

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

During 19th century, theater was entering so called Modern theater, one of the most important phases of its history. In this phase, theatre is divided into two parts: early and late. The early period was dominated by melodrama and Romanticism. Melodrama refers to a dramatic work that exaggerates plot and characters in order to appeal to the emotions. One of the figures who build this new type of drama is George Bernard Shaw. He wrote frankly and satirically on political and social topics such as class, war, feminism, and the Salvation Army, in plays such as *Arms and the Man* (1894), *Major Barbara* (1905), and, most famously, *Pygmalion* (1913)

Arms and the Man was written based on **Serbo_ Bulgarian War**. Serbo-Bulgarian War was a war between Serbia and Bulgaria that erupted on 14 November 1885 and lasted until 28 November 1885. Final peace was signed on 3 March 1886 in Bucharest. As a result of the war, European powers acknowledged the act of Unification of Bulgaria which happened on 18 September 1885. Beside of the Serbo-Bulgarian war, the play is also based on the other work of literature, a poem written by Virgil entitled Aeneid.

George Bernard Shaw was born in July 26, 1856, in Dublin, Ireland, died November 2, 1950 is a famous Ireland writer. His mother is a singer and his father is a drunkard. At the age of twenty, he moved to London and

continued his personal studies in music, the arts and writing. He married with a wealthy Charlotte Payne-Townshend in 1898. Shaw died at the age of 94 and was still an active writer. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 1925 and received an Academy Award for the film adaptation of his play *Pygmalion*. Shaw was recognized as a great wit after his production of *Arms and the Man* in 1894. Other plays by Shaw include *You Never Can Tell* (1899), *The Doctor's Dilemma* (1906), *Candida* (1897), *Misalliance* (1910), *Major Barbara* (1905,) *Pygmalion* (1913), *Cesar And Cleopatra* (1906), *Overruled* (1912), *Saint Joan* (1923), *The Apple Cart* (1929), *Androcles And The Lion* (1912), and *The Heartbreak House* (1920).

Arms and the Man is one of Bernard Shaw's earliest plays written when he was 38 years old. *Arms and the Man* was first produced on April 21, 1894 at the Avenue Theatre, and published in 1898 as part of Shaw's *Plays Pleasant* volume, which also included *Candida*, *You Never Can Tell*, and *The Man of Destiny*. Its first premiere was met with a long standing ovation and was one of Shaw's first commercial successes. He was called onto stage after the curtain, where he received enthusiastic applause. However, amidst the cheers, one audience member "boomed". Shaw replied, "My dear fellow, I quite agree with you, but what are we two against so many?"

This play has numerous subsequent productions. The first Broadway production opened on September 17, 1894 at New York City's Herald Square Theatre. Since then there have been six Broadway revivals, two of which are listed below. The most prestigious London revival was directed by John

Burrell for The Old Vic Company at the New Theatre, which opened on 5 September 1944, starring Ralph Richardson (Bluntschli), Margaret Leighton (Raina Petkoff), Joyce Redman (Louka), and Laurence Olivier (Major Sergius Saranoff). “Olivier thought Sergius a humbug, a buffoon, a blackguard, a coward, ‘a bloody awful part’ until Tyrone Guthrie said he would never succeed in the role until he learned to love Sergius. Olivier, spurred and moustachioed, was high camp”: Robert Tanitch. A revival production ran at New York City’s Arena Theatre from October 19, 1950 to January 21, 1951, for a total of 108 performances. The cast included Lee Grant as Raina, Francis Lederer as Bluntschli and Sam Wanamaker as Sergius. Marlon Brando’s final stage appearance was in *Arms and the Man* in 1953. He gathered friends who were fellow actors into a company for a summer stock production. He chose to play Sergius while William Redfield starred as Bluntschli.

The play takes place during the 1885 Serbo-Bulgarian War. Raina (rah-EE-na) Petkoff is a young Bulgarian woman engaged to Sergius Saranoff, one of the heroes of that war, whom she idolizes. One night, a Swiss mercenary soldier in the Serbian army, Captain Bluntschli, bursts through her bedroom window and firstly threatens Raina, then begs her to hide him, so that he is not killed. Raina complies, though she thinks the man a coward, especially when he tells her that he does not carry pistol cartridges, but chocolates. When the battle stopped, Raina and her mother sneak Bluntschli out of the house, disguised in an old housecoat.

The war ends and Sergius returns to Raina, but also flirts with her insolent servant girl Louka (a soubrette role). Raina begins to find Sergius both foolhardy and tiresome, but she hides it. Bluntschli unexpectedly returns so that he can give back the old housecoat, but also so that he can see her. Raina and her mother are shocked, especially when her father and Sergius reveal that they have met Bluntschli before, and invite him to stay for lunch and to help them with troop movements.

Afterwards, left alone with Bluntschli, Raina realizes that he sees through her romantic posturing, but that he respects her as a woman, as Sergius does not. She tells him that she had left a portrait of herself in the pocket of the coat, inscribed "To my chocolate-cream soldier", but Bluntschli says that he didn't find it and that it must still be in the coat pocket. Bluntschli gets a note informing him of his father's death and revealing to him his now enormous wealth. Louka then tells Sergius that Bluntschli is the man whom Raina protected, and that Raina is really in love with him. So Sergius challenges him to a duel, but the men avoid fighting and Sergius and Raina break off their engagement. Raina's father discovers the portrait in the pocket of his housecoat, but Raina and Bluntschli trick him by taking out the portrait before he finds it again, only to tell him that his mind is playing tricks on him. After Bluntschli reveals the whole story to Major Petkoff, Sergius proposes marriage to Louka. Nicola quietly and gallantly lets Sergius have her, and Bluntschli, recognising Nicola's dedication and ability, determines to offer him a job as a hotel manager.

Raina, having realized the hollowness of her romantic ideals and her fiancé's values, protests that she would prefer her poor "chocolate-cream soldier" to this wealthy businessman. Bluntschli says that he is still the same person, and the play ends with Raina proclaiming her love for him and Bluntschli, with Swiss precision, both clearing up the major's troop movement problems and informing everyone that he will return to be married to Raina exactly two weeks from Tuesday.

The most interesting about *Arms and the Man* is that, although it is a comedy, it deals with several political and social themes covertly. Ideas such as the idealism behind war and the romanticism of love are attacked through satire and even more importantly, issues of class are brought to the forefront. The play attacks the ideal of the heroic and heroism of the war. It is shown in the title *Arms and the Man* itself. As explained by George Bernard Shaw in his preface to the play *Arms and the Man*, the title of the play based on the first line of famous ancient epic Aeneid by Virgil - that is "I sing of Arms and the Man". However the thoughts and feeling expressed by Bernard Shaw are the opposite of those means by Virgil. *Arms and the Man* by Bernard Shaw is a satire in the practice of romanticizing war and reckless heroism in war. At the time the play was performed, Britain was experiencing a number of significant social and political changes as issues of class were coming to the forefront of national debates.

The plot of the play is beautiful and easy to follow. The play contains three chapters which are all located in Raina estate. Started in Raina's

bedroom, the romantic scene occurs between her and Bluntschli. Their conversation shows their opposite ideal about war. Raina thinks that hero is like her fiancée, major Petkoff, who has served for his country by engaging the war. Bluntschli has his own ideal which every country and the army have the war for each other sake. Soon Raina realizes that her ideal was wrong and she prefers her “Chocolate Cream Soldier”.

Because of the reasons above, the purpose of this study is to analyze the conflict of love that occurs in Raina character play using Psychoanalysis approach. The researcher got advantages using Psychoanalytic as the approach because there are a lot of conflicts shown in the play. Based on those reasons above, the researcher gave the title for this research **THE DEFENSE MECHANISM OF RAINA PETKOFF IN GEORGE BERNARD SHAW’S *ARMS AND THE MAN* PLAY: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.**

B. Literature Reviews

Based on the researcher’s observation, several researchers have already analyzed the play. The first is the journal from Jim McNabb for THE NATIONAL ARTS CENTRE ENGLISH THEATRE PROGRAMMERS FOR STUDENTS AUDIENCES 2003-2004 SEASON entitled *ARMS AND THE MAN* BY BERNARD SHAW STUDY GUIDE. This journal concluded that the conflict in *Arms and the Man* is between opposing beliefs and ideas: the romantic or idealistic notions of the war and love which are held by Raina and

the realistic picture by Bluntschli, as well as the practical side of love and marriage as expressed by Louka.

The second journal entitled *REALISM IN ARMS AND THE MAN: A COMPARATIVE STUDY – REALISM AND IDEALISM* written by Dr. Shahzad Ahmad Siddiqui an Assistant Professor Department of English and Translation Faculty of Science and Arts (Khulais) King Abdulaziz University along with KSA Dr. Syed Asad Raza, an English Language Instructor department of English and Translation Faculty of Science and Arts (Khulais) King Abdulaziz University – KSA from *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science* Vol. 2 No. 12 [Special Issue - June 2012]. This research states that *Arms and the Man* is a wonderful play by Bernard Shaw that reflects wonderfully the elements of realism. In this play, Shaw attacks genially the romantic notions of war and love. He has adopted realistic approach in depicting every day activities which were common those days. Here Shaw attacks the social follies of society in order to bring a positive change for which he received criticism. Shaw rejects romanticism in order to embrace realism. Finally, he succeeds in his attempt to exhibit the idea of the realist trumping the idealist.

From the descriptions above, in this research, the researcher focused on analyzing the defense mechanism of Raina Petkoff using Psychoanalytic approach.

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is how the defense mechanism of Raina Petkoff is reflected in *Arms and the Man* play.

D. Limitation of the Study

The study analyzes on how the conflict of love or Raina Petkoff is viewed from the Psychoanalytic Approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

Dealing with the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. Analyzing the structural elements of the *Arms and the Man* play.
2. Analyzing the play based on the Psychoanalytic Approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study are as follow:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study will beneficial for contributing to the large body of knowledge, particularly literary study on *Arms and the Man* play by George Bernard Shaw.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is hopefully able to give deeper understanding about the play especially from the aspect of the Psychoanalysis. From this research

the writer hopes the other researchers interested in analyzing *Arms and the Man* play.

G. Research Method

This point is divided into four sub-points which are:

1. Object of the Study

This research takes *Arms and the Man* play by George Bernard Shaw as the object of the study. Conducting to this research, the researcher is using psychoanalysis approach.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

Source of the Data

The type of the data of this research is the dialog of *Arms and the Man* script. This research uses qualitative research to analyze the play.

There are two types of the data sources namely:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of this research is the play script of George Bernard Shaw from The Project Gutenberg EBook of *Arms and the Man*.

b. Secondary Data Source

Secondary data sources are gained from the biography of the writer and other relevant information that are related to the study and also website about George Bernard Shaw's *Arms and the Man*.

The researcher takes the secondary data source, including reference and materials related to the study whether picking up from books or internet.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

The researcher uses two techniques of data collection:

a. Note Taking

The researcher takes some notes on *Arms and the Man* script about information that's needed in this research.

b. Library Research

There are some procedures in library research:

- 1) Reading the play several times and determining the characters that will be analyzed first.
- 2) Reading some related books to find out the theory, data and information required.
- 3) Making notes of important parts in both primary data and secondary data.
- 4) Classifying the data into categories.
- 5) Drawing conclusion to get the last result.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The researcher uses two techniques in analyzing the data:

- a. Analyzing the structural elements of the play including the narrative elements and technical elements.

- b. Analyzing the conflict of love in Raina character using descriptive qualitative analysis.

H. Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter one is introduction that includes the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, the objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and paper organization. Chapter two is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of psychoanalysis theory, the basic concepts of Psychoanalysis and theoretical application. Chapter three is structural analysis of the play, including narrative and technical elements. Chapter Four is dealing with the analysis of the defense mechanism of Raina Petkoff using Psychoanalytic approach. And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion of the research.