

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

Crazy Rich Asians novel by Kevin Kwan is a complex story that takes the theme of Chinese life in Singapore, the story of conflicts in Chinese family life in dealing with problems in love relationships. Besides, Kevin Kwan also includes the issue of socio-cultural and traditional changes among the Chinese community in Singapore. Several factors caused this, one of which the author relates to as the main factor in the cultural change was the effect of colonialism when Singapore was colonized by the British.

There are three cultures and customs that the writer highlights in this study they are Chinese wedding tradition in Singapore, the second bachelor party, which has become popular among the Chinese community in Singapore in particular, and the third is afternoon tea, the cultural heritage of the British colonies in the past.

Araminta Lee and Colin Khoo are a couple who will hold their grand wedding in Singapore, and they are a couple of Chinese descent who was born and raised in Singapore. Their wedding tradition is the biggest wedding that will become a royal wedding Singapore version, is a wedding that people highly covet at this time. Weddings with a series of simple events that have been planned very carefully produce an event that is not forgotten by the bride and groom and even the guests. Start with the wedding vows to a very grand dinner that the host has

prepared. The bride, who looked elegant, wore a vintage dress with a European wedding dress theme, making the bride as graceful as she walked to the wedding pulpit.

Araminta Lee and Colin Khoo are a Chinese couple who had to showcase Chinese traditions and culture at their wedding. However, some Chinese cultural traditions are not featured in the novel, such as family gatherings and marriage proposals. The writer argued that Araminta Lee and Colin Khoo's wedding is the background of story from the novel that talks about the conflicts of the Chinese family and the conflicts in the romantic relationships of the main characters. Because of that Kwan did not highlight their wedding traditions one by one.

There are several factors described by Kevin Kwan as a writer, like want to show his readers who dominate and have a western readership market that Asian traditions and lives are not as traditional as they think, the modern traditions they usually use also apply to other people's circles in Asia itself, and also in the marriage of Araminta Lee and Colin Khoo still follow some traditions and Chinese culture itself such as having a partner who has a social and family background that resembles each other, but Kwan as a writer, only explains the wedding tradition, and this shows that modern wedding traditions exist among the Singaporean Chinese community because of the ease of tradition and also efficiency to do.

The second is the bachelor party is a tradition that dates back to the 5th century BC when the Spartan warrior celebrated his friend who was about to end his bachelorhood. Over time, this tradition is still used by several countries and has undergone several changes following the times described in the previous chapter.

In Chinese tradition, the tradition carried out by the groom to the bride before marriage is the tradition of giving gifts or offerings to the bride and her family, this tradition is called (*Na zheng*). This tradition is very different from the Chinese tradition, the bachelor party is a party commemorated as the day when the bride and groom end their bachelor period which is celebrated with close friends and relatives. Celebrations are synonymous with celebrations in the form of ending adolescent behavior that they will not enjoy after marriage, such as drinking alcohol and other activities that will not be easy to find if the bride and groom already have the partner.

The bachelor party is a culture that does not exist in Chinese culture and incorporates western culture in various ways to introduce it to everyone. In this case, the bachelor party in social life becomes a new modern culture that is currently a trend that bachelor party is an influence from the West, making it a new culture in their social life.

The analysis from Kevin Kwan, the author of *Crazy Rich Asians*, does not make it like a bachelor party in general. He only describes the groom's bachelor party or Colin Khoo when they go to Macau to have fun but are violated by Bernard's plan. Not in line with the expectations of the bachelor party participants. They returned to the hotel, and some of them enjoyed Macau by booking a VIP gambling room, but not a bachelor party if the leading participant in groom, did not come to join the party. In this case, Kevin Kwan, a Singaporean Chinese who grew up in America, makes this story still able to reflect Asian people who follow Eastern culture who have realized that bachelor party is a western culture even though it is trendy among young Singaporean Chinese in particular. However, Kwan still maintains the eastern cultural norms that adheres.

The third point is the tea tradition, the tea culture in China has a variety of unique tea ceremonies and methods. The ceremonies are *Gongfu cha*, the Daoist tea ceremony, and the *Wu-wo* Tea Ceremony. Each tea ceremony has a traditional procedure that has its characteristics. The Chinese community most often does *gongfu cha*. Some stages are carried out in the tea ceremony by squeezing the best tea leaves that can produce the taste produced from the tea squeeze.

The cultural tradition of drinking Chinese tea (*chá*) begins with *Shennong* (*Shénnóng*), a mythical figure who is the father of Chinese agriculture and Traditional Chinese Medicine. It is said that *Shennong* accidentally found tea

while he was boiling water to drink while sitting under a *Camellia Sinensis* tree (a plant species whose leaves and shoots are used to make tea).

Drinking of tea tradition in Singapore is growing and getting more and more popular in its own way, that they have an island being incorporated in Chinese immigration means bringing together various tea cultures residing in one country, such as traditional English tea, local ginger tea, or Chinese tea ceremony. Singapore provides a variety of traditional tea drinking experiences for its fans. Tea is an important part of Chinese culture.

The tradition of drinking afternoon tea carried out by Young Families with how the tradition of drinking afternoon tea from the Chinese tradition actually has many differences, considering that drinking tea in the Chinese tradition is synonymous with celebrations such as the *Chabai* wedding tradition to honor their parents, there is also a Taoist tea ceremony, and the *Wu-wo* tea ceremony, to the tea used for medicine that was often used in times of war.

The tradition of afternoon tea in this novel is similar to the English tradition, starting from the procedures and services to the snacks served in the tea-drinking tradition. Su Yi, the grandmother of Nicholas Young, said that drinking tea was a tradition for British guests because they did not appreciate Chinese food. In his analysis at this point, Kevin Kwan makes it clear that this tradition is a tradition left by the colonialists in the past because the Singaporean Chinese also do not

have their version of the tradition of drinking tea, but to explain that there is a legacy from the colonizers who abandoned the custom. The culture that has become a habit for the Chinese Singaporean community, in particular, is also emphasized that the influence of colonialism on cultural change is the main effect of the cultural modernization of a community group in their respective regions.

Kevin Kwan, the author of the novel *Crazy Rich Asians*, focuses not only on the romantic life of the main character but also on the issue of cultural change that occurred in the place where he was born. In this case, several factors cause cultural differences. The writer analyzes that the main aspects of these changes are the influence of colonialism and the development of modern times. In this modern era, people want something simple and effective from all aspects. Araminta Lee and Colin Khoo's wedding, which is a wedding that most people dream of, is a wedding with an elegant impression and also fast execution. The bachelor party is a party before a wedding that begins to develop in young people's social life because it is influenced by various aspects that they think are worth emulating and doing for them, considering Asian cultural traditions or Chinese people, in general, do not have these traditions. The tradition of drinking afternoon tea is to honor colonial soldiers who were not familiar with Chinese Singaporean home-cooked food. It is a heritage tradition preserved by Nicholas young's grandparents because it is considered a tradition that their children love.

After analyzing Kevin Kwan's *Crazy Rich Asians*, the writer concludes that colonialism and the development of the modern era are the factors that cause the difference between Singaporean Chinese culture and indigenous Chinese culture, in this case also in today's modern era, people certainly want a tradition and culture to look elegant and straightforward. The traditions left by their ancestors are considered less effective for today's society, which respects the time and does not make it difficult. In the three traditions and cultures, the wedding tradition is a tradition that is modernized by time with the cultural has been left by British colonizer according to the needs of today's society but does not abandon the noble values that they still believe in today, such as choosing equal partners who have the same family and personal background. Kevin Kwan as a writer who has a market for readers from the west also wants to show that Asian traditions are not as traditional as they think so far. Many everyday things apply to the social life of the Chinese people, especially in Chinese Singapore.

The limitation of this research is that the writer only focuses on analyzing aspects of socio-cultural traditions in the novel. This study does not discuss the other aspects of the novel, such as political, economic, and various other aspects that better develop this research. As an improvement for future research, it is better for further researchers to discuss the social aspects of cultural life and traditions of the Chinese-Singaporean society in greater depth, which may

significantly influence the development of research from aspects of social life contained in the novel.

