

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five sub chapters that consist of background of study, research question, research objective, scope and limitation, and significance of the study.

1.1 Background of The Study

The existence of codes can not be separated from human's daily life. They use codes as media to communicate or interact each others (Chandler. 2007, p. 148). Such *Ojigi* (bow) which is practiced by Japanese to express greeting, respect or apology. Japanese does not only bow their head, but also *Ojigi* indicates their politeness which is taught by their culture (Vijayan. 2019). Another example, Madurese has traditional weapon '*Arék*' as their identity. It signifies Madurese has great bravery, firmly takes decision, etc. Both examples clarify that codes take significant role toward human's life.

The explanation above clarifies that human with their intelligence always interpret what they experience, either it is an objects or behavior. They decide a signified of those to obtain associated meaning based on convention of their own communities. Every signifier does not only represent one signified, but also associates with others because it relates with a reference which a group of people approves in assigning signified of signifier. Thus, Henny (2014) states that they initiate to think a

science or method of analysis to study signs, in the form of devices or symbols that we use in human relations, namely semiotics (Ibrahim and Sulaiman. 2020).

Lois Tyson (2015:216) states that semiotics examines the ways linguistic and nonlinguistic objects and behaviors operate symbolically to “tell” us something. It can be assumed that sign imply hidden meaning that requires background knowledge to gain a specific purpose. She also illustrates advertisement of a particular brand of whiskey in which the picture of the reclining blond beauty in the skin-tight, black velvet dressed on the billboard represents those who drink this whiskey (presumably men) will be serviced by an attractive, seductive and beautiful women like the on display. The example above is one of fields where semiotics occurs in our daily life.

Here, Literary works nearly engage semiotics as a sub-discipline and structuralism as a approach to analyze it. Structuralist criticism deals mainly with narrative which is a galaxy of signifiers producing multiple meanings by the participation of the reader in a meaning producing phenomenon (Barthes, 1974). There seems to be a rather powerful parallel between literature as a field of study and structuralism as a method of analysis (Tyson. 2015). Here, Roland Barthes’ five codes theory (proairetic, enigma, semantic, symbolic and cultural codes) relates with literary works which need background understanding in order to accomplish signs the authors mean. The authors of literary works deliberately apply those codes to create their works interesting because those codes offer other understandings rather than literal meaning.

Those five codes also help readers to elaborate any object and event implied a further narration, for example a mystery genre novel tells a lot of enigma codes, detective novel which create suspense and curios about what will happen next in the novel and others. So, they can accept what the author means in the literary works. It causes they have to explore some utterances (categorized as codes) which might be related to other fields. Moreover, literary works are affected by the background of the authors and the setting of story tells. Such a novel written in nineteen century might portray colonialism and a novel written by woman might tell about struggle. Hence, It is crucial for readers to analyze literary works using semiotic. In terms of literary analysis, semiotics is involved in literary conventions: the rules, literary devices, and formal elements that constitute literary structures (Tyson. 2015).

This study will discuss about one of Norwegian author's novels, Jostein Gaarder, entitled *The World According to Anna* (2013). Jostein Gaarder is familiar novelist who frequently uses children as characters and children's perspective in writing his novels, he emphasizes the children's curious about natural and general knowledge. It causes his novels build a mystery/enigma to be accomplished. In *The World According to Anna*, this novel tells about the awareness of global warming and the damage people have done on this planet. Anna, sixteen years old, as the main character has a dream in which she becomes grandmother and also grandchild, named Nova, in different age. Nova is angry at the Anna because she demands to return natural view before the existence of climate change, illegal logging, extinction of flora and fauna. This dream also indicates some signs that Anna in the real life must be explored and learned what is being delivered. In addition, this novel consists of signs that

represent background knowledge related to the place and the characters' behavior in the story.

In this case, to support and enhance the writer's understanding, the writer tries to search some previous studies similar with the topic of this study. There are writers who have used this topic in analyzing different source of data and the same source of data but different topic. However, the writer has found some studies related with the topic and the source of data. Those are (1) *A Potrait of Environmentalist in Jostein Gaarder's The World According to Anna*, an udergraduate thesis written by Akbar Alfarizi, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya, 2016; (2) *A Call for Concern in Global Warming in Jostein Gaarder's The World According to Anna Novel: A Sociologicial Perspective* by Nisa Kamilatun University of Muhamadiyah Surakarta, 2017; (3) *Five codes of Barthes in Shahraz's Story A Pair of Jeans: A Post-Structural Analysis*, an international journal by S. Zaib, G,M Manshori, ELF Annual Research, 2014; (4) *A Structural Approach to D.H Lawrence's: The lovely Lady: Application of Roland Barthes' Five Codes* by Djamal Benadla, University of Dr. Moulay Tahar de SaidaAlgérie, 2020; and the last journal is (5) *Barthesian Codes in Visual Domain* by Vivek Vijayan, National Institute of Technology Rourkela, 2019.

Thus, the writer tries to analyze *The World According to Annaby* using Roland Barthes' five codes, in which ordinarily has been analyzed by using ecocriticism and sociology approach. However, the novel has not been analyzed by using semiotics, particularly five codes, whereas the novel consists of many codes that have not been interpreted. Moreover, there are a lot of other fields such environmental ethics,

psychoanalysis, culture and social aspects portrayed in notions, utterances, objects and character's behavior in the novel. That is reason why the writer will analyze the data by using Roland Barthes' five codes.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the writer tries to discuss about Barthes' five codes in Jostein Gaarder's *The World According to Anna*. Then, the problem is formulated as follows:

What does Five Narrative Codes signify in Jostein Gaarder's *The World According to Anna*?

1.3 Objective of The Study

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

To explain the interpretation of Five Narrative Codes in Jostein Gaarder's *The World According to Anna*.

1.4 Significances of The Study

This study is expected to be able to enrich a better understanding of literature by providing theoretical and practical benefit. Theoretically, this study is expected to identify Five Narrative Codes by applying semiotics, particularly Roland Barthes' five codes in literary works. Practically, this study can help other writers to use Roland Barthes' five codes as the theory in analyzing different source of data. this study is expected to give more information and knowledge related to semiotics, especially for the students of English Study Program of University of Trunojoyo Madura who takes

literature as their concentration. Also, this study is expected to give a significant support to other writers.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is on the codes applied by characters' utterances and the author's narration in the source of data. Then, the writer will only analyze the data of this study using Roland Barthes' theory in *The World According to Anna*, which consists of five codes; proairetic, enigma, symbolic, semantic and cultural codes. Meanwhile, the writer of this study limits the discussion on Roland Barthes' five codes. The source of data implies other fields such environmental ethics, physicoanalysis, culture and social aspects.