

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of the study

Literary works are human creations that contain certain messages from the author, with the aim of inviting readers to follow the aspirations carried by the author. Literary works also represent the results of human thought embodied in written form. In addition, literary works are created so that they can be enjoyed and appreciated by the community (Anggraini, 2017: 77). The messages contained in literary works can be conveyed implicitly or explicitly.

The movie script acts as a means of communicating ideas and concepts, as well as assembling factual details through narrative structure, dialog, shooting description, and set design (Suprpto, 2022). Feminism is a collection of ideologies, political and social movements whose main goal is to define, build and realize gender equality in various aspects of life, such as political, economic, personal and social fields.

In this research, the feminism studied is more focused on radical feminism. Radical feminism believes that the root cause of women's oppression lies in the characteristics of men and their patriarchal ideology. According to the perspective of radical feminism, men's physical dominance over women, such as in sexual relations, is the foundation of the oppression of women (Fakih, 2013: 85).

The character of *Enola Holmes* through a radical feminist perspective highlights the character's rejection of the repressive social construction of gender in the Victorian era. Enola defies prevailing stereotypes of women through her intelligence and abilities, and avoids patriarchal attempts to control her. Her

independence and relationship with her mother, a radical feminist, emphasizes the principles of radical feminism in resisting gender norms and fighting for women's rights.

The Netflix movie *Enola Holmes* debuted on September 23, 2020. Harry Bradbeer is the director, Jack Thorne is the writer, and Ali Mendes, Alex Garcia, Millie Bobby Brown, Mary Parent, and Paige Brown are the producers. Millie Bobby Brown, Henry Cavill, Sam Claflin, and Helena Bonham Carter star in the Nancy Springer novel adaptation *Enola Holmes* (Vinta, 2021). In her thrilling, mystery-filled tale, *Enola Holmes* presents the contest between her 15-year-old sister and the best investigator in the world. The final child of the Holmes family, Enola is a teenage girl who is the younger sister of Mycroft Holmes (Sam Claflin) and Sherlock Holmes (Henry Cavil) (Vinta, 2021).

The movie centers on *Enola Holmes*, a bright teenage girl who happens to be the younger sister of renowned investigator Sherlock Holmes. Enola and her mother, Eudoria Holmes, live alone. In London, her brothers Sherlock and Mycroft Holmes have independent lives and work. Enola's mother trained her to read every book in their home library, which has contributed to her intelligence and martial arts abilities. In addition, Enola received instruction in word puzzles, athletics, science, and self-defense. Given that the movie is set in 1880s England, this is not like the upbringing of other adolescent females at the time. Her mother vanishes without leaving any "trace" on the morning of her sixteenth birthday. Her two elder brothers return home during Enola's perplexity, adding to her load as Mycroft makes her attend Miss Harrison's girls' boarding school. Enola decides to flee her home in order to locate

her mother after a panic attack. Her only weapons are her education and her own bravery. Enola also began searching for her mother's "hidden clues."

The reason why this researcher chose this topic is because the movie *Enola Holmes* raises the issue of feminism through the character of Enola who defies gender norms in the Victorian era. This analysis is considered important to identify the feminist values contained in the movie, as well as highlighting the contribution of the author of the original novel. The issue of feminism is still very relevant in today's social context, given that there are still problems such as gender discrimination and inequality that continue, so this movie analysis is expected to provide new insights and inspire broader discussions.

### **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the research problems are formulated as follows :

1. What radical acts representing feminist concepts are performed by the protagonist in the movie script *Enola Holmes* written by Nancy Springers?

2. How are radical feminism acts portrayed in the movie script *Enola Holmes* written by Nancy Springers?

### **1.3 Ojective of the Study**

According to the statement above, so the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out radical acts representing feminist concepts are performed by the protagonist in the movie script *Enola Holmes* written by Nancy Springers.

2. To analyze radical feminism acts portrayed in the movie script *Enola Holmes* written by Nancy Springers.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

In *Enola Holmes* movie script written by Nancy Springer's, There are many topics that may be examined, so the researcher has limited what will be included in this study. The researcher focused on the portrayal of issues such as women's independence, rejection of traditional gender norms, and struggle against the patriarchal system in the movie.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

Research significance is shown in two ways as follows:

1. Theoretical significance.

The writer hopes that this research can contribute to the development of knowledge about the role of women in male dominated narratives.

2. Practical significance.

Practically, this research is expected to be a discussion about gender among students and the general public by thinking critically about how the media affects and changes people's perceptions of gender.

## **CHAPTER II**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

#### **2.1 Movie Script**

A movie serves as an audio-visual medium designed to communicate a message to an audience assembled in a specific location (Effendy, 1986). According to Arsyad (2003: 45) cited in (Siti and Fadila, 2015) describes a movie as a sequence of images captured within a frame, which are mechanically projected through a lens, creating the illusion of movement on the screen. According to (Susanto 1982) movie is an amalgamation of techniques aimed at delivering messages through visual imagery, utilizing camera technology, color, and sound. These components are driven by a narrative that embodies the message the director intends to impart to the viewers.

In the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, the term "script" refers to a screenplay or scenario for movies, dramas, and similar works, as well as a writing book. Additionally, scripts can encompass various types of documents, whether handwritten or typed. Within the realms of movie and theater, a script specifically denotes the written text that includes the dialogues intended for actors to deliver during a performance. Based on the definitions provided, it can be inferred that a movie script serves as a narrative framework for a movie, detailing the sequence of scenes, settings, situations, and dialogues. The dialogues articulated by the actors are intended to convey the underlying messages of the movie.

#### **2.2 Gender**

According to (Crawford, 2006), gender is a collection of traits and qualities that are associated to men and women on a sociocultural level. Gender is not only

related to biological differences, but also includes values and symbols found in certain cultural contexts. Gender is not only related to biological differences, but also includes values and symbols found in certain cultural contexts. Biological differences between men and women are often used as a basis for determining gender relations, including the division of status, rights, roles and functions in society. However, the concept of gender refers more to socially constructed roles for women and men (Al-Sya'rawi 2004). These social roles are dynamic, learnable and change over time, and vary culturally and interculturally.

Gender is an aspect that is inherent in humans from birth to the end of life. This feature is very integrated and cannot be separated. The process of forming gender roles in humans has existed since individuals were born into this world (Crawford, 2006). These differences in gender roles provide an opportunity to reflect on the division of roles that have been considered inherent in individual women and men. This is important to build an understanding of gender relations that is more dynamic, accurate, and in accordance with the realities that exist in society (Sasongko, 2009).

### **2.3 Feminism in Literature**

Feminism in literature is a critical approach used in the process of reading and writing literary texts, with an emphasis on issues related to women and gender inequality. This approach aims to examine the representation of women in literary works, both in the form of positive and negative depictions, and highlight how women's roles, voices and experiences are often marginalized. In addition, the feminist approach in literature also encourages the birth of works written by women or that present strong, independent female characters who have a central role in the

narrative. In general, this approach aims to fight for gender equality and promote women's perspectives in literature.

According to Lois Tyson (2006), feminist literary criticism is an analytical approach that examines how literary works represent women and contribute to their oppression or resistance in economic, political, social, and psychological aspects. Literature is seen as a cultural product that reflects patriarchal ideology, where women are often positioned as “the other” through stereotypes. Tyson emphasizes that gender is a social construction, and she divides this approach into several schools such as materialist, psychoanalytic, French, and multicultural feminism. This criticism serves as an analytical tool as well as a form of resistance to gender inequality in literature.

According to Maggie Humm (1992), feminist literary theory is a critical approach that aims to examine and deconstruct the representation and construction of gender roles in literary works. Humm explains that this approach is not limited to analyzing the image of women in literary texts, but also includes an examination of narrative structure, language use, and the internalization of patriarchal ideology in narrative and literary aesthetic forms. This theory questions the dominance of masculine perspectives in the literary canon and seeks to reconstruct literary historiography through the eyes of women, both as authors and readers. In addition, this theory also criticizes the tendency of literary institutions to ignore or marginalize the role and contribution of women in the world of literature. Thus, feminist literary theory acts as an instrument of liberation as well as critical awareness of gender inequality in the context of culture and literary discourse.

### **2.3.1 Kinds of Feminism**

According to Rosemarie Putnam Tong (2004), feminism is classified into several main schools that are organized to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the various approaches in responding to and overcoming gender inequality. Each school of feminism has different characteristics, both in terms of the focus of study, philosophical foundation, and the struggle strategies used.

#### **2.3.1.1 Liberal Feminism**

Liberal feminism views that women should have full freedom as individuals. Alison Jaggar in her work entitled *Feminist Politics and Human Nature* states that liberal thinking is based on the assumption that the distinctive feature of humans lies in their ability to rationalize. This view is in line with Aristotle's classical argument that calls humans as animal rationale or creatures that have reason. Therefore, liberals understand rationality in various dimensions, including aspects of morality and wisdom (Arivia, 2003: 99).

According to Herouach (2019), liberal feminism views that social structures need to be reformed to support inclusiveness of women's individual rights, particularly through the removal of legal and institutional barriers that limit women's overall involvement in society. Unlike the more radical approach of feminism, liberal feminism does not directly challenge the system that is at the root of gender inequality, but rather chooses to make changes from within the system to create equality in access and opportunity.

Liberal feminism also emphasizes the importance of individual freedom and the right to make choices independently. In this view, women should have full autonomy in making decisions related to their personal lives and bodies without

being faced with structural barriers or social pressure. This principle is an important foundation in the struggle to uphold women's rights in various aspects of life, such as access to reproductive health services, equality in the work environment, and involvement in government processes (Mackenzie & Stoljar, 2000).

### **2.3.1.2 Radical Feminism**

Radical feminism is a school of feminist theory that places the patriarchal system as the main source of various forms of oppression against women. Unlike the liberal feminism approach, which seeks to realize gender equality through improvements in the existing system, radical feminism views that the prevailing social, political and economic structures are fundamentally patriarchal, making it impossible to reform from within. Therefore, radical feminism emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive structural transformation in society to eradicate male domination over women.

According to Tong (2009), Radical feminism is a school of feminism known as a representation of revolutionary feminist groups, which introduces a new paradigm in understanding women's oppression through the practice of consciousness raising. In this approach, women are brought together in small discussion groups to share their personal experiences as women, with the aim of building collective awareness of the structural realities they experience. This school of feminism argues that male domination over women's lives is the most fundamental form of oppression in the history of human civilization.

According to Alison M. Jaggar (1983), radical feminism is the school that most emphasizes deep structural changes in society. It demands not only legal equality, but also the dismantling of patriarchal institutions such as the traditional

family, religion, education, and language that are considered to perpetuate male dominance. Jaggar sees patriarchy as a socially, economically and culturally structured system of power that places women in a subordinate position. In addition, she emphasizes the importance of women's collective consciousness (consciousness raising) to understand that their experiences stem from systemic injustice. Therefore, radical feminism is revolutionary and aims to create a society free from gender oppression. Below is an example relevant to radical feminism cited from an article entitled "Supremasi Perempuan Dalam Novel *Renjana* Dyana Karya Adimodel : Kajian Feminisme Radikal".

"I want to be able to choose from two or more things that I like. I don't want to choose from things I don't want. I also hate not having a choice. That's why I really don't believe in fate." (Adimodel, 2015: 19)"

In the quote, Dyana represents a woman who has the freedom to make her life choices. Her statement "I don't want to choose from things I don't want" shows her self-determination in making decisions. This attitude reflects the principle of radical feminism, which emphasizes the importance of women's freedom to live their activities independently and without restrictions. Dyana's character is portrayed as coexisting with freedom, which makes her seem natural in expressing herself. Dyana's openness to anyone is also in line with radical feminist views, which recognize that women have the right to establish social relations freely without being bound by certain social norms or restrictions. Thus, Dyana reflects a woman who is free to behave and interact in the social space.

### **2.3.1.3 Marxist Feminism**

Heidi Hartmann (1981), states that capitalism and patriarchy are two mutually reinforcing systems of oppression that cannot be separated in analysis. She criticized Marxism for ignoring gender issues, and radical feminism for not considering economic aspects. For this reason, she proposed a dual systems theory that combines class and gender analysis. According to Hartmann, women's liberation can only be achieved by fighting both systems simultaneously, through an intersectional approach that unites the struggle against economic inequality and patriarchy.

### **2.3.1.4 Socialist Feminism**

Socialist feminism is a school of feminist thought that integrates the Marxist approach to class structure and economics with a critique of patriarchal domination. This school assumes that the source of oppression against women does not only come from the capitalist system, but also from patriarchal relations that are deeply embedded in the social structure of society. Therefore, socialist feminism emphasizes the importance of a simultaneous struggle against both systems in order to achieve women's complete liberation. It is a critique of liberal feminism, which overemphasizes juridical-formal equality, and radical feminism, which tends to ignore economic aspects and class structures. In the perspective of socialist feminism, comprehensive social transformation-including changes in the production system, wealth distribution, and power relations in the domestic and public spheres-is the main requirement in the process of women's emancipation. Some of the central figures in this school include Juliet Mitchell, Zillah Eisenstein, and Iris Marion Young.

### **2.3.1.5 Ecofeminism**

Ecofeminism is a school of feminism that highlights the connection between the oppression of women and environmental degradation, both of which are considered to be rooted in systems of patriarchy and domination. The idea was first introduced by Françoise d'Eaubonne (1974) who encouraged women to play a role in nature conservation. Vandana Shiva (1989) states that the exploitation of nature and women arises from a patriarchal mindset of development. Karen J. Warren (1990) adds that domination of women and nature has the same logical structure. Meanwhile, Rosemary Radford Ruether (1993) criticizes patriarchal religious teachings that reinforce such domination and offers ecofeminist spirituality as a solution. Overall, ecofeminism offers a critique of gender injustice as well as a more holistic environmental ethic.

### **2.3.1.6 Postmodern Feminism**

Postmodern feminism is an approach in feminist studies that rejects universal assumptions about women's identity and experience. This school emphasizes that the construction of gender and women's experiences are diverse, depending on the social, cultural, historical, and linguistic contexts that surround them. In its theoretical framework, postmodern feminism is influenced by postmodern and poststructuralist thought, especially from figures such as Michel Foucault and Jacques Derrida, who question the existence of essential identities and reject single meanings in texts and social reality. This approach provides a critique of mainstream feminism-including liberal, Marxist, and radical feminism-which is considered to generalize women's experiences based on the viewpoints of dominant groups, such as white, middle-class, and heterosexual women. In contrast, postmodern feminism

underlines the importance of respecting plurality, diversity of identities, and the need to deconstruct the concept of “woman” as a fixed, singular, and uniform category.