

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Harry Potter has been a great influence on many people worldwide, suppose it is safe to say that almost everyone knows who Harry Potter is. Since the first book, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, published in 1997, the series had given a new world to run to for many people. The last book of the series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*, was published in 2007. Because of its popularity, the book has translated into many languages. The ending of the story in the book and the movie are quite the same, both are set nineteen years after the great battle. Harry, who is married to Ginny Weasley and had three children—James, Albus, and Lily—escorted James and Albus to King's Cross station to ride the Hogwarts Express. It was the first year for Albus and he was so afraid that he would be sorted into Slytherin. Then the story ended after James and Albus left, after Harry and Ginny convinced themselves that their boys would be okay.

That such of ending brought out curiosity to the fans. What is next? What is going to happen to Albus? How will his story in Hogwarts be? And many other 'what if' and 'what will happen' in their mind. Until finally, on 26th June 2015, a project under the title *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* officially confirmed and announced to be performed in London's Palace Theatre for the premiere.

By the time the play released, the play is quite controversial among the fans because most of them think that the story is more like fanfiction, they even called

it the 'bad one'. They regret buying the book or watching the play. They expect a better storyline for the sequel. In fact, Amruta P. Marpakwar spilled in his journal of some mistakes in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. One of them was the nine similarities between the play and a fanfiction of James Potter, Harry Potter's first son, by G. Norman Lippert, called the *James Potter Series*. Seeing this controversy, the writer found it interesting to dig more on this book. Since this study is written by a literature student, and considering that *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* was a worldwide sensation, the writer decided to take *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* as the corpus of this study.

However, there are numerous fictional parents in literature which could be the corpus of this study, then why Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley? First of all, Harry Potter is universally loved by the readers all over the world, as well as Ginny is. Harry and his magical story have given massive impact on many children in the whole world. Second of all, Harry and Ginny's family has the characteristics of a postmodern family, which made them fit to the type of family the writer looked for.

How is the postmodern family like? According to Burgess and Locke (1945), family is "a group of persons united by the ties of marriage, blood or adoption; consisting a single household, interacting and intercommunicating with each other in their social roles of husband and wife, mother and father, son and daughter, brother and sister, creating a common culture". Family is the very first institution that a child automatically included into. There are many types of family that were classified by the experts. People of postmodern family, those who born after 1964 (Carey N. Ingram, 2013), are slightly different from the common family type we knew. Postmodern family is a family where the roles of the parents are flexible and changeable (Gaines Arnold, 2017). It does not follow the common

stereotypes of the family, where the father is the one who is in charge only to work for money to support the family supplies and the mother is the one who is in charge only of the household business. Taken an example in Harry and Ginny's family of the one who is in charge of cooking and the mother's role which both do not follow the common stereotype. According to Ginny, in the book on page 133, she said, "Oh, it's not my kitchen. Harry does most of the cooking." That utterance indicates that Harry, the father, is in charge of cooking most of the time, while usually the one who is, dominantly or even fully, in charge of cooking is the mother. Ginny is a character who is not only a mother that stays at the house, but also works as an editor staff for sport section on Daily Prophet newspaper. In commonly known family types, the one who works for family support is only the father. Therefore, from the perspective of the parents' roles, it could be concluded that Harry Potter's family is a postmodern family.

Every parent has their own way to rear their children. Any way they choose they did it with hope that their child will grow up being their best self, even better than them. In 1966, Diana Baumrind had classified three types of parenting styles that generally parents have. There are permissive parenting, authoritarian parenting, and authoritative parenting. The classification was made based on demandingness and responsiveness level of the parents towards their children. Developing that classification, Eleanor Maccoby and John Martin have added one other type of parenting style which is the neglectful parenting or uninvolved parenting. This study used the combination of parenting styles theory by Baumrind, Maccoby, and Martin.

It was found, in a journal article of parenting style trend analysis in 2017 under the title *Empirical Studies on Parenting Styles: A Trend Analysis* which was

written by Maryam Farzand, Yagmur Cerkez, and Cise Cavusoglu, that parenting style turned out to climbing up to the top on being one of trending topics in research field. 530 total documents related to parenting style were found, including the journal articles, conference papers, article in press, and reviews which were published in between the years of 2008 to 2017 (Farzand, Cerkez, and Cavusoglu, 2017). It is shown in the journal that, in almost a decade, the interest on studying parenting style increases relatively well.

There are four previous studies which were found by the writer that took Harry Potter and the Cursed Child as the corpus for their studies. The first journal is Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: *An Unsettling Sequel* by Amruta P. Marpakwar in 2016. As the writer stated before, the play is quite controversial among the fans, that they think the story is more like fanfiction. The journal which was written by Marpakwar discussed in more detail of why does the play become controversial as Marpakwar used 'an unsettling' term in the title. While this study focuses on the parenting issue, Marpakwar took the plot and characters as the focus of the study.

The next work was written by Ilaria Villa and published in 2017 under the title Harry Potter and the Cursed Child: *Rewriting Stereotypes*. The focus of the study is Slytherin House, which usually is seen as a house for the bad wizards and witches, the place for the evil ones in the school. Villa points out that *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* gave a new perspective about the house to the readers. Unlike Villa's work, this study only focuses on the relationship between Albus Severus Potter, who happened to be the main character of the story and one of Slytherin's students, with his parents.

Archetypal Characters Depicted on Thorne's Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Part One and Two by Dyah Kusumadewi and Zakiyatul Mufidah in 2017 is the third one. They identified the characters of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child Part One and Two* in representing Jungian archetypal. After analyzing the character's utterances, action, other character and society's opinion, character's name, and author's direct explanation, they revealed the way how the characters represent the Jungian archetypal. The data taken and the method of data processing are similar to this study which is to analyze the character's dialogues and action.

The last study that took *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* as the corpus is *Language Style used in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*. Published in 2018, a study which was written by Resa Ferara Jamil and Nasrum applies a sociolinguistic approach to their work. Similar to this study, they also focus on Albus, but mainly on the language style which he uses and the social factors that influenced him.

The writer also found one previous study which also took parenting style as the focus of the study but with the different corpus. The journal's title is *Authoritarian Parenting in Shaping the Characteristics of Ruth Young in Amy Tan's The Bonesetter's Daughter* by Clara Acitya Ose Lengari and Dewi Widyastuti in 2018. They examined the impact of the authoritarian parenting style of Luling on her child, Ruth Young. They analyzed Luling's parenting style and focused on how authoritarian parenting style shapes the child's characteristics, but unlike this study, they did not discuss the relationship between the parent and the child.

1.2 Research Questions

In order to understand how parenting in Harry Potter's family works, the writer composed two research questions as follow:

1. What are the parenting styles of Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley as a postmodern family?
2. To what extent does the parenting styles of Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley affect Albus's characters?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

1. To find out what parenting styles of Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley as a postmodern family are.
2. To elaborate the impact of Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley's parenting styles on Albus's characters.

1.4 Scope of the Study

Since the story of *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* only focuses on the journey of Albus Severus Potter and the struggle of Harry Potter and Ginny Weasley being good parents for Albus, the writer only focuses on the interaction between Harry and Ginny, as the parents, and Albus, who is the second son of Harry and Ginny and happened to be the main character of the story.

1.5 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to be able to increase interest of other researchers to take parenting style as the topic of their study because parenting style is one of the trending interesting topics to be studied in research field (Farzand, Cerkez, and Cavusoglu, 2017), and hopefully this study could give a slight idea of how a parenting style study is to the future researcher who might be interested in conducting a study on parenting style particularly in literature field. The writer also expects for the readers to get some information about parenting styles and the impacts on children.

