

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the study

There are many gender issues that are being talked about through many media, such as feminism. The talk of gender started in the 19th century, during the rise of the first wave of feminism in the 19th century.

Femme fatale (also known as deadly woman) is a theory that characterized an enchanting lady and deadly (Doane, 1991). Femme fatale character is being portrayed as enchanting and deadly toward male. It is usually described as male mastery of excellence, enchant, sexual charm: she entices the male target and makes him insane by denying her warmth (Djiksa 1986). The femme fatale was produced during the first wave of feminism in the 19th century by writers like Theophile Gautier and Charles Baudelaire. The femme fatale is one of its persistent incarnations. It is associated with the style of decadence, symbolism, and art nouveau as well as the attention to decoration and excessive detail (Doane, 1991). Femme fatale idea is to strengthen woman by overruling man in her way, which in this case use charm and sexual attraction to conquer the man.

Nowadays, media holds a significant role within the society because it has powerful and persuasive influences (Michael Gurevitch 2005). There are many forms of media such as television, newspaper, radio, internet, music, magazines, and film.

Film has the most significant influence in this era because it consists of art, including photography, architecture, literature, play, painting, and music (Mahmood 2013). According to Jill film is a tremendous ideological tool. It means that from film, a particular ideology is delivered to the viewers in an interesting way so it can be consumed easily.

Anna is a 2019 action thriller film produced and directed by Luc Besson. This movie was first released in the America on 21 June 2019. Meanwhile in Indonesia, this film was released on 22 June 2019. This film has a 6.6 IMDb rating, 33% rating in rotten tomatoes, 8/10 rating on KINCIR.com. This film story began in Russia, where Anna originally lived. At the first scene of the film, Anna was told as a locked woman. She was being attacked by her roommate (Anna's boyfriend) called Pyotr. KGB agent Alex Tchenkov promised to save Anna under one condition, only if Anna wanted to join KGB. After Anna had joined KGB, she became a strong and invulnerable woman. Even Though Anna was portrayed as a strong and invulnerable woman, Anna wanted to have freedom from killing people and left the spy world. To gain her freedom, she used her intelligence to trap the KGB and CIA sides. She used her beauty to persuade both KGB and CIA agents. At the end, Anna was succeeded in gaining her freedom.

This study also came from the previous studies of *Femme Fatale*. The studies are "From Revenge to Self Defense: The New Era of *Femme Fatale* by Dominika in *Red Sparrow* (2018) Movie" and "The Representation of Action Heroine in *Atomic Blonde* (2017)". The difference of these two studies and this study is the object. As it

can be seen, the previous study used Red Sparrow film as the object and the other study used Atomic Blonde Film as the object meanwhile, this study used Anna film as the object.

The method used in this study was descriptive qualitative. Voordt (2002) explained that the descriptive research method described reality. Data is the most crucial part of a research. According to Fitzgerald (2019), qualitative data had primary data, such as interview, group discussion, questionnaire, survey, and others. Meanwhile, secondary data were taken from journals, books, internet articles, and relevant statistic data about deconstruction and feminism criticism. The data were collected by using the literature review method. Sarwono (2006) defined the literature review as a form of studying book, references, and the result of the previous study related to the study being researched. In this research, the researcher examined the problem inside the gender role. After that, the researcher tried to find similar studies that might help the researcher to complete the study.

The writer chose Anna because the main character was a woman and the idea of the plot was unique. Usually a spy is being acted by a man because of its traditional gender idea: the man does the hard work. Anna put forward the female character in the spy world through the characterization of Anna. The storyline between Anna, Red Sparrow, and Atomic Blonde was almost similar. Surprisingly, many people liked to watch this film. Moreover in the pandemic situation where people were restricted to go outside, most of them tried to entertain themselves by watching film. It is shown by the

increased percentage of people watching streaming movies by 193% (syarief suara surabaya, 2020). Studying a film is useful for the public to search a recommender film based on journal article. It is also to educate the public using film, especially Anna film.

Another reason of the writer choosing Anna movie was because Anna was one of the Luc Besson creations. Luc Besson is one of the best French directors, according to IMDB. He won several awards such as Alexander Korda for best British film, special Jury Award, honourable mention (the following ten best picture contenders), critic's prize, and many more. Luc Besson was also famous for bringing the gender issue on movie (Patterson, 2011). Luc Besson brought up his gender issue through La Femme Nikita, The Fifth Element, and Lucy. Anna became the next of his works that also brought gender issues. According to Roxana Hadadi on Pajba website, Anna was clearly Luc Besson's movie. It means that Luc Besson's character was inside the Anna movie (Hadidi, 2019). Anna became the successor of the previous gender-based movies of Luc Besson. This made Anna interesting to analyse.

1.2. Statement of the study

According to the background study, there are some question formulated for this study. They are:

1. How does femme fatale portrayed in the film?
2. How does Anna construct the idea of woman based on femme fatale and feminism idea?

1.3. Objectives of the study

According to question above the writer could formulate the objectives of this study

1. To discover how the film describes femme fatale.
2. To discover how the film constructs the idea of woman

1.4. Significance of the study

This study was expected to enlighten the gender bias, especially for men and women. Through film the gender bias is expected to decline. The readers might study the “other side” of women and break the traditional gender idea of women.

The researcher hoped that women and men could understand each other's right. The researcher also hoped that women could explore themselves better and became more independent people. This study is to inspire Indonesian women to be independent, strong, and intelligent by showing through this film that women could do more.

1.5. Scope and limitation

This study only discussed the femme fatale and feminism in Anna's film appeared in the character of Anna. Through spy character, Anna was analyzed using femme fatale theory.

1.6. Definition of Key Term

Movie : Movie is a work of visual art that simulate experiences to communicate ideas, perceptions, stories, feelings,

	beauty, or atmosphere through the use of moving images (Andrei 2013)
Femme Fatale	: The imagery of dangerous women that can confront men (Doane 1991)
Feminism	: Feminism is belief of social, political, and economic equality of both sexes (Weik 2015)
Narrative analysis	: Narrative is simply the interior development of the movie itself, the narrative aspect is to analyze the identity of the movie, containing its story, characterization, dialogue, themes, etc (Corrigan and White 2012).
Non-narrative analysis	: Non-Narrative analysis is an aesthetic of cinematic film that does not narrate. There are two aspect of non-narrative analysis they are mise-en-scene and cinematography (Corrigan and White 2012)