

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five chapters, namely background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

The differences of cultures and social lives make society have their perspective about gender roles (Daulay, 2017), it is undeniable that the shifting role of gender is taboo in social perspective in which some places have gender role expectations. A man should do masculine things such as dominant, strong, independent, assertive, brave, and innovative and a woman should do feminine things such as emotional, collaborative, nurturing, vulnerable, caring, and humble. That is why gender is constructed by people and this construction is shaped by historical, cultural, and psychological processes (Basow, 1992). It means gender is unlike sex, gender is not something we have from birth, it is not constructed by biological.

Literary works become media to criticize and comment on the problems in social and cultural conditions. Moreover, it can be a historical record of social evidence and testimony (Copenhaver, 2002). Klarer says that in most cases, “literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense of the word” (Klarer, 2004). This means, Literature is an expression of the author who expresses his or her feelings in writing, not all

written works are literary works. For example, Makoto Shinkai, puts his expression in his literary work entitled *Your Name*, or *Kimi no Nawa* in Japanese, which portrays gender roles in society wrapped in romance and fantasy genres.

Makoto Shinkai is a Japanese Author, Director, Cinematographer and Manga Artist. The top 5 best selling of his works are *The Place Promised in Our Early Days*, *Children Who Chase Lost Voices*, *5 Centimeters per Second*, *Weathering with You*. One of them will be analyzed in this study, titled *Your Name*. He is known as the best Japanese author and director, because *Your Name* is praised for commercial success. He has the highest-grossing film animation of all time in Japan, overtaking Miyazaki's *Spirited Away*.

Furthermore, *Your Name* got a good rate in MAL, Japanese Film Animation, Comics, and Novel social Networking, with 8,95/10 voted by 1,4 million users. It is very interesting to be read, because there are many plot twists in the story. This novel tells about a couple's actions who switched their souls for some reason, which begin to have a dramatic impact on each other's people. Therefore, this novel is chosen to be analyzed in this study.

Related to the previous statement, *Your Name* tells about the main characters, Taki Tachibana and Mitsuha Miyamizu who are strangers. The high-schoolers who came from two different areas, social classes and cultures, face some problems accidentally, their souls switch to each other. Taki's soul in Mitsuha's body and Mitsuha's soul in Taki's body unconsciously. This incident happens randomly several times. So, they should live and adapt to their new life. They take notes to communicate, leave some messages, and make rules for what

they should do and what they should not do. Their struggle starts from here, they had to endure conditions which were very different from their real life. Besides that, Taki and Mitsuha are still looking for why they switched her soul and how to solve this problem. Then, they inevitably have to socialize with people who are concerned with the owner of the body. Therefore, in this situation, the gender role stereotype happens in a social environment, and society responds to how Taki and Mitsuha act, behave, and speak in society.

The novel has an exciting topic about gender roles which are pretty dominant. According to Michael Ryan, gender role is a standard of gender formed by a combination of nature and culture, what a person is born into, a man or a woman, and how the social environment treats them (Ryan, 2010). It can be concluded that gender role is a social construction that standardizes a person and also makes it possible for gender roles to have different standards according to the existing social and cultural environment.

On the other hand, along with the formation of each individual's gender role in society, they also give expectations of the individual based on his or her gender. It is called the gender role determinant. Specifically, Gender role determinant is a personal trait or attribute conditioned by a traditional social system (Williams, Satterwhite, & Best, 1999). Men are expected to think and act like men (masculine) and women are expected to think and act like women (feminine). This social system would stereotype some actions, occupations, and careers as masculine and others as feminine.

In addition, this novel also contains gender issues, which are gender stereotypes. Gender stereotype is a gender role that must be owned by men or women determined by society. This role has certain obligations and limitations according to gender. Traditionally, this is based on a division of roles in which men become hunters because of their physical strength and women fulfill the role of caregivers (Diekman & Eagly, 2000). Gender stereotypes tend to be simplistic or aptitudes of the individual, but on over-generalized perceptions of one gender or other (Wienclaw, *Gender Differences: Biology and Culture*, 2011).

According to the explanation about the novel in previous paragraphs, the topic about gender role is very suitable with gender role theory by Ruth A. Wienclaw, especially concerning society as gender determinant and culture as gender determinant. Therefore, the writer used the theory to analyze this novel. *Representation of Gender Role in Makoto Shinkai's Your Name (Kimi no Nawa)* is chosen to be the title of this study.

Previously, gender role theory was used by some writers who analyze some different literary works. The first author is Jamilatuz Zahro (2014) who analyzes Anna Quindlen's *One True Thing*. The second authors are Aidatul Chusna; M. Taufiqurrohman; and Lynda Suzanna who analyze Banyumas Films in the reformation era. Those people use the same theory to analyze gender roles in each literary work. Meanwhile, this study is going to analyze the main characters, Mitsuha Miyamizu and Taki Tachibana, who represent gender roles in Makoto Shinkai's *Your Name*.

In the same source of data, the writer found six results of the study from different topics. First is cinema studies by Ram Prakash Dwivedi (2020), *Your Name: A Study of Imagery and Post-Postmodernity in Cinema*. Second is the intrinsic element by Rimarta Kusumawesti (2017), *Struktur Film Kimi No Nawa Karya Makoto Shinkai*. Third is locality by Muammar Kadafi and Shofi Mahmudah Budi Utami (2021), *Locality in Makoto Shinkai's Kimi no Na wa: Negotiating Japanese Youth Identity*. Fourth is character values by Isnanda Elok Hapsari (2020), *The Analysis of Character Value in the Japanese Anime "Kimi no Na Wa"*. Fifth is semiotic by Junita Karnawati and Ayu Putri Seruni (2021), *Analisis Semiotik Makna Musubi dalam Film Animasi Kimi No Na Wa*. Sixth is art approach by Vincent Chandra (2019), *Esthetic Analysis of Anime Kimi No Na Wa*. None of those authors use gender aspect to analyze the studies. That is why the writer use gender role theory by Ruth A. Winclaw in Makoto Shinkai's novel, *Your Name (Kimi no Nawa)* entitled "*Representation of Gender Role in Makoto Shinkai's Your Name: "Kimi no Nawa"*"

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, this study discusses gender role determinants in *Your Name*. Then the problems are formulated as the following questions:

1. What are gender roles determinants that exist in the novel *Your Name* by Makoto Shinkai?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the statement of the problems above, this study is intended:

1. To find out what gender role determinant in the novel *Your Name* by Makoto Shinkai.

1.4 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to be able to provide two important significance towards the theories and source of data. The first is theoretical significance and the second is practical significance.

1. Theoretically, this study is expected to give better understanding about gender role theory proposed by Ruth. A Wienclaw which applied to the major characters in the novel entitled *Your Name* by Makoto Shinkai. In addition, this study can help other writers to use gender roles as the theory by using different sources of data.
2. Practically, this study is expected to give more information and knowledge related to the same theory and source of data, especially for the students of English Study Program of Trunojoyo Madura University who take literature as their concentration. Moreover, this study is expected to give significant support to the other writers.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study focused on the Ruth A. Wienclaw theory about Gender Role. The limitation of this study are the characters through their acts and utterances, and the author's narration which are portrayed and related to gender roles in the novel , *Your Name*.