

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

This chapter discusses the symbols of gender-stereotype found in *The Little Mermaid* and their most possible meaning.

The analysis the symbol of gender-stereotyped is an advance in discussion of the fairy tale *The Little Mermaid*. At this stage, the researcher analyzes all symbols in the story. Those symbols are then looked further in case of the issues come up throughout the symbolization. One of the issues to be concern is gender-stereotype. The researcher thus found several symbols that have gender-stereotype issues. Those symbols of gender-stereotype are then divided into two parts of gender-stereotype classification which are the symbols of masculinity and femininity. The researcher then finally found the symbols of masculinity in the fairy tale *The Little Mermaid* which are Sword, King and Knife while the symbols of femininity found are, Mermaid/Siren, Long Hair and Oyster.

Regards of the symbols of gender-stereotype found in the little mermaid, the main concern to do the interpretation is relying heavily on the meaning of the symbols themselves. Along with this discussion, it is issued that the meaning of the symbol is always increasing and varied. It is therefore the interpreting of the meaning of the symbols must be based on the context in the story and/or when the story is created. In accordance with this idea, the interpreting of the symbols of gender-stereotype, in the form of masculinity and femininity, was based on the theory of Hoffner (1966:327). He states that the symbols of masculinity in ancient times were measured by two criteria: his prowess in battle and his

ability to sire children. Moreover, he further states that the symbols of femininity were objects recalled her domestic duties frequently carry overtones of fertility and sexual drives. The masculinity and femininity criteria in ancient times are then still have relation and influence to the to pre-history of ancient times proposed by Daniel Wilson, he states that the period of human life in pre-history is in the 1816-1892 (as cited in Gill, 2014). Then, the combinations of Hoffner (1966:327) and Daniel Wilson's theories are become the groundwork that are very suitable for the fairy tale *The Little Mermaid* in which written in 1836. Therefore their theories are used in the analysis of the symbol of masculinity and femininity in *The Little Mermaid*.

Here are the findings and discussions about the symbols of gender-stereotypes which are revealed in *The Little Mermaid* that are divided into two parts of discussion; the symbols of gender-stereotypes deal with the concept of masculinity and the other is the symbols of gender-stereotypes deal with the concept of femininity.

4.1 The Symbols of Gender-Stereotype and Their Most Possible Meaning Found in Hans Christian Andersen's *The Little Mermaid*

4.1.1 The Symbols of Masculinity

There are three symbols of masculinity found in *The Little Mermaid* which are king, knife and sword. These symbols are interpreted and then integrated into the adjectives characteristics of masculinity traits based on several opinions from the gender-stereotype's experts. Along with this, the interpretation of the

symbols is strengthened by several western and old symbol dictionaries as the groundwork.

4.1.1.1 King

A reader – at least in Perrine’s view- should be alert for symbolical meanings. He should observe some cautions (as cited in Sugiarto, 2013:19). One of the cautions is the story itself must furnish a clue that a detail is to be taken symbolically. It means that symbolic phenomena can be identified by repetition, emphasis or position. The sea king, in the story of *The Little Mermaid*, is a widower who has six children (mermaids). Although in the story is not much centered to the sea king character, the presence of sea king himself as a person character in the story can be a form of symbol that proposed a meaning. This notion is in line with Perrine’s idea. He states that symbol is something that means more than what it is. It is an object, a person, a situation, an action or some other item that has literal meaning in the story, but suggests and represents other meaning as well (See: Fadaee, 2010:20)

In the story, the king presence is only told in the beginning of the story which is the introduction of the story and in the last story; when he watched on the far

distance his daughter, young little mermaid, who had already transformed herself into human form.

Although King's presence is not much told, he, as a father figure, still has a role to sire his children in different way. The ability to sire his children is shown by letting the six young children taught by the king's grandmother, wise women. The king's intention literally is good. He intends to teach his six daughters to behave and live like a real mermaid princess, since his daughters are young. The king then let his grandmother to take a charge, because she really does well on it. This notion is illustrated in the introduction of the story.

“The Sea King had been a widower for many years, and his aged mother kept house for him. She was a very wise woman, and exceedingly proud of her high birth; on that account she wore twelve oysters on her tail...., she was, however, deserving of very great praise, especially her care of the little-princess, her grand-daughter.”(The Little Mermaid, 2007)

Based on the above illustration, the sea king's decision to let his grandmother to take in charge in his daughter education is solely driven by his willing to her six daughters to be like her grandmother, to be praised in a high rank and act like a mermaid princess. It is therefore, the sea king is actually has his own way to sire the children. Though it is not quite stated in the story, the sea king's care

as a father figured then more clear when he saw his lovely young mermaid transform into human form and get hurt feeling because she is unable to get immortal soul from the prince.

“Once during the night her sisters came up arm in arm, singing sorrowfully,....., once she was saw her old grandmother, who had not been in the surface....., and the old sea king, her father, with his crown on his head. They stretched out their hands towards her, but they did not venture so near the land as her sisters did. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

Based on the above illustration, it can be seen that the Sea king cared to his children and it was the way king sire his children, especially in the condition that he had been a widower for many years. This is somewhat called father role. This idea is in line with measured criteria the symbol of masculinity in ancient times proposed by Hoffner (1966:327). Hoffner states that the symbols of masculinity in ancient times were measured by two criteria: his prowess in battle and his ability to sire children.

Regarding of King is a part of symbols of masculinity; there are some opinions in the case of the king's symbolic meaning. According to the dictionary of symbolism constructed by Protas (refined by Geoff Brown and Jamie Smith, 1997: 52) stated that the king is a

symbolic figure of authority and power, patriarchy and sovereignty while based on Cirlot's view says that King symbolizes universal and archetype of man. The king expresses the ruling or governing principle, supreme consciousness and the virtues of sound judgment and self-control (1962:168). Additionally, at least in Tannen's view the traditional gender of masculine is related to power and status (as cited in Ickes, 1993:76). In short, based on Alison Protas, Tannen and Cirlot's view, the meaning of the symbol king is a man symbolism which portrays the masculinity traits such as patriarchy, authority, and the virtues of self-control.

In relation to the context of King Symbolism in *The Little Mermaid* which was written in 1836, produced in Denmark by the Danish writer, the most possible meaning towards the masculinity symbol of king will be much more influenced by the context when and where the story was created. In year of 1800's in western countries, the stereotype of man was much more on the top of positions in any field. This condition seems clearer that on 1815 the British colonies were over in the island of Denmark. And from 1775 to 1838 the shipping from Denmark was fluctuated heavily along with world economic trends (Maybom, 2002). The man presence in society at that time

then became more dominant, forceful and independent. Therefore, over years later in 1980's the Denmark government made a public policy of equality of men and women in regard to wages and working conditions (Ohannesen and E Rling H, 2014).

Those conditions were also influenced the work of literature at that time. Based on (Maybom, 2002), bibliography concerning on the Danish history was much centered to Literature in 1831-1840 with indexes and various supplements. It was inferred that most of literary works were at least concern to those issues.

In accordance with the literary work of fairy tale *The Little Mermaid* which was written in 1836 in Denmark, this fairy tale also can be influenced by those stereotypes of man at that time. It can be seen by the fact that Hans Christian Andersen was not willing to center the issues of masculinity; the stereotype of man who was has authority, forceful and dominant. It is proven by the fact that the person character (the sea king) is not centered in the whole story. As the above explanations, the presence of King just only few in the story (the introductory and the last part) and also the role of the king in the story are not much. Those ideas are in line with idea of the effects of symbolism which are from Stanton. He says in the story symbolism

could bring three effect. One of them is A symbol that appears on a different context would be helpful in finding the theme or the issues around it (as cited in Sugiarto, 2013:17). It is thus clear that King symbolism has an issue of gender-stereotype of masculinity.

Above all, although the symbol of masculinity of King are presented conversely by not concerning to the presence of the king character itself in the story by Hans Christian Andersen, the masculinity traits or characteristics were still revealed throughout the symbolization of King. Therefore, based on the above discussions, the most possible meaning, in relation to the masculinity traits, of the king symbol is that King represents the one who has patriarchy figure so that he is not easily emotional. It can be seen in *The Little Mermaid*; though the little mermaid prefers live in human form than comes back to the king castle, the king still show his care by hand in hand with daughters to see young little mermaid in the last life, in the last part of the story. The king shows his intellectuality in his authority by not to destroy the young prince's ship although he knew that his lovely young mermaid die because of him; the prince prefer got married with other women instead of the young mermaid.

In conclusion, it can be seen that Hans Christian Andersen was willing to show masculinity traits of non-emotional and intellectuality in authority through King Symbolism. Those notions of masculinity traits are in line with Ifegbersan's view about gender-stereotype concept of man. -He states that men are often described as intellectually, competent, strong, and brave (2010:29) and in Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014) is stated that the word that commonly described masculinity are independent, non-emotional, aggressive, tough-skinned, competitive, clumsy, experienced, strong, active, self-confident, hard, sexually aggressive, and rebellious. Thus, it is found that the most possible meaning of the symbol King in accordance with the gender-stereotype concept in *The Little Mermaid* is man has non-emotional feeling and intellectuality in authority.

4.1.1.2 Knife

In discussion about the presence of knife, it is always interesting to be talked over. It is indeed common to see most of children stories have a presence of knife. In *The Little Mermaid* for instance, the frequency of the word "knife" is a lot at any important event and situation of the story. Regards of *The Little Mermaid* is a part of literary genre in terms of children literature, the presence

of the word “knife” is thus in line with what literature actually is, the creative processing and continuous written word coming up in a given context and situation (Baleiro, 2011:17). It is therefore knife’s presence is bound to be the part of consideration to be scrutinized in case of symbol analysis.

According to Perrine’s view symbol is something more than literal meaning which is can be in the form of an object, action, person, situation and so forth (*See: Fadaee, 2010:20*). Along with this idea, Hall states that symbol is images, figures, human bodies, and so on that exist in the story and has issues behind it (*Dictionary of symbolism in eastern and western art, 1917:ix*). Based on two of those definitions that identify what actually the symbol is, the presence of the word knife in the story can also be inferred as a kind of symbol. It is because the knife is an object that in the story of *The Little Mermaid*, it is given by the witch to the five old sisters of young little mermaid in order to help young little mermaid transform herself into mermaid again by which has to kill the prince first.

The idea of Knife which is considered the symbol is accentuated by the times the word Knife is repeated and emphasized in the story. The word of Knife is

repeated until 7 (seven) times in *The Little Mermaid* so that it is inferred that knife is sort of symbol. This idea along with the Perrine's view as cited in Sugiarto (2013:19), it is about the cautions for the reader to determine a detail to be taken symbolically. Perrine states that one of the cautions is the symbolic phenomena can be identified by repetition, emphasizes or position. It is then conscious that Knife is sort of symbol.

Considering that Knife is sort of symbol, it is then must be accelerated into the concept of masculinity in order to be discussed. Regarding of this case, Hoffner (1966:327) says that the symbols of masculinity in ancient times were measured by two criteria: his prowess in battle and his ability to sire children. In the story of *The Little Mermaid*, the presence of knife in which related to the prowess in battle is revealed in such situations between the young little mermaid and her efforts to strive surviving to such commitment to get the immortal soul of the young prince. Then, it can be seen in the discussion below.

“I will prepare drought for you, with which you must swim to land tomorrow before sunrise,....., you will still have the same floating gracefulness of movement, no dancer will ever tread so lightly; but at every step you take it will feel as if you were treading upon sharp knives, and that the

blood must flow. If you will bear all this, I will help you” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

From the above quotation, it can be seen that the witch character in the story is in the process of offering a help by making such concoction in order to transform the young little mermaid into human form. It is inferred that the young mermaid must sacrifice herself to be able to get the immortal soul. This idea is accentuated by the continuing story afterwards and the above quotation is just the beginning of scarifying efforts made by the young little mermaid. Here are all seven illustrations in which show the sacrificing efforts of young little mermaid.

“Every step she took was as the witch had said it would be, she felt as if treading upon the points of needles or sharp knives; but she bore it willingly, and stepped as lightly by the prince’s side as a soap-bubble, so that he and all who saw her wondered at graceful-swaying movements”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

“....., She danced again quite readily, to please him, though each time her foot touched the floor it seemed as if she trod on sharp knives”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

“..... She had never danced so elegantly before. Her tender feet felt as if cut with sharp knives, but she cared not for it; a sharper pang had pierced through her heart”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

“She saw her sisters rising out of the flood: they were as pale as herself; but their long beautiful hair waved no more in the wind, and had been cut off. “We have given our hair to the witch,” said they, “to obtain help for you,

that you may not die to-night. She has given us a knife: here it is, see it is very sharp". (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

"Kill the prince and come back; hasten: do you not see the first red streaks in the sky? In a few minutes the sun will rise and you must die"....., The little mermaid drew back the crimson curtain of the tent,....., She bent down and kissed his fair brow, she looked at the sky on which the rosy dawn grew brighter and brighter; then she glanced at sharp knife, and again fixed her eyes on the prince, who whispered the name of his bride in his dreams. She was in his thoughts, and the knife trembled in the hand of the little mermaid: then she flung it far away from her into the waves; the water turned red where it fell, and the drops that spurted up looked like blood". (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

From the above seven quotations, it can be seen how hard the little mermaid must hold up the pain made by the knife. The strong efforts did in order to get the immortal soul of the prince. She had to dance so elegantly to catch the prince's affection. It was just the way to close with the prince because she could not speak. Her tongue had already been cut off by the witch before. Therefore, it is implied that the young mermaid must be scarified by the knife presence. She also must be tested how strong she gets really able to restrain the pain given by the knife. Finally it can be seen on the last part of the above quotations, the young mermaid could not stand anymore. She preferred to kill herself than kill the young

prince. She threw away the knife to the sea. She could not stand the pain that has to kill the lovely young prince, her true love, using the knife given by the witch to her old five sisters. She then died into the bubble of foam in the sea. In short, those illustrations are clearly shown the battle between the young mermaid and herself (through the pains made by the knife as a tool of battle). Then finally the prowess in battle was won by the pains made by the knife. The young mermaid was then dead without having the young prince's immortal soul. Therefore, it is then conscious that Knife is symbol of masculinity. It is along with the Hoffner (1966:327) which is stated earlier in the discussions that the symbols of masculinity in ancient times were measured by two criteria: his prowess in battle and his ability to sire children.

Regarding of the interpretation of the meaning of knife as a symbol of masculinity, the interpretation is then highly based on the context of the story of *the Little Mermaid*. From the discussion of the above quotations, it is then found related to the knife's presence in the story that the knife always deals with sacrificing, strength, and death. These ideas are along with Protas' view (1997: 52) in the dictionary of symbolism which is refined by Geoff Brown and Jamie Smith). She states that knife signifies

severance, death, sacrifice, division, or liberation. In line with Protas' view, Cirlot states that knife is associated with vengeance and death, but also with sacrifice (1997:169). In short, the meaning of knife is dealing with sacrificing, strength and death.

The possible meanings of knife found are sacrificing, strength and death which are then substituted into the masculinity traits and/or characteristics in the gender stereotype theory. Ifegbersan (2010:29) says about the masculinity traits. He states that men are often described as intellectually, competent, strong and brave. Another extent notion comes from Brannon (1995:162). He makes six adjectives associated with men stereotype in all of the cultures which are adventurous, dominant, forceful, independent, masculine and strong. Further idea is from Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014). It is stated that the words are in accordance with the masculinity are independent, non-emotional, aggressive, tough-skinned, competitive, clumsy, experienced, strong, active, self-confident, hard, sexually aggressive, and rebellious. Based on the views of Ifegbersan (2010:29), Brannon (1995:162), and Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014), it is seen that there is one masculinity trait

in which is repeated, emphasized, and stated in those their ideas. That trait is strong.

The adjectives trait of strong proposed by Ifegbersan (2010:29), Brannon (1995:162), and Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014) is along with the found possible meaning of the masculinity symbol of knife which are sacrificing, strength and death. The strong adjectives trait reflects how strong and hard the knife try to break the young little mermaid efforts to win the immortal soul through lots of sacrificing acts and pains. Finally, in the last story it was because the knife had the little mermaid kill herself instead of killing the young prince. Above all, it then can be concluded that the most possible meaning of gender-stereotype symbol of knife in which Hans Christian Andersen was willing to convey in *The Little Mermaid*, in term of masculinity trait, is strong man.

4.1.1.3 Sword

Sword is frequently become the part of literary world of children literature. The king, the prince, the army and so on seems have to have a tool to protect himself or somehow to be such the embodiment of his prowess in battle or authority. The sword presence itself is not just the real object in exceedingly world, yet also comes up in such literary work of fairy tale due to the fact that literature itself

always deals human and humanity which becomes the object of creativity in literary world, as proposed by Semi (cited in Sadili, 2013). Regards of sword in the fairy tale; *The Little Mermaid*, the presence of it thus be scrutinized further at any symbolism issue.

Considering of it, the symbol itself can be in the form of object, person, action, and situation and so on. This idea is along with the Perrine's view. He states that symbol is something that means more than what it is. It is an object, a person, a situation, an action or some other item that has literal meaning in the story, but suggests and represents other meaning as well (*See*: Fadaee, 2010:20). Another extend definition are from Hall in the dictionary of symbolism in eastern and western arts, he states that symbol is images, figures, human body and so on that has already stand for in the story and have meaning and issues behind it (1917:ix)

Based on Perrine and Hall's view, the presence of Sword is included as sort of symbol. The sword is an object which is in the story are revealed in terms of situation in which the young mermaid felt so pain as if a sword had already pierced in his body and/or feet. This was actually a kind of warning given by the witch before young little mermaid agreed to transform herself into human form. The

witch accentuated that it was going to be so pain. Yet then the little mermaid was still in her commitment to get the young prince's immortal soul. Those elaborations are illustrated in the story below.

“I will prepare a draught for you, with which you must swim to land tomorrow before sunrise, and sit down on the shore and drink it. Your tail will then disappear, and shrink up into what mankind calls legs, and you will feel great pain, as if a sword were passing through you....., If you will bear all this, I will help you” “Yes, I will,” said the little princess in a trembling voice, as thought of the prince and the immortal soul” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

“Then the little mermaid drank the magic draught, and it seemed as if a two-edged sword went through her delicate body: she fell into a swoon, and lay like one dead” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

Those two illustrations of the story are in line with symbol criteria proposed by Perrine's view as cited in Sugiarto, (2013:19). He states that the story itself must furnish a clue that a detail is to be taken symbolically. It means that symbolic phenomena can be identified by repetition, emphasis or position. It is therefore sword is sort of symbol.

In the discussion of the gender-stereotype concept throughout symbolization, the presence of sword as a symbol is generated into that case. The discussion of

sword in accordance with gender-stereotype concept was found highly related to the symbol of masculinity. Venefica (2015) accentuates in this case. She states that the masculinity principles in which the sword has are the active force, the driving feature and the conquering element of existence. The notion of sword is a symbol of masculinity is emphasized by Cirlot (1971:323). He states that in the western type of sword is a masculine symbol determined by the straight blade shape. Furthermore, in terms of the meaning of sword, Protas (1997) in her dictionary of symbolism states that sword symbolizes power, protection, authority, strength and courage while Hall (1994:87) in the dictionary of symbol in eastern and western art states that sword is a symbol of power, authority and justice. In short, based on Cirlot (1971:323), Protas (1997) and Hall's (1994:87) view, the symbol of sword is sort of masculinity symbol in which has tight relation to the authority, justice and courage.

The idea of sword which are tightly related to the authority, justice and courage are in line with the context of the story of *The Little Mermaid*. In *The Little Mermaid* as reflected in those two illustrations in this discussion, the courage was revealed through such an action of

young little mermaid to take decision to drink the draught though the effects would be so dangerous which are she can not transform herself into mermaid again and the pains would be so great. Moreover, the authority was depicted by the fact that the little mermaid had a right to take her own way of life path. She had an authority to choose whether she lived with her grandmother, father, and old five sisters or try to catch her love, young prince. The justice is shown by the action of the young mermaid to get an equality of getting the immortal soul. It was therefore the young mermaid went to the witch to transform her form into human being and willing to get the immortal soul of mankind, young prince. She tried to get the equality of immortal soul as mankind has.

Above all, it is then unequivocal that sword is highly related to courage, authority and justice. These ideas are in accordance with the gender-stereotype concepts related to the masculinity traits. The courage could be best replaced by the masculinity of brave. It represents the bravery action of young mermaid to transform herself into human form and the brave trait is included with the concept of masculinity in gender stereotype concept. Ifegbersan states that man are often described as intellectually, competent, strong, and brave

(2010:29). It is then sword has an adjective masculinity trait of brave. The other is authority which is in line with the adjective trait of adventurous. It represents the young mermaid's curiosity and inquisition to further know her life path. This adjective of masculinity trait is in line with Brannon's view (1995:162). He makes six adjectives associated with men stereotype which are adventurous, dominant, forceful, independent, masculine and strong. The last is justice. It is the most possible could be replaced by intellectual. This represents the critical thinking of young mermaid to question and find out why just only human being has the immortal soul and why not the mermaid. This is in line with Ifegbersan's view. He states that man are often described as intellectually, competent, strong, and brave (2010:29). In conclusion, the most possible meaning of gender-stereotype symbol of sword in which Hans Christian Andersen was willing to convey in *The Little Mermaid*, in term of masculinity trait, is a man has brave, adventurous and intellectually trait.

4.1.2 The Symbols of Femininity

There are three symbols of femininity found in *The Little Mermaid* which are siren, long hair and oyster. These symbols are interpreted and then integrated into the adjectives characteristics of

femininity traits based on several opinions from the gender-stereotype experts. Along with this, the interpretation of the symbols is strengthened by several western and old symbol dictionaries.

4.1.2.1 The Mermaid or Siren

In advance discussion of *The Little Mermaid*, it is unequivocally concerned to the mermaid herself as the main character. The literal idea of fairy tale is somewhat told about fanciful and fantastic forces (Lombardi, 2013) as well as described both tragic and the comical elements of life (Corbis Cooperation, 2014). The presence of mermaid which is in *The Little Mermaid* then becomes such enticing figure to be looked further. To deal with this, the mermaid herself could be have more than just the meaning of half human fish form, yet also propose another meaning or issue. It is thus called symbol.

To determine thing is hailed as a symbol, there are some cautions has to be alerted with. One of the cautions proposed by Perrine is the story must furnish a clue that a detail is taken symbolically. What it means is that symbolic phenomena can be identified by repetition, emphasis or position (as cited in Sugiarto, 2013:19). Literally in accordance with *The Little Mermaid* story, the presence of mermaid in the story is emphasized and repeated many

times. It is because the mermaid herself is the core of the story. She is a prominent character and therefore has the highest position to be talked over in whole the story.

The mermaid herself which is such a figure of half human-fish form in which in 15th century - based on Cirlot's view- is sort of symbolic figure which is called Siren (1971:298). The mermaid or siren which is considered sort of symbol figure is in line with the idea of Hall in the dictionary of symbolism in eastern and western art. He says that symbol can be in the form of images, figures, human body and so on that has already stand for in the story and have meaning and issues behind it (197:ix). In short, it is then obvious that mermaid is a symbol.

Considering that mermaid is a sort of symbol, the presence of it is then generated into the gender-stereotype concept shown throughout symbolization. Hoffner (1996:337) states that the symbols of gender-stereotype in shown throughout symbolization are divided into masculinity and femininity. The masculinity and femininity in ancient times were measured by two criteria. The symbol of masculinity was taken to be account by his prowess in battle and his ability to sire children while the symbol of femininity was recalled her domestic duties frequently carry overtones of fertility and sexual drives.

Based on Hoffner's guidance, the presence of mermaid in the story is along heavily on the concept of femininity. In the story, the mermaid showed a lot her temptations. It is seen on the illustrations below:

“Beautiful female slaves, dressed in silk and gold, stepped forward and sang before the prince, and his royal parents: one sang better than all the others, and the prince clapped his hands and smiled at them.,,,, The slaves next performed some pretty fairy-like dances, to the sound of beautiful music. Then the little mermaid raised her lovely arms, stood on the tips of her toes, and gilded over the floor, and danced as one yet had been able to dance. At each moment her beauty became more revealed, and her expressive eyes appealed more directly to the heart than the songs of the slave. Every one was enchanted, especially the prince who called her his little foundling; and she danced again quite readily, to please him, though each time her foot touched the floor it seemed as if she trod on sharp knives. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

Based on the illustration above, it can be seen that the little mermaid was willing to be the best girl who was the only one get the attention of many people especially the prince not the other woman, even just the slaves. Though she was hurt; by the fact that every step on her dancing movement as if there was a sharp knife trod to her, she still strive to give her lovely movement to everyone and to the young prince. Furthermore, instead of her movement attraction, her temptation is shown by her expressive eyes.

“Very soon it was said that the prince must marry, and that the beautiful daughter of a neighboring king would be his wife, for a fine ship was being fitted out.,.,.,. “I must travel,” he had said to her; “I must see this beautiful princess; my parents desire it; but they will not oblige me to bring her home as my bride. I cannot love her; she is not like the beautiful maiden in the temple, whom you resemble. If I were forced to choose a bride, I would rather choose you my dumb founding, with those expressive eyes.” And then he kissed her rosy mouth, played with her long waving hair, and laid his head on her heart, while she dreamed of human happiness and immortal soul”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

It is inferred from the above quotation that the young mermaid is actually has a “weapon” to attract the young prince by the fact that she is dumb. Her “weapon” is her expressive eyes. Her expressive eyes as if talking and communicating her willing to the prince. The little mermaid then got the young prince kiss.

Based on two illustrations above, the temptations of young mermaid were revealed throughout her lovely movements and expressive eyes. The other one is her beautiful form and perfect human body as shown below:

“...., and that she had as pretty pair of white legs and tiny feet as any little maiden could have:.... (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

The beautiful form of young little mermaid as to get the man’s heart is accentuated by the witch in the story as illustrated below:

““But if you take away my voice,”
 said the little mermaid, “what us left for me?”
 “Your beautiful form, your graceful walk, and
 your expressive eyes; surely with these you
 can enchain a man’s heart”. (The Little
 Mermaid, 2007)

The young mermaid’s temptations (movements, expressive eyes, and beautiful form) were actually sort of the embodiment of women instinct and it is driven mostly by the sexual drives in order to get man’s attentions. This idea is in line with Hoffner’s (1996:337) idea that woman in ancient times was also driven by her sexual drives. Furthermore, woman is actually born as a tempter of men. Therefore, Wirth says that in 15th century woman who is the incarnation of earth dragged down irresistibly the man use the women’s beauty (as cited in Cirlot, 1971:298). It is then obvious that the mermaid is a symbol of femininity. This idea is strengthen in the Northstar Gallery. It is stated that Mermaid or Siren has strong feminine identities (2002). Furthermore, along with the meaning of mermaid symbol is a temptation woman. Cirlot, in his dictionary of symbols, agrees to this case. He states that Siren is largely symbols of temptation (1971:297).

Regarding of Mermaid is femininity symbol of temptation, there is an adjective trait of femininity which is in line with this. The adjective trait is flirtatious. It is stated in the Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014)

that the words are associated with femininity are dependent, emotional, passive, sensitive, quite, graceful, innocent, weak, flirtatious, nurturing, self-critical, soft, sexually submissive, and accepting. Above all, it is found that the most possible meaning of gender-stereotype symbol of mermaid, in term of femininity trait, is a flirtatious woman.

4.1.2.2 Long Hair

When discussing about the “long hair” presence in the fairy tale, it is interesting to be noticed that some of fairy tale such as *Rapunzel*, *Aladdin*, and *The Little Mermaid*, the main character of the girl in that story always has “long hair”. Moreover, in a cartoon for instance, at most of serial Barbie have also the long hair which usually relate to the beautiful form of the girl. This, in symbolism’s perspective, does not just have the literal meaning of a “hair” which is long; yet other than that it also proposes another meaning as elucidated in the following discussion.

According to Perrine as found in Sugiarto (2013:19) symbol is something more than what it is. It is an object, person, situation, action, and others that not only have literal meaning yet also it proposes another meaning. Further classification about symbol is from Hall. He states that symbol can be in the form of images, figures, human body, and so forth that has meaning and issues behind it

(1917:ix). Based on these two classifications about symbol, the presence of long hair in the story of *The Little Mermaid* has also become the part of symbol. It is a matter of the fact that the long hair is in the part of human body that is along with hall's idea on classifying the symbol. Furthermore, the consideration of long hair is sort of symbol is then more obvious by the fact that the presence of the word "long hair" is emphasized and repeated in the story.

The word "long hair" is emphasized and repeated four times in the story. The presence of the repeated times in the story literally because in fact that the long hair itself is in the part of the young mermaid and her old sisters body. The importance of the long hair is then proved by the fact that the narrator has always been centered any important event by mentioning the word "long hair". These two repeated and emphasized ideas are in accordance with the cautions of something can be taken into account to be a symbol proposed by Perrine. He states that one of the cautions that must be alerted by the reader when determining the symbol is by noticing the symbolic phenomena in the story, the symbolic phenomena can be identified by repetition, emphasized or position (as cited in Sugiarto, 2013:19). Thus it is obvious that long hair is a symbol.

Considering that long hair is part of symbol, the presence of it in term of gender-stereotype concept revealed throughout symbolization is being taken into account. As proposed by Protas (1997:42), the symbol of long hair is heavily related to a woman. Then a woman presence in term of gender-stereotype idea is in the form of femininity (Brannon, 1995:160). The idea of long hair which is part of femininity symbol is then generated into the criteria of femininity symbol in ancient times proposed by Hoffner (1966:327). He states that the symbols of femininity in ancient times were measured by objects recalled her domestic duties frequently carry overtones of fertility and sexual drives.

In story of *The Little Mermaid*, the long hair presence is related to the idea of domestic duties proposed by Hoffner (1966:327). The embodiment of the domestic duties of the long hair itself is reflected by the presence of the little mermaid as a loyal and graceful woman. The faithful is depicted through which the young mermaid still love the young prince even though the prince told her that he had already been engaged with another woman as reflected below:

“A great company were to go with him. The Little Mermaid smiled, and shook her head. She knew the prince’s thoughts better than any of the others. “I must travel,” he had said to

her, “I must see this beautiful princess; my parents desire it; but they will not oblige me to bring her home as my bride. And then he kissed her rosy mouth, played with her long waving hair, and laid his head on her heart, while she dreamed of human happiness and an immortal soul”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

It can be seen from the above quotation that though the prince has already been engaged by his parents, the young mermaid still strive to catch the young prince love. She was still in her commitment to be a loyal woman in order to get an immortal soul. Another proves of young mermaid faithful is reflected by the fact that even the young prince asked her to be always by his side, the little mermaid agreed to that.

“The prince said she should remain with him always, and she received permission to sleep at his door, on a velvet cushion” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

The last fact of the long hair related to the idea of faithful as the embodiment of domestic duties is reflected through the sacrificing effort made by five old young mermaid’s sisters.

“She saw her sisters rising out of the flood: they were as pale as herself; but their long beautiful hair waved no more in the wind, and had been cut off. “We have given our hair to the witch,” said they, “to obtain for you, that you may not die to-night....”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

From the illustration above, it can be seen that the other mermaid showed their loyal to their young sister by cutting off her beautiful hair. Above all, it is clear that the long hair is such the embodiment of domestic duties of a loyal woman.

The other domestic duty revealed in the symbol of long hair is graceful. From the fact that long hair is heavily related to the woman, Protas (1997:42), the presence graceful trait in the story of *The Little Mermaid* reflected by the little mermaid's character which is submissive when becoming a real human form. It is seen from the several quotations above that the young mermaid always did what the young prince said or ask to her. She even slept in young prince's door on a velvet cushion. She even always accompanied the prince wherever to go. It is quite different from the previous situation when the young mermaid was still in her fish form. It was literally she was more inquisitive and sometimes ruled out what the grand mother said or asked to her. It is then implied that whoever that time was living in the mankind life had to be followed what had been set by the ancestors and the norms. Therefore, the presence of women in the story of *The Little Mermaid* in the mankind life is submissive and always below the man's power.

In conclusion, the idea of long hair is symbol of femininity then is proved by the fact that long hair reflects the faithful and submissive traits of woman in the story of the little mermaid and these traits also become the embodiment of the femininity concept playing role on domestic duties as accentuated by Milnor (2005:01) states that woman has high task related to household what it means the domestic duties. The faithful and submissive traits of gender-stereotype concept in femininity are actually along with Barnnon's view that the adjective traits of femininity in all cultures are sentimental, submissive and superstitious (1995:162). In short, the most possible meaning of gender-stereotype symbol of long hair in term of femininity is woman who is loyal and submissive.

4.1.2.3 Oyster

Fairy tale is traditionally intended for children (Lombardi, 2013), it is therefore there has always been such enticing characters or objects created within the entire of the story itself. This is unequivocally made this fairy tale has "aesthetic" or "artistic" criteria of literary genre (Klarer, 20014:01). In *The Little Mermaid*, the characters or objects and even the trajectory narratives of plot are absolutely interesting as the fact created by great writer of children story, Hans Christian Andersen. One of the objects which

are very unique in *The Little Mermaid* story is oyster. The presence of it has always related to the presence of the grand-mother of young mermaid princes as well as the high rank of status. It is therefore those can be taken into account to be talked over in term of symbolism analysis.

On the basis of symbolism analysis, it is first needed to be known further the definition of a symbol itself. The symbol – at least in Perrine's view - can be in the form object, person, situation, and some other item that has literal and other meaning in the story (as cited in Fedae, 2010:20). Based on the Perrine's view, the presence of the oyster in the story of *The Little Mermaid* can also be a part of symbol in which noticed that the oyster itself is not only has the literal meaning of a sort of sea animal but also it proposes another meaning. Moreover, in *The Little Mermaid*, the oyster also has important role or position in that story as a sign of sovereignty or high rank of a mermaid world in the sea. The emphasized and/or important position of oyster itself stated in the story is then become the part of the classification of things can be considered a symbol proposed by Perrine's (1983:119-201). He states that symbolic phenomena in the story can be identified by repetition, emphasis or position. In short, it can be concluded that oyster is a symbol.

Considering that oyster is a symbol, it is then generated into the concept of gender-stereotype. The gender stereotype based on Brannon's view is tightly related to the masculinity and femininity (1995:160). In accordance with Brannon's idea, the presence of the symbol oyster in term of gender-stereotype concept is relying heavily on the femininity. In the story of *The Little Mermaid*, the oyster is always part of the mermaid life. Then in the story, the grandmother of young mermaid is the one who has a lot oysters (twelve oysters) in her tail. This is somewhat shows the highest rank and sovereignty of a mermaid.

“The Sea King had been a widower for many years, and his aged mother kept house for him. She always a very wise woman, and exceedingly proud of her birth; on that account she wore twelve oysters on her tail; while others, also of high rank, were only allowed to wear six. She was, however, deserving of very great praise, especially her care of the little sea-princess, her grand-daughters”. (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

It can be seen that the presence of oyster is always related to high rank, to the status of a mermaid and to the grandmother herself as got the highest praise. In the story, whenever this old lady teaches her grand-daughters to behave like princes, she always shows the high rank by the number of oyster posed. For instance, when her grand-daughters reach the age of fifteen, what it means

they are allowed to swim to the sea surface, the grandmother takes in charge on giving the oyster as the fact that the rank of her grand-daughters is increased though the fact that the oyster hurt the mermaids tail.

“At last she reached her fifteenth year. “Well, now, you are grown up,” said the old dowager, her grandmother,...., then the old lady ordered eight great oysters to attach themselves to the tail of the princess to show her high rank. “But they hurt me so”, said the little mermaid. “Pride must suffer pain” replied the old lady.” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

It can be seen from the above illustration that the presence of oyster is always related to the figure of grandmother and what grandmother does. It is because she holds the highest rank and got the most numbers of oysters. In relation to this, one of the characters of grandmother herself in *The Little Mermaid* is caring. The care is shown by fact that she always nurtures and gives guidance to her grand-daughters. It is then can be seen that there is simultaneously interwoven between oyster and the grand-mother.

Regarding that there is connection between the presence of oyster and the grand-mother, the interpretation of the meaning toward its femininity was absolutely influenced by this. Protas (1997:66) in her book of dictionary of symbolism states that oyster is

simply related to the feminine principle. It relates to the female of womb. Based on the Protas's view, the grand mother always proud on her high birth, as stated in part of the story below:

“....., She was a very wise woman, and exceedingly proud of her high birth; on that account she wore twelve oysters..” (The Little Mermaid, 2007)

It is then obvious that the symbol of oyster is a part of femininity and related to the character of grand-mother as a role model for their grand-daughters as stated by Wolshyn, Nancy Tabe and Laura Lane that female characters might be viewed as a role model (2013:151). Then, it can be stated that oyster is related to the nurturing idea of femininity trait.

The idea oyster related to the femininity trait of nurturing is in line with the words are associated with femininity stated in Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2014). It is stated that one of the words related to the femininity trait is nurturing. This idea is also accentuated with Bepko and Krestan's view (1990). They state that one of the personal traits and behavior of woman is nurturing (as cited in Tang and Catherine Tang, 2001:182) and based on Caldera, Hutson and O'Brien, 1989 states the same that women is related to the nurturing trait (as cited in Cherney et al, 2003:96). Thus,

it is concluded that the most possible meaning of oyster in case of gender-stereotype concept of femininity is nurturing woman.