

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Literary works are the art in written to show the reality in the world and to share the experiences such as politic, economic, culture, social and life style of the author to readers. Every author has different point of view and interest. There are authors combine some aspects to create a new story including Jojo Moyes. She combines some aspects such as economic, culture and life style to build the romantic atmosphere in the novel. Jojo Moyes or Pauline Sara-Jo is a famous romantic novelist who was born on August 4, 1969 in Maidstone, England. She started to become a full-time novelist in 2002 with her first book that is entitled *Sheltering Rain* that was published. She won the Romantic Novelists' Association's Romantic Novel of the Year Award in 2004 for *Foreign Fruit* and in 2011 for *The Last Letter From Your Lover*. One of the romantic novels of Jojo Moyes is *Me Before You* (<https://www.jojomoyes.com/about-jojo/>)

Me Before You is romance and best seller novel . The novel was published on January 5, 2002 in the United Kingdom. This novel has the strong atmosphere. There are 845.662 people who give the ratings after they have read the novel, it is based on goodreads ([https:// www.goodreads.com /book /show/1734 7634 -me-before-you](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/17347634-me-before-you)). It is the reason this novel has many readers. It causes the film production want to adapt this novel to film. Many people are enthusiastic to watch this film because they have good experiences for reading the novel. In August 2015, *Me Before You* novel was adapted in movie that is directed

by Thea Sharrock. The film was released via Warner Bros. Many people wait for this movie because they are curious the atmosphere in movie. Another reason, they curious how every scene in novel will be shown in movie.

Me Before You depicts a woman who named Louisa Clark or Lou. She is from middle-class. Her parents do not work because her father was old, it is difficult to find a job. Lou is a breadwinner in her family. She works in many places with different position such as she is a chef and waiter in the bakery, she is a factory employee and she is a caretaker. She works at outside home and she gets support from her family but she does not get the equity for her working. She is not confident with her ability but her family always support her.

The writer analyzed *Me Before You* in Louisa's roles by Linda L. Lindsey. Linda in her book *Gender Roles: A Sociological Perspective* states that gender roles are included into the job and social perspectives that reflect on this novel. This novel is suitable for this theory because the novel informs about the woman roles and other people support her roles.

Me Before You was released on January 5, 2012, the writer find journal in Film Journal International which entitle *Film Review: Me Before You*. The writer find the journal which is the same issue about gender roles in which is entitle *Gender Socialization and Identity Theory* by Michael J. Carter.

1.2 Statement of the Research

Related to background, this study will try to answer the following question:

1. What are Louisa's roles in *Me Before You* novel by Jojo Moyes?

2. How do the other characters respond to Louisa's roles?

1.3 The Objective of the Study

Linked to the research questions, the objective of this study is:

1. To describe Louisa's roles in *Me Before You* novel by Jojo Moyes.
2. To describe how the other characters respond to Louisa's roles.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Since the study is based on the woman equality, it is expected that the result of the study will contribute to give theoretical involvement to literary study especially on novel. This study to enhance the insight of women equality especially in Linda's gender roles: a sociological perspectives.

It is expected that can add knowledge for women who have the same rights with men to work, to give the opinions in the public and to remember women who have the rights to explore abilities and to show their feeling firstly. The woman equality which exist on *Me Before You* as Louisa who reflects the gender roles a sociological perspective in order to increase woman confidence to show her abilities and feelings.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scopes of this study are the woman equality in the work, relationship, the other characters respond to Louisa and Linda's gender roles: a sociological perspective. The study focuses on the analysis of woman equality and the characters' utterances of the novel related the woman equality and gender roles, a sociological perspective. The study is limited to analyze the characters' utterance of the data which potrays Louisa's gender roles and the other characters

respond to Louisa role in *Me Before You* that represent Linda's gender roles: a sociological perspective.