

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter discusses the methodology of the present study. It deals with research questions, method of the study, research procedure, source of the data, data collection, data analysis, and data presentation.

3.1 Research Question

The research questions of the present study were stated as follows:

1. What roles do husband and wife character play in the family?
2. In what way spousal authority is established in the family?

3.2 Research Method

This study applied qualitative research which used descriptive method. Qualitative research and descriptive method were connected to each other. Qualitative approaches can be used to discover substantive areas which are more or less recognized to increase novel understandings (Stern, n.d as cited in Strauss and Corbin, 1998). In qualitative research, the research problem focuses on some processes, events, or phenomena such as feelings, thought processes, and emotions that are difficult to extract (Otieno, 2001 as cited in Strauss and Cobin, 1998). This approach was considered appropriate to analyze the data deeper.

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From the statement above, qualitative research was appropriate to be applied for the analysis because the forms of textual evidence in the novel are words, phrases, sentences, expressions, and utterances. Those forms were relevant to the aims of this study that were to discover the roles of husband and wife and the ways of establishing spousal authority in the family in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. The aspects which were needed to qualitative researcher are, appropriateness, authenticity, credibility, intuitiveness, receptivity, reciprocity and sensitivity as the device in the data collection and analysis process (Rew, Bechtel, and Sapp, 1993). For this reason, the interpretation of data had to be explained clearly and appropriately with the issue that come up.

In addition, descriptive method was also employed to describe the data in the novel. Here, descriptive method produced more accurate and factual description of this study. Therefore, descriptive method can be defined as the use of words to convey a mental image of an event, a piece of scenery, a scene, an experience, an emotion, or a sensation; the account related to the perspective of the person doing the depicting (Strauss and Cobin, 1998).

Furthermore, textual analysis technique was appropriate in analyzing the novel because the present study dealt with text. Textual analysis can be defined as the method that emphasizes significant influences on qualitative interpretation which reveals hidden meanings and it is used to gain understanding of human nature (Byrne,

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2001). It meant that this approach focused on gaining the meaning by identifying words, utterances, and expressions that come up in the text. After identifying its meaning, the next analysis was giving interpretation in the text.

The present study was conducted by using theory of gender roles and stereotypes by Winlaw (2011) and power and patriarchy by Komter (1989) and Lukes (2005). This study intended to discover the roles of husband and wife and the way the spousal authority in the family is established in *A Thousand Splendid Sun's* novel. In this novel, the issue of the role between husband and wife in establishing spousal authority were different from some other texts because the main character had suffered since she was a child and she was considered as a *harami*. Mariam, the main character, has experienced difficult situation in her life. When Mariam was 15 years old, she was forced to marry Rasheed 40 years old. She experienced domestic abuse by her husband such as forbidden to go outside without her husband, and also had to wear *Burqa*. Thus, it was potential to be investigated.

3.3 Research procedure

In analyzing this study, several steps had been taken. Firstly, the writer selected the subject of the topic, read the novel several times, and collected textual evidence which related to research questions. Then, to answer the first question which is looked at the husband and wife role in the novel, the theory of gender roles and stereotypes were used as theoretical framework. Secondly, to answer the second

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question which was purposed to identify the way spousal authority is established in the family, theory of power and patriarchy were utilized as a tool in gaining the finding in the novel. After finishing these steps, the next step was presenting data analysis. The last step was making conclusion and suggestion based on data analysis.

3.4 Source of the data

The source of data was a novel entitled *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini which was published in May 2007. This novel was used because the issue about the roles between husband and wife in establishing spousal authority is portrayed in the novel.

3.5 Data collection

The data were collected in the form of textual evidence from a novel *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. The study focused on finding the textual evidence of the roles of husband and wife and the way of spousal authority in the family is established in *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Close reading strategy was used as procedure of collecting data in which the text was read several times thoroughly and carefully to gain the finding. The purposes of close reading were to examine major features of the text, such as rhetorical features, structural elements, cultural references, or selected features of the text (Kain, 1998). By using close

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reading strategy the writer gained better comprehension. Thus, it helped to find out the data which was able to answer the research questions.

3.6 Data Analysis

The present study used qualitative descriptive approach and textual analysis technique. These approaches had been chosen because the data of this study are in the form of words rather than numbers. The present study described the phenomena in the form of the roles of husband and wife and the way of establishing spousal authority in the family in *A Thousand Splendid Sun's* novel.

The data were collected from textual evidence found in the novel. The textual evidence was taken from the novel in the form of words, phrases, sentences, expressions, and utterances of main character action, thought, and other commentary towards the issue of the role between husband and wife in establishing spousal authority in the novel.

This study used gender studies, i.e. gender roles and stereotypes, power and patriarchy. Gender roles and stereotypes were used to identify the roles between husband and wife in *A Thousand Splendid Sun's* novel. Meanwhile, power and patriarchy focused on the way of establishing spousal authority in the family. The result of analysis would be discussed in the next chapter along with the interpretation of data.

3.7 Data presentation

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The data analysis is presented in the tables as follows:

Table 3.7.1 The roles of husband and wife in the family

No.	Chapter /Page	Roles	Activity	Textual Evidence	Explanation
			Husband		
1.	33/230	Husband as Authority	Instructing wife to do something	Mariam detected a shadow on his face, a darkness underlying the coppery light of dusk. In the house, he took off his coat, threw it on the couch. Brushing past Mariam, he said in a brusque voice, "I'm hungry. Get supper ready".	Rasheed instructed Mariam violently to serve the food quickly.
	31/217		Prohibiting wife to go out	"All I ask in return, well, it is a simple thing. I ask that you avoid leaving this house without my company. That's all.	He prohibited his wife to go outside without accompanied by him. So, She just stayed at home.
2.	10/63	Husband as breadwinner	Leaving house for wife to keep	The next morning, after Rasheed left for work, Mariam unpacked her	When Rasheed worked, Mariam started to do her

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				clothes and put them in the dresser. She drew a pail of water from the well and, with a rag, washed the windows of her room and the windows to the living room downstairs- She swept the floors, beat the cobwebs fluttering in the corners of the ceiling. She opened the windows to air the house.	role as a wife that showed she was obedient to her husband command.
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No.	Chapter /Page	Roles	Activity	Textual Evidence	Explanation
			Wife		
1.	29/207	Wife as subordinate	Submissive to do husband's directed activities	He was lying on his bed, back to the wall, his thick, long legs splayed on the mattress. "Sit down before you faint and cut your head open." Mariam felt herself drop onto the folding chair beside his bed. "Hand me that ashtray, would you?" he said. Obediently, she did.	Rasheed wanted Mariam to do everything that he asked even if it hurted Mariam.

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	31/217		Staying at home	"All I ask in return, well, it is a simple thing. I ask that you avoid leaving this house without my company. That's all.	He prohibited his wife to go outside without accompanied by him.
	31/217		Wearing <i>Burqa</i>	I also ask that when we are out together, that you wear a burqa. For your own protection, naturally. It is best. So many lewd men in this town now. Such vile intentions, so eager to dishonor even a married woman. So. That's all."	Mariam had to use <i>Burqa</i> to protect her body from outsiders.
2.	10/ 67-68	Wife as Housekeeper	Doing household chores	Mariam was disappointed that he did not notice the clean windows, the swept floors, the missing cobwebs. But he did look pleased that she had already set his dinner plate, on a clean <i>sofrah</i> spread on the living-room floor.	Mariam had done her roles as expected by Rasheed.

Table 3.7.2 Establishing Spousal Authority by way of Abuse

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No.	Chapter / Page	Activity	Textual evidence	Consequences	Explanation
1.	15/98	Exercising Power through Physical Abuse	On occasion, he would resolve with punches, slaps, kicks, and sometimes try to make amends for with polluted apologies and sometimes not.	Physical Injuries	Mariam got injured physically as a punishment.
	15/97	Exercising Power through Verbal Abuse	Rasheed chortled and shook his head, but Mariam thought she saw uncertainty in the way he crossed his arms, the way his eyes shifted. "You know nothing, do you? You're like a child. Your brain is empty. There is no information in it." "I ask because" "Chupko. Shut up." Mariam did. It wasn't easy tolerating him talking this way to her, to bear his scorn, his ridicule, his insults, his walking past her like she was nothing but a house cat.	Mental injuries	Rasheed humiliated Mariam that she was uneducated person and she did not know anything. She was nothing on his perspective.
	14/93	Exercising	Occasionally, he took her	Mental injuries	When they

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	Power through Psychological Abuse	around town on Fridays, like he used to, but on the sidewalks he walked quickly and always a few steps ahead of her, without speaking, unmindful of Mariam who almost had to run to keep up with him. He wasn't so ready with a laugh on these outings anymore. He didn't buy her sweets or gifts, didn't stop and name places to her as he used to. Her questions seemed to irritate him.	went outside, Rasheed was different from he used to do. He did not speak and did not buy her something anymore.
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