

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

Based on the findings and analysis in Chapter IV, this research answers the research question mentioned in Chapter I by proving that Elio Perlman is a successful portrayal of how men (biological male) can bear femininity without making him less male. In this movie, his femininity is depicted through the character's actions, remarks and expressions. This discussion therefore also debunks the arguments saying that biological male can never be feminine at all in any way.

This whole research, discussing specifically about gender stereotypes, focuses on how Elio Perlman represents these gender stereotypes in the movie *Call Me By Your Name* by Luca Guadagnino. A traditional notion that is still commonly adopted by people nowadays is that actions and dispositions can be divided based on biological sex, that are, male and female. The stereotypical actions or dispositions borne by male are included as masculinity, while the ones associated with female are included as femininity. Some people believe it is abnormal for a member of one sex to act in a way that is included as the stereotype of the other sex group (e.g. boy playing with dolls are often considered inappropriate as dolls are associated with femininity, thus girl).

With the arising awareness of issues relating to sex and gender, understanding of gender becomes more commonly-known. As mentioned in the theories in chapter two that while sex is ascribed at birth, gender is a social-construct concept that is not bound by biological sex. Knowing this, it is then no longer plausible to associate gender stereotypes with biological sex. However, there are still majority of people that believes biological male should never adopt femininity, nor should biological female adopt masculinity, without taking what gender itself is into account.

Through the evidences on chapter four, it is seen that Elio Perlman in the movie *Call Me By Your Name* rather bears numerous dispositions that are associated with femininity according to Welter's theory *The Cult of True*

Womanhood. Elio Perlman is a biological male. When it comes to the first point, piety, it is clear that Elio has that bearing in him. The same thing applies to purity, domesticity, and submissiveness. Through his actions, dialogues and expressions, Elio shows the femininity he has in a way that might be different from a biological female would. Still, it does not make his femininity is not feminine nor make him less biological male due to having femininity in him. Instead, the character shows how natural it is for biological male to have such quality within himself. Some of the evidences even show that he bears those feminine traits naturally, even prior to his relationship with Oliver. Him being in a gay relation ship also strengthens this statement, for gay is a sexual orientation where a man is attracted to a man (same-sex), therefore Elio Perlman is indeed a valid portrayal of a man who bears feminine traits.

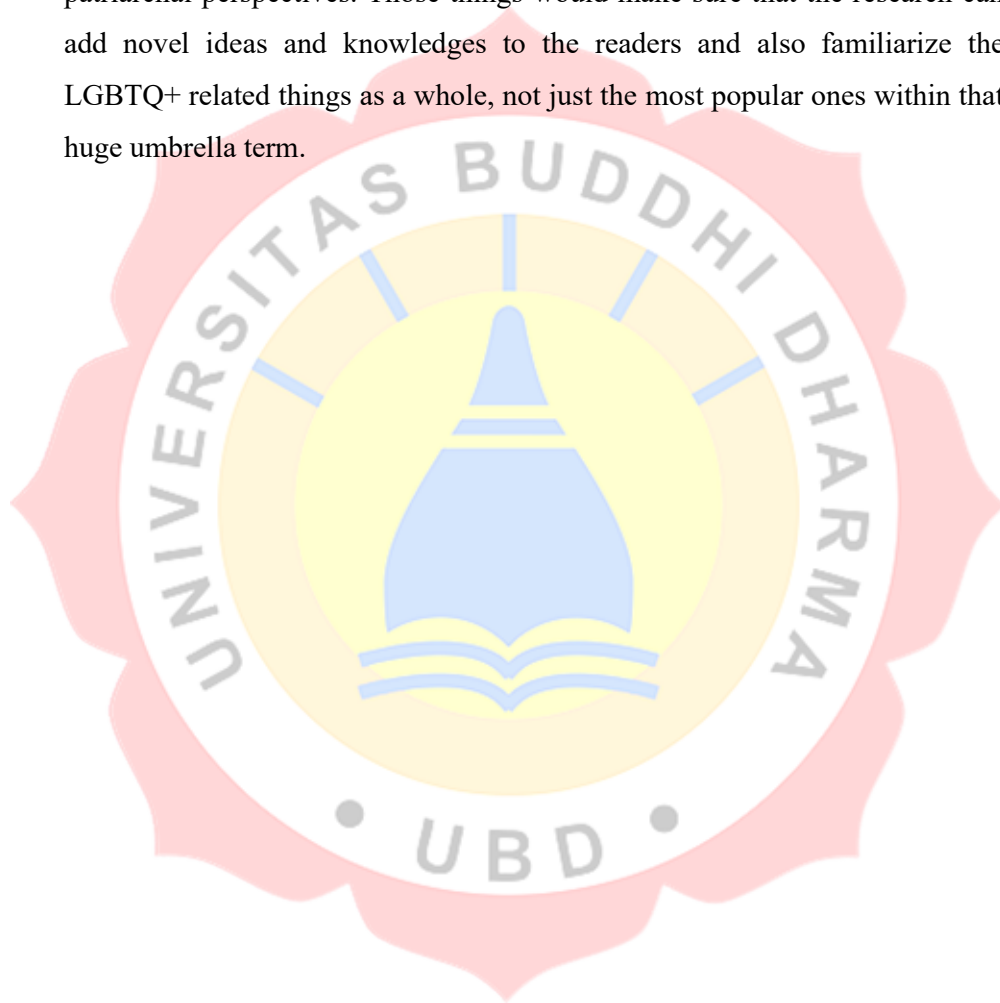
5.2 Suggestion

After conducting this research, there are few suggestions that the writer would like to propose in relation to this research:

- a) The writer feels the need for people of all generation to better enhance their understanding of sex, gender and gender stereotypes, in order to allow a more inclusive society with less discrimination and segregation cases.
- b) With the fact that literary works nowadays are already throwing in representations of various gender spectrum, the writer believes to keep this trend alive without making it feel too forced as the purpose is to introduce and familiarize, not to completely change the existing ideology and ideas.
- c) The writer suggests society to be more aware of arising issues and updates relating social (including, but not limited to, gender issues) instead of being too conservative and afraid to widen knowledge.

To the reader of this research, the writer suggests to completely read and understand the discussion and remarks made within this research to avoid misconception and misleading information. The writer also suggests to write more research relating sex, gender and gender stereotypes, as the topics are still barely touched in Indonesia.

To students of English Literature in Buddhi Dharma University who aspires to conduct research on LGBTQ+ related topics, the writer suggests to pick a specific topic within the theory that has not been widely discussed, such as (but not limited to) pansexuality, asexuality, transexual and transgender, sexuality-based segregation in society, etc. The writer also suggests to conduct the research from a contrasting perspective from the common heterosexual and patriarchal perspectives. Those things would make sure that the research can add novel ideas and knowledges to the readers and also familiarize the LGBTQ+ related things as a whole, not just the most popular ones within that huge umbrella term.



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CURRICULUM VITAE

Personal Details



Name : Fabianus Rainer
Student Number : 20210600008
Place & Date of Birth : Bekasi, 10th of January 2002
Address : Vila Tangerang Regensi II, Blok
AD 3/37
Religion : Catholic
Nationality : Indonesia

Education Background

1. (2008 – 2014) SD Strada Santo Aloysius I
2. (2014 – 2017) SMP Strada Santa Maria I
3. (2017 – 2020) SMK Strada Daan Mogot
4. (2021 – Present) Universitas Buddhi Dharma

Professional Experience

1. (2020 – 2022) Accounting Staff at Saputra Consultants
2. (2022 – 2025) Customer Service Officer at PT Bank Central Asia, Tbk
3. (2025 – Present) Client Service Specialist at Markets4you

SYNOPSIS

It all began when Elio Perlman, a 17-year-old teenager, was spending his vacation at his family's villa which was located in Northern Italy. His father was a professor and was doing some research there at the time. Everything went as usual in the beginning: Elio spent his time with his girlfriend, Marzia, and basically enjoyed his leisure time. But it was until Oliver, who was assisting Elio's father in the research, came and stayed in their villa for that purpose. Since his coming, Oliver had Elio questioning his gender and sexual identity, and there began Elio's journey in finding his identity. As more and more time was spent together, Elio started to feel attached toward Oliver. They became closer; and they eventually had sex. The intercourse was fine, but Elio's feeling after that was not. Elio felt guilt and confusion, causing tension between the two men for quite some times. They began to stop talking with each other and as though avoiding one another. Yet, instead of making Elio forget Oliver, the longing for Oliver fostered more and more. This made Elio realized his feelings toward Oliver and he decided to break up with his current girlfriend, Marzia. He also somewhat came out to his parents about his relationship with Oliver.

However, the time they both became so close and open with each other, the research was nearing its end and Oliver had to go back to his town. It was hard for Elio to let Oliver go that Elio cried hard while taking Oliver to the train station. After some time, during another vacation, Elio received a call from Oliver, making him recall all the feelings and memories he had (which he might have never forgotten at all). The movie ends there with Oliver telling Elio that he was engaged with a girl and Elio, who had finally been aware of his gender and sexual identity, stared at the fireplace with eyes full of tears, mind full of Oliver and the news.





Figure 6.1 Call Me By Your Name (2017) movie poster (source: imdb.com)

Movie Title: Call Me By Your Name

Director: Luca Guadagnino

Year: 2017

Duration: 130 minutes

Genre: Drama, Coming-of-age, Roman

Starring: Timothée Chalamet, Armie Hammer, Michael Stuhlbarg, Amira Casar, etc.

See full original script and movie:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ylaalnOvOPwl-f0wYPLsbf9V9x8jsssp?usp=drive_link





Figure 6.2 Elio notices Oliver wearing Star of David Necklace (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.3 Elio telling Oliver that he also has Star of David necklace (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.4 Elio wearing his Star of David necklace (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.5 Elio touching himself while thinking of Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.6 Elio sniffing Oliver's boxer (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.7 Elio and Oliver's first sexual intercourse (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.8 Elio feeling bitter after having sex with Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.9 Elio helping to carry Oliver's suitcases upstairs (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.10 Elio lying on his parents' thighs while listening to his mother's storytelling (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.11 Annella asking Elio about him and Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)

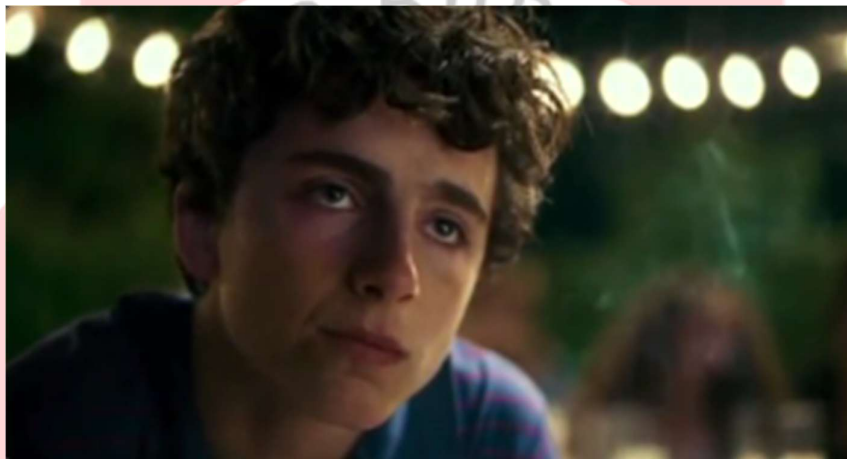


Figure 6.12 Elio watching Oliver and Chiara dancing (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.13 Elio showing his obedience toward Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.14 Elio getting a foot massage from Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.15 Oliver holding Elio in his place with one hand (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.16 Elio waiting for Oliver in the terrazza (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.17 Elio going after Oliver to Central Square (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.18 Elio saying goodbye to Oliver at the train station (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.19 Elio talking with Oliver on call (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)



Figure 6.20 Elio crying in front of the fireplace after his call with Oliver (source: Call Me By Your Name, 2017)

