

**MASCULINITY PORTRAYED IN JASON REYNOLDS' *AS
BRAVE AS YOU***

THESIS

By:

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK
IBRAHIM MALANG
2024**

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THESIS**

Presented to

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in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.)

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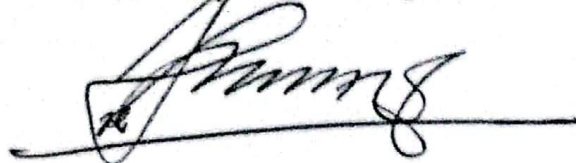
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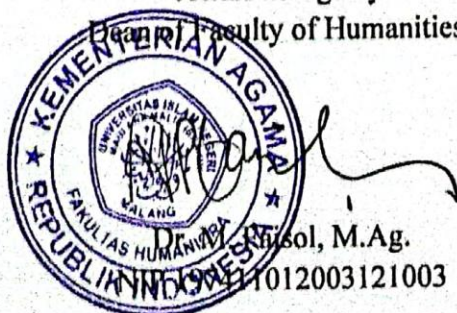
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“It is what it Is”

- J.E. Lawrence

DEDICATION

This thesis is proudly dedicated to my parents, Anton Hendriyono and Ade Irma Zenitha.

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Alhamdulillahirobbil'alamin, all praise be to Allah SWT for his blessings so that the author can complete this thesis, as a requirement for a Bachelor of Literature (S.S) degree entitled "**Masculinity Portrayed in Jason Reynolds' *As Brave As You***." On this occasion, the author would like to express his gratitude for financial support, prayers, and facilities towards his studies at Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University Malang.

On this occasion, the writer would like to thank to her family, especially his beloved parents Father and Mother who have given the finance, facility, prayer and support in studying at the State Islamic University.

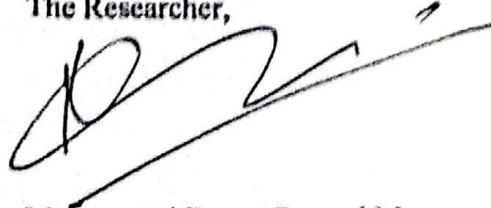
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Rahmat Hidayat, Ilham Fajar Budi Santoso, and many others who I cannot mention one by one. Thank you so much,

Malang, 28 June 2024

The Researcher,

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ABSTRACT

Muyassar, Muhammad Deano Rasyad (2024). Masculinity Portrayed In Jason Reynolds' *AS BRAVE AS YOU*. Undergraduate Thesis, Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Advisor Dr. Hj. Istiadah, M.A.

keyword: masculinity, portrayal, As Brave As You

Traditional masculinity has a side effect on men's mental health, this is because a man is considered a masculine man if he can withstand emotional pressure and is often considered weak if he cannot withstand it. This study aims to look at how masculinity is portrayed by male characters in Jason Reynolds' *As Brave As You*. Using literary criticism, the author focuses on analyzing the forms of masculinity shown by the male main character towards the people around him. Using data sources from the novel *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds, the analysis technique used by the author in this research uses the reading and note taking analysis technique. The next step in the analysis of this research is data analysis, which includes data description, data analysis, and drawing conclusions based on the findings of the analysis. examined, and draw conclusions from the findings of the analysis. The results of this study are taken from how the depiction of masculinity in accordance with Janet Saltzman Chafetz's theory of masculinity concept by looking at four concepts out of seven in the novel. These concepts are functional, intellectual, physical appearance, and interpersonal. The results of this study show that although each character shares some of the same concepts, there is usually one aspect that is most emphasized by them, and this concept shows how they implement it into society. The findings show that being a man involves more than just physical prowess. This broadens our understanding of what it means to be a gentleman in the scope of contemporary literature.

الخلاصة

ميسر، محمد ديانو رشيد (2024). الرجولة مصورة في رواية "شجاع مثلك" بقلم جيسون رينولدز. رسالة ماجستير، قسم الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية الآداب

والعلوم الإنسانية، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية مالانج. المشرف د. هج. إستياد، م.أ..

كلمة رئيسية : الهيمنة، التصوير، شجاع مثلك

للذكورة التقليدية آثار جانبية على الصحة النفسية للرجل، وذلك لأن الرجل يعتبر رجلاً ذكورياً إذا استطاع تحمل الضغوط العاطفية وغالباً ما يعتبر ضعيفاً إذا لم يستطع تحملها. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى النظر في كيفية تصوير الذكورة من قبل الشخصيات الذكورية في فيلم "شجاع مثلك" لجيسون رينولدز. باستخدام النقد الأدبي، يركز المؤلف على تحليل أشكال الذكورة التي تظهرها الشخصية الذكورية الرئيسية تجاه الأشخاص المحيطين بها. باستخدام مصادر البيانات من رواية *As Brave As You* للكاتب جيسون رينولدز، فإن أسلوب التحليل الذي استخدمه المؤلف في هذا البحث يستخدم تقنية تحليل القراءة وتدوين الملاحظات. الخطوة التالية في تحليل هذا البحث هي تحليل البيانات، والذي يتضمن وصف البيانات، وتحليل البيانات، واستخلاص النتائج بناءً على نتائج التحليل. فحصها واستخلاص النتائج من نتائج التحليل. نتائج هذه الدراسة مأخوذة من كيفية تصوير الرجولة وفق نظرية مفهوم الرجولة لجانيت سالتزمان شافيتز من خلال النظر إلى أربعة مفاهيم من أصل سبعة في الرواية. هذه المفاهيم هي الوظيفية، والفكري، والمظهر الجسدي، والعلاقة بين الأشخاص. وتظهر نتائج هذه الدراسة أنه على الرغم من أن كل شخصية تشترك في بعض المفاهيم نفسها، إلا أن هناك عادة جانب واحد يتم التركيز عليه أكثر من غيرها، وهذا المفهوم يوضح كيفية تنفيذها في مجتمع. تظهر النتائج أن كونك رجلاً ينطوي على أكثر من مجرد البراعة الجسدية. وهذا يوسع فهمنا لما يعنيه أن تكون رجلاً نبيلًا في نطاق الأدب المعاصر.

ABSTRAK

Muyassar, Muhammad Deano Rasyad (2024). Maskulinitas Yang Digambarkan Dalam Novel

AS BRAVE AS YOU Karya Jason Reynolds. Skripsi, Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas

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kata kunci: maskulinitas, penggambaran, As Brave As You

Maskulinitas tradisional memiliki efek samping terhadap kesehatan mental pria, hal ini dikarenakan seorang pria dianggap sebagai pria maskulin jika ia dapat menahan tekanan emosional dan seringkali dianggap lemah jika tidak dapat menahannya. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk melihat bagaimana maskulinitas digambarkan oleh karakter laki-laki dalam film *As Brave As You* karya Jason Reynolds. Dengan menggunakan kritik sastra, penulis berfokus untuk menganalisis bentuk-bentuk maskulinitas yang ditunjukkan oleh karakter utama laki-laki terhadap orang-orang di sekitarnya. Dengan menggunakan sumber data dari novel *As Brave As You* karya Jason Reynolds, teknik analisis yang digunakan penulis dalam penelitian ini menggunakan teknik analisis baca dan catat. Langkah selanjutnya dalam analisis penelitian ini adalah analisis data, yang meliputi deskripsi data, analisis data, dan menarik kesimpulan berdasarkan temuan analisis. diteliti, dan menarik kesimpulan dari hasil temuan analisis. Hasil dari penelitian ini diambil dari bagaimana penggambaran maskulinitas yang sesuai dengan teori konsep maskulinitas Janet Saltzman Chafetz dengan melihat empat konsep dari tujuh konsep yang ada di dalam novel. Konsep-konsep tersebut adalah fungsional, intelektual, penampilan fisik, dan interpersonal. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa meskipun setiap karakter memiliki beberapa konsep yang sama, namun biasanya ada satu aspek yang paling ditekankan oleh mereka, dan konsep ini menunjukkan bagaimana mereka mengimplementasikannya ke dalam masyarakat. Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa menjadi seorang pria melibatkan lebih dari sekadar kehebatan fisik. Hal ini memperluas pemahaman kita tentang apa yang dimaksud dengan menjadi seorang pria dalam lingkup sastra kontemporer.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

According to Atherton, (2019) about 800.000 cases of suicide happens annually, and most cases happens to male, this because the expectations of male is getting higher and affects them psychologically. The expectations happens because on how the construction of standards of masculinity applied to men. Hapsari and Karjoso (2023) stated that one of the things preventing a man from getting psychological assistance is his masculinity. It's acknowledged that talking about men's emotional distress is seen as feminine and weak. Emotional suffering and psychological anguish are linked to femininity and a departure from conventional masculine norms, which regard males as emotionally self-sufficient in the face of adversity. Masculinity, according to R.W. Connell (1995), in his book, *Masculinities* describe that masculinity is a normative social norm for the behaviour of men. While men are not born with fundamentally masculine characteristics; rather, masculinity is mostly shaped by culture and media.

In its role in the world of literature, masculinity inspires many authors in literary works, ranging from theatre plays, music, short stories, poetry, novel, and many more that happen among the society, many of them are described the men as this strong, hard, and smell of sweat (Sari, Effendy, and Wartiningsih, 2019).

Masculinity is the result of unipolar formation, which means that the concept is not inherited through genetics, but is shaped by the environment and

social ideology (Smiler 2004). Masculinity in men is often instilled from birth, the upbringing to hold back crying, the obligations of a man, norms, and expectations from the family have been educated and instilled early on in male children in general. this also has the potential to create a gap or inequality in the role of men in society.

This study is aimed to examines how masculinity shown by the main characters in the novel by portraying the characteristics of masculinity. The main characters. Brooke Harris, oftentimes referred or called as Grandpop, Genie and Ernie. By analysing how the main characters portray masculinity and how this is shown to the family's live is the goal of the study. The researcher focuses in this study to look at how the portrayal of different masculine ideas happen in the family environment and how it causes a conflict between the interactions and bonds within the family. It focuses on comprehending how the major characters help shape their notion of masculinity and how this is portrayed in the narrative.

Jason Reynolds's young adult book *As Brave As You* was released by Atheneum on May 3, 2016. Two African-American brothers from Brooklyn are sent to spend the summer with their grandfather in Virginia; this is the story told in the book. The novel explores the topics of courage, family, and maturity, especially as it concerns Genie's and Ernie's bond with their grandfather (Bush, 2016). The difficulties of courage, which include mental and physical strength, are explored in this book along with the complex familial relationships. The main characters discover the actual meaning of courage—which goes beyond just bravery—as well as the mysteries and family history. Reynolds' skill at simplifying complex ideas

into language that young readers can understand makes the book an engaging and thought-provoking read. Young readers are prompted to consider the importance of empathy and understanding in a family setting, as well as courage and masculinity.

According Janet Saltzman Chafetz (2006), in her book *Handbook of the Sociology of Gender*, Masculinity portrayed as a social construct and it is fashioned by social life, mass media, various institutions and the culture. Masculinity is formed during socialization process through interactions with other people such as family members, friends among others in the society. Masculinity has four dimensions: power and strength; freedom and initiative; rationality as well as feelings and competitiveness together with inventiveness. She believes that masculinity and femininity form an integral part of a gendered system that ensures both dominance and subordination of sexes by acting out certain roles. She believes that when men embody traditional masculinity, they may suffer from anxiety, depression or low quality relationships. It also helps to discuss norms that are restrictive and harmful to both sexes whose contribution is about new ways of thinking about gender to bring about equality and inclusiveness.

Many previous studies used the theoretical framework of masculinity theory. The first previous study entitled, *Masculinity: Male Traits in 1930s Portrayed in Public Enemies* written by Merdeka, (2018). John Dillinger, a man whose traits change depending on the situations he finds himself in, is seen as a strong leader for his gang members and a devoted partner for Billie Frechette. He has little respect for authority, believes in his own abilities, and has no regard for authority. Dillinger believes he is better than everyone, and his actions show how

ambitious he is. The movie emphasizes the difficulties and social mores of the time, stressing the value of masculinity and the characteristics of men in the 1930s.

Another previous study entitled, *Representation of Masculinity in Jambi Folklore Bukit Perak* written by Purwanti (2018), analyzes masculinity representation in Jambi folklore, *Bukit Perak*, using Stuart Hall's representation theory and seven areas of masculinity: physical appearance, functional role, sexual aggression, emotion, intellectual, interpersonal, and other personal characteristics. In this research of folk stories, traditional masculine gender stereotypes are depicted, for example, by showing the male characters as breadwinners, guardians and rulers, which is in line with societal expectations. On the other hand, some of these stories go against these stereotypes highlighting men who are caring, compassionate and emotionally intelligent, characteristics that might not always be associated with the male gender.

The third study is written by Goyal, (2023) entitled, *Dissecting Hegemonic Masculinity in Khaled Hosseini's the Kite Runner and a Thousand Splendid Suns*. In this study, it's mainly through the characters of Amir and his father Baba that Khaled Hosseini explores the complexities of masculinity in *The Kite Runner*. Having a hard time upholding stereotypical standard of masculine behavior, Amir becomes resentful of Hassan, the housemaid's son, and feels inadequate. Baba is a portrayal of hegemonic masculinity, by showing pride and honor. The gap between father and son illustrates contrasting perspectives concerning inner conflicts and what it means to be male for those who belong to different age groups. It calls into challenging conventional ideas concerning masculinity while calling on the readers

to consider over our positions if it comes down to ways somebody's how gender roles affect interpersonal interactions or personal judgment is formed considering how they carry themselves negotiating patriarchal culture and making sense out of complexities of masculinity.

The next previous study, written by Sari, Dewi Purnama (2019). Entitled, *Masculinity of the Main Character in a Collection of Nadira Short Stories by Leila S. Chudori*. The study explores masculinity in Nadira, revealing its manifestation in various aspects, including physical, economic, sexual, psychological, social, and personal aspects, influenced by family, peers, and media.

In the other previous study by Jatnika and Hermawan (2018), in their study *Menjadi Lelaki Sejati: Maskulinitas Dalam Komik Daring Webtoon Indonesia*, their study examines the gender construction of men is through the talk of the community (gossip) which is the main tool in constructing gender in society. acts as a supervisor of male behaviour and vice versa. It functions as a panopticon, which monitors the perpetuation of masculinity in society. The ideal masculinity in society requires men to be alpha and independent, and if a man cannot fulfil this, they are not considered ideal. No Homo comics portray homosexuality as a taboo sexual orientation, perpetuating the notion that non-hetero sexual orientations are not of Indonesian origin and are part of Western culture.

The next previous study, written by Hutabarat, (2020) entitled, *Analysis Of The Meaning Of Masculinity In Birds Of Prey*. masculinities are examined through the portrayal of masculinity in the movie *Birds of Prey*, with a particular emphasis on Harley Quinn. The study explores the myths, meanings, and denotations of

masculinity as they relate to Harley Quinn in the movie. The findings of the research about the definition of masculinity in *Birds of Prey* include Harley Quinn's portrayal of masculine characteristics. These characteristics, which fall into the categories of bold, strong, and significant attitudes, present Harley as a fearless, strong, and intelligent individual. Harley is portrayed in the movie as possessing traits that are often associated with men, defying gender norms and prejudices.

Another study is by Garrison, Carroll, and Derouet (2021) *Of men and masculinity: The portrayal of masculinity in a selection of award-winning Australian young adult literature*. The study found that hegemonic masculinity was often portrayed in the novels, often influenced by dominant father figures and the absence of the concept of 'the mother'. The study highlights the role of young adult literature in disseminating these concepts and revealing contemporary understandings of masculinity. The study criticizes the hegemonic masculinity, with some detrimental repercussions on people as well as the society at large, while promoting invidious characterizations of men so that pity can be stimulated among them.

The next previous study, written by Sari, Dewi Purnama (2019). Entitled, *Masculinity of the Main Character in a Collection of Nadira Short Stories by Leila S. Chudori*. The study explores masculinity in Nadira, revealing its manifestation in various aspects, including physical, economic, sexual, psychological, social, and personal aspects, influenced by family, peers, and media.

Another study is *The Portrayal of Masculinity of Captain Frederick Wentworth in Persuasion Novel* that is written by Bata, Asanti, and Nasrullah,

(2022) Analyzing Captain Frederick Wentworth's representation of masculinity in Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, the study pinpoints four distinct masculinity types in the character as well as four social factors that shaped his masculinity. It draws attention to the ways in which Captain Wentworth's attitudes and actions are shaped by society norms, which include hegemony, subordination, complicity, and marginalization.

Another previous study entitled, *Representation of Masculinity in Jambi Folklore Bukit Perak* written by Purwanti (2018), analyzes masculinity representation in Jambi folklore, Bukit Perak, using Stuart Hall's representation theory and seven areas of masculinity: physical appearance, functional role, sexual aggression, emotion, intellectual, interpersonal, and other personal characteristics. In this research of folk stories, traditional masculine gender stereotypes are depicted, for example, by showing the male characters as breadwinners, guardians and rulers, which is in line with societal expectations. On the other hand, some of these stories go against these stereotypes highlighting men who are caring, compassionate and emotionally intelligent, characteristics that might not always be associated with the male gender.

The other previous study is written by Suyatno (2018), *The Masculinity Of The Character Sabari In The Novel Ayah By Andrea Hirata*. This study examines the characteristics of masculinity in the character *Sabari* such as the willing to sacrifice, never give up, and hard-worker. The other previous study by Arifah, Wardhani, and Suryanto (2023) *Masculinity of the Main Character in Kamandaka Folklore*. this study explores how Chafetz's concept of masculinity is embodied in

kamandaka folklore. using gender studies, this research looks at how the masculinity depicted in the story is still traditional and positive. this provides a quite unique perspective where usually traditional masculinity is often considered toxic, conservative, and damaging to men's mental health.

However, based on the previous studies above, this research is considerably new that lies in the issues in the novel *As Brave As You*. This study is related to the construction of masculinity that is taught in the scope of social context in the main characters masculinity and from Brooke's background from the environment of the military. This research fills the gaps of previous studies where the role of masculinity in shaping and encouraging strong men in adolescent literature through the formation of masculine ideas in a military-background family environment and racial segregation with the values of strength, discipline and authority, where the sons are constructed to be brave, independent and responsible (Tapscott 2020).

a. Problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study above, this study raises research question about masculinity in Jason Reynolds' novel such as follows: How is masculinity portrayed in *As Brave As You*?

B. Significance of the Study

By using a literary criticism approach, the significance of this research to readers is to dig a deeper understanding of the concept of masculinity in children's and adolescent novels. In reality, external factors such as the sociological situations greatly influence the formation of a masculine trait, identity, and character. In addition, this research hopefully leads the path for students in English literature to

improve their analytical and critical thinking skills in studying the concept of masculinity in literary works in this context is in novels. It is hoped that this research can broaden expand the perspective of how masculinity portrayed and understood in literary works, to encourage an appreciation of the contribution of the role of a family in shaping the understanding of gender identity.

This research is expected to examines the application of the concept of masculinity in the novel *As Brave As You* within the scope of family and society. This research is useful to see the aspects that influence the formation of masculinity. Although masculinity is unipolar, external and internal factors still influence the effectiveness and diversity of methods of the idea of masculinity.

C. Scope and limitation of the Study

In this study, the researcher identifies how the masculinity demonstrated the novel *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds. In its identification, the researcher only focuses at how the portrayal of masculinity in the environment of the main characters and identify the understanding the factors that make them implies masculinity.

D. Definition of Key Terms

1. Masculinity

Masculinity, according to Kimmel, Hearn, and Connell (2019), is a notion that encompasses the behaviors, societal roles, and identities attributed to males during specific periods.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

A general review of relevant research that established the basis of the theory and analysis is presented in this chapter. The main theory of this study uses Janet Saltzman Chafetz theory of masculinity.

A. Sociology of Literature

The sociology of literature was approached in an academic perspective by Lucian Goldmann (1980). He investigated how knowledge is formed in the social environment, highlighted the interaction between the individual (subject) and society (object) in forming literary works, and put forth the idea that cultural phenomena, including literature, may be viewed as structures that has significance. He held that a society's social institutions, including its literature, are reflections of its collective consciousness.

In Goldmann's *Sociology of Literature* (1980), Goldmann explored how literature can question social norms and structures, combined structuralist analysis with an emphasis on the historical and social origins of literary works, and examined the role of the individual as a creator within the cultural and social context. Goldmann also used the concept of *world view* to analyze philosophical ideas within their historical and social contexts. Goldmann's approach to the sociology of literature is based on these ideas, which highlight the interaction of the person, society, and culture in the production and interpretation of literary works.

Warren and Wellek (1956), in their book *Theory of Literature* stated that there are various aspects of literature which by their very nature involved social convention or norm. The relationship between literature and society is rich and complex. Life reflects life; so does literature. So it is determined by the social, economic, and political situation of its day. But at the same time, literature too can change and guide society by offering varied points of view or even upending conventions, or it can serve as a medium for social criticism.

Warren and Wellek, (1956) emphasise the importance of concentrating on the inherent components of a work in order to gain a genuine understanding of it. Nevertheless, they also recognise that literature can mirror the state of a society at a specific moment. Literature is believed to have indirect linkages to real economic, political, and social problems.

B. Masculinities in Literature

According to Connell (1995), masculinity is idealized in a certain culture. It represents a system of standards and expectations that society has established for what constitutes a real man. This concept of masculinity often emphasises masculine characteristics such as dominance, strength and self-control. The emphasis is on investigating alternative forms of masculine identity and challenging conventional conceptions of masculinity. This strategy seeks to highlight the negative effects of patriarchy on males and to honour many forms of masculinity. Although masculinity is shown in several literary works, it is frequently questioned or challenged. The study of masculinity in literary works is an issue that has been the focus of studies in many different fields. The polar opposite of the typical

masculine figure tends to main focus of the character in the literary works, particularly the works that are comedic or tragic in nature.

According to Hobbs (2013) the topic of masculinity in literature has attracted more attention in the field of masculinity studies. Scholars scrutinize the portrayal of male characters in literature, the process of their identity formation and expression. The text focuses on reading of literature in a special way where it deals with literary architectures and men's experiences. They focus on harm that male dominance causes to both genders and hence do not agree with the typical dogmas on masculinity.

It campaigns against stereotyped forms of male characters found in books and different from one another men. Equally, they investigate the construction of manly images in literature studies, resulting into understanding the intricate nature of male figures form conventional societal standards. This distinct perspective on literature highlights the significance of comprehending and addressing the intricacies of male identity formation in literary works and offers a distinctive viewpoint on the complexities of masculinity.

C. Masculinity Concepts

According to Chafetz, (2006) there are seven main concepts of the characteristics of masculinity such as:

1. Physical

Chafetz, (2006) definition of masculinity encompasses various dimensions, including physical appearance, and is indicative of broader societal norms and expectations surrounding gender. According to (Merdeka 2018), Men are viewed as masculine when they are physically appealing, muscular, and athletic. A well-built body is seen as strong. Fertile, athletic, strong, casually dressed, bold, and self-conscious about aging and attractiveness are the traits associated with men in this field. It also examines how often one's power and social status are tied to his physical attributes as a male, which sometimes affects the way he is seen or treated in the society.

2. Function of the man

Chafetz, (2006) shows how economic prosperity, professional accomplishment, and the capacity to make decisions independently are frequently used as indicators of functional masculinity. It displays virtues like self-reliance, tenacity, and skill. Mulya (2020) argues that the division of duty between men and women—men performing jobs that are public, like hunting, while women conduct tasks that are domestic—is a natural division of labor that fosters peace in society. This indicates the man's role inside his family. It is the duty of a man to meet the material requirements of his

family, including food and income. In this context, a man's role could be that of a provider, breadwinner, or backbone (Merdeka 2018).

3. Sexual Aggressive

Chafetz, (2006) draws attention to the fact that attracting a partner and displaying sexual desire are expected behaviors for men in many countries, and are typically seen as essential components of their male character. The idea of hegemonic masculinity, which emphasizes dominance and power in male-female relationships, is connected to this sexual component as well. Men are expected by gender norms to be the ones who contact who ever they may be interested in dating. The influence on relationships by men though not as much pronounced as that by women is characterised by certain aspects of masculinity like self-sufficiency and ability to make choices in marriage (Merdeka 2018).

4. Emotion

According to Chafetz, (2006), this is commonly referred to as the emotional aspect of masculinity which has several discouraging effects such as unhealthy mental conditions and poor relationship with other people as seen in the society that decries emotions in men. The societal norms that prohibit or neglect men's emotions are likely to incapacitate them socially and emotionally so much that they cannot even understand themselves. The emotional dimensions of masculinity have a big impact on social dynamics and people's quality of life.

According to Merdeka (2018), In public, men cannot afford to show how they feel, and thus keep to themselves. As a result, they can therefore think more logically and use reason when making any decisions since they are neither moved nor controlled by emotion like women are. At the same time, society expects men to exhibit their feelings even when this may entail hiding true sentiments ever felt, such as acting feminine in terms of showing vulnerability or crying. Everyone's capacity for emotion regulation varies. Emotional intelligence includes the capacity for self-awareness, emotional regulation, constructive emotion use, empathy, and interpersonal interaction (Arifah et al. 2023).

5. Intellectual

According to Chafetz, (2006), intellectual masculinity is frequently linked to scholastic success, subject-matter competence, and the capacity for logical reasoning. People expect men to solve problems, think critically, and have knowledge; men are also thought of as leading intellectual halls in the society today where they participate in debate or provide others with facts. This notion called intellectual masculinity in men could easily change their sense of role or how they among others see themselves both at home and away from work. Men are expected to approach problems objectively, using reason and logic rather than emotion, since they are more capable of making logical decisions. This exemplifies what a trustworthy man ought to be (Merdeka 2018).

6. Interpersonal

Chafetz, (2006) stresses cooperation, empathetic communication, and striking a balance between kindness and firmness in interpersonal relationships. Leading, caring, taking responsibility, and guiding in a variety of contexts are all components of a healthy masculinity. In today's society, men who show independence and take charge are mostly seen as dominant forces in relationships and families compared to women. Even in this interpersonal domain, the men's personalities may be related to the characteristics linked with masculinity. Building and holding relationships, leading people, taking responsibility and being able to affect others are all hallmarks of interpersonal masculinity (Merdeka 2018).

Interpersonal skills are the ability to pay attention to subtle aspects of other people's behavior (Arifah et al. 2023). The men's personalities and their traits associated with masculinity were also related in this interpersonal domain. Developing and sustaining connections, leadership, accountability, and influence are all aspects of interpersonal masculinity.

7. Other personal characteristics

In Chafetz, *Handbook of the Sociology of Gender* (2006), stated that masculinity is a social construct that is subject to change and evolution. The characters in this book demonstrate how masculinity is influenced by a variety of external factors in addition to conventional preconceptions. Masculinity is the set of traits, behaviors, and roles that are usually linked with men in a certain society.

Aggressive, goal-oriented, ambitious, proud, egoistical, trustworthy, decisive, competitive, and adventurous are the traits that define this area. Men are deemed to be masculine if they possess one or more of these traits (Merdeka 2018). All these characteristics could potentially be supported by those traits in the other individual. These character highlights the drive to succeed and reach objectives in both personal and professional spheres.

Culture and society shape a lot of the traits and standards that men are expected to have, which affect how men understand and act out their gender identity (Connell and Messerschmidt 2005). The concept of masculinity is not static but is shaped by cultural norms, historical settings, and societal expectations. It encompasses traits like strength, assertiveness, independence, competitiveness, and emotional stoicism.

However, it is multifaceted and can be influenced by factors like racial and socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, and personal experiences. Recognizing that masculinity is not a biological construct but a social and cultural construct is crucial for understanding it. Men can navigate and negotiate different types of masculinity throughout their lives, utilizing various influences and identities to define their sense of self and relationships (Connell and Messerschmidt 2005).

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

The research design, data sources, data collection methods, and data analysis are all included in this section.

A. Research Design

This research is categorised into literary criticism where the focal point of this research is going to through the analysis of literary works that become the object of data collection from using the novel of this research. Following that, the researcher focuses on the analysis of masculinity by making use of Janet Saltzman Chafetz theory. The study investigates the portrayal of masculinity in the novel *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds and the factors that contribute to the occurrence of masculinity in novels are investigated in this study. To reach the conclusion, the researcher collected, organised, and evaluated the data. To investigate the concept of masculinity in literary works and help researchers understand and analyse literary works using masculinity theory, this research requires sources from both masculinity theory books and the internet.

B. Data Source

Data acquired for this study came from the novel *As Brave As You* written by Jason Reynolds in 2016 published by Atheneum Books which consist of 410 Pages with twenty one chapters, served as the basis of the data collected for this study. In order for the author to comprehend and expand the investigation of masculinity in the literary work, the author had to take into consideration the

findings of previous research that dealt with Janet Saltzman Chafetz theory of masculinity concepts. Researcher read the novel *As Brave As You* that is written by Jason Reynolds as a data source which consist of 410 Pages. Then researcher highlight the important data relating to the topic in this study as evidence of what has been declared in response to the research question.

C. Data Analysis

In this step, the researcher analyse the data that has been obtained to find the significance and indicators behind the data; The researcher organize through the data that consist of the concept masculinity shown by the main characters that has been collected, then researcher analyse the data that is in *As Brave As You*, by Jason Reynolds, in chosen data to the indicator of the key concepts of Janet Saltzman Chafetz masculinity, finally researcher draw conclusions as a completion of this research.

CHAPTER IV

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data analysis procedure results in findings and discussions presented in this chapter. The first chapter research questions serve as the basis for the analysis. Two topics of discussion in this chapter are the masculinity in the book *As Brave As You* and the masculinity of the main characters. This chapter analyze how the concepts of masculinity is understands from the seven concepts of masculinity by Chafetz'. By examining the data in this novel, the researcher focuses on analyzing the concepts of masculinity and the causes of the formation of the masculinity.

In the research question, researcher discuss how the portrayal of masculinity of the main characters a male-dominated family environment. the results of the analysis of the depiction of the masculinity and its causes carried out on the the main characters in the novel *As Brave As You* is presented. By applying the Chafetz, (2006) seven masculinity concepts. Researcher found data showing the portrayal of masculinity in *As Brave As You* and data showing the understanding of masculinity in each characters in the novel. There are seven concepts of masculinity that can be retrieve such as; physical, functional, sexual aggressive, intellectual, emotion, and interpersonal. However, the researcher highlights four of the most vivid aspect of Chafetz's concept of masculinity as the sub point of this chapter even though other concepts of masculinity can also be included in the data.

Specifically, the characteristics of masculinity are shown by the activities performed by the characters in *As Brave As You*, as well as assumptions that classify

what constitutes a person's actions that reflect masculinity or femininity. this study presents data analysis based on Chafetz (2006) concept of masculinities and seven main points of masculinity . These data show how the portrayal of the characteristics of masculinity is being shown by the main characters and their family.

A. Functional

Brooke Harris, as the head of the family in the Harris family home, is a reflection of functional masculine shown in how the family interacts with her. Using Chafetz's concept of masculinity, an analysis of masculinity can be shown in the following data:

“‘Cause you and me shootin’ the breeze. Plus they just want to pray for the sick, and that’s nice and all, but I ain’t sick,” Grandpop told him. And before Genie could even think on whether or not Grandpop being blind was, in fact, a sickness—especially since he said glaucoma was a disease—another question popped out. (As Brave As You, p.56)

In this data, Brooke exhibits the manly traits connected with strength and independence by rejecting the idea that he is 'sick' just because he is blind. He reflects the **functional** part of masculinity in that he sees himself as someone who is still completely functional and does not need sympathy or special treatment. It also demonstrates an awareness that a person's identity is influenced by more than just their physical state.

Brooke epitomizes a masculinity that is in line with Chafetz’s view that masculinity does not merely entail having bodily attributes and supremacy but also the capacity to alter one’s behavior when circumstances change or adhere to significant social duties. According to Brooke, masculinity

involves an intimate understanding of other people's relationships, purpose, and context adaptation.

"Grandpop," Genie whispered as he was unlocking the door. "Wouldn't it be better to do this during the day?" "Because I . . ." Grandpop started, but caught his words and began again. "Because I don't need nobody thinkin' I gotta be babysat or somethin'. Like I can't do for myself. Even though I can't see people, I know they can see me, and I'on't like that." Genie could understand that, especially after what Dad explained about Grandpop." (As Brave As You, p.154)

In this data, we consider the insistence of Brooke on leaving the house in the night as an indication of his **function** and **emotion**. By showing the act of self-sufficiency and stubbornness even though he is blind; the statement "I don't need anybody thinking I gotta be babysat or something. Like I can't do for myself" shows that he wants to remain in charge and dislikes appearing weak or dependent. From this data we can see how Brooke emphasizes the functional aspect of a man as a form of traditional masculinity. From this data he doesn't want others to think he can't do anything and feels he doesn't need the help of others to do his daily activities because it can damage his masculinity and his pride as a man.

"Even though I can't see people, I know they can see me, and I'on't like that." The second piece of information demonstrates how traditional values persist within Brooke's life. This also shows by following masculinity where men are expected to hide their emotions and act strong at all times.

"What you talkin' 'bout?" Grandpop asked.

"Your boy here, the big man, too scared to learn how—"

"That's not what he said," Tess interrupted.

"I never said that," Ernie agreed, quickly following her up. "I said I just didn't want to do it."

Grandpop wove his arms across his chest. "But . . . why not, Ernie? It's your fourteenth birthday. It's . . . well . . . a North Hill tradition." (As Brave As You, p.276-277)

In this data of *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds, Janet Saltzman Chafetz uses the dialogue between Brooke and Ernie as a representation of different aspects of masculinity. This suggest that men represent who they are through the way they communicate while women typically try to avoid putting their emotions into words. Brooke's stance, with crossed arms, shows high social capability or efficacy between people. He also illustrates its very **functional** side linking it with North Hill traditions which are normally considered male and vital components in growing up as a man.

However, Ernie disregards various cultural norms, indicating that his refusal of culture is also a denial of accepted ideal male behavior. It amounts to a form of self-expression that contradicts the conventional images of men who are always expected to be part of the society and follow the customary rules that define the true sense of masculinity.

This dialogue illustrates the fact that a man can be viewed in different ways by different people and how men perceive themselves in relation to their families and societies via the norms and expectations that are culturally set. This indicated that the ideals were received differently by Brooke as opposed by Ernie hence signaling how diverse and subtle are men.

"Grandpop folded his arms and leaned back until the front legs of his chair rose up off the floor." "I was in the army. Fought in Vietnam. First Battalion, Sixth Infantry. My position was rifleman."

"Like, rifle rifles? Your job was to shoot rifles?"

"Pretty much."

“Their dad had told him and Ernie stories about Grandpop teaching him how to shoot when he was younger, but he never said that it was because the old man was an expert, that it was pretty much his job to shoot. This, of course, set Genie off.” (As Brave As You, p.65)

In this data, Brooke represents norms of masculinity defined by courage, strength and physical skill. As a war veteran, Brooke demonstrates **functional**, courage and physical skill through his role as a sniper. Moreover, he also passed on these masculinity norms to the next generation by teaching his children his shooting skills. The proof that their father told stories about Brooke teaching him how to shoot shows that Brooke's masculinity was valued and accepted by the rest of the family. Therefore, Brooke's military cultural background and his role in teaching his children shooting skills contributed to the causes of the cultural in the family and reinforcement of his masculinity. As Donaldson (1991) stated, conditions in society or work that tend to be in a harsh environment can also form harsh traits, in this case the formation of masculinity norms can be said to be formed from the conditions of society.

“I knew this was a bad idea, Brooke. I knew it,” Grandma had said, her voice, shaky, coming from behind the old wooden door. Tess had already left with her father. She had looked so excited when Genie'd burst through the door with Grandpop, standing in front of a big ol' birthday cake, clearly ready to brag about it, ready to hear Ernie brag about shooting. But instead of smiles and laughter, she got blood, tears, and teeth in a bottle. And then Crab hauling her home, quick-fast. “It was an accident, Mary. He'll be okay.” “But it didn't have to happen,” Grandma went on, fuming. “That's what you don't get. The boy didn't wanna learn how to shoot. He was scared. You knew it. I knew it. Hell, even Crab knew it.” Grandpop mustn't have responded fast enough, because Grandma barreled on. “But you pushed him. You pushed him like you always do.” “I didn't push the boy, Mary, I—”(As Brave As You, p.302)

In the data, Brooke shows how the other characteristics such as **aggression** in the concept of masculinity that can affect relationships within the family. Brooke demonstrates a desire to maintain the traditions and norms of masculinity by forcing Ernie to learn to shoot. Although Ernie seems scared and does not want to learn, Brooke encourages him to do so even though it ends in an accident. This shows Brooke that he believes it is important to maintain these traditions and men's standards, even if this means forcing others to follow suit. Brooke's actions caused conflict within the family. The grandmother clearly disagrees with Brooke's approach and believes he forced Ernie. 'This shows that the masculinity is not always accepted or supported by all family members, and can cause tension or conflict.

Brooke shows insensitivity to the feelings and desires of others. While it is clear that Ernie is scared and does not want to learn to shoot, Brooke seems to ignore these feelings and desires. This shows that the masculinity can encourage individuals to ignore or trivialize the feelings and desires of others.

Overall, Brooke shows how the masculinity can affect relationships within the family. Brooke desires traditionalism and conflict, as well as insensitivity to other people's feelings or desires, to affirm his position in the household but also in pursuit of an individual sense of masculinity. Brooke also demonstrates how a man's sense of self can make or break family connections. In the novel, Brooke is characterized by some aspects

associated with dominant forms of masculinity such as stubbornness. Brooke is determined to maintain the tradition of learning to shoot, despite the discomfort of Ernie and is determined to maintain the tradition of learning to shoot, despite the discomfort of Ernie. He also showed strong self-determination and control over the situation, despite the resistance of other family members.

Brooke shows stubbornness and authoritarianism by refusing to accept alternative views and sticking to his beliefs and traditions. Moreover, he remains calm and collected even in tense situations. All these traits show that Brooke represents some aspects of dominant masculinity, including stubbornness, authority and a strong sense of tradition.

“Don’t need no fixin’ son,” Grandpop answered before Grandma could get a word out. “My blood and sweat is in this house, built it with my own two hands. It’s just gettin’ old, just like me. But it’s still standing, just like me.” Grandpop lifted the breakfast tower to his mouth and smirked. “And . . . just like you.” (As Brave As You, p.29)

The data above shows that Brooke Harris shows the masculinity. The concept of **function** shows how stubbornness effect of Brooke’s decision making by showing that he thinks he does not need any help and still believes that the house he builds does not need any fixing and will be alright. One of the characteristics of masculinity, namely stereotypical traditional masculinity norms exemplified in the data above, is the sense of stubbornness and the feel of responsibility felt by Brooke for the state of the house. masculinity is also depicted in the next data:

“Ma cocked her head to the side. “Would you explain to our youngest son here why we didn’t tell him about Grandpop?”

“Dad looked at Genie and sighed. “Well, he’s kind of a wild guy, Genie—”

“Not wild, Genie,” Ma interrupted. “Just, um, interesting.” “Right,” Dad agreed quickly. “We weren’t trying to keep anything from you. . . . It’s just that he made me promise a long time ago never to tell anyone he was blind. No one. Not even you two. It’s something he likes to do himself after he’s met the person. That way they don’t just come into his house thinking of him as, well, handicapped.”

“Disabled,” Ma corrected him.

“Yes, I mean disabled. That’s the one thing he hates the most.” Dad slid over to the corner of his bed, close to Genie. “Grandpop doesn’t like for, y’know, people to help.” (As Brave As You, p.34)

In this data Brooke shows some other aspects of masculinity. First, Brooke demonstrated his independence and the desire to control the knowledge of others. He promises Genie's father to no one should tell him that he is blind. Brooke wants to reveal his own situation after meeting someone. This shows that he wants to control how others perceive him and that he does not want to be viewed as a "disabled" person. Then Brooke shows a rejection of sympathy or assistance. Genie's father says: “Grandpop doesn't like for, y'know, people to help.” This may be shown that Brooke has the norm of independence and that accepting help may be a sign of weakness or dependency, contrary to the standards of idealized masculinity.

The data depicts a conversation between Ma and Dad from *As Brave As You* during which they talk about Grandpop and their choice to keep Grandpop's blindness a secret from Genie. According to Janet Saltzman Chafetz, the way Grandpop is portrayed as someone who tries to control how people find out about his blindness represents the principles of masculinity. The **functional** and **emotional** parts of masculinity are

demonstrated by his desire to be seen as autonomous rather than as someone in need of sympathy or assistance. Grandpa also makes the decision to admit his own blindness after meeting someone, demonstrating his comprehension of social dynamics and the influence of perceptions on communication.

In addition to avoiding assisting others, his wish to not be viewed as "handicapped" or "disabled" demonstrates the **aggressive** side of masculinity by asserting his control over his own story. This conversation demonstrates how ideas about masculinity can affect how people see themselves, how they desire to be seen by others, and how they negotiate social roles and expectations in the framework of the family.

“Why didn’t you answer it?” Genie asked. He figured people always answered the phone whenever the church was calling. Just seemed like the right thing to do. Maybe they were going to tell Grandpop about a miracle to fix his eyes. “’Cause you and me shootin’ the breeze. Plus they just want to pray for the sick, and that’s nice and all, but I ain’t sick,” Grandpop told him. And before Genie could even think on whether or not Grandpop being blind was, in fact, a sickness—especially since he said glaucoma was a disease—another question popped out. (As Brave As You, p.56)

In this data Brooke shows several aspects of masculinity. He demonstrated the **functionality** by showing independence and showing **emotion** by rejecting the sympathy by refusing to be seen as a "sick person" and not wanting others to feel pity for him. Brooke also shows control and authority by refusing to answer the telephone and giving priority to talking to Genie. In addition, he demonstrated courage and honesty by not trying to conceal or underestimate the fact that he was blind. Overall, Brooke demonstrates how masculinity can be maintained and reinforced in daily

interactions through independence, rejection of compassion, control, authority, courage and honesty.

B. Intellectual

Genie, the protagonist, is an 11-year-old who is perceptive, empathetic, and inquisitive. His inquisitiveness about the world is demonstrated by the notepad he carries, in which he writes questions. Genie understands masculinity by asking Brooke Harris many questions about what masculinity is. Genie mostly reflects the intellectual part of masculinity by going through questions towards almost everything. These data show Genie's portrays Chafetz concept of masculinity.

“Genie was the kind of kid who kept a small jacked-up notebook and pen in his pocket just so that he could jot down interesting things whenever they came. The point was to keep a list—a numbered list—of all the things he needed to Google, because to Genie, the more questions you had, the more answers you could find. And the more answers you found, the more you knew. And the more you knew, the less you made mistakes. Genie wasn't about mistakes.” (As Brave As You, p.7)

In this data, by using Janet Saltzman Chafetz's notion as a lens, we may examine Genie's understanding of masculinity from his depiction in Jason Reynolds' book *As Brave As You*. Chafetz sees masculinity as a set of qualities that **includes intelligence**, sensitivity, and interpersonal skills in addition to dominance and physical characteristics.

Genie always waits for any kind of interesting thing to note in his open notebook, which shows how important knowledge and intelligence are to his masculine side. Masculine academic and professional environments

often associate these characteristics with men because he tends more on finding answers to any sort of questions, so he has his male driven style.

As a result, one is left with a sense of liberation and enlightenment, as manifested through the character of Genie, whose portrayal entirely contradicts notions on masculinity considered restrictive, ideas shared by Chafetz about how the latter constitutes an intricate and complex social design that goes beyond the ordinary. Genie makes it clear that masculinity can involve thinking for oneself as well as assuming different roles and carrying certain duties while nurturing relationships with other people. In other words, a man could be thoughtful or responsible or knowledgeable—traits which facilitate gender equality in society and shift its perspective on gender roles in general.

“Genie wanted to follow with, But you got a gun back there, so don’t that hurt it?, but for some reason he just couldn’t bring himself to say it, so he asked, “How do you know where your room is, though? Or what if you gotta go to the bathroom?” (As Brave As You, p.58)

In this data, the conflict Genie experiences in this data is a reflection of the more profound facets of masculinity as conceptualized by Janet Saltzman Chafetz. Chafetz acknowledges the multifaceted nature of masculinity, encompassing emotional and interpersonal aspects. Genie wanted to ask a question regarding the gun, but she held back and went with a more objective one. This demonstrates his social awareness and his capacity for controlling how he expresses his feelings, two very nuanced aspects of masculinity.

Genie chooses to abstain from inquiring more directly indicates a masculinity that besides daring, ruthlessness it is in relation to empathy and consideration for others feelings. And this portrayal harmonizes with Chafetz's view about masculinity being flexible such that it changes according to social context.

"What was your job?" Grandpop folded his arms and leaned back until the front legs of his chair rose up off the floor. "I was in the army. Fought in Vietnam. First Battalion, Sixth Infantry. My position was rifleman." "Like, rifle rifles? Your job was to shoot rifles?" "Pretty much." Their dad had told him and Ernie stories about Grandpop teaching him how to shoot when he was younger, but he never said that it was because the old man was an expert, that it was pretty much his job to shoot. This, of course, set Genie off. "Is that why you have a gun in your pants?" he asked with what seemed like perfect timing. But his excitement wouldn't let him wait for an answer. He just barreled on. "Wait . . . so can you teach me how to shoot?" (As Brave As You, p.65)

In this data, Genie shows curiosity in Grandpop's military experience and its relation to masculinity. The concept of Janet Saltzman Chafetz is that there is an impact of masculinity as one can negotiate and interpret traditional roles which are identified with soldiers or weapons experts both at the societal level and from a personal standpoint. Genie finding out that Grandpop is very knowledgeable about guns reveals that Genie perceives qualities associated with masculinity that entail being knowledgeable and inquisitive. Relatedly, he continues to ask about Grandpop's characteristics as well as inquire into how these traits influence his concept regarding manhood.

Genie's desire to bond with Grandpop through activities that are often associated with men can also be seen in his desire to acquire the skill of

shooting. However, in the manner questions are posed by Genie, one can see his excitement as well as anticipation of development, yet showing that teenagers are still at an immature age in terms of understanding manhood.

This exchange demonstrates how social and personal experiences form masculinity and how everyone, including young children, engages in the process of gender socialization. Genie's experiences with male family members in positions of power are teaching him about masculinity, which is crucial for the development of his gender identity.

“#444: Does Grandpop still see himself as a shooter? Is who we are only based on what we do? If so, are Ma and Dad just arguers? Will they become divorcees? And am I a model breaker? Or just a questioner? And if I become a rich and famous questioner, does that make me a questionnaire? “

“#445: What kind of test do you have to take to be a shooter? Do you get a grade? Can you still be a shooter if you get a C? Technically, you still pass. “

“#446: What or who did Grandpop shoot? #447: What does it mean to shoot the breeze? I know one thing, ain't no breeze nowhere around here for Grandpop to shoot.” (As Brave As You, p.99)

In this data, the concepts of masculinity are examined in Genie's questions #444 through #447. Genie is questioning whether our identities only come from actions, Chafetz believes that it is not simply our conduct that defines us, but it establishes an image of who we are and what others think. Genie touches upon what is required from a man according to a conventional perspective, also drawing attention to the non-universal nature of competence in this regard, only to say that these roles do not exist naturally as they were fabricated by society. Genie's queries reveal his

sensitive sense of masculinity, as evidenced by his interest regarding Grandpop's previous acts as a shooter.

“Genie had never actually seen a gun in real life, just on the cop shows Ma was always watching, or in movies—action flicks, sci-fi flicks, and even the scary flicks Genie and Ernie weren’t supposed to be watching. Genie was as curious about that pistol as he was about the honey badger. And like always, it sparked questions, but he didn’t have his notebook. Questions to remember: What’s a blind man doing with a gun? Why would Grandpop have a gun, period? Genie flat-out stared, but when Grandpop closed the fridge, a big jug of tea in his hand, Genie turned away fast, just in case the old man could somehow see him.” (As Brave As You, p.47)

Based on this information, Genie, who has never really seen a gun, is somewhat curious as to why Grandpop, a blind guy, owns a pistol. This demonstrates Genie's attempt to comprehend the nuanced aspects of masculinity that transcend stereotypes. She challenges the logic and justification of gun ownership rather than accepting the notion that having a gun is a sign of being a "man" right away.

When Grandpop closes the fridge and sees Genie, Genie quickly quickly turns away as if to show him that he is still not used to him. This bears the spectacle of more pensive and sensitive masculinity, according to Chafetz’s idea that masculinity embodies a better grasp of emotions as well as interpersonal relationships.

“He wondered if Aaron would try to impress Shelly with his backflips (girls love dudes who can do backflips) and if she’d eventually fold to his flippin’ charm and kiss him. Of course, if she did, it would be a loaner kiss, Genie decided. A kiss to make up for the fact that he wasn’t there. Nothing real. Genie sat there thinking about all these things, annoyed by his brother’s snoring, listening to his parents not say a word, totally unsure about what was going to happen when they finally got to Virginia. The only thing he did know for sure was why they were going to the country in the first place, why he and Ernie had to spend a whole month away from Brooklyn for the first time ever.” (As Brave As You, p.9)

In this data, In line with societal norms that encourage males to pursue relationships with women without making long-term commitments, Genie also takes into account the idea of the "loaner kiss," which can be seen as an interpretation of romantic and sexual interactions as transient and not significant.

Genie exemplifies the emotional side of masculinity by exhibiting emotional control even in the face of fear and uncertainty, as evidenced by his uncertainty about the Virginia trip and the impending changes in his life.

In addition, the **functional** side of masculinity may be seen in Genie's recognition that the purpose of the trip was to spend time away from Brooklyn, where he and Ernie are expected to adjust to a new environment and take on new tasks as part of their maturing process.

“Every couple of minutes they would, hear gunshots. Crab. Genie flinched each time, but he couldn't stop thinking about how cool it would be to be out there shooting at stuff.” (As Brave As You, p.128)

The sound of gunfire in this data makes Genie flinch, but he's also attracted by the thought of joining in on the shooting. According to Janet Saltzman Chafetz, this represents the **intellectual** component of masculinity, which is a curiosity to dangerous and daring behaviors. The idea of masculinity, which places a premium on bravery and the capacity to face danger, may be connected to the propensity to be drawn to hobbies like shooting.

Genie's views on how "cool" it is to shoot also highlight the physical appearance component of masculinity, which is the drive to seem powerful and capable when engaging in activities that are stereotypically associated

with men. This might also be viewed as a step in the socialization process, which teaches boys about the values and behaviors that define masculinity in their culture.

This passage demonstrates how ideas of masculinity can affect people's views of and responses to particular circumstances, as well as how social standards on masculinity are internalized and manifested in behavior.

#439

living with Dad

Pro: I'd be safe From Fires and thieves.

Con: Dad works all the time and is never home.

Con: So I probably wouldn't be safe From Fires and thieves.

Pro: I could watch scary movies.

Con: Dad can't cook.

Con: Dad stinks almost all the time, because of work.

living with Ma

Pro: She can cook, real good.

Pro: She never ever stinks.

Con: She won't let me watch scary movies.

Con: I don't know if she can protect me From Fire and thieves.

Con: Which means I'd have to protect her, and I don't know karate!

(As Brave As You, p.11-12)

Based on this data, Janet Saltzman Chafetz's theory of masculinity in relation to Genie's circumstances illustrates how gender norms and traditional masculine standards affect how kids see living with their parents. The **functional** and **Intellectual** features of masculinity, where fathers are viewed as sources of security and protection, are reflected in Genie's view

of living with his father. Genie also questions everything and curious by seeking to understand how the world works around him by taking notes. Nonetheless, Genie encounters conflicts between his familial obligations and social norms, given that his father works nonstop and seldom returns home.

Genie also questions traditional ideas of masculinity that link males to household chores like cooking, which are more frequently performed by women. Traditional gender norms are reflected in the character's perception of living with his mother, who is viewed as the housekeeper. These standards influence how children view their parents' duties and their own responsibilities within the family unit. This analysis shows how Chafetz's theory of masculinity can be used to comprehend how societal norms around gender roles affect people's perceptions and experiences within the framework of their families.

C. Physical Appearance

Ernie Harris is the older brother of Genie; he encompasses masculinity in a different way from Genie. In the data, he shows more active in chasing his physical appearance and sexual aggression toward women and often showing how he appreciates strength and being viewed as *cool* towards other people. Such as follows:

“Ernie, on the other hand, was the kind of kid who wore sunglasses 24/7 just to make sure everybody knew he was cool, and to him, the biggest mistake anyone could make was not to be. That, of fact, one of the only times ernie didn’t wear his shades was whenever

*he was doing karate, which he had been learning since he was seven.
 “(As Brave As You, p.8)*

Based on this data, Ernie's actions align with various aspects of masculinity as defined by Janet Saltzman Chafetz. He always demonstrates his coolness by donning sunglasses, which highlights how important **appearance** is in creating masculinity. Though not overtly hostile, Ernie's aspiration to be perceived as 'cool' may be interpreted as a type of social violence, intended to uphold his social standing. His commitment to power and discipline two qualities that are **functionally** masculine is demonstrated by his passion to the art of karate, which he has been studying since he was seven years old. Ernie shows his grasp of social dynamics and ability to alter self-image to reach a particular **interpersonal** position by using sunglasses as a tool to affect others' perceptions of him.

“Most of it Genie let go in one ear and out the other, only because if there was one thing he knew about Ernie, it was that he was a sucker for girls. Always had been. There was Keisha, who left him for the rapper. But before Keisha, there was Jessica, a girl in his karate class who he fell out of love with after she hip-tossed him once. Hard. Slammed him right on the mat. Before Jessica, there was Dominique, who moved from Brooklyn to Queens, which to a Brooklynite is like moving to another country. And each time Ernie fell for a new girl, Genie’s cool, confident brother would become a goofy, googly-eyed fool. Genie knew how it always ended—with text-message raps and extra-hard karate “practice” chops to Genie’s arms.” (As Brave As You, p.148)

According to the data, Ernie, referred to as a "sucker for girls" by Genie, means that being involved in loving relationships can help in the definition of one's manliness. On the other hand, Ernie's reaction to breakups or losing someone close to him makes him change to a “goofy, googly-eyed fool” who proves that he is capable of having strong emotional connection besides

feeling sad and weak. Ernie embodies a complex and dynamic idea of masculinity that encompasses emotional openness, physical toughness, and the capacity to change according to personal experiences.

Chafetz stressed that being able to understand the tendencies in emotions and how to deal wisely with other people is important for one to be a true man. In his relationship cycles, Ernie demonstrates it using emotional and behavioral swings that normally occur in the said cycles. He is, however, still masculine in other ways even if he does not seem very stable in matters of romantic liaisons. For example, he has a black belt in karate which demonstrates power and self - control.

“Then he thought of a question for Ernie. But Ernie asked one first.” “What you think about Tess?” Ernie was now doing sit-ups. Genie’s mind was far from Tess. But he tapped the pen to his lips and replied anyway. “She cool. What you think?” “I think she cool too, but I mean, you think she like me?” “Man, I’on’t know. We just met her.” Genie stuck the pen in his mouth like a cigar. “Don’t take long to know, little brother. Trust me, I knew Keisha liked me the day we met.” (As Brave As You, p.102)

Using this data, Ernie illustrates how the social construction of masculinity includes the need to be accepted and viewed favorably by the other sex. He asked, "you think she like me?" implies that his sense of masculinity is influenced by how other people see him, particularly in a romantic setting.

Genie, however makes an utterance that is more probable as well as possibly skeptical remarks, "Man, I don't know. We recently got to know her." This shows that genie would rather take a critical and thoughtful stance

on relationships pretending not to make hasty conclusions out of the limited conversation.

Another aspect regarding masculinity would be how Ernie illustrates his self-assuredness concerning fast identification of love attraction by revealing his story about Keisha.

In general, this dialogue shows Ernie and Genie dividing their masculinity along similar lines, one being more skeptical than the other being reflective; the first takes an alternative approach based on questioning everything around him while maintaining his own autonomy while the second is concerned about visual appeal and sexual attraction above all else. Chafetz's theory—which holds that masculinity is a dynamic and multifaceted social construction—is supported by both methods.

“Got it,” Genie said. Ernie just nodded, playing cool as usual, a thin layer of dust building up on his sunglasses.

In this data, it is explained that Ernie is very concerned about his appearance. Where he considers that wearing sunglasses is a form of expression with the assumption of looking cool. This is in line with Chafetz's concept of seven masculinities, namely physical appearance. Although this data does not show any concern for physical appearance, it can be assumed that a material object from a man is a form of Ernie's concept of understanding masculinity that makes him feel cooler.

“Blah, blah, blah, as Genie stared at the broken piece of wheel, wondering what happened to the other half. Blah, blah, blah, during Ernie's push-ups and sit-ups, which he did for twice as long just because he was sure Tess would like muscles. Blah, blah, blah, as Ernie stared at himself in the mirror, examining (and super-weird,

kissing) his golf-ball biceps. Genie even wrote in his notebook, #461: Blah, blah, blah. Blah, blah, black sheep.” (As Brave As You, p.149)

Based on this data, Janet Saltzman Chafetz's can be seen in the Ernie and Genie's encounter with the idea of masculinity by emphasizing the significance of physical appearance. Tess will be drawn to Ernie's muscles, so he performs longer push-ups and sit-ups, highlighting the importance of having a muscular and robust appearance. His comprehension of social dynamics and the impact **physical appearance** has on **interpersonal** relationships highlights the impact of standards around masculinity on daily conduct. This demonstrates how people express their male identity through behavior and looks.

“Ernie jumped to it so fast that Genie knew Ernie’s old girlfriend was about to be history. Too bad for Ernie, he had never actually used a hammer. He was pretty decent at smashing the cap flat, but when it came to hitting the nail, he definitely had some issues. As he dropped the hammer down, missing over and over again, Genie started firing off the questions that had been bouncing around in his head since Tess started this whole explanation.” (As Brave As You, p.214)

From this data, it is evident that there is **sexual aggression** that illustrates Chafetz's concept of masculinity. Where shown by the attitude of Ernie who tries to attract Tess's attention by trying to be cool. From this data it is also mentioned, “Ernie jumped to it so fast that Genie knew Ernie’s old girlfriend was about to be history.”. This quote shows that this is not the first time Ernie has tried to attract a woman to be his partner. The existence of **sexual aggression** caused Ernie to behave rashly even though he had never used a hammer before. This also proves that Chafetz's concept of

sexual aggression of masculinity is willing to do dangerous things to get the woman he wants.

“Um,” he started, nervous. “Well, it’s just that—” Genie looked at his mother one more time, just to make sure. She nodded again. “It’s just that Ma always says you shouldn’t wear sunglasses in the house. She says it makes your eyes go bad, plus it makes you look crazy.”

His mother dropped her fork. His father snorted. “Papa Harris, I’m—” she started immediately apologizing, but Grandpop cut her off.

“Well,” he started, “your mom is a smart woman, but for me it’s different.” He wiped his mouth with a napkin, then balled it up and dropped it on the table. “Wanna know why?”

“Why?” Genie asked.

Grandpop leaned in close again, this time enough for Genie to get a whiff of the coffee on his breath. “Because I already can’t see a thing, and I been crazy for years.” (As Brave As You, p.31)

In this data, We can look at masculinity of Brooke Harris in terms of Janet Saltzman Chafetz's theory through examining the character Grandpop found in Jason Reynolds' book *As Brave As You*. Thus, his attributes of masculinity can be understood. When you come to think of it Grandfather puts on sunglasses when inside their living room which some might say is because he tries to look strong and considers his **appearance** important but it turns out that the man cannot see because he is totally blind. In addition, he exhibits authority in conversations by steering the conversation in his favor and interjecting when necessary. This also shows how **interpersonal** relationship within the society and support ego-idea in line with Chafetz' idea of masculinity.

D. Interpersonal

Interpersonal shows how the characters in this novel show relationships with other characters. aspects of expertise such as communication, leadership, and responsibility are shown in the following data:

"Baby, Crab can handle it." Grandpop reached out for her.

"Please." Grandma had that face Shelly always made whenever she asked Genie for a dollar to go to the bodega and he didn't have it. The one she made right before she went and got the money from Aaron, who always had it because he got an allowance.

"Either I go, or you stay." Whoa. Grandma just wouldn't let up.

Grandpop sighed. "Well, gentlemen, for the first time ever, I guess there will be a lady joining us in this ceremony." (As Brave As You, p.279)

The data presented in Jason Reynolds's *As Brave As You* highlights power relations and bargaining within a family setting. These dynamics can be examined within the prism of Janet Saltzman Chafetz's definition of masculinity. Grandpa, who says, "Crab can handle it," in an attempt to defuse the situation at first, exemplifies the **interpersonal** side of masculinity, which is the capacity to take charge and maintain composure. However, Grandma defies conventional standards of masculinity that are frequently connected to men alone by exhibiting boldness and assertiveness.

Grandma makes it clear that authority and power are shared by women in this household when she says, "Either I go, or you stay." This indicates a departure from the idea of hegemonic masculinity, in which women are given equal power and voice when making decisions for the family. Grandpa ultimately gives in to Grandma's pleas when he announces

that a woman would be attending the wedding. This is a significant development that challenges traditional ideas of masculinity and gender roles.

This scene demonstrates how Chafetz's definition of masculinity encompasses not only personal traits but also social interactions and power dynamics within the family, all of which are subject to change and evolution.

Grandpop answered very deliberately. "That won't happen this time."

"You 'on't know that," Grandma said, all huffy.

"Mary, please." He kept his voice kind but firm, controlled. "Calm down. I'll be fine. I can do this. I swear I can. I want to do this." (As Brave As You, p.278-279)

In this data, Brooke demonstrates good **interpersonal** skills by maintaining **emotional** control and communicating with Grandma in a stern but kind manner. He also demonstrates empathy while defending his decision. Grandpa's desire to be there when the youngster pulls the trigger, playing the conventional male role of mentor and protector in a possibly dangerous circumstance, exemplifies the **functional** component of masculinity.

This conversation demonstrates how masculinity encompasses not just personal traits but also social interactions and how men manage their tasks and responsibilities in the context of the family. Grandpa's readiness to help and engage despite the risk to himself exemplifies traditional masculinity values.

“For making Uncle Wood join the army. That’s my guess. Look, Dad told me that Uncle Wood wanted to be a firefighter, but Grandpop pressured him to go into the military, like he had. So Uncle Wood did. And then there was a war . . .”

“And he died in it,” Genie filled in. “Exactly,” Ernie said. “And what I think is Dad blames that on Grandpop.” (As Brave As You, p.104)

In this data, we see Chafetz’s view on masculinity by how Brooke’s military background affects how he constructs the concept of **interpersonal** masculinity and how this affects the relationship within the family. According to Connell’s theory of masculinity, authoritarian men are often associated with courage, strength and domination, all of which are in Brooke’s military background Brooke represents as a veteran this ideal of men. He forces Uncle Wood to join the army, even though he wants to be a firefighter. In it, Brooke imposes his authoritarian values of masculinity on Uncle Wood, emphasizing values such as courage and sacrifices that are normally associated with the military, but this quote also shows how this can challenge the norms of masculinity.

Genie’s father seems to blame Brooke for Uncle Wood’s death, proving that he does not fully agree with Brooke’s masculine norms. This explains that despite the dominant tradition of dominant male, these norms are not always accepted without challenges. Brooke’s military background influenced the way he viewed masculinity and how he understood and shown masculine norms. But his family’s reaction suggests that these values can be challenged and rejected.

From the data, the findings of this study can be correlated with Van Doorn, Dye, and de Gracia (2021), that suggests that traditional norms of masculinity can be challenged. The study says that bad experiences in childhood can make men less likely to follow traditional male stereotypes, known as masculinity. On the other hand, having a good relationship with their mother and receiving support from friends and family can make men more likely to follow this stereotype. However, it also shows that men have the ability to break away from these traditional norms.

This research shows that the masculinity is formed from past social situations that influence how a man should behave and then shown to his children and grandchildren. Moreover, the masculinity can be challenged as parents progressively educate their children, often against traditional norms.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After analysing the novel *As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds by using Chafetz Theory of masculinity, researcher finally comes to the conclusion and suggestion chapter. This chapter presents conclusions and suggestions drawn from this research. This section explains the previous chapters that answer the two existing problem formulations. The rest of the suggestion section that contains recommendations for future readers who want to explore the same research with a deeper presentation.

A. Conclusion

The exploration of masculinity in Jason Reynolds' *As Brave As You* through the lens of Janet Saltzman Chafetz's seven concepts offers a nuanced understanding of how masculinity is constructed in literature for young audiences. The novel's portrayal of male characters, influenced by their familial relationships and societal expectations, serves as a mirror to the complex formation of masculine identity. It underscores the impact of external factors such as sociological conditions and family backgrounds on the development of masculine traits and characters. This research shows how masculinity is portrayed in the novel *As Brave As You* by analyzing the behavior shown based on the theory of Chafetz's concept of masculinity such as appearance, emotion, interpersonal, functional, and aggression. this concept is shown in the male characters namely Brooke, Genie, and Ernie.

This study also shows how each main character has a unique traits of showing the Chafetz' concept of masculinity. In this novel, Brooke prioritizes the understanding of functional masculinity norms such as refusing help from others, not wanting others to think of him as a person with a disability, and thinking that he can still work like everyone else. This can be understood from his military background. Genie, on the other hand, understands the intelligence of masculinity by raising questions through monologues. He tries to understand and sometimes challenge the ideas of traditional masculinity applied by Brooke and his friend Crab. Genie also questions the issue of the gender stereotypes that he thinks is mandatory to both genders. Ernie, understands masculinity from physical appearance, he believes that physical appearance is the main aspect that men must have to attract the attention of the opposite sex. In this novel, he is often portrayed as a boy who likes muscle, sports such as push ups and also karate. This is further emphasized when he meets Tess, he tries to be cool in front of Tess in the hope that Tess likes him.

B. Suggestion

By dissecting the main characters' perceptions and expressions of masculinity, the study reveals the intricate ways in which literature can shape and reflect the evolving concept of masculinity. It highlights the importance of considering diverse portrayals of masculinity to foster a more inclusive understanding among young readers. The research emphasizes that recognizing the varied dimensions of masculinity in literary works is essential for the holistic development of children and adolescents, shaping their views on gender roles and identity in society.

Moreover, the discussion about masculinity in *As Brave As You* enriches analytical and critical thinking among students of English literature. The study examines how masculinity is represented in literature thus encouraging readers to recognize the part family plays in making gender identities and questioning one-dimensional definitions of masculinity.

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