CHAPTER II

THEORY AND METHOD

2.1. Theoretical Framework

2.1.1 Narrative and Cinematography Elements

This study uses setting, character and characterization, and conflict theories to analyze the intrinsic elements of the movie. The movie theory is used to explain the definition of movie and the cinematography elements that are going to be used to analyze the scenes of the movie are camera shots.

2.1.1.1 Setting

Setting is being used in a narrative to explain the place, time, and situation of the events that happened in the story. Abrams and Harpham state: "The overall setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general location, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs" (284). The setting functions to make the audience connected to the world that the characters live in. The place setting shows the location of where the story is taking place while the time setting shows the time when the events in the story take time. The social setting that presents in the story is a result of the mix of the location and variable circumstances such as time of the day, the weather, or what period does the story take place. The setting element covers the information and reference which related to the place, time, and situation of the various events that happened in the literary work.

2.1.1.2 Character and Characterization

Character is of significant importance in order to play out the plot of a story. Abrams states: "A character is a person presented in the dramatics of narrative work, interpreted by readers as beings endowed with morals expressed through their utterances and actions" (32). It is the most noticed aspect in any narrative because the characters will portray and play each of their roles to proceed with the story. Through the characters, audiences can resonate and experience the world in which the story occurred. However, in movies, the portrayal of the character can be seen not only from the dialogues, but also from the actors' expressions and gestures.

Characterization differs from character in meaning. According to Holman and Harmon, characterization is the creation of an imaginary person (84). Characterization is the process which a writer constructs a character and presents that person to the reader. According to Pickering and Hoeper, there are two methods to portray and create characters (27). The first method is direct or telling, that relies upon exposition and direct commentary. The second method is indirect or showing, that relies on characters to disclose themselves through their dialogues, thoughts, or actions. By analyzing the characters and its characterization, different types of characters depicted in the story can be recognized and learned on how they develop.

2.1.1.3 Conflict

Conflict is a situation when two or more characters clash or disagree over an issue or experience some emotional antagonism with each other. The word

'conflict' in the Oxford Advanced English dictionary means 'clash together' or 'to strike' in a negative sense. According to Pruitt, the cause of conflict, in general, is because of the diversity in interests in which other parties are involved (849). The diversity mentioned includes having incompatible goals, attitudes, or behaviors that cause characters to go against each other. The series of conflicts exist to keep the story in progress, for the characters to be able to perform actions and find resolution at the end of the story. In identifying conflicts in a story, more attention should be put on the interactions of the characters that occur in the story.

There are two types of conflicts, which are called internal conflict and external conflict (Stanton 16). The internal conflict is the personal struggles of the character's desires and beliefs. Meanwhile, external conflict is the existing conflict outside the character. The external conflict creates tension and forces the character to overcome the problem.

2.1.1.4 Camera Shots

A film is also called a movie or motion picture. Hornby states: "film is a set of moving pictures that tells a story and is to be shown on television or at cinemas" (434). In making movies, several techniques are used, namely cinematography. Cinematography is a series of methods and techniques that are used to add layers of meaning of the film. Cinematography is more than photography; it is the whole process of generating ideas, words, actions, emotional subtext, tone, and other forms of nonverbal communication and rendering them in visual terms (Brown 2). The cinematography element analyzed in this study is the camera shots.

Definition of camera shot. The types of camera shots are one of the most important aspect in filmmaking. The camera shots contribute to put emphasis on what the audience should pay attention for in a scene. The types of camera shots are wide shot or long shot, full shot, two shot, medium shot, close-ups, and over the shoulder.

The first camera shot technique is wide shot. This technique is the one that encompasses the entire scene. The camera captures the view of the scene.

Fig. 1. "Wide Shot"
(Brown 61)

It is usually used to for big panoramic scene, to show all that the eye can see (Brown 61). It is functions to show the surroundings in the scene.

The second camera shot technique is the full shot. It is used to see the character from head to toe, to show the full appearance of the character.

Fig. 2. "Full Shot"
(Brown 64)

A variation of this shot is the cowboy shot, a camera shot technique where the shot is taken from head down to mid-thigh, to show where cowboys usually keep the gun (Brown 62). This shot can also be applied onto objects.

The third camera shot technique is the two shot. Two shot refers to the two characters that appear in a scene. The function of this shot is to show the interaction between two characters (Brown 63). It is one of the most used technique due to its importance in the story.

Fig. 3. "Two Shot"
(Brown 64)

The characters do not have to be symmetrical nor facing each other. This shot is fundamental to show what happens to the characters.

The fourth is the medium shot. This technique is used to capture the activities of the subjects appeared in the story (Brown 63). Medium shot is the closer shot version of wide shot.

Fig. 4. "Medium Shot"
(Brown 64)

It is functions to show the surroundings of the scene similar to the wide shot. However, the medium focuses more on the details on the character appear in the scene such as clothes, accessories, expression, etc.

The fifth camera shot technique is the close-ups. There are a number of variations for close-up shots. The medium close-ups shots from mid-chest up, choker close-ups from the throat up, big head or tight close-ups framed from just under the chin, and extreme close-ups might include the eyes or mouth only (Brown 63). The close-up shots function to convey important information visually to the audience.

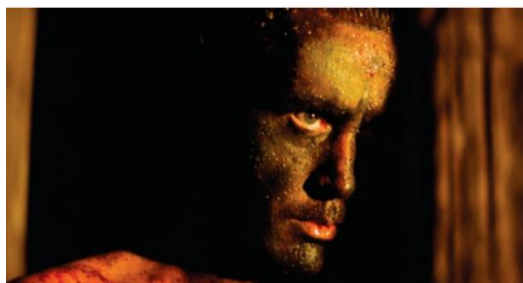Fig. 5. "Medium Close-up"
(Brown 64)

Fig. 6. "Tight Close-up"
(Brown 65)

The first picture is the example of medium close-up shot and the second picture is the example of tight close-up. This technique puts more emphasis on the character's expression.

The sixth camera shot technique is the over the shoulder shot. It is a part of the close-ups shot but is not the same.

Fig. 7. "Over the Shoulder Shot"
(Brown 68)

This shot ties two people together and helps put the other character the position of the one being addressed (Brown 63). It is also referred as the third-person shot.

2.1.2 Patriarchal Society and Women Struggle in the Nineteenth-century American Patriarchal Society

This research study uses patriarchal society theory with the focus on nineteenth-century American patriarchal society and the struggle theory as the respond to it to analyze the extrinsic elements of the movie.

2.1.2.1 Patriarchal Society

Patriarchal society adopts the patriarchal system. According to Johnson, it is a society where male is privileged; it is a male-dominated, male-identified, male-centered society (5). The patriarchal society tends to forgot about the importance of women's voices and rights. The patriarchal society is organized in obsession of control and oppression on women as one of its key aspects (Johnson 6). In other words, men are the primary power holders in society, while women are considered as secondary. This society is all about valuing masculinity and manhood while devaluing femininity and womanhood (Johnson 37).

The role of women in a patriarchal society is deemed to be the homemaker, a great mother to their children, and a good wife to their husbands. Husband's career came off as the primary importance and secondary status of a wife's, meanwhile child care became a priority in women's lives but a secondary in men's (37). Married women are expected by the patriarchal society to stay at home, do the never-ending unpaid domestic work and had to take care of their child, if they have any. Still, the women in the patriarchal society are being underestimated on their role even though it is an important role in a household.

Patriarchal society exists and affects many aspects of life for women. Sylvia Walby explained that there are two types of patriarchy that can be experienced by women, namely public patriarchy and private patriarchy. The public patriarchy is the act of patriarchy that happened in a public sphere. Walby states that "patriarchy in a public sphere is not excluding women from certain sites, but rather subordinates all of them (Walby 228). The private patriarchy is the act of patriarchy that happened in private sphere, for example at home or in a family. The basis of patriarchy in a private sphere is the exclusion of women from the arenas of social life aside from the household (Walby 228). This shows that patriarchy can happen anywhere and will affect women at anyhow.

2.1.2.2 Women in the Nineteenth-century American Society

In the nineteenth-century, America was a patriarchal society. Classes and gender roles were very prominent during that time. Men dominated most aspects of society by filling job positions, especially in higher positions. Men were the only ones allowed to be involved in controlling the political and economic field,

or in positions of leader. It was a patriarchal society, so women's roles and rights were limited. For the lower-class, they do had to fight every day to live and fulfill their needs, but the men of the family are usually the ones who do the job. Women who came from the upper- and middle-class family had to accept their limited options; marriage and motherhood, or spinsterhood (Cruea 187). But, even if they choose to marry, married women would not have rights or status; they could not sue or be sued, own any earned or brought property into marriage, nor do they have any rights upon their children (Basch 23). Women in the patriarchal society are only meant to be the ornament of society who had to look pretty outside of home and be a great homemaker at home.

Struggle is a form of effort in order to achieve or accomplish something. According to the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, the term "struggle" has the meaning of "to try very hard to do something when it is difficult or when there are a lot of problems" (1343). In terms of patriarchal society and feminism, women are constantly struggling to find justice for their rights. The struggles of women in a patriarchal society created the "women movement" that began in the nineteenth-century, which became the basis of "feminism" as an ideology and campaign. Mentioned by Cott, the movement resulted from women raising awareness to fight for civil rights, social freedoms, and higher education for women in the precarious situation of patriarchal society in the 1800s (qtd. in Cruea 188). Every woman who lived in a patriarchal society must have experienced struggles to achieve their dreams and goals. Women struggles

occurred as responses towards the gender inequalities, oppressions, and discriminations that women experienced in society.

2.2 Research Method

2.2.1 Method of Data Collection

This study is a qualitative research by using the library research method in collecting the data for the analysis. According to George, the library research process is an investigation that involves verification, evaluation, and interpretation of findings to extend understanding (21-22). This research method collects two data from primary source and secondary source. The primary source is the first-hand evidence, while the secondary source is the interpretation (56). The data from the primary source will be used as the basic material of the research, and the data from the secondary source will be used to provide more information regarding the primary source. The primary source of this study is the *Little Women* (2019) movie, directed and written by Greta Gerwig, while the secondary sources are journal articles, research studies, and related textbooks.

2.2.2 Research Approach

Based on the background of the study which heavily refers to the sociological phenomena in Greta Gerwig's *Little Women* (2019) movie, the writer uses the sociological approach to analyze the movie. The sociological approach uses sociology as the basis of the analysis. Sociology is a scientific and objective study of man in society; a study of institutions and social processes (Laurenson and Swingwood 11). Therefore, sociological approach is an approach in literary criticism that focuses on the sociological aspects in the story. According to

Satiyoko, sociological approach analyzes the phenomenology and social construction of the world and the ideology underlying the creation of a literature work (qtd. in Setyawan et al. 145). The sociological aspects that are going to be analyzed in a literary work by using sociological approach are the aspects of society; such as social classes, affairs, religion, nature, etc.