

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Literary existence will not be separated from everyday human life. Our lives must be surrounded by literature without realizing it. This is because humans can be subjects as well as objects in a literature. Literary works are a mirror of the human heart. Literary was born to explain human existence, and pay great attention to the world of reality throughout the ages. Even though we don't really understand literature, literature has actually been around us since childhood. Starting from fairy tales, dramas, and short stories, literature is already in our lives even when we don't realize it. There are many forms of literary work such as novel, play or drama, short story, essay, biography, poetry, and songs.

Songs are also the result of one type of literary work, in the sense that songs are poems that are sung. As expressed by Jean- Marie Bretagne (via Smith and Fauchon, 2001:287 and 289) The song is a very special literature, because the tempo of the song shows every depth of meaning. The lyrics in the song are sweet, so that it can make people feel flying, slipping, light and naive. Songs usually raise about life problems that often happened. These problems can be in the form of self-problems or problems between humans. The problems expressed in the song are usually the imagination that the author gets from the life they lives.

Feminism is a series of social movements, political movements, and ideologies that have the same goal to define, build, and achieve gender equality in the political, economic, personal, and social spheres. Feminism incorporates the position that society prioritizes the point of view of men, and that women are treated unfairly in the society. Feminism as a social movement has the goal of gender equality. Gender is an important analytical tool to see the position in the social structure in society. Gender in this case includes expression, identity and role. The thing that must be prioritized in feminism is its non-competitive nature, meaning that it is not competition but collaboration in a gender-fair society. The misconception that is often accused of feminism is an attempt to make men an enemy to defeat. Feminism does not work within the framework of competition, because the goal of feminism is that women, men, and other genders coexist fairly and equally.

In today's era, there are so many feminist movements that have been voiced in various ways, including through music. As a material, songs can be used for any means of expression of interest. In addition to the rhythm, the lyrics of a song are also important things to pay attention to when associated with certain social situations. There have been many singers who have voiced feminism through their work, one of which is kesha. Kesha through her songs often voices about women's strength. The song that highlights women's power the most is Woman on the rainbow album which was

released in 2017. The song "Woman" by Kesha is an empowering anthem that celebrates female independence, strength, and self-worth. The lyrics convey a sense of self-assuredness and a rejection of societal expectations and gender roles.

Another song is Let em talk. Let 'Em Talk is a fun, upbeat song with an important message of self-acceptance and positivity. It inspires listeners to be confident in themselves and not let the opinions of others hold them back. The song encourages listeners to embrace their individuality and live life to the fullest, regardless of what anyone else may think.

The last song is Bastard. Bastards" by Kesha is an empowering anthem about resilience and overcoming negativity. The song encourages listeners not to let the negative opinions and actions of others bring them down or define their worth. It promotes self-confidence, resilience, and the importance of staying true to oneself in the face of adversity.

This research that about to analyze in Kesha songs is the woman rebellion that reflected in Kesha songs. This research use feminism approach. Therefore, this is an interesting study to do, especially in the field of literary studies because literary works such as songs usually reflect of how the rebellion of woman represented. Based on the statement above, researchers are interested in conducting research about "Representation of woman's rebellion in Kesha selected songs".

## **1.2 Statements of problem**

1.2.1 How does Kesha represent the rebellion of woman in her selected songs?

1.2.2 What factor Kesha portrayed in her selected songs?

## **1.3 Scope of the research**

According to the statement above, the researcher will focus on the woman's rebellion as reflected in Kesha selected songs.

## **1.4 Objectives of the reserach**

In order for this research to be directed, therefore the researcher has the following objectives in this research:

1.4.1 To find out How does Kesha represented the rebellion of woman in her songs

1.4.2 To know what factors Kesha portrayed in her selected songs?

## **1.5 Significances of the reserach**

The benefits of the research "Woman's rebellion as reflected in Kesha Selected songs include:

1.5.1 Theoretical Significances

The theoretical signification of this research is in order to help students to understand feminism through literary work (song), show how woman represented they rebellion in order to make all woman believe and stand for themselves by using song as an object of research and a literary feminism approach to support this research.

### 1.5.2 Practical Significances

Using the feminism approach and song as the object of research, to be able to find out the problems that will be used as a theme in research, especially in the songs "Woman", "Let em talk", and "Bastard".

### 1.4 Review of related literature

To support the research, the researcher refers to several other studies that related to this research. Some of the previous studies are as follows:

The first one is from Teguh Wicaksono (2011) from University of Semarang with the title "Rebellion Against Social Values Reflected in Charles Dicken's Novel *"HARD TIMES"*". This study trying to reveal the social life in Dickens' novel Hard Times. This study is also trying to reveal the character of Louisa Gradgrind, the major character in the story, who tries to rebel her social values in order to get free from them. The aims of the study are to find out the main characters that are described in Hard Times, to know the social condition described in the story and to know how Louisa rebels against the social condition. The approach applied to answer the problems is the formalistic approach because there interrelationships between the theories with elements of the novel, particularly the element character and setting or society in the novel.

The second is from Gressy Erna Sawitri Purba (2017) from Putera Batam University with the title "Rebellion as The Effect of Poor Condition of Russian Society in 1917 as Reflected in "Animal Farm" By George Orwell; A

Historical Approach". This research is focused on the description of the causes that trigger the movement that happened in Russian society in 1917 and the result is depicted in the novel *Animal Farm*. This research is qualitative research using the history approach. The data collected in this study is quoted from the main source and the second source (Klarer, 2004). The main source of this research is the novel *Animal Farm* and the second source are several books and journals that discuss about the state of Russian society in 1917. In the analysis of research data applying the moment theory by H. A. Taine to describe the condition which causes the movement and the result of the movement that occurs in Russian society in 1917. Then the results of data analysis are presented in word or sentence form (Creswell, 2014).

Then the third research that related to this research is by Nurbudhiati Yoan (2015) from Andalas University with title "Rebellion of Two Young Female Characters as the Essence of Existentialism in Two Novels *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Matilda*". This research explains how individual existence can be achieved by rebelling against authority figures, as illustrated in Harper Lee's novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Roald Dahl's *Matilda*. This research uses the philosophical approach of Existentialism with the concept of freedom and responsibility initiated by Jean Paul Sartre which states that humans are born in the world by inheriting the right of freedom to choose their life goals.

## **1.7 Theoretical Base**

### **1.7.1 Feminism**

Feminism is a term that is certainly familiar in our ear. In general, many people associate feminism with gender equality and women. Some others understand it as a term that refers to injustice to women to have equal opportunities in a society that tends to be controlled by men or also known as patriarchy.

The important struggle carried out by the feminism movement is to empower all women in realizing their full property rights. For example, equating the playing field between men and women by ensuring that women have the same life opportunities to choose their roles and rights as men.

The term is actually derived from the French word feminine or femininity. Feminine is an adjective whose meaning is femininity or showing female nature. So that it can be interpreted, that feminism is a flow of women's movements that fight for women's rights. Feminism can also be defined as a political, social and ideological movement that has the goal of fighting for women's rights, including to build, define and achieve gender treatment that takes the role of Human Rights in the economic, political, personal and social. This movement combines two positions, that society always prioritizes the point of view of men and women is always treated unfairly in society. So that feminism is present, as an effort to change it, including fighting gender

stereotypes and trying to build educational and professional opportunities that are equal to men.

### **1.7.2. Radical Feminism**

Radical feminism is a branch of the feminist movement that focuses on understanding and eliminating the root causes of gender inequality, which they identify as patriarchy, a system of male domination that oppresses women in various aspects of life. Radical feminism demands fundamental changes in social, economic, and political structures, because they believe that surface reforms are not enough to eliminate deep injustices.

The rebellion in radical feminism includes a number of actions and thoughts that seek to dismantle and abolish the patriarchal system. It involves criticism and challenges to traditional institutions such as marriage, family, and religion, which are considered to strengthen the role of traditional gender and the oppression of women. Radical feminists seek to change or even dismantle these institutions to create a more just and equal society.

Radical feminists are also committed to eradicating all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, rape, and sexual harassment. They reject the normalization of this violence and work for a more just legal and social system that protects women's rights. The autonomy of the body and the reproductive rights of women are another important aspect of radical feminism. The movement fights for women's right to have full



control over their own bodies, including abortion rights, access to contraception, and reproductive health care.

One of the icons who plays a role in radical feminism is Andrea Dworkin. Andrea Dworkin is one of the main figures in the radical movement of feminism, famous for her controversial and struggling work against gender oppression. In her theory and writings, Dworkin developed a deep view of rebellion in the context of radical feminism, focusing on sexual violence, women's objectification, and patriarchy. The following are some of the main aspects of Andrea Dworkin's theory of radical feminism, in particular rebellion:

#### 1. Violence against Women

Dworkin highlights sexual violence as one of the most real forms of oppression of women in patriarchal societies. She stressed that sexual violence is not only an individual crime, but also an instrument used by patriarchy to maintain their dominance over women. The rebellion in Dworkin's view is an attempt to oppose and end sexual violence as part of a larger social transformation.

#### 2. Objectification and Pornography

In her works such as *Pornography: Men Possessing Women* (1981), Dworkin harshly criticized the pornography industry as a form of exploitation and objectification of women. She sees pornography as a product of and a tool to maintain destructive patriarchy, which strengthens women's views as sexual objects for male satisfaction. The rebellion, according to Dworkin,

involved the rejection of pornography and the culture that allowed the objectification of women.

### 3. Patriarchy as a System

Dworkin sees patriarchy as a system that infiltrates various aspects of people's lives, including law, politics, and culture. According to her, the rebellion against patriarchy should include the abolition of social and legal structures that maintain gender inequality. She called for a radical change in the way we understand and treat women in society.

### 4. Women's Solidarity

Dworkin invites women to unite and build solidarity in the fight against gender oppression. She believes that rebellion against patriarchy requires women's unity to oppose and tear down the existing domination structure.

### 5. Social Transformation

The root of Dworkin's theory is her desire for a fundamental social transformation to achieve true gender equality. The insurrection according to Dworkin is not just about reform or surface change, but about fundamentally changing the way society treats and views women.

Overall, Andrea Dworkin's theory of radical feminism, especially in the context of rebellion, calls for challenging and tearing down patriarchal power structures that cause and maintain gender inequality. She raises awareness about sexual violence, women's objectification, and the need for collective solidarity in the feminist movement to achieve substantial change in society.

### **1.7.3 Rebellion**

Rebellion is the embodiment of various expressions of dissent that challenge or oppose established authority, social norms, or existing systems of power and control. This is a conscious, often collective, act that challenges the status quo, whether political, social, cultural, or ideological. In essence, rebellion arises from a sense of dissatisfaction or injustice, which motivates individuals or groups to reject perceived restrictions on their freedom, autonomy, or rights. The forms can vary from peaceful protests and civil defiance to more extreme actions such as revolution or rebellion.

Rebellion is essentially dynamic, reflecting the complexity of human action, identity, and aspirations, when individuals and communities face tensions between conformity and autonomy, order and change, tradition and progress. Through its ability to disrupt, challenge, and redefine existing norms and power structures, rebellion serves as a catalyst for social transformation and efforts to achieve equality, justice, and equality.

#### **1.7.3.1 Rebellion in feminist perspective**

Rebellion in the feminist movement is not simply about protesting or resisting oppression, but also about affirming human dignity, solidarity, friendship, justice, liberation, and beauty . It is a complex set of ideas that delineate an ethic and a rule of action . The women's movement has been difficult to define due to its diversity and longevity . It has evolved from guerilla theater and political action committees to women winning important political

offices and protesting against decisions that affect their rights. The movement has focused on changing laws that perpetuate gender difference and seeking equality for both sexes . The women's movement has brought about significant changes in various aspects of American life and culture . Despite setbacks, the struggle for equality and fairness continues .

There are so many type of rebellion, such as Cultural rebellion, Social rebellion, Artistic rebellion, Personal rebellion, and Political rebellion. From the several forms of rebellions that have been mentioned, the causes of feminism rebellion are Social rebellion and Personal rebellion.

#### 1. Social Rebellion

Social rebellion is a collective effort by individuals or groups to challenge and transform established societal norms, values, institutions, and power structures perceived as unjust, oppressive, or corrupt. It emerges from a shared sense of dissatisfaction and the desire for substantial social, political, or economic change. Social rebellion can manifest in various forms, including peaceful protests, civil disobedience, riots, and even revolutions.

The underlying motivation for social rebellion is the recognition of systemic issues such as inequality, discrimination, lack of political freedom, economic disparity, environmental degradation, and human rights abuses. When traditional methods of seeking redress fail to address these grievances, social rebellion becomes a means to voice dissent and demand change.

In essence, social rebellion is a dynamic and often disruptive force within society, reflecting the aspirations and frustrations of those who seek a more just, equitable, and inclusive world. It underscores the ongoing struggle for human rights, social justice, and democratic governance and has the potential to drive profound and lasting societal transformations.

## 2. Personal rebellion

Rebellion can also take the form of personal growth and self-discovery. Personal rebellion refers to an individual's internal and external actions to resist, reject, or redefine personal circumstances, beliefs, or behaviors imposed by external authority, societal norms, or personal limitations. This form of rebellion is deeply rooted in the quest for personal autonomy, identity, and self-fulfillment. It can involve a wide range of actions, from changing one's lifestyle and challenging familial expectations to pursuing unconventional career paths and advocating for personal beliefs.

Personal rebellion often begins with a sense of discontent or conflict between an individual's internal values and the expectations or limitations imposed by their environment. This discontent can stem from various sources, including familial pressure, societal norms, cultural expectations, or personal trauma. When individuals feel constrained or oppressed by these external forces, personal rebellion becomes a means to assert their individuality and reclaim control over their lives.

The process of personal rebellion is often transformative, leading to significant personal growth and self-discovery. It involves questioning and redefining one's values, beliefs, and goals, and can result in a deeper understanding of oneself and a stronger sense of autonomy. However, personal rebellion can also be challenging, as it may involve facing opposition, risking social alienation, or dealing with internal conflicts.

In summary, personal rebellion is an individual's act of resisting and redefining the external influences that shape their life, driven by the desire for autonomy, identity, and self-fulfillment. It encompasses a wide range of actions and choices, reflecting the complex interplay between individual values and societal expectations. Through personal rebellion, individuals assert their right to live authentically and contribute to the diversity and dynamism of human experience.

#### **1.7.4 Factor Kesha portrayed rebellion in her songs**

##### **1. Embracing freedom and self-assertion**

Embracing freedom and self-assertion involves recognizing and exercising one's autonomy while confidently expressing one's true self. It is about breaking free from societal, cultural, and personal constraints to live authentically and pursue meaningful goals. This process starts with self-awareness, understanding one's values, desires, and beliefs. From this foundation, individuals can assert their needs, set boundaries, and communicate their aspirations clearly and respectfully. Though it often

involves overcoming external resistance and internal fears, the journey leads to greater personal fulfillment, deeper relationships, and the potential to inspire broader social change by promoting diversity and inclusivity. Embracing freedom and self-assertion ultimately allows individuals to live a life that truly reflects who they are and what they stand for.

## 2. Rejecting conformity and social expectations

Rejecting conformity and social expectations involves consciously choosing to live according to one's own values and beliefs rather than adhering to the norms and pressures imposed by society. This rejection stems from a desire for authenticity and self-determination, allowing individuals to break free from the often restrictive molds of what is considered acceptable or typical behavior. It means questioning and often defying conventional standards related to career choices, lifestyle, appearance, and personal relationships. By rejecting conformity, individuals embrace their unique identities and pave the way for greater personal fulfillment and the possibility of inspiring others to do the same. This act of defiance against societal expectations can be challenging due to potential criticism and alienation, but it ultimately leads to a more genuine and self-directed life.

### **1.7.5 Music**

Music is an art form and cultural activity whose medium is sound organized in time. Its common elements include pitch (which governs melody and harmony), rhythm (and its associated concepts tempo, meter, and

articulation), dynamics (loudness and softness), and the sonic qualities of timbre and texture (which are sometimes termed the "color" of a musical sound). Music may be produced using a vast range of instruments and vocal techniques ranging from singing to rapping, and there are solely instrumental pieces, solely vocal pieces (such as songs without instrumental accompaniment), and pieces that combine singing and instruments.

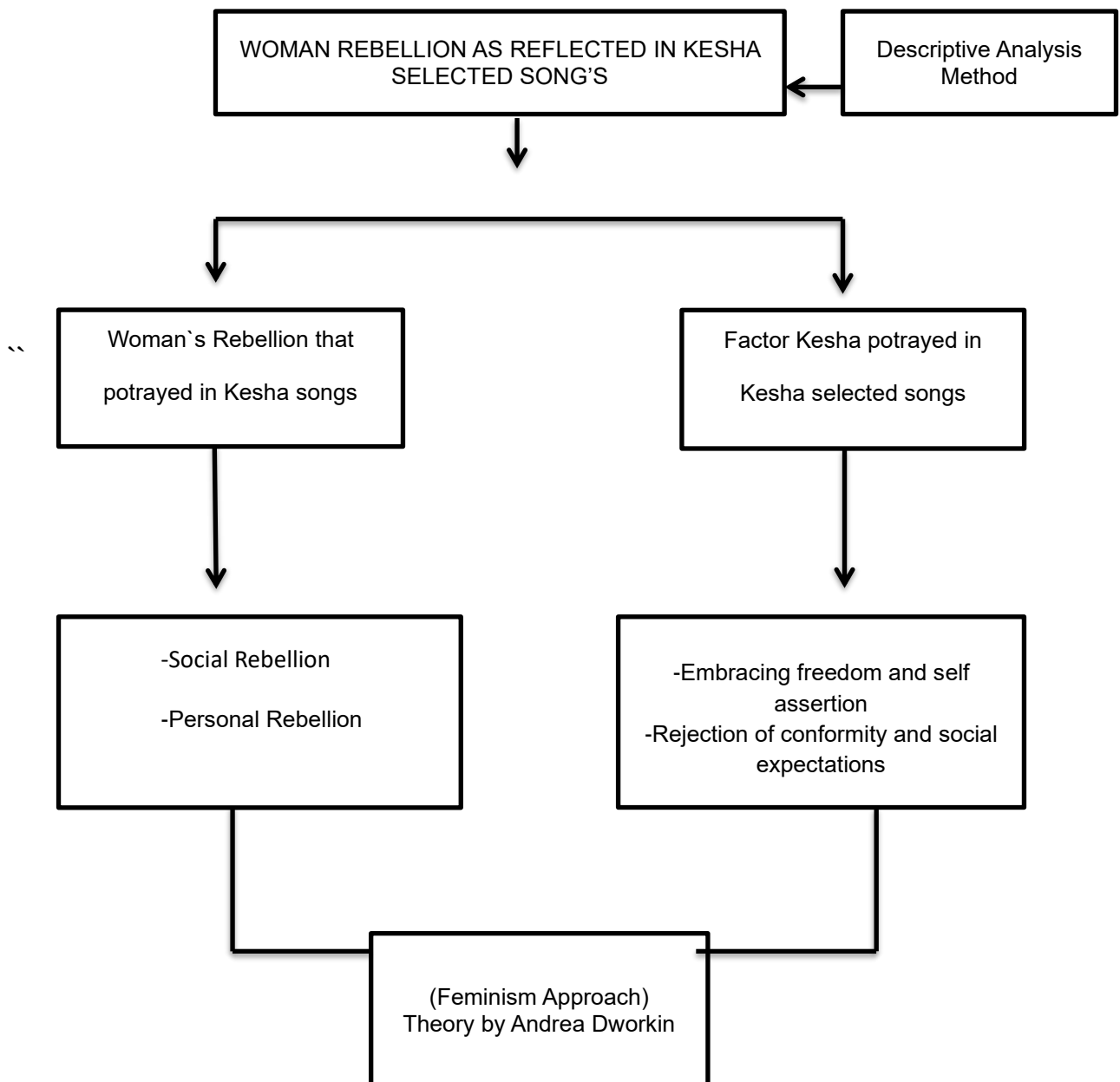
The creation, performance, significance, and even the definition of music vary according to culture and social context. Indeed, throughout history, music has been an important facet of ritual and worship, entertainment, and expression of identity and emotion. Music can be categorized into genres and subgenres, although the dividing lines and relationships between music genres are often subtle, sometimes open to individual interpretation, and occasionally controversial. Within the arts, music can be classified as a performing art, a fine art, and auditory art.

Music also has a profound impact on the brain and emotions, with scientific studies suggesting that it can influence mood, relieve stress, enhance cognitive performance, and facilitate various social interactions. It can evoke vivid memories, set the atmosphere, and affect the mental state of both the listener and the performer. Music therapy is a well-established health profession that uses music to address physical, emotional, cognitive, and social needs of individuals.



In contemporary society, music is omnipresent in daily life, accessed through various media such as radio, television, the internet, and live performances. It serves as a backdrop to daily activities, a form of expression, a method of communication, and a medium for artistic creativity. From classical symphonies and jazz improvisations to electronic beats and folk traditions, the vast and varied landscape of music continues to evolve and expand, reflecting and shaping human experience and cultural landscapes.

## 1.8 Conceptual Scheme



Based on the conceptual scheme above, researchers can analyze the woman rebellion as reflected in Kesha selected song's. To support this

research, researcher use a feminism approach. The method used is a descriptive method of analysis and is supported by the theory of Andrea Dworkin.

### **1.9 Method of analyzing data**

Qualitative research is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from people and observable behaviour. In this research, the researcher used qualitative descriptive method.

### **1.10 Technique of collecting data**

In this research, the researcher followed some procedures as follows:

- A. The researcher listen the song repeatedly and carefully.
- B. Classifying the woman rebellion in Kesha selected songs.

### **1.11 Technique of analyzing data**

- A. Identification: Identify the lyric of Kesha songs about woman rebellion
- B. Classification: The data are arranged in order to facilitate the researcher in this research.
- C. Categorization: The data about woman rebellion divided according to the needs of the researcher in answering the statement of the problem.
- D. Analysis: The data were analyzed using feminism approach and use theory by Andrea Dworkin.

### **1.12 Data and source**

The data used are songs from Kesha Woman, Let em Talk, and Bastard. The Researcher also took data on several websites.