CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains about background of the study, statements of the problem, purpose of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Study

Language is the way of communication. People can imagine how difficult life without language. ‘Language is a system of arbitrary conventionalized vocal, written, or gestural symbol that enable members of a given community to communicate intelligibly with one another’ (Brown, 2000:5). People use language to communicate with others no matter it uses words, spoken, written, or combine of them. By language, people not only get information, but also use it to express feeling. Sometimes, when people describe a person as a good communicator, they are likely thinking of the way he/she speaks and feels their expression.

There are so many ways to express human expression. Literature is one way to describe human’s expression. According to Koesnosubroto (1988:1), ‘Literature is, and cannot be anything but, a kind of extension and application of certain language’. People can see the relationship between literature and language on the basic of the real fact that the literary work is a verbal work of art, and the authors of literary work use language to describe their imagination.

There are some literary works which expose the human life. They are prose, drama, and poetry. ‘Drama has one characteristic peculiar to itself. It is written
primarily to be performed, not read. It normally presents its action (a) through actors, (b) on a stage, and (c) before an audience’ (Arp & Jhonson, 2006: 1027). Drama has similarity with film, because film shares many characteristics with drama: setting, plot, character, conflict, dialogue, images, symbolism, and theme. But audience cannot see the actors immediately in film because the audiences only can see it by using a screen as a media itself.

Film shows the audiences about the story that happens around them, like how people live in their daily life, how they think and act, and the real life society. Sometimes, film also depicts the history. So, if film directors want to make good relationship with audience, the film directors can try to approach them with put a good story in film which gives good message and good impression to them.

*My Sister's Keeper* is an American film and released on 26th June 2009. It was directed by Nick Cassavetes, the talented director, actor, and screenwriter. The film is starred by Cameron Diaz, Abigail Breslin, Sofia Vassilieva, and Alec Baldwin and it was produced by New Line Cinema.

*My Sister's Keeper* is one of Cassavetes film with theme of love, struggle, and rebellion. It tells about the complex problems in a family. The story begins when Kate, a daughter of the couple husband and wife, Brian and Sara Fitzgerald convicts suffering of leukemia, a blood and bone marrow cancer. Anna, Kate’s younger sister was conceived as a savior sibling, in order to harvest blood from her umbilical cord to use in treatments to help save Kate's life. Anna is usually willing to donate whatever Kate needs, but when she is 13, Anna’s petitions for medical emancipation with the
help of lawyer Campbell Alexander, so that she will be able to make her own decisions regarding her medical treatment and the donation of her kidney.

*My Sister’s Keeper* was chosen as the research object because two reasons. First, it has unusual story because the parents in this story want to use the younger sister to be a savior for the oldest sister by donating kidney. Second, this film is very interesting because we can learn about a rebellion girl to get her human right, especially to keep her organs of body.

Krisnapuri (2008) conducted a research related to reflection of youth rebellion. “Youth Rebellion” she stated that the main character, James Dean reflects the Youth Rebellion valued through his behavior and also through his appearance. From his behavior, it could be seen through his hobby in racing and from his exploration in acting. Meanwhile, his appearance was revealed throughout his fashion style and his body language. All were mold into unity that personify and described the Youth Rebellion value.

Actually, rebellion is not good thing to do because people assume that it is related to violence. According to Sulloway (2000), ‘Rebellion is a control issue (or power issue). Rebels are control freaks (or power freaks). Actually it is not an authority problem but a control (power) problem. More exactly, an authority problem is a type of control (power) problem’.

From the explanation above, the researcher is really interesting in analyzing the rebellion of Anna’s to get human right for her kidney in “*My Sister’s Keeper*” film. So, the title of this research is An Analysis of Anna’s Rebellion in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”. 
1.2 **Statement of Problems**

Based on the background of the study described about, the problems of this study are formulated as follow:

1. What kind of rebellion does Anna do in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”?
2. What are the causes of Anna’s rebellion in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”? 
3. What is the effect of Anna’s rebellion to her sister in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”?

1.3 **Purpose of the Study**

Considering the given statement of the problems above, the purposes of the study are:

1. To explain the kind of Anna’s rebellion in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”.
2. To describe the causes of Anna’s rebellion in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”.
3. To find out the effect of Anna’s rebellion to her sister in Nick Cassavetes’s film “*My Sister’s Keeper*”.
1.4 **Significance of the Study**

The result of this study is very expected to give contributions to the students and lecturers of English Department of University Muhammadiyah Malang, also further researcher. The contribution will be as follow:

1. **For Students**

   It is hoped this study will be able to help the readers in analyzing literature especially film. Moreover, this study is also expected to enlarge the student’s knowledge and appreciation toward literary works.

2. **For the teachers and lecturers**

   The result of this analysis will encourage the teacher or the lecturers to use “film” as material in teaching in order that the students have knowledge and appreciation toward film.

3. **For the researcher**

   It is also expected that the study may provide a helpful references for the further researchers who are interested in conducting the study in the same field.

1.5 **Scope and Limitation**

In this film, the researcher takes the scope on a Rebellion in Nick Cassavetes’s film *My Sister’s Keeper*, and limits the discussion of analyzed only the main character, Anna Fitzgerald’s, especially about kind, the causes and the effect to her sister of her rebellion.
1.6 Definition of Key Terms

1. Analysis is a method by which a thing is separated into parts, and those parts are given rigorous, logically, detailed scrutiny, resulting in a consistent and relatively complete account of the elements of the things and the principles of their organization (Holman, 1986:20).

2. Rebellion is a control issue (or power issue). Rebels are control freaks (or power freaks). Actually it is not an authority problem but a control (power) problem. More exactly, an authority problem is a type of control (power) problem (Frank Sulloway, 2000).