggling for acceptances the term of "feminism" toward people to showing their existing and buffetings.

In the basic, the feminism aims to reverse the paradigm that women are under the domination of men as being complementary (Rokhmansyah 128). Feminists reject all forms of marginalization, suburbanization, and the act of despising their people by the dominant culture. Particularly, this appears in the politic, economic, or other social areas (Sugihastuti 20). As quotes in Siti Aminatus Sholichah's journal entitled *Karakteristik Tokoh Utama Dalam Novel Supiyah Karya Kusaeri Ys (Kajian Feminisme Marxis)* states a lot of women are refused to be stereotyped and being secondary by a male person. As a result, the women attempt to acquire the equal rights through men by winning in oppositions called feminist movements (180).

The several causes why the woman wants to affirm for equality are because (1) they are being subject to domestic slavery (2) woman are not allowed to manage the financial because it is men's authority (3) woman does not have equal pay for their work (4) woman are being the victims of sexual exploitation of many kinds, or in short way means that woman had colonized lives and personalities (James: 145). Hence, woman looks different in the community groups which Simone de Beauvoir called as the other human being, not a human norm (Emzir and Rohman 132).

2.2.1. Marxist Feminism

One of flowing feminism ideology which is more influenced by Karl Marx thoughts is called Marxist feminism. Marxism itself is an understanding of the system in society related to the structure of society, social revolution, and social

reality (98). On his book *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, Marx and Engels clarified that the economic production and the structure of society is being the basis for politics and intellectual history at the time (6). The fundamental mode of material production affected the class structure of society changes and creates the dominant and subordinate classes which strive in struggle for economic, political and social advantage (Abrams 148). Afterwards, those are presented era of capitalist economic that reigning ideology incorporates the interests the dominant and exploitative class of the bourgeois which has ownership on production and distribution toward the proletarian who usually called wage-earning of working class (Abrams 149). Hence, obliteration for justice is to get similar opportunity within the society. It can be seen clearly in citation below:

“all history has been a history of class struggles, of struggles between exploited and exploiting, between dominated and dominating classes at various stages of social evolution; that this struggle, however, has now reached a stage where the exploited and oppressed class (the proletariat) can no longer emancipate itself from the class which exploits and oppresses it (the bourgeoisie), without at the same time forever freeing the whole of society from exploitation, oppression, class struggles”. (Marx, 8)

Moreover, Marxist feminism concerns to reveal double oppression of women, mutually by the capitalist system and by sexuality (Carter 93). According to Frederick Engels, in capitalist system woman becomes private property for her husband. It is begun when surplus value appears as the new foundation for the distribution and production in economic. The man who takes controls in production slowly dominates social relation in family as consequences the women

who are not capable in production and distribution field include be private property for them (Muslikatin 33).

In other hands, woman's oppression in sexuality is shown in capitalist era while woman occupies at second place them often is being victims of abortion, sterilization, rape, divorce, child custody and care, or housework (James 145). As housework, the woman who does not have wage becomes man servant. They serve for food and make his bed, comfort him and sleep with him. In other word, woman is part of male wage.

The pioneer figure of Marxist feminism is Margaret Benston, the prominent author of *The Political Economy of Woman Liberation* article in 1969. In her writing, she is emphasizing that woman's status is clearly inferior for the man. She knows that the primary factor of why the reason woman being the second status in economic fact (1). As explained before, this causes related to man powers that exploitation their wife productivity in the home. It is not balanced when the woman works outside of the home to contribute family earning and that she also should be responsible for house work whereas man only produce and distribute for surplus value (21).

Thus, woman in this era mostly gives voice through issues which is bind by unequal right they demand for criticize (1) capitalism (2) class exploitation and production (3) private property (4) men control production; to exchange and the consequence they dominate social relationship, while woman are reduced to part of the property (Lubis 104).

Further, for the analysis appliances Semi in Sholichah states that literary criticism is one of concept to criticize social phenomena which finally shapes technique and method in it (Sholichah 184). The important things in the way how to analyzed uses Marxist feminism is located to identify the characters and the characterization of women in the narrative text. By looking for her social position in society she lived, the readers can interpret the characters easier. It is also intended to find out the reaction from the main character toward her surroundings. Thus, the readers can identify the character's problem which appears in the novel. And it is aims to get better in understanding the characters motivation and purpose why she is trying to against the discrimination and exploitation she faces in the novel (Sugihastuti 30).

The main character mentioned above, Josephine Bonaparte, is a widow who married with France emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. This thesis intends to analyze Josephine's personality. The way Josephine confronted the rejection and underestimates by her first husband Vicomte Alexandre de Beauharnais makes her has bad experiences on love life. She lost most of her wealth because of debt problems. She does not have their right for assisted herself except by struggling to raise her social status in society. According to time setting when Josephine's life in the *Desire and Ambition* novel she is lives during France Revolution. During French Revolution times, woman position is depends on her husband position in society. Thus, it is make Josephine who live in French also struggles to reach her right on private property to maintain her wealth by getting married with someone who has influence in toward people.

2.3 Historical Criticism.

The term of “historical” always refers to what actually happen. In other words, it must be linked to record and remember a certain event in the past. According to Marshall, he states that historical criticism itself is a study of any narrative whose core is to convey the historical information in order to determine the answer questions “what actually happened” at the past time (126). He also adds that historical study also attempts to throw light on doubtful information toward the natural of events by determining more precisely the nature of the events with bear observer.

According to *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature: Fourth Edition* the historical biographical approach sees a literary work chiefly, as the reflection of author’s life and times or the characters life and times in literary work (Guerin 22). It means that understanding a literary piece also needs to understand the author’s life times, their social background and the idea circulated during they writes the novel. Because, the time and place affect how the reader responds the story. In other hands historical criticism – knows the social life and the way of life in certain period can gives the reader advantages to increase their knowledge from what is already written in the novel then conclude better understanding about its contents.

Moreover, in analysis the historical criticism approach in this analysis is used to trace back the woman roles in French society during French Revolution emerged. At that times French was under Louis XVI reign. Woman status is places in inferiority class and only depending on her husband status to attain their

by Caroline Weber on December 5, 2014. In her writing, she reviews about Josephine French revolutionary as the backgrounds. The novel tells about Napoleon Bonaparte's love life who married Josephine, a woman who was ambitious to become the first female emperor in the French. Caroline Weber writes that in Kate William's work carries Josephine experiences before being the greatest woman in Frances. Shortly, Caroline Weber reviews that Kate William writes the story details until Napoleon lost his empire again at Waterloo war. In May 1814, Josephine dies because of pneumonia. This news shattered Bonaparte in turn. Once in exile, Napoleon never stopped thinking of her, surrounding himself with pictures of her at St. Helena.

In this thesis titled *Josephine's Victory in Private Property in the Novel Ambition And Desire* by Kate William will brings the differences subject from the previous study that is using Novel from Kate Willam entitle *Ambtion and Desire*. In the Kate William novel tells about Josephine struggle life in her right for private property. Thus, the simillarity between this thesis and other previous study is places in the theory that uses to analyze the Josephine character. Here, Marxist feminism is aims to analyze the way Josephine struggle to reach her right for private property. This thesis is more focuses on woman demanded for equality in social status and economic during France Revolution. Thus, on the analysis also includes to views the history of woman in France society.