

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Theoretical Framework

The writer of this thesis apply theory, approach, as well as related studies in the effort of supplying reliable information concerning with the focus of the analysis. The aim of this chapter is to explain further about the theory and the approach used as the tools in analyzing *Summer*, a novel written by Edith Wharton. As a deeper analysis about the aspects of the work in detail conducted by the writer, it is appropriate to use intrinsic approach which is based on the theory of New Criticism as the main tool and to reveal more significant evidence. Since the theory focuses on the intrinsic elements of the theory, it is hoped to give a significant support to the analysis of Charity character in the novel.

2.2. New Criticism

According to Tyson in *Critical Theory Today*, new criticism perhaps one of adequate way in providing the aid for deeper understanding literary works, since the method it propose may deliver the consideration to surface every detail information beneath the literary works itself and at the same page it perhaps was a standard method of literary studies during 1940s until 1960s, while possibly after the time period there more broad standard and she also noted that previously, biographical-historical criticism was popular among literary critics (135-136).

Earlier to the emergence of New Criticism, people analyzed a literary work based on the author's background. In other words, people did not deal with the content of the literary text to get an understanding. Instead, they learnt the

author's life and social background for they believed that the literary text is the portrayal of the author's life. Tyson explained that the new critics believes that a literary text is sometimes more meaningful and complex than its author's intention. The text's meaning could be dissimilar with the meaning which was constructed by the author. New Criticism approach requires a scrupulous analysis of the formal elements of literary text to help us reveal its theme (137).

By looking at the formal elements one can find out the meaning of work and define the purpose, the agenda it contains, motives that lie beneath. Nevertheless, such implementation towards the result of a literary study is not fully necessary if the aim is only to search for the purpose of the text, formal elements can be analyzed through the use of New Criticism. Tyson states that the goal of using New Criticism is to improve the reading of literary texts and also to help in new ways, appreciate the complex operations of the text's formal elements and how these elements function to create meaning (Tyson 150).

2.2.1. Intrinsic Approach

Perhaps one of the ways to define the text's value by staying within the text itself since it probably permitted the literary work itself to provide the perspective within certain part interpret and evaluate it. The approach may apply the method of interpret the literature and relies only on the original text itself and not on secondary sources or any source then the text itself. According to Rene Wellek and Austin Warrenin, *Theory of Literature 3rd Edition* the natural and sensible starting point for work in literary scholarship is the interpretation and the analysis of the work of literary themselves (139). The idea perhaps provides the

understanding that intrinsic approaches to literature are performance to conduct the criticize literature itself in different terms, such mainly concerned with the form, character, language, conflict, style, symbols, images, and development of plot in a literary work.

According to Kenan and Holman texts on *A Handbook To Literature*, the page perhaps most important as the examination performed to give more significance information regarding the topic that attempt to elevate within the literary works such the background motive, story development and conditions occur inside the text. The approach that focused in the text itself may give the impression as data that effort put to gather any evidence to support facts, in such if the case interested in the character then it gather any related proof. Literary work is most significant an object in itself (305). Based on their statements, the writer intends to use Intrinsic Approach, which means to emphasize the analysis on the intrinsic elements. The application of this theory must be based on the literary work itself. That is why in doing the analysis the writer concentrates (focus) merely (only) on the novel as the object of the study.

The writer of this thesis believes that the theory of characterization, conflict and the theory of gender issue are very useful since they help the thesis writer to analyze the novel. The theory of characterization will help the thesis writer to analyze and to explain how the main character portrayed in the novel. The theory of conflict will help the thesis writer to analyze conflicts happened in the novel that leading the main character to experience the gender issue in the

novel. That is why those three theories are applied to be used in this thesis analysis.

2.2.1.1. Characterization

In real life, various background and life experience perhaps affect to shape each individual or what is called as character. Later, perhaps what so called knowledge and process of acceptance build the shape of inner mental of a person, while the outcome or any performance show by the character as result of their understanding, through their act and respond demonstrate their characterization. Every individual possibly will distinct and pose each dissimilar uniqueness of its own. The character of a fictional person in a play or film is judged by her actions. The role is characterized by an objective analysis of what the author says about the person in stage directions, about what others say about her, and what she says about herself. According to David Letwin, Joe Stockdale and Robin Stockdale in *The Architecture of Drama* that external evidence can be used if the person is based on a historical figure. But keep in mind that there is a difference between the actual person and the fictionalized one. Purpose may the simple explanation why character act, the motivation of their performance perhaps derived by some sort of intention which aim to direct certain goal or merely author intentionally would like to use the character to represent definite traits from actual event or just fiction (51).

According to Adrian Beard in *Texts and Contexts*, the formulation of various character that is conceivably joint in an event where they meet may create such acknowledge, learning and understanding in order to gain deeper

consideration towards human's different natural identity while they possibly reach common sense character that suited in community life. Character perhaps the supreme achievement of human social and cultural evolutions, and writing style perhaps its greatest instrument in which capable to expose the evidence (132). Since their existence inside the text may itself depict certain knowledge, such deliver the idea that such person in the text may or may not already exist, represent new idea of mental state or author intent to give example that audience can develop in to the character they present and at the same time probably to remind what a human should be, if happen to be the actual society moral degrade.

A character in a work of fiction may be realized in number of ways. He or she may be a flat or a round character. Flat probably characters that may not interest sometimes are boring, because they are simple and limited. This character may usually static, has no significant change as the story progresses, until at the end of the story, they remain as described at the beginning. Neither do they change nor develop. A round character, on the other hand, is usually dynamic and interesting because of the developments he or she undergoes. He or she may be changeable, and sometimes cannot be predicted. Thus, it is very important to pay attention to the changes which happen to him from the beginning of the story to the end (Paul A. Parrishin's 28). The significance of focus to each existence of the character perhaps considerably important to decide their role and part within the development inside the text, such the effect and impact that they may radiate along their journey within the text.

Characterization is also one of the formal elements that can be used to take a look at the meaning of the story. Description of a character can be directed to create a description which then relates to the situation of the whole plot. Plot also brings out the characterization process as the process of characterization requires conflicts and events that the character faces through the plot of the story.

The thesis writer believes that the method of characterization is very important in the novel. An author will be able to describe the personality, the appearance, the moral attributes, and also the attitude of a character through the method of characterization. Since it may also mean every relevant information related with the performance of the character itself and probably exposed by simply their actions, mental and psychological in search of a purpose.

2.2.1.2. Plot

A Story without a plot perhaps a story with no plan, since it may provide fundamental and connecting series of events in a story or text, which consist beginning, middle, and end purposely to present audience into the character's lives in such a way as to be aware of the choices the character makes. It might be planned and serve rational aim in order to build up complexity or certain pattern which flow may affect the character and interest the audience. According to David Letwin, Joe Stockdale and Robin Stockdale, plot may able to describe as a seven structural fundamental parts of dramatic storytelling which reflect on their purpose such form weaves parts of structure into a tight, cause-and effect story that builds in intensity to a strong climactic ending with a detectable change in fortune for the leading character (1-2). Every story flows in different way because

each author has his or her own style in writing. The writer might decide to tell the events in chronological order, beginning with the earliest, or he/she might open his story with the last event, then tell what led up to it. Plot has many action in a drama, which is why a plot can be analyzed through its conflicts and events in relation to which its characterization.

Such story have opening, middle part and ending plot also separate by different part. Rationally, the novel describe into three division or part, Aristotle's explain about "beginning, middle, and end," equal in span and which drop into the model such exposition, development, and conclusion (Tyson 185-187). The course of plot perhaps somehow able to convince the character that at certain state they may have to create certain respond within the condition giving such they come into situation where they hungry but do not posses money to buy food the following event that may occur whether they steal the food or perform something as exchange to obtain the food. Slight particulars transform characters' lives in too complex way for the conscious mind to grab, while nevertheless take hold of them. Therefore plot not only modify but construct character. According to John Gardner in *The Art of Fiction* by actions character may discover what they really trust and, at the same time, reveal themselves to others (46). The lesson perhaps did not stop there, after they chose the path they already took, both the influence and learning appear taking effect or not, from the significant event occur whether they understand or rather consume by inappropriate outcome or overcome and resulting in better future. Moreover, the plot of every story gets its energy from conflict. In this case, plot plays a role as the control governing the development of the actions.

According to Robert and Jacobs - *Literature: An Introduction to Reading And Writing*, the controlling impulse in a connected pattern of causes and effects is conflict, which refers to things that a character must face and overcome. They also connect that conflict is the major element of plot because opposing forces arouse curiosity, cause doubt, create tension and produce interest (94-95). Perhaps by intensely dig into the text while follow the line and connection between part, it is believed that the development meaning within the text catch then explain it influence towards each character, perhaps one of the character within text initiate the flow or not volunteer involve without their acknowledgement put them into situation which may force them to develop.

2.2.1.3. Conflict

It is obvious that a good story contains complex event which called conflicts, and the conflicts can reveal some actions of the characters. There must be motivation and purpose behind actions done by the characters who attempt to achieve something in dealing with the conflicts. Conflict itself may perhaps come to surface without the intention of the character, it might form as obstacle that character must face spread along the story within the text. The base initial conflict may occur from the character itself whether they has contrary against what they believe, the war inside the character itself. To appear as different opinion or form as solid material perhaps the conflict specialty which may mean to test the character quality. It is probably fascinating to watch how character interact with the problem they should deal before move on to further step. Conflicts, perhaps one of the factors that facilitate story to become more interesting, while provide

sequence of incredible adventures in which character encounter difficulties (Tyson 222). The outcome or at least respond as reaction towards problems perhaps become the question inside audience mind, whether the character they may rely on act according or in contrary they believe.

Perhaps at the beginning stage of human life who may already possess understanding and awareness, a tiny little friction and intrigue form, the question may frequently come to surface probably related with their own capability to solve matter, problem and obstacle they must face in life, can or cannot they overcome, learn and obtain the precious experience to deal with another in the future. The conflict that birth inside of human soul itself may called Internal Conflict, perhaps commonly acknowledge by simple attitude such the individual possess clash within themselves. Human beings perhaps have a death wish, which previous theorist attempt to account for the alarming degree of self-destructive behavior in individuals, who seemed turned on destroying themselves psychologically if not physically, and in whole nations, whose continuous wars and internal conflicts could be viewed as little other than a form of mass destruction (Tyson 22). Process and progress may vary depend on the strength of each individual may possess, again, they who succeeded to overcome the problem able to safe themselves and move forward, and they who cannot may end directly. Internal conflict is also named as dilemma, which occurs inside one's inner self when she has to decide between two choice or more. It usually happens emotionally mentally to someone and becomes very important in a literary work.

External conflict, on the other hand, is usually more physical since it occurs when someone is dealing with outside forces. In literary works, external conflict comes up as the obstacle in the character's life. Obstacle that may occur as difficulty to be agree with others, whether they become unable to confront themselves towards others then select harmful method to deliver their point or directly force their aim towards everything while claim anything they want such villain. External conflict may also mean self that experiencing the practice of external world through, since the common sense of self-worth it encourage in human self perhaps derived from external standards or influence, such as education or knowledge, trends, that perhaps create the feeling to own although not all secured in possessions: something new and better is always being sell, and others may purchase something while sometimes others don't have, in which case they who can buy state as "better" than others who cannot (Tyson 25-70) After face perhaps the reality of external conflict which it may fired back inside the character internal psychological, the process of accepting then respond back, whether they realize and sincerely accept the condition or rather revolt without caring the risk.

Lastly, if no matter which is to appear of the early circumstances and characterization, the topic existing in the exposition, the situation must be somehow unsteady, such the character for some cause required to feel obligated to act, effecting some adjust, and must be exposed to be a character competent of action. In the connection among character and situation there's necessity of conflict. Certain power, inside and outer the character, must force him in the

direction of a certain path of action, while other forces that perhaps the contrary or against, both within and outside, must apply strong pressure against that course of action. Both pressure must appear not only from external the character but also from inside him, because otherwise the conflict involves no hesitation, no moral choice, and as a consequence can have no thoughtful meaning (Tyson 185-187). A character may have external conflict when he has to deal with other characters or society. The main characters and other characters appear with their own images and attitudes which may lead them into conflicts, for instance, two men compete to get the same job. In *Summer*, Edith Wharton gives a picture of Charity's conflict; both external and internal ones, which need to be solved before she achieves face her gender issue.

2.3. Gender Inequality Issues

In our culture, women perhaps the most precious human being that always related to beauty. When people say beauty, perhaps in their mind beside compare to mother nature natural attractiveness existed, art and architecture, it may also associated with women appearance that almost similar to art magnificence. Although the concept of beauty depends on the people who see it, it is assumed that the quality called beauty objectively and universally exists may depend on each people who have look at it. According to Rachel Zuckert in *Kant on Beauty and Biology* explain that beauty perhaps not a property of objects, rather in the eye of the beholder (173). Therefore, women are no longer dressing for themselves. Women focus and judge themselves by the eyes of others. They need confession from both female and male in order to make themselves feel confident. Female

assessment perhaps is used to get a well social status in society, while male assessment may become standard of judgment or role which functions perhaps believed to make better women's need in recognition.

Thus, the recognition may obtain after affirmed by male after female put effort to reach certain level which standard set by male themselves. From here, it may depict how unfair the state between male and female, rather equally positioning self in society together, the scene may depict probability serve the reality that one of gender dominate over another. Lois Tyson in *Critical Theory Today* rather sexuality may completely controlled biological sex (male or female) or by the way culture translates biological sex into gender roles (masculine or feminine) (335). Since in common society life, perhaps the heritage of understanding men are powerful then women and women should stay in house inherit from long previous understanding that merely rely on base physical differences without considering other ability.

Besides those physical appearance standards, there may also be a standard on how to behave. Female characters are stereotyped as either 'good girl' or 'bad girl'. Women who are submissive, nurturing, sensitive, virginal and passive are considered as 'good girl', while women who are dominated, ruthless, and aggressive are considered as 'bad girl' (Tyson 89). Those characteristics make women bond with the role in the society since women have to obey the patriarchy norms that stated in the society.

The Gender issue depicts man as rational, strong, decisive and aggressive, while woman is depicted as emotional/irrational, weak, submissive and passive

(Tyson 8). It perhaps provide a considerable reason to dictates man supposed to be smart and physically powerful while woman in contrary, supposed to be less smart and weaker than man.

It is assumed that women and girls are influenced as the result of expected social and gender. Woman's body are often objectified and evaluated more frequently than man's body. Moreover, female learns that their physical appearance is important to themselves and also to be seen by society.

Gender is a within society build idea of what is male and female, masculine and feminine. It is self-governing of sex; a biological male can choose to convey a "female" gender (known as transgenderism). Furthermore, gender is developing and culture-specific. The Chinese practice of foot binding, for example, was an indicator of femininity and class status. The practice was distinctive to parts of Asia, and cut down out of favor as concept of beauty, femininity, and the social status of women. Many cultures have very precise and harshly divided gender. According to K. Lee Lerner, Brenda Wilmoth Lerner, and Adrienne Wilmoth Lerner's in *Gender Issues and Sexuality* there are selected remarks on femininity, which each stand for a picture of gender and sexuality within a particular culture, at a particular time. Certainly, Western philosophy of femininity, womanhood, and women's gender roles has changed spectacularly over centuries. Overall, most societies are gender separated. Most is familiar with two genders, male and female. Yet many cultures also distinguish a variability of gender or even a third gender (3).

When people presented to distinguish between feminine and masculine, many people would reply with examples of outfit, gesture or trait, desires, or natural features. People may illustrate one man as more masculine than another, or a woman as less feminine. A man may also be described as more feminine and a woman more masculine. Masculinity and femininity applied to depict and compare a person's mannerisms and features based on public expectations. For example, a girl may be thought to be feminine if she be dressed in a dress and plays with dolls. On the other hand, a girl may be described as a "tomboy" or more masculine for wearing pants and playing with toy cars. However, masculinity and femininity is further complex than stereotypes, rather cultural characteristic of the connection of one's sex, gender, and sexuality. According to K. Lee Lerner, Brenda Wilmoth Lerner, and Adrienne Wilmoth Lerner's *Gender Issues and Sexuality: Essential Primary Sources* sex is a biological determination, which distinguishes between male and female. Our sex is male or female based on anatomy and genetics structures (3).

Sexuality is collected of our sexual activities with, and appeal towards, other individuals. It is probable for one individual to have double sexualities or sexual behaviors. For instance, one can be heterosexual (attraction) and celibate (activity). Sexuality issues emerge during the book. Often, they are inextricably tangled with issues of gender. Which sexualities are normative, and which are abnormal, can be a social construct. Homosexuality, for example, is treated in a different way across cultures. K. Lee Lerner, Brenda Wilmoth Lerner, and Adrienne Wilmoth Lerner's explain that international and historical standpoint on

masculinity and femininity, gender, and sexuality clarify the timelessness and world wide of gender and sexuality issues in society (3).

Perhaps one of gender issues that surface the most in society are the point with the intention of divergent between male and female, Hannah Arendt in Lerner's book has scrutinize: Patriarchal religion, popular attitude, and to some degree, science as well assumes psycho-social distinctions to rest upon biological differences between the sexes, so that where culture is acknowledged as shaping behavior, it is said to do no more than cooperate with nature. Yet the temperamental distinctions created in patriarchy ("masculine" and "feminine" personality traits) do not appear to originate in human nature, those of role and status still less (45).

Gender issues perhaps the idea to place male and female differently while patriarchy perhaps may possibly the foundation or the institution and or joint ideology that gather people who have similar vision of male and female division

Patriarchy frequently understood as common thought in human being community life, understandable or even predictable on the basis of human structure. It may become a hypothesis that supports patriarchy commonsense as well as historical foundation. It may be not from prehistoric origin, but was come first by some further social structure which may also support the basis argument of bodily strength as a theory of patriarchal origins would barely add up to an adequate clarification, except the male's superior physical potency was unconstrained in accessory with some change in direction through new standards or new understanding to aid the holdup of the thought for keep the domination by

distinct between male and female. According to Kate Millet in Lerner's book, speculation about beginning is until the end of time disturbed by lack of certain proof. Assumption about prehistory evidence, which of essential is what this must be, remains nothing but theory (44).

The roles perhaps present such a set-up, an arrangement or placing individual based on its sex. In sort, as if perhaps marginalizing by the diverge of physical appearance then the capability to solve certain matter without giving proper equal opportunity among all of existing individuals without differentiate the gender.

As Charity searches for her place in "civilization," she questions where she belongs. Her awakening of independence in desire, which began when a man named Lucius Harney arrived in town. Although to call it begins this self-awakening rather she aware or not that her struggle tend to be passive by still depend on other people performance and aid, particularly male at the same pace receive the burden of patriarchy rule.

The issue of gender inequality is represented in a novel entitled "*Summer*". *Summer* is one of the novels written by Edith Wharton and follows a traditional plot leading to the appropriate fate for young woman who desired to break the norms. Patriarchy towards woman is clearly represented in this novel.

2.4. Review Of The Related Studies

There are several researches related to this study. Two of many related studies are a research entitled *Feminism portrayed in the Main Character, Celie in Alice Walker's The Color Purple* by Nina Setyorini a SanataDarma University

student (2009) and a study entitled *Older Women and their Fall from Grace: Ageism in Elizabeth Strout's Olive Kitteridge* written by Mary Laga from Ithaca College, New York.

On the article entitled *Feminism portrayed in the Main Character, Celie in Alice Walker's The Color Purple*, Setyorini describes about a black woman's life of the main character, Celie. It is also explained that Celie has to struggle for her belief, and her experiences to overcome many problem in her life. The writer decided to use this study to support the analysis in order to reveal gender issue emerged in Edith Wharton's *Summer*.

While in Mary Laga's studies about ageism, who investigates the story's theme. Her essay tells about the stereotype of aging woman. She portrays Olive in a very superior woman, in sharp contrast to her sociable aging husband, Henry. She shows an obvious gender bias in the story that privileges aging men and opts for a mostly unsympathetic characterization of older women, as shown in the difference of affability, parenting skills and even sexual prowess between aging males and females. Whereas older men exude a charm in old age and make a feeling of sympathy in the audience and in the characters they interact with, aging women are bad tempered, lonely, and even undeserving of love. The constant reappearance of these negative images is reinforced through the characterization of Olive. She is doing her researches from Olive's rude attitude, which become the image or stereotype of the main character in *Olive Kitteridge*, and these are the reason why the writer considers those study are related to this analysis.

Both of studies above by Nina and Maryare examine the character by using feminism theory to find gender. The writer also attempts to reveal the emergence of gender issues experienced by the main character. The difference is the writer will analyze it throughher development and conflict by using New Criticism.

CHAPTER 3

ANALYSIS