CHAPTER 2

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

This chapter is about the concept of structural theory which is applied in analyzing the problem of the thesis.

2.1 History of Structuralism

Structuralism is a mode of analysis derived originally from linguistics (and specifically, the work of Ferdinand de Saussure [1857-1913]) that was later extended into a method of literary criticism. (Bardzell, n.d., 1). In Saussure's view, a word is not a symbol but it is a 'sign'. He called language as a system and individual utterances as parole. Then broader categories were born in the point of view of structuralist critics who one of them is Todorov. He distinguishes three aspects of the literary work: the verbal, the syntactic and the semantic, making no secret of the fact that these were formerly known as style, composition and theme. He also declares that he will look for structures on a deep level, as abstract relations. (Lem, 1974, 1)

Structuralism is an intellectual movement which began in France in the 1950s and is first seen in the work of the anthropologist Claude Levi-Strauss and the literary critic Roland Barthes. Structuralism was imported into Britain mainly in 1970s and attained widespread influence, and even notoriety, troughout the 1980s. (Barry, 1995, 41)

2.2 Application of Structuralism

At the heart of structuralism is a scientific ambition to discover the codes, the rules, the systems, which underlie all human social and cultural practice. (Brooker, Widdowson & Selden, 1997, 85) Structuralism is not only used in literature area, but it is also used in many area such as fashion and anthropology to anaylze the systematic of culture, language and society.

According to Bardzell, the structuralist critic Tzvetan Todorov focuses his attention to the analysis on propositions, sequences, and finally whole stories. This entails an explicit comparison between grammar and divisions of literary criticism: nouns correspond to characters; verbs correspond to actions; and adjectives correspond to attributes. A proposition is understood as a combination of a noun/character and a verb/action or an adjective/attribute. He likewise distills all the actions down to three. Proceeding from smaller units to larger ones. (Bardzell, n.d., 4) He divides the analysis of a text into three aspects which is verbal aspect, syntatical aspect and semantic aspect. (Todorov, 1985, 11)

Structuralism has been built in elements. According to Todorov, structuralism which relationship between elements are present in the text (*in praesentia*) and elements that are absent in the text (*in absentia*). (Todorov: 11) Syntatical aspect specifies every problem from the text in detail to a smaller element by using sequence, cause and effect, catalysts, and main function. (Todorov, 40) Finally, semantics aspect deals with different elements and problem in the story and categorizes it from the character, setting and logical problem. (Todorov, 11) The elements have been strongly related to each other to built a plot of a story. It means a change on one element can cause changes on the whole story. According to Hawkes (1977, 97), a sequence is a related collection or string (une

certaine suite') of proporsitions capable of constituting a complete and independent story. Sequence is the important element in the story which create a story in ant piece of writing. Sequence can be made by embedding (story within story, digression, etc), by linking (a string of a sequence), or by alteration (interlacing of sequences), or by a mixture from all of that. (Selden & Widdowson, 1993, 113) Since the elements cannot be separated, it will form a system. The system will build a story which can be a media to transfer any idea or point of view of the author to its readers. The well built elements will build a good system in a story if it is well arranged in sentences, so that it can be effective in transfering the idea of the writer.

One of the elements that built a story is character. The analysis which was done in this paper is on the major and minor character. According to Gill, A character is someone in a literary work who has some sort of identity, an identity which is made up by appearance, conversation, action, name and thoughts going on in the head. Characters are what they are like because of the way they they've been made. The kind of conversations they have, the things they do, their appearances ans so on are the particular ways in which the author has chosen to characterise his or her characters. (Gill, 1995, 127).

The characters will built events trough their actions, thoughts and utterances. The arrangement of the events in a good correlation will built a plot of a story. It is formed trough the arragement of sequences which can create a function. According to Selden & Widdowson (1993, 109) function is the basic unit of the narrative 'language' and refers to the significant actions which form the narrative. The narrative in the sequence creates the function and express what the author wanted to share.

The other analysis was done on the cause and effect which happen in the story. It is used to see changes on the sequences. One change of a sequence can cause some changes of the whole story. Cause and effect is a temporal and logical implication which arranges the structure in chronological way. (Todorov, 1985, 41). The main function which is connected with catalyst can show all elements that form a stroy. According to Rimmon Kenan (1983, 16), Catalyst is an event that expands, amplifies, maintains or delays a sequence. From catalyst we can see what elements that make the story.

The other analysis was done on the process of Jill in building an image as a successful woman. Success means the achievement of a desred aim, or of fame, wealth or social position. (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 1995). This is the process of her in realizing her dreams come true. She tried to achieve her desire aim in her life to own a magazine named after her, to change the town community persception in the real meaning of beauty and to have a good relationship with her family and friends in order to be respected and to be recognized as a successful one in the community.