CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to The Study

Culture is a way of life and becomes a guide in people's daily life. Fashion language, accents, occupation, education, and marriage are ways of life influenced by culture and surrounded environment. Therefore, each region may have different cultures or just slight similarities which lead to an emergence of various identities. By examining their identity, people's cultural background can be identified. However someone's identity is changeable because of the life experience.

The identity changing also makes someone to be able to diffuse easily with others. When someone deliberately changes his identity in order to hide cultural background has purpose to hide his background from other people in new environment by adding new personal information. One of reason leads a person to change his identity is adaptation in new environment. He will change or hide his true identity because he is trying to adapt with new environment.

Such phenomenon is found in a literary work written by Roopa Farooki entitled "The Flying Man". The novel tells about Maqil who comes from Pakistan and get used to Pakistani tradition during his childhood, and his early life is fully educated under his parent supervision. When Maqil has grown as a teenager he decides to get education out of Pakistan. Maqil chooses New York for his education. But during his education in New York, he develops himself because of

cultural intersections. Maqil's identity changes several times and moves from one place to another. During his movement, Maqil changes his identity through his name and performance. He gambles in every place that he lived. So he adapts to his new environment by performing different identity to cover his true identity. Due to the novel shows identity issue, this research focuses on Maqil's identity as a main character.

Regarding to the issue, there are several researches. First is R. Myrna Nur Sakinah (2012) with her research entitled "*Identitas dan Isu Politik Pada Tokoh Perempuan "Putri Cina dan Giok Tien" dalam novel Putri Cina Karya Shindunata*. She is discussing about character of *Putri Cina* and *Giok Tien*'s identity as Chinese women contributes to their homeland change. For her research, she uses postcolonial theory by Lim Sing Meij to identify a Chinese woman identity during postcolonial era. Second is Kanti P. Tjahjono (2008), her research entitled "*Pembentukan Identitas Tokoh Lily dalam Novel "Sweetness in The Belly" Karya Camilla Gibb*". Her research finding is identity establishment experienced by a main character named Lily, an English woman Muslim. She decides to make a new identity of her Englishness to a multicultural English because of her religion. In her research, she uses identity theory by Stuart Hall she focus on essential identity of that English woman who has Islam religion.

Both of those researches are focused on issue about a woman identity. Not only happen to woman, man also has an identity issue. This research will discuss about an identity issue that happen to a man. A man character in this research experiences changing in his identity because several factors. Therefore, this

research is entitled **Identity Changes Analysis of The Main Character in "The Flying Man**".

1.2 Research Questions

In this research there are three research questions:

1. What type of identity changes experienced by Maqil as the main character?
2. What are factors leads to Maqil's identity changes?

1.3 Objectives

The objectives of this research are:

1. To recognize what kind of identity change experienced by Maqil as the main character.
2. To identify factors lead to Maqil's identity changes.

1.4 Significance to Knowledge

The writer expects this research can give some advantages to the knowledge by giving information about how someone could change his identity through the case in the Flying Man novel by Roofa Farooki. Also to know what is the effect of changing in identity and the factors that make someone identity changes.

Practically this research is expected to me in understanding identity changing. as well as, to help to know about himself, because the writer is

influenced by many different cultures. Therefore to find out about the true identity that stand in the writer self, also he can know about the person that he used to be, then decide what kind of person that he wants to be.

1.5 Framework of the Theories

Identities which are attach to people, can be shown through their identity by presenting themselves and being recognize by others. However, there are some people presenting their identity to hide their past or background. They try to develop new information that protects their personal information, because of their new names and their appearances. It is related to Mak Geertje (2013) statement that "*They try to find the essence of their personality, are constantly engaged in presenting and expressing themselves to others, try to protect personal records, or hotly debate issues of national or sexual identity"*. The changing can make people get a new representation for themselves because it is related with cultural background. For example, if a person's name is *Matsumoto,* it is recognized as someone coming from Japan and assuming the person is able to speak Japanese. The person is not Chinese or Korean because both Chinese and Korean have identical ethnical name that is come from similar pronunciation in both language, in Chinese and Korean some words are have same pronunciation such as *kang, ming, yang, yoo, li* etc. Therefore it gives influenced to their names. For example Chinese name is Li Bingbing and the Korean name is Yoo Jae suk.

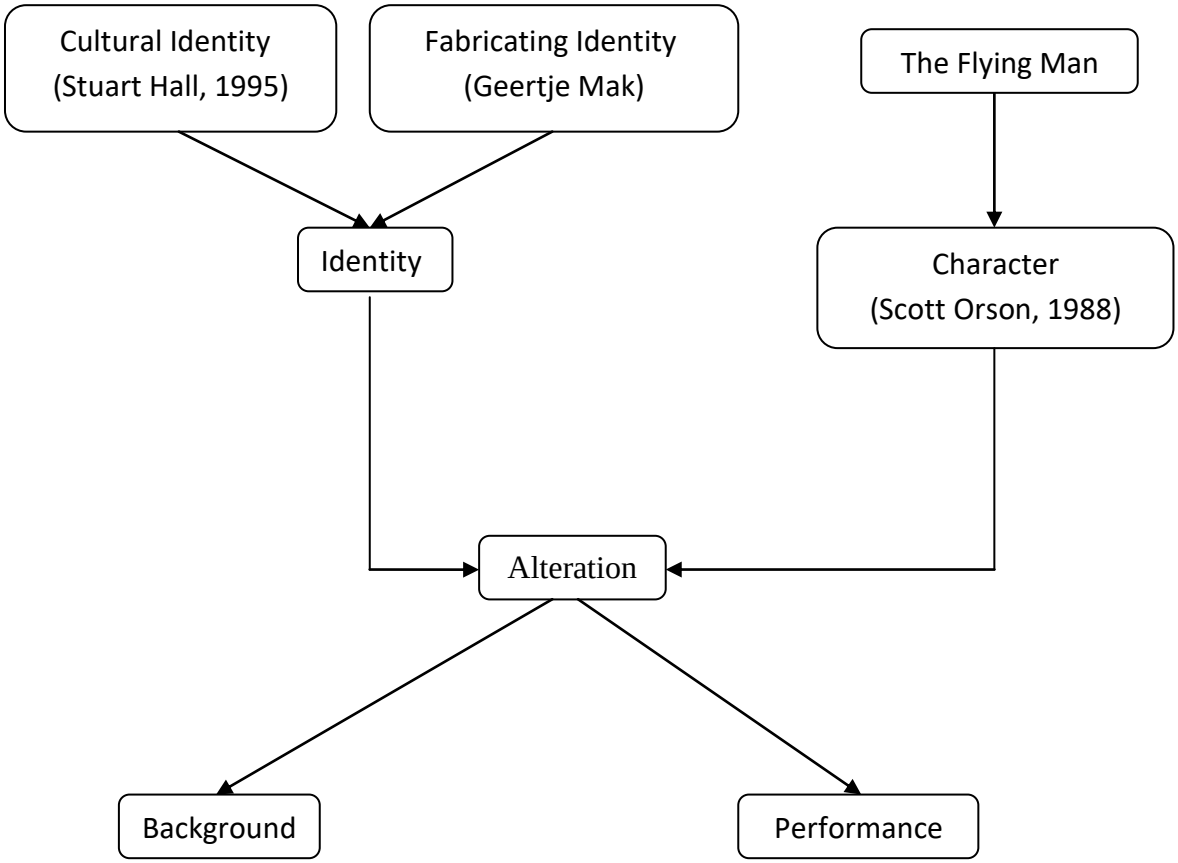
Not only name, appearance alteration is also part of representation of the person identity. Identity is formed by representation according to kind of identity

that he or she chosen. Such condition is occurred as has been stated by Hall (1995: 4) that "*Identity is formed by how we are represented and how we represent our self. Hall also explain that someone identity is not permanent but it is temporary and depend on identity form process that comes from someone discourses and practice."* Identity representation appears through fashion style also represents the person identity.

Such changes are also experienced by Maqil as a main character. To recognize about identity change experienced by Maqil, method of characterization is used. Therefore, this research is using character theory by Scott Orson (1988) who states that characters in fiction are people and it is human being and character also seems real like real people. To know about the character in the novel, there are several ways: motive is some intention or something that deliberately did by a person to get attention or some achievement; the past is events that happen or did by someone in his previous time that make impact to his present life; reputations is something that people known about a person that comes from spread information; body is how a person is looked by other people by his or her physical appearance; behavior is pattern of activities that did by someone in his or her daily life; then habits is manners that always did repeatedly.

To examine that identity change information, there are several techniques. According to Mak (2013), those are Registration, Authentication, Life history, Observation, Family/Social network. Registration identity contains information about birth, residence, marriage, and travel record. Authentication identity contains information like ID card, such as finger print, photos, etc. Life history is

told about self narration and compiling the story about a person from different sources. Observation is the description of a person, how their appearance, how their occupation and also the skill of people. Family/Social network information contains about the life environment of a person, relationship with the other people and tells about the family background. With those techniques the writer would to analyze the identity change of the main character in the novel.


Cultural Identity
(Stuart Hall, 1995)
Fabricating Identity
(Geertje Mak)
The Flying Man
Identity
Character
(Scott Orson, 1988)
Alteration
Background
Performance