

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter covers the research methodology of this research. It includes the discussions of research design, research question, research procedures, and data presentation.

3.1. Research Design

This study is intended to examine the conflicts between parents and their child as the main characters of the novel. In conducting the analysis, a descriptive qualitative method is employed to analyze power relations between parents and children through the conflicts in the novel. In analyzing the data, this study uses qualitative method in textual analysis approach which pervades the analysis of words explanation rather than data measurement. Qualitative method according to Hancock, Ockleford, & Windridge (2009) focuses on description, interpretation and the result may lead to development of new concepts or theory, or to an evaluation of an organizational process. Therefore, the use of descriptive is important in order to get the finding of qualitative method in the novel.

Moreover, in conducting descriptive qualitative method Saledowski (2000) explains that the researchers need to connect their data with the surface of words and events, because in qualitative descriptive studies the data can be collected through language as a medium of communication not only through an interpretive structure. The qualitative descriptive method is employed by collecting the data from the novel as the text, conducting the analysis through the words and events presented in the novel, and revealing the results of the analysis. Regarding to these statements, this study implements the process of analysis by collecting the relevant data taken from the conflicts among the characters and analyze the data with Foucault's theory of power in order to derive the result by interpreting the data in a descriptive manner. Hence, the qualitative descriptive method is chosen in analyzing the novel to get the

expected results, specifically to find the meaning of the portrayal of parents and children power relation.

3.2. Research Question

This research attempts to analyze the network of power relation, specifically power relation in Janet Tashjian's *My Life as a Stuntboy* novel and answer the following question:

- What meanings can be made from the portrayal of parent – child power relation in the novel?

3.3. Research Procedure

The procedure of the analysis of the portrayal of parent – child power in *My Life as a Stuntboy* novel consisted of four steps.

The first step in collecting the data is doing intensively close reading. Then the researcher identifies the conflicts that appear in the novel and the reaction towards the conflicts. For instance, conflicts between parents and the child about studying, the conflict between parents and the child about adopted animal, and the conflict between parents and the child about the child's wish of hobby, and identify the main characters' reactions toward those conflicts. The context of conflicts is found in forms of dialogue (verbal interactions), the characters' reactions (including physical reaction), and narration in the text seen from both parents and the child's point of view.

Afterwards, the researcher classifies the types of conflicts by finding the sources of those conflicts. For instance, the source of conflict about studying that results the child's reaction towards parents' certain commands and the parents' reaction toward the child's wish. The, discover the resolution about each conflict.

After labeling the categories of the conflicts, it can be seen the expectations that parents have toward every conflicts. The parents' expectations are related to the child's future as part of a civil society that demands the child to be responsible, and

the child's future that is affected by the society. The meaning appears because of the conflicts, and the conflicts are the exercise of the power so that the meaning and power relations can be seen from the conflicts between parents and the child.

At the end, the conclusion is drawn to see the meaning of the portrayal of parent – child power in the novel.

3.4. Data Presentation

The data are presented in the form of tables that show the conflicts that occur in the novel and categorize the conflicts, power is proven based on the three conflict resolutions from a research conducted by Gracia-Ruiz et al. in 2012. The three conflict resolutions consisted of negotiation, dominance, and withdrawal. Then, the power is associated with Foucault's (1973/1974) sovereign power and discipline power (1977), which explained that power that occurred in family were sovereignty and discipline. The table consists of the source of each conflict in the novel, both parents and the child's reactions toward the conflicts, and the analysis regarding to the conflicts.

3.5. Synopsis of *My Life as a Stuntboy*

My Life as a Stuntboy is the second book of Janet Tashjian's 'The My Life Series' that is about the story of Derek Fallon's life and written in 2011. There are five books of 'The My Life Series', but *My Life as a Stuntboy* is chosen because this novel tells the story of parents' involvement in everything their child does, and how the child deals with his parents' involvement. This kind of interaction in the story, build conflicts in parents and children's relationship where Children and parents' relationship is the relationship that almost all of people have in their life. Therefore, novel *My Life is a Stuntboy* is chosen to be the source of this research. The novel *My Life as a Stuntboy* tells the story of twelve-year-old Derek Fallon as the main character who thinks that school or studying is the forms of coercion and parts of his parents' involvement of his life. As a child, Derek has so many things that he wants

to do such as his new hobby which is doing parkour. When it comes the opportunity for him to be a stuntboy in a movie production, he is very excited and he really wants to do that. However, he cannot do anything he wants without his parents' permission. It is because Derek still lives and depends on his parents, so that he also responsible to do his obligations as a child.

Derek's parents only want the best for him, by providing Derek education, teaching Derek to have a good behavior, and teaching Derek that he cannot always get what he wants easily. Unfortunately, Derek thinks that his parents' commands are blocking his activities and his freedom. Thereupon, Derek has so many methods to avoid his parents' involvement, yet his parents always find the way to deal with Derek's rejections.