

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This chapter deals with the research methodology which provides the description about the way the study is carried out and how the data is collected and analyzed. It explicates the method used in this present study to find the answer of the research questions.

#### **3.1 Subject of the Study**

The writer conducts an analysis of literary work on a novel which reveals the issues of gender identity and subjectivity that presents in young adult fiction, entitled "*If You Believe in Mermaids... Don't Tell*" written by A. A. Philips.

#### **3.2 Research Questions**

This present study tries to answer the following questions:

1. In what ways are feminine and masculine qualities performed by the main character in the text?
2. How is subjectivity of the main character constructed in the text?

### 3.3 Research Methodology

This present study is conducted in the form of descriptive qualitative method. The data analyzed are neither to be gained by using statistics procedure nor to accept or to reject the hypothesis, but the result of the study is the description from the analyzed indication (Subana and Sudrajat, 2001; Alwasilah, 2002; Strauss and Corbin, 1990). Thus, this descriptive qualitative method is chosen to describe, to reveal, and to find answers of the research problem about the issues of gender identity and subjectivity that happens in young adult novel “*If You Believe in Mermaids... Don't Tell*” by A.A Philips that is being analyzed in this present study.

According to Alwasilah (2002) and Strauss and Corbin (1990), in qualitative research there are three basic elements of the research those are data, theory and methodology. The first is data. The data are gained from many sources, such as interview, questionnaire, observation, and analysis. In this present study the research corpus is a novel, so that the writer employs textual analysis as the technique to analyze data from the text.

The second is theory. It is a set of concept that explicates the references which are related to the study. In this case, the writer uses several theories such as Nilsen and Donelson’s theory of adolescent literature, Stets and Burke’s theory of gender identity, and McCallum’s theory of subjectivity as the frameworks of the study.

Lastly is methodology, it is the way in which the study is carried out and how the data is collected and analyzed. As the writer has stated above that this present study uses the descriptive qualitative method, it is chosen because the writer believes that this is the most appropriate method to conduct this present study.

### **3.4 Procedure of the Study**

In this present study, the writer found the subject research that is the novel which is written by A. A. Philips' *If You Believe in Mermaids... Don't Tell*. The first thing to do is read the whole story of the novel A. A. Philips' *If You Believe in Mermaids... Don't Tell*, then, determined the raising issues from the story that are about masculine-feminine qualities and subjectivity. After that, the writer formulated research questions concerning the way feminine and masculine qualities are performed by the main character in the text and how the subjectivity of the main character is constructed in the text.

In reading the novel, the writer did it carefully in attempt to find and to note down the textual evidence about feminine-masculine qualities and subjectivity of the main character. The writer paid attention to the way main character communicates with the people surrounds him to see his distinct behaviors. Then, the writer made a list of context from the textual evidence in the text which can show main character's masculine and feminine qualities. The writer also made list of the idea of subjectivity that occurs in this novel. These

lists were aimed to make the process analysis easier to do and to give the textual evidences which were needed for the research.

The next thing to do is the writer searched for the theories and the references about young adult literature, gender identity, and subjectivity that are appropriate to be applied in this present study. After that, the writer analyzed the textual evidences and presented the data analysis which was framed by the related theories to answer the research questions. Finally, the conclusions and the suggestions were drawn based on the findings.

### 3.5 Data Presentation

To accomplish data analysis, the presentations of the data are formulated in a form of the table to answer research questions; the table is made as follows:

No.	Page	Contexts	Textual evidence	Qualities		Comments
				Feminine	Masculine	

Table 3.5.1. The example table of the presentation of the data 1

No.	Context	Textual evidence	Page	Textual analysis

Table 3.5.2. The example table of the presentation of the data 2

The complete data presentation is available in the appendices section.