**CHAPTER I**

**Introduction**

1. **Background of the Study**

Literature is one of the tools to express feelings or mind by taking from a beautiful imagination. It also can be a media for showing ideas and idealism. For example, there are a lot of author who made literature for criticize a government with the unspoken word. There are also the author who influenced their connoisseurs by their works. The inspirations of literary work sometimes comes from the unpredicted ways. It can be based on empirical experience or through observation. Literature is create as the alternative ways for educate people.

Literary works are divided into two types which are Fiction and Non-fiction. The form of genres are poetry, prose, and drama. Prose can be define as a written works, but it’s different with poetry. Prose consist of technique of language which had a grammatical structure. It is written in complete sentences and organize paragraph, the focus is on the plot and character. It has many kind of works such as Novel, Textbook, Short story, Letters, Newspaper articles, and even a Diaries.

Novel is one of the familiar types of prose. It usually written by a narrative and descriptive text to becoming a story. It almost similar with a short story but the explanation and the plot on the novel is more complex. Novel is written by the author imagination, observation, or from empirical experience which inspired into becoming a novel. In the novel, the intrinsic and extrinsic element has important role because it can build up the story.

Knowing the intrinsic element can help the readers to understand the meaning of the story. An analysis of structure in the novel is needed before the writer is going to analysis the core issues of the novel. This research will using a feminist literary criticism to analysis the text. According to Wiyatmi (2012:4), feminist literary criticism is having three step for analysis. First, interpretation. Second, Analysis, and third is assessment.

Narrative text is a construction to tell about the chronological story based on the cause and effect on the event that explain on the story. The implementation of narrative is not just about in the novel or a written text but also can be found everywhere as long as it involve the speech act of narration. The person who delivered the story is called as narrator. In the novel, narrator can be a medium for people to understand the story and had a communication function with the reader. On the narrative, the same story can be described in different ways. It could be based on the plot, point of view, how the narrator delivered it, or different era so it could be more related with the current issues and concern.

A fictional narratives can create an imagination world based on their perspective. It usually create their own world from how they lives, act, think, and feel. It also can be represented with a various ways depend on the narrator who explain the whole story and how they delivered it. The author and the narrator can be the same person in the story. People sometimes got confused to make a differences between the author and narrator because both of them are having the same important role. So the narrator and the reader had a communicative relation which trying to understand the meaning.

Novel can be consist of the empirical experience from people or the author itself and implemented to inspire it into a written text. The result is combined between histories of their life with the art of writing to become a fiction. It can be a references to taking a moral lesson from the character or the story. Besides that, the combination between empirical experience and imagination is also one of the effective ways to convey a viewpoint of feminism. Because it’s from something living and giving a concrete evidence from a situation.

Feminism is a movement which fight for woman to get the same right without discrimination. Woman should have the same opportunity with men to develop their qualities. According to Lorber (1997: 8) Feminism is specifically covers gender inequality, feminists have developed more complex views about gender, sex, and sexuality. *Gender* is now understood to be a social status, a personal identity, and a set of relationships between women and men, and among women and men. Feminism is connected with the patriarchal society which put some of the demand.

Women are often categorized as the second sex and inferior. According to Sugihastuti and Suharto (2002:20) the purposes of feminism movement are to get the same right and to get something they wanted, because they have a lot of demand which far from what they want. The demand for women in the patriarchal society was born from a social construction. Some of them are women should be virgin, taking care of their body, taking care of household, getting married, priorities men and haven’t an opportunity to speak their voices.

The writer found that the woman issues still viewed in a various ways and perspective. The patriarchal society in Indonesia still exist and steer the woman’s life generally. This social construction is having some of the demand to woman. Among them is woman should be cooking, cleaning, and serve the family. While those action is a basic life skill which not determined by the gender role. Besides it, there is a claim that woman should be married before 30’s and having kids before get olds. While those of the demand is a choice and not a biological state.

The writer is interested to analyzing *Si Parasit Lajang* novel by Ayu Utami because it inspired by history of her journey as a woman who living in the urban life. It also trying to spill out women issues about marriage in the patriarchal society. This social construction can be a problem because it limit the women’s freedom of speech. The benefit of this study is giving an information and point of view about feminism and about marriage issues specifically. There are a lot of feminist writer and their works around the world. But the writer choose her novel because she’s from Indonesia. So, the literary work is closer and related with the situation in Indonesia.

Ayu Utami is the feminist writer which in her novel always tell her story with a women perspective. The outline of *Si Parasit Lajang* novel is about marriage and she stated 10+1 reasons why she decided to not get married at the end of her 20’s. Besides the marriage, she also talks about the stereotype and the woman issues which still exist in the Post - Suharto era. The book is trying to criticize every situation which has patriarchy aspect that develop in Indonesia.

This novel was born from a compilation essay while she work at *Tempo* magazine. She reveal various thoughts of her mind into several journal then combine it into a novel. Novel *Si Parasit Lajang* is one of the trilogy novel by Ayu Utami. The first one is *Si Parasit Lajang*. The second book is *Cerita Cinta Enrico*. And the last book is *Pengakuan Eks Parasit Lajang*. *Si Parasit Lajang* novel tend to subjective because Ayu utami wrote the story based on perspective of her empirical experience and observation towards various event on her surroundings. Giving out the point of view about what she found and make it into a written work.

This novel is emphasize about how important marriage based on capable and not by force. The result of forced marriage not based on concern and responsibility could be divorce, an affair, domestic violence, and the broken home child. Utami claimed in her novel that there are still a lot of people who though that the highest reward of woman is becoming a wife or mom. Being unmarried women still considered to be something taboo. But besides talking about marriage, she also talks about sex and gender in her surroundings.

The story of the novel begin with a 10+1 reasons why “A” Character decided to not get married. After that Utami separated the story into three parts which are *Kedai*, *Rumah*, and *Perjalanan*. *Kedai* is an introduction about some of her friends during work in *Tempo* magazine. There is a chapter which talked about Sahal, Gofur, and Ming Dao. The three of them are always be a partner to discuss about social issues on her surroundings. *Rumah* is talking about how she through her childhood during school as a women and her life at home. And *Perjalanan* is talking about every situation that she found outside the home and finally have a conclusion about marriage. This chapter also talking about the journey from time to time.

Usually the issues about marriage and body is included to Radical-Libertarian types of feminism. This type of feminism is a branch from Radical Feminism. For Radical Feminism, the focused is centralized to control about sexual function, reproduction system and identity about women. There are two different genres about Radical Feminism which are Libertarian and Cultural Perspectives. So in the first impression, the writer can assume that this novel is included to Radical feminism. But do not rule out if this novel will contain another types of feminism.

According to Millett through a book by Tong (2009: 54) feminism is trying to destroy the level of sex and gender inequality. For example, men are always get a freedom of choice about public world. Such as education, carrier, the position in the family or even in the public area. While most of women are limited to have the same opportunity. Millett also stated that the concept of radical feminism are to integrate the differences between feminism and masculine aspect. Feminism are also trying to disappear the oppression against women and make an equal society between men and women.

Feminist thought is kaleidoscopic which means static, easy to change and develop from time to time. She also said that a comprehensive sources about feminism is needed for trying to guide in order to not get lost. So it is not impossible if feminism will still develop from time to time. Thong also divided several genres about feminism which develop. Such as Liberal, Radical (Libertarian and Cultural Perspectives), Marxist and Socialist (Classical and Contemporary), Psychoanalytic, Care-Focused, Multicultural, Global, and Postcolonial, Ecofeminism, and the last is postmodern and Third-Wave Feminism. (Tong 2009:1-9)

This research paper will be using a grand theory by Simone De Beauvoir from the book entitled The Second Sex. The writer choose her book because the issues is talking about feminism in the social construction. So it is relevant with the object that the writers researched. Beauvoir stated that marriage is based on traditional culture which construct the social perspectives. Besides that, she also stated that there are several situation which make an oppression from society against women.

Simone Lucie Ernestine Marie Bertrand de Beauvoir was a French writer. Besides that, she also a feminist which concern about the social issues. She graduated as BA at 1928 and MA at 1929 from University of Paris. Not just interest about feminism, she also have several main interest. Such as political philosophy and existential phenomenology. The Second Sex (1949) is giving a detailed analysis about women’s oppression. In her book, it tells that there are a several situation and justification towards women which still exist and related in the surroundings nowadays.

The writer hope this study can help to understand feminism values. Also inspire woman to be brave for taking any kind of choices without considering the stereotype from society. Besides that, it can be a research material in the future, who wants to know about feminism through novel.

1. **Identification of the problems**

Based on the background that have been mentioned above, it can be identified the problem. The women issues still claimed in various ways and the stereotype about them still develop with a lot of perspective. Because of the stereotype, women have a lot of pressure and demands in the patriarchal society. One of the demands that occurs is women should be married and being a house wife.

This novel try to give an explanation about why women shouldn’t be forced to be married. Utami says that married and having a child is just for someone who’s capable. It is not a necessity because it needs a big responsibility. The designation of *Parasit Lajang* is come out from Japanese feminist for a woman who’s not married and still living with her parents. Not paying rent, not taking care of household and still hang out with her friends.There are a lot of Japanese women who had a great career decided to be *single parasite*.

The knowledge about feminism should be known by people especially for women. The purposes is to make them realize that they have the same quality, choices and opportunity as men. In the patriarchal society, men still taking a role as the domination gender. They believe that women are created to complement the men and can’t stand for themselves. Besides that, this novel also criticize the jokes that come out from men which usually contain a disrespectful sentences. So this research is trying to build up awareness about sexual harassment verbally.

1. **Limitation of the Problems**

The limitation of the problem is only limited from the feminism values in *Si Parasit Lajang* Novel by Ayu Utami. This novel is the trilogy novel which consist of *Si Parasit Lajang*, which talking about the author herself when she decided to not married. The second book is *Cerita Cinta Enrico*, which talking about Enrico who decided to not get married too cause he doesn’t want to lose his freedom of life. And the last book is *Pengakuan Eks Parasit Lajang*, which talking about how “A” character in *Si Parasit Lajang* and Enrico in *Cerita Cinta Enrico* met. From those explanation, the writer put the limitation of the problem with only focus on the novel entitled *Si Parasit Lajang*.

There are several social issues and values in this novel but the writer is only focus on the feminism values. Then the representation will be explained according to dialogues and sentences which contains the elements of feminism in *Si Parasit Lajang* novel by Ayu Utami.

1. **Research Question**

Based on the Limitation of the Study which have been explained above. The writer has a primary question to answer in this Study. The question is, what does the feminism values represented by the main character found in *Si Parasit Lajang* Novel by Ayu Utami?

1. **Objective of the Study**

Related to the Research Question that the writer have been mentioned above. The writer’s goals is to find out the feminism values and divided into genres of feminism based on theory of feminist literary criticism approach by Wiyatmi. While the core issues in this research paper will also covered by a theory from Simone De Beauvoir’s book entitled Second Sex. The result will be taken based on dialogues, act, and statement from “A” Character in *Si Parasit Lajang* Novel by Ayu Utami. Besides that, the other goals is trying to inform the feminism through this research.

1. **Significances of the Study**
2. Theoretical Significances

The writer’s hope this research paper can help the readers who want to study about Feminism studies through character. Then, the information in this paper can help the development of the research with the same kind.

1. Practical Significances

To give a contribution to the readers, student of English Literature Department Faculty Arts and Letter Pasundan University. To become the reference with the study of Feminism studies through character in the novel. To the fans of Ayu Utami for further information about one of her literary work.