

CHAPTER II

THEORY AND METHOD

2.1 Theoretical Framework

According to Creswell (2017:51), A theoretical framework helps the researcher to relate the study to the existing literature and provide a theoretical rationale for the investigation. The writer will explore the theories employed to examine Rachel Chu, encompassing both intrinsic and extrinsic elements.

2.1.1 Intrinsic Elements

Intrinsic elements are the first step in literary analysis, allowing the researcher to appreciate the structure and meaning of the work in greater depth (Barry, 2009:36). Intrinsic elements are elements that build literary works from within, such as plot, character, theme, and style. The intrinsic elements in analyzing *Crazy Rich Asians* novel are Character and Characterization, Conflicts, and Settings.

2.1.1.1 Character and Characterization

In a narrative, character plays a pivotal role as it significantly influences the plot and themes. A character is described as “an imagined person in the story, confronted with a problem that leads to a climactic struggle, followed by a resolution of the problem” (Meyer, 1987: 32). Characters are products of the author’s imagination and are depicted with specific traits, behaviors, and roles that shape the story. They serve as conduits for conveying themes, conflicts, and moral dilemmas, each contributing uniquely to the narrative’s development. (Taylor, 1981:62).

Characterization, which is distinct from character, refers to the way how authors develop a character's traits and motivations within a narrative. According to Meyer, "The way by which writers create people in a story so that they seem actually to exist is called characterization". Characterization can be divided through direct or indirect methods. In direct characterization, the author explicitly describes and tells the character's personality, often through narration or the perspectives of other characters. So, it is obvious to the reader what the characters are like because it is already told directly by the author in the story. Conversely, indirect characterization is the way a writer shows a character's personality or traits through the actions, speech, thoughts, interactions with other characters, or other people's responses to them, without explicitly stating it, allowing readers to infer their personality" (Meyer, 1987: 53).

2.1.1.2 Conflict

Conflict is a natural thing for every individual. It does not just occur in reality but also in literary works. It is one of the components found in a story. Kenney (1966: 18), defines a conflict as a clash of actions, ideas, desires, or wills. Conflict is one of the key elements that make characters more interesting and adds a layer of complexity, which helps create a richer and more compelling story (McKee,1997:49). It is common in literary works such as novels, theatre, short stories, and poetry. Without conflict, there would be no narrative, because it builds tension in the story. Conflict is also divided into two categories: internal and external conflict. (Kenney, 1966: 41).

2.1.1.2.1 Internal Conflict

Internal conflict appears within a character's mind or emotions. It is a struggle between opposing needs, desires, emotions, or moral dilemmas within the characters themselves (Kenney, 1966: 41). Internal conflict has nothing to do with another character, the environment, or anything outside of the character's head and feelings.

2.1.1.2.2 External conflict

External conflict involves a character pitted against an external force, obstacle, or another character (Kenney, 1966:54). A confrontation between a character and external factors, such as other characters, society, the natural world, or a circumstance, is known as an external conflict, according to McKee (1997:50). In a tale, external conflicts are resistance or overt physical battles that the protagonist must overcome. A character and another character may have opposing thoughts, opinions, or perspectives on a certain issue, which can lead to conflict. Aside from character against character, there is a struggle between an individual and society. It might be a character that is not acceptable to a certain group, culture, or government.

2.1.1.3 Setting

Everything that happens, happens somewhere at some time. That element of fiction reveals to us the where and when of events we call setting. In other words, the term setting refers to the context in time and place in which the action of a story occurs (Burroway, 2019: 166). Setting includes three main components: place,

time, and social setting (Kenney, 1966: 40). In this study, the writer will focus on the social setting that influences the main character's anxiety.

According to Kenney (1966: 40) social settings are part of the field which functions as an arena where individuals and groups interact, compete, and develop strategies to gain resources and power. One of the issues present in society is the problem of social class, which represents a differentiation within the population. The society organizes these classes hierarchically, with class distinctions based on factors like economic status. Social class is typically divided into three categories: lower class, middle class, and upper class (Kenney, 1966: 40)

Many social class problems are found in literary works such as in the novel *Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan. These social problems are usually depicted in material possessions that can be seen from the glamorous lifestyle of the upper class, gender, and discrimination between the upper class and the middle and lower classes or workers. Social class is a distinction in a population or society that makes classes in levels, where class differences occur based on the economic status of society. In this novel story, the writer divides into 2 categories: Middle and Upper Class. Rachel Chu represented the middle class, while Nick and Eleanor Young represented the upper class.

2.1.2 Extrinsic Elements

Wellek and Warren (1956: 108) emphasise the importance of extrinsic elements by stating that a study of literature that focuses only on intrinsic elements would be incomplete without considering the external factors that influence the

work. The extrinsic elements used to analyze *Crazy Rich Asians* are the Anxiety theory and The Mechanism of Defence theory by Sigmund Freud.

2.1.2.1 Anxiety

According to Freud (1936:243), anxiety is an effective situation that makes people feel less enthusiastic and is followed by physical sensations that can remind someone of a dangerous situation. Feist (2009:24) defines anxiety functions as a signal to the individual towards the existence of some imminent danger. Anxiety allows the ego to be alert to signs of threats and danger. Freud (1936:455), divided anxiety into three parts, namely:

2.1.2.1.1 Neurotic anxiety

Neurotic anxiety is the result of an unconscious conflict between the id and the ego, as well as the inability of the ego to control the unacceptable drives of the id (Freud, 1977: 460). Horney (1964:25), emphasized the role of basic anxiety in neurotic development. He believed that these anxieties stem from underlying feelings of insecurity and helplessness. These feelings exist in the ego, but their source comes from the Id.

2.1.2.1.2 Moral anxiety

Moral anxiety is a type of anxiety that arises from the conflict between the ego and superego. It is related to feelings of guilt or shame for violating moral standards or one's internalized values. Sigmund Freud (1977:435), defined moral anxiety as a response to threats from the superego, which is the part of the personality that internalizes society's moral norms and standards. Horney (1964:36)

highlighted that moral anxiety can be reinforced by a social environment that demands moral perfection.

2.1.2.1.3 Realistic anxiety

Realistic anxiety is one of the types of anxiety identified by Sigmund Freud in his theory of anxiety. It refers to the fear of real threats from the external environment. This anxiety is a rational response to danger or threatening situations in the real world. Freud (1977:447) defined reality anxiety as the fear of real dangers originating from the external environment. He saw this anxiety as a rational and adaptive response to a recognizable threat, distinct from neurotic and moral anxiety which relate more to internal conflict. Reality anxiety serves as an essential protective mechanism, prompting adaptive behaviors to avoid or mitigate real world threats (Barlow, 2002:10).

Anxiety tells the individual that the ego is being threatened. There are various ways the ego protects and defends itself. The individual will try to escape the threatening situation and try to limit the impulsive needs that are the source of the danger or if no rational technique works, the individual may use defence mechanisms to defend the ego (Freud, 1977:230).

2.1.2.2 Defence Mechanism

Freud (1966:42) defines defence mechanisms are psychological strategies that are unconsciously used to protect individuals from the emergence of unacceptable anxiety, feelings, or thoughts. There are several kinds of Defence mechanisms, such as Denial, Repression, Sublimation, Reaction-Formation, Projection, Regression, and Rationalization. In this work, the writer focuses on

Denial, Repression, and Sublimation that Rachel experienced in the *Crazy Rich Asians* Novel.

2.1.2.2.1 Denial

Denial is a defence method of ignoring reality to protect individuals from threatening urges or events that can cause psychological and emotional problems. So, a person who uses denial as their defence mechanism denies the correctness of the repressed memory (Freud, 1966:90). According to Feist (2009:319), Denial is refusing to accept a threatening or painful reality. This is when a person refuses to acknowledge a fact that is real because it is too difficult to accept.

2.1.2.2.2 Repression

According to Freud (1966:122), Repression is a mechanism that a person uses to suppress inappropriate or disturbing thoughts, feelings, or desires from the conscious mind to the subconscious mind. This defence mechanism works when a person experiences trauma as a painful and frightening event, then they place the traumatic memory in their subconscious mind to prevent the memory from reaching their conscious mind. Feist (2009:35) stated that repression is suppressing unpleasant thoughts, memories, or urges in the subconscious so that they are not realized.

2.1.2.2.3 Sublimation

Sublimation is a type of defence mechanism in which a person turns repressed impulses or feelings into more acceptable social forms. The transition occurs because the repressed intentions are perceived as undesirable qualities and hence become unacceptable urges to discharge in the conscious mind. On the other

hand, the individual does not want to suppress their wants, so they express them in acceptable forms and with social worth (Freud, 1966:52). According to Feist (2009:38), Sublimation is a mechanism by which negative urges or energy are redirected to more constructive and socially acceptable activities

2.2 Research Methods

Research methods are structured procedures or techniques that researchers use to gather, analyze, and interpret data to answer research questions or test hypotheses it is the way of looking at the world that allows researchers to gain a better understanding of the phenomena being studied (George, 2008: 21).

2.2.1 Data and Data Source

The data sources are classified into two categories: primary and secondary data sources: 1). The Primary Data Sources: are data sources that provide information directly to the researcher. It takes from a novel titled *Crazy Rich Asians* by Kevin Kwan. 2). The Secondary Data Sources: the source that provides indirect information as data. The researcher used references and articles, e-journals, undergraduate thesis, and material related to the study. Primary data allows researchers to gather very specific and relevant information, while secondary data provides a rich source for understanding the broader context (George, 2008: 41).

2.2.2 Method of Collecting Data

To collect data, this research is based on library research. This research method is a method of collecting information and data from articles, books, and other sources in the library, that have similarities or relationships with the problems studied (George, 2008: 23). There are three steps used for this study to collect the

data: The first one is Reading the novel, the writer read the novel several times to gain information and to understand the matter related to the study. Then, Identifying the data, the writer identifies the data that has been obtained through monologue and dialogue after reading the novel, the writer analyzes the data and takes notes of the important parts. Lastly, Classifying the data, the writer classified the data into tables and each has different categories. The tables of data provide columns consisting of data, pages, type of research problem answer, and references.

2.2.3 Method of Analyzing Data

The data will be analyzed using qualitative methods. According to George (2008:7) explains that qualitative data analysis designates any research whose results are captured in words, images, or non-numeric symbols. In this study, monologue and dialogue are the forms displayed in the data. The form of the data will be explained through descriptive techniques. Descriptive techniques explain the data through statements, quotes, and descriptions.