

## The Analysis of the Characters' Power Relations in Paulo Coelho's *Eleven Minutes*

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.18860/lilics.v2i2.3273>

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**How to Cite: APA Style 7th edition**

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### Submission

#### Track:

Received:

06-06-2023

Available online:

31-10-2023

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### ABSTRACT

*This study aimed to find power relations in the novel Eleven Minutes written by Paulo Coelho. The researcher focused on analyzing the forms of power relations between Maria and the male characters in the novel as well as her resistance against them. This study applied the power relation theory proposed by Foucault. This type of research was classified into literary criticism with a sociological approach. Data collection in this study used documentation techniques by reading and highlighting sentences, dialogues, and quotations. Furthermore, the data analysis was carried out by classifying, interpreting, and analyzing the data, and drawing conclusion. The results of this study indicated that Maria had power relations with the male characters in the novel. The male characters were the boyfriend and Malfson as the partners, the owner of a draper shop, Roger and Milan as the employers, the Arab man, Terence, and Ralf Hart as the clients. The forms of the power relations between Maria and the male character showed that Maria had power over the male character by threatening and utilizing her beauty. Conversely, Mary was also often placed as a powerless party over the power exercised by men, such as being controlled and deceived. The resistance carried out by Maria was the resistance through the discourse and disobedience. The resistance through the discourse was the summon of a lawyer for an exploitative act committed by one of her employers. Meanwhile, the resistance through disobedience was carried out by refusing the pimp's orders by leaving from working as a prostitute in the Copacabana bar. For future researchers, research using the same theory can also be continued, in terms of power relations, because there were still many variations of literary works that can be analyzed further.*

**Keywords:** eleven minutes, power relations, resistance

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### INTRODUCTION

Humans are social creatures. They live together and need each other. They establish interactions among themselves that create social relationships. In everyday life, social

relationships play an important role in shaping and influencing individuals (Psaltis & Duveen, 2006). Talking about relations, everyone has different relationships, depending on the group or society they adhere to. Social relations also contribute to the social and cognitive development of individuals. Through interaction with others, one can learn about cultural norms, values, and ways to communicate effectively (Harris & Orth, 2020). This learning process helps build social identity and enhances one's ability to understand and interact with the wider community.

Social relationships and literary works are very close because literary works often reflect, describe, or criticize aspects of social relations in society. Literary works tell about human life which is an inspiration for an author to produce literary works. Literature represents life in a large measure although individual subjectivity is also an object of literary imitation (Wellek & Warren, 1956). Thus, literature is a picture of real life that describes various aspects of life and life's problems as well as sentences that contain moral messages. In this case, the researcher used the *Eleven Minutes* novel as material in criticizing the social issues depicted in it.

*Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho described a complex relationship between Maria and the male character in the novel. Maria was a beautiful woman who had physical attractiveness that can attract men. The conflict that occurred in this novel was when Maria was tricked by one of the male characters who invited her to go to Switzerland to work as an artist. After some time she was fired unilaterally by her employer. Long story short, Maria's isolation in Switzerland made her determined to become a prostitute. Based on the conflict analyzed by the researcher in the *Eleven Minutes* novel, the relationship to be analyzed was about power.

The novel showed power relation between Maria and male characters that were in line with the theory initiated by Foucault. He argued that understanding of power changes between his early works on institutions. Power is the diversity of power relations that persists in the field where they operate and which are their own organization; as a process through relentless struggle and confrontation, modify, strengthen, or reserve them; as support discovered by the relationship of these forces to one another, thus forming chain or system (Kelly, 2013).

Foucault added in his theory that power should be viewed as diverse and dispersed relations such as networks, which have a strategic scope. Power is understood by asking questions about how power operates or in what way it is operated. He argued that modern society sees the body as everything. The current false health awareness is one that makes modern society obsessed with their own bodies. An attractive body will bring out the power in the power had (Markula & Pringle, 2006).

This study examined the novel *Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho as the object using theory of power relations by Michel Foucault as the main theory. In analyzing the data, the researcher only focused on the forms of power relations between Maria and male characters and her resistance against them that described in the novel storyline.

The novel *Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho has been studied by previous scholars. However, the theory used in this novel has not been applied before. The approach taken by previous researchers had been targeted from several aspects such as psychology or gender studies. Nonetheless, no studies have been found that use the theory of power relations in Paulo Coelho's novel. Based on the symptom that occur in the novel, this paper will be important and very beneficial for readers in the world of research, especially for those who

have an interest in analyzing literary works using the theory of power relations and also in the other similar issues.

Furthermore, this research contributed to develop the study of literary works within the scope of power relations theory which had not found too many research results. The power relations theory of Michel Foucault which was applied in this study was to see the practice of power relations that occur in social life. To complete this research, the researcher had reviewed several previous studies that were in line with the topic of Power Relations as stated below:

In previous studies, the researcher had found studies that used the same theoretical framework, namely Foucault's power relations, which included Ningtyas (2021) entitled *Power Relations on the Female Body in Seno Gumira Ajidarma's Short Story Istana Tembok Bolong* and Rahayu et al. (2014) entitled *Power Relations in Memoirs of Geisha and The Dancer*. Those study explored disciplinary mechanisms in the form of power relations practices in short stories. Then, the next research conducted by Simanjuntak et al. (2022) entitled *Power Relations in the Story of "Nommensen Bertemu Raja Panggalamei" by Patar Pasaribu* and Febriyanti (2013) entitled *Power Relations In Tahmima Anam's The Good Muslim*, that revealed several ideas focusing on the dominance and the parallels of power relations.

Several previous studies were similar to this present research. One of which was Shrivastwa (2022) in his article entitled *Exploration of Power Struggle in Chatterjee's Palli Samaj*. This article aimed to explore issues of power relations and power struggles in a novel from a Marxist perspective. Furthermore, a research conducted by Basid and Amrillah (2018) entitled *Masculinity Representation in the Movie "Miracle in Cell No.7"*. Based on sociology of literature perspective that discussed about the representation of masculinity between the father, his daughter, and the surrounding community was reflected in the film using the sociology of literature which views literature as a portrait of social reality.

Several previous studies used the same object *Eleven Minutes* novel by Paulo Coelho, but using different analysis from this present research. Hence, the researcher could ensure that this paper contained novelty. Among those previous studies were Kaushik (2020) entitled *Agony of Displaced Maria in Paulo Coelho's Eleven Minutes*, Ulya (2015) entitled *Maria's Moral Reasoning in Paulo Coelho's Eleven Minutes Viewed from Lawrence Kohlberg's Theory*, Pardede and Pratama (2022) entitled *Self Actualization Depicted in Paulo Coelho's Eleven Minutes and Milena Busquets's This Too Shall Pass*, and Darma (2014) entitled *Maria's Self-Trancendence in Paulo Coelho's Eleven Minutes*, focusing on the psychological aspects of the main character.

Based on the previous studies above, the object of this research had never been studied in terms of power relation between the main characters. The interest in this research lied in the selection of issues in the novel *Eleven Minutes*. This novel was closely related to the power of main character, Maria, in controlling her body with the motives that she wanted behind it. Another view of the study of feminism used the background of women who have independence and sacrifices for survival. In this study, the researcher chose to investigate the characters from the perspective of power relation.

## RESEARCH METHOD

This paper was classified in literary criticism study because it evaluated and interpreted a novel as an object of the research. It used sociological approach as an umbrella of the research. The researcher focused on the analysis of Foucault's theory of power relations. This study analyzed the forms of power relations between Maria and other characters in Paulo Coelho's *Eleven Minutes*. The theory used was very suitable for research that discussed social relationship among people. The researcher used the data collection method by taking from sentences and quotations as well as dialogues that occurred as the evidence from the research analysis.

The data source in this research object used the novel *Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho as the main research data which was printed at 2005 in English version. This was a work of fiction with a thickness of 178 pages. The novel was originally published in Portuguese, later translated into several other languages, and had received an International best seller award.

The strategy for completing this research used documentation techniques. Document study is a technique of extracting reliable data sources to complement research, whether in the form of archives, theoretical books, films, or other monumental works (Nilamsari, 2014). In the identification process, the researcher read a whole text which was sourced from the main data. Furthermore, highlight the data based on the research objectives in the form of sentences, dialogues, and other texts contained in the object.

At the data analysis stage, all data that had been collected was specifically classified. Then, the researcher interpreted and compared the data to make it coherent and understandable. Furthermore, analyzed in depth the accuracy of the data findings using the theory of power relations. The approach chosen was based on the topic in the novel, which was about the power relations between Maria and male characters in the novel. Finally, the researcher drew the conclusion in answering the problems of the study. In short, the research on Paulo Coelho's *Eleven Minutes* using the theory of power relations by Foucault could be applied.

## FINDINGS & DISCUSSION

### ***Power Relations between Maria and Male Characters in Eleven Minutes Novel***

According to Foucault (2005), power relations are an integral part of modern social productive interaction, and are linked to the formation of group substance. Power relations emerge in every social interaction with the mission of influencing, operating, or controlling the power. Foucault stated that in social interaction, one party manages more power than the other, so this relationship creates a powerful and powerless side (1982).

This novel showed evidence of the existence of power relations of the Maria and male characters. The style, expression, and action of Maria towards her customers were something unique compared to practices in other interaction systems. The main character was named Maria, a girl from the countryside in Brazil who failed to achieve her obsession to become a famous model artist. Maria was described as a beautiful woman who can always captivate men. Maria recognized her beauty and bodily functions as a sign of maturity in some parts of her sensuality. The male characters mentioned were the boyfriend and Malfson as the partners, the owner of draper's shop, Roger, and Milan as the employers, and the Arab man, Terence, and Ralf Hart as the clients.

### *Power Relation between Maria and the Partners*

Coelho's first story that became data on the existence of power relations in this novel was Maria's interaction during her puberty. Maria started to fall in love with several men and then she started dating. From the several men she dated, there was one scene where Maria lost her virginity with her boyfriend. This was evidenced by the following quotation.

#### *Datum 1*

*"On one such date, she lost her virginity on the back seat of a car; she and her boyfriend were touching each other with more than usual ardour, the boy got very worked up, and she, weary of being the only virgin amongst her group of friends, allowed him to penetrate her." (Eleven Minutes, p. 10)*

*She made love with the same boy a few more times, although she had to threaten him first, saying that if he didn't, she would tell her father he had raped her. She used him as a way of learning, trying in every way she could to understand what pleasure there was in having sex with a partner. (Eleven Minutes, p. 10)*

From those sentences, it was clearly seen that the relationship between Maria and the boyfriend creates power. This started when Maria had knowledge from learning how to kiss several men who were dating her. The intimate relationship between Maria and her boyfriend claimed Maria's virginity at that moment. Basically, the norms regarding the chastity and virginity of women were things that were highly respected and venerated (Rahayu, 2017). The data above shows that women's virginity was not the most important thing in Maria's life. Thus, the loss of Maria's virginity was at her will because of wild sexual urges.

The relationship between the two was a lover. The data showed that Maria had more power than her boyfriend. Maria used her boyfriend as a tool to find satisfaction in lovemaking. Maria also threatened her boyfriend if he did not comply with Maria's request by reporting him to her father and accusing him that he had raped her. Thus, the boyfriend had less power because he had to obey Maria's will.

Another partner who had a relationship with Maria was Malfson. Malfson was a translator who served as an intermediary between Roger and Maria's relationship. From there, the relationship between the three parties began to operate as a business group. When Maria received a job offer from Roger, Malfson directed Maria to take action before Maria confirmed her decision. The illustration is shown in the dialogue below.

#### *Datum 2*

*'Precisely. You don't need to talk, it's all a question of vibes.'*

*'He doesn't need to understand, just make him feel at ease.' (Eleven Minutes, p. 15)*

*'If he has other intentions, and you have too, then the normal price is three hundred dollars a night. Don't accept any less.' (Eleven Minutes, p. 16)*

*'She said that she would accept the Swiss man's offer, as long as she had a document provided by the Swiss consulate.' (Eleven Minutes, p. 17)*

*'Together they went to the city centre, and Malfson demanded a cash advance as soon as the contract was signed, thirty percent of the five hundred dollars she received. (Eleven Minutes, p. 18)*

The expression stated by Malfson above showed that he and Maria had a close kinship. In that relationship, he held more power than Maria. Malfson's words could influence Maria's thoughts and actions in deciding something. Maria decided that she would stop working at the cloth shop and chose to become a worker at Roger's company. The power relation between Maria and Malfson was work partner. The work orientation of both was to earn money. Malfson exercised power by controlling Maria to make decisions. He persuaded her to work in Roger's company. This persuasion succeeded in influencing Maria's decision so Malfson got the wages from Roger.

From the power relations between Maria and the boyfriend, Maria held more power than him because Maria used her boyfriend for her own interests. While in her relationship with Malfson, she had less power towards him because her thoughts could be influenced by him. Malfson exercised the power by using Maria for wages. This is in accordance with the theory of power relations initiated by Foucault that in power relations there was one party manages more power than the other, so this relationship creates a powerful and powerless side. Besides, power is a set of actions of one party on the actions of another party through the social interaction (Foucault, 2002).

#### *Power Relation between Maria and the Employers*

Maria was increasingly aware of the potential that exists within her. Because she was born in a lacking family, she applied for jobs to fulfill her daily needs. Maria applied to a curtain shop and met her boss. The boss was immediately attracted to Maria so the boss easily accepted her into his shop. Their relationship was built when Maria worked in the draper shop. The chronology of that statement was illustrated in the scene below.

##### *Datum 3*

*"She turned nineteen, having finished secondary school, and earned a job in a draper's shop, where her boss promptly fell in love with her. By then, however, Maria knew how to use a man, without being used by him. She never let him touch her, although she was always very coquettish, conscious of the power of her beauty." (Eleven Minutes, p. 11)*

*"With this in mind, she continued to keep her boss at arm's length, though without putting him off completely, this brought her a considerable increase in salary." (Eleven Minutes, p. 11)*

From the data above, it can be seen how the power works. Under these conditions, Maria, who was experienced with male characters who are easily captivated by a woman's physique, took advantage of this to get what she wanted. In fact, Maria got an increase in salary by playing the role of beauty while working in the store. In this case, their relationship was overwhelmed by Maria's power overpowering her boss' function as a draper shop owner. The power that Maria used was able to influence the boss' actions by ignoring the professionalism of work.

The same case from the previous form of power relations, namely Maria and Roger, Maria asked permission from the draper shop boss to take one week off and then the boss allowed it. Maria chose to go to Rio De Janeiro, Switzerland. There she met a man named Roger. Roger was a wealthy businessman who was looking for female models within his company. When Roger met Maria, he felt that she was the right woman.

*Datum 4**'Work? Dollars? Brazilian star?**(Three hundred dollars a night! That was a fortune! She didn't need to suffer for love, she could play this man along just as she had her boss at the shop, get married, have children and give her parents a comfortable life.) (Eleven Minutes, p. 16)**Roger saw her dance, he felt pleased with his choice; he was clearly in the presence of a future great star of Cabaret Cologny, this lovely dark girl with her pale eyes and hair as black as the wing of the grauna (Eleven Minutes, p. 23)*

The relationship between them was connected as a partner first. More than that, Roger lured Maria to become a famous model in the city of Switzerland with a large salary. The offer made Maria drift into delusion. Then, Roger became her boss.

*Datum 5**She was in such good spirits that when he invited her out to supper again, she wanted to appear alluring and took his hand in hers, Maria realised - with a mixture of fear and relief -that he was serious about what he said. (Eleven Minutes, p. 20)**'Samba star!' said the man. 'Lovely Brazilian samba star! Travel next week!' (Eleven Minutes, p. 20)**The Swiss man was furious and showed her a copy of the signed contract, and for the first time she felt afraid.**'Contract!' he said. (Eleven Minutes, p. 20)*

From the illustration above, it can be seen that Roger's plan to empower Maria was to give gifts and lure her with a bright future. After Maria was tempted by the offer given, it was easy for Roger to empower Maria. With the agreed contract, Roger could operate power over Maria to work hard in his company. Roger could also fire Maria at any time if she made a mistake.

*Datum 6**No sooner had she opened the door than she was summarily dismissed for setting a bad example to the other girls working there. A hysterical Roger said that, yet again, he had been let down, that Brazilian women couldn't be trusted." (Eleven Minutes, p. 27)*

This was a power relationship between the boss and his employees. A boss had rights over his employees. In this case, Roger was the boss while Maria was the employee. In the relationship between both, Roger used power on Maria through the system in his company. Thus, Roger had full authority to terminate his employees if they violate the system. Roger's way of obtaining power was through gimmick because in the end Maria was abandoned from her job and her future was destroyed at that moment. This showed that Roger used power in the form of deception to Maria. In the theory of power relations, the operation of power is carried out to make a change in a relationship that is forged.

In the following days in Switzerland without any job, Maria chose to be prostitute and began to enter nightclubs. Then, she found a club that was perfect for work namely Copacabana. The owner of this club was named Milan. The relationship between Milan and Maria begins when they meet at a bar. Then, Milan gave several rules to Maria if she wanted to work at Copacabana. Milan also explained the payment system for the results of Maria's service to each client. Even though the payment was not as big as Maria's

expectations, she would still comply with these regulations. Coelho related this in the following illustration:

*Datum 7*

*'Look, it's very simple, you just have to stick to three basic rules. First: never fall in love with anyone you work with or have sex with. Second: don't believe any promises and always get paid up front. Third: don't use drugs.'*

*'All right. I'll start tonight.'* (Eleven Minutes, p. 42)

*'Have you got nice underwear on?'*

*'Tomorrow, wear black pants, bra and stockings. Taking off your clothes is all part of the ritual.'*

*The normal price was three hundred and fifty francs, of which fifty francs went to Milan, for the hire of the table (a trick to avoid any future legal complications and accusations of exploiting sex for financial gain).* (Eleven Minutes, p. 43)

From the dialogue above, the relationship between Milan and Maria was that of a pimp and a prostitute. Pimps were people who act as caretakers or owners of commercial sex workers. A pimp profits from the sexual activity of the prostitutes s/he works with (Priandika et al., 2020). In this case, Milan took fifty francs from a client who paid for Maria's body. Milan, as a pimp, certainly could elaborate the power over Maria. Maria must submit to the system set in Copacabana. This relationship created power. Milan operated the power in the form of controlling her job as a prostitute at the Copacabana bar according to the rules agreed.

Another example of a power relation was recorded in the illustration below when there was a special customer at the Copacabana bar. Milan gave instructions that Maria had to obey.

*Datum 8*

*'A special client?'*

*'Should I do the same thing I did with him?'*

*'I don't know what you did; but tonight, if someone offers you a drink, say no. Special clients pay more; you won't regret it.'* (Eleven Minute, p. 92)

*A man came in, He went up to the bar, where both he and Milan turned to look at Maria; then he came over.*

*'Would you like a drink?'*

*She saw Milan nod, and so invited the man to sit down at her table. She ordered a fruit juice cocktail and waited for him to ask her to dance.* (Eleven Minute, p. 93)

The dialogue proved that the power of Milan always influences Maria's actions. Dialogue is an interaction in the relationship between one party and another. The data above showed that Maria was always under the power of Milan. Milan chose Maria to be a maid for one of the special guests. He prepared her to welcome the guest so that Maria had to turn away other customers. When the special customer came to the bar, Maria only paid attention to the signal from Milan and prepared herself to be used by the special guest. This proved that Milan had power over Maria. Milan, as a pimp, exercised his power by controlling Maria's work at the bar, while Maria had to do what he was instructions.

From Maria's relationship with the employers above, she was under their pressure except to the owner of draper's shop. Maria's behavior, which played the role of her beauty while working at the shop, made the draper shop owner raised her salary for no reason.

Thus, Maria seemed to hold more power than her own boss. Meanwhile, the relationship between Maria and two employers, Roger and Milan, she was under their control. Maria had to comply with all the requests they ordered. Maria lacked the ability to seize power. It means that the condition placed Maria as a powerless. Thus, the two employers were the operator of power and Maria was the party controlled. This was in line with Jones' explanation that power relations operate from the mind to the body, which ultimately influences the behavior of those who are controlled (Jones, 2016).

#### *Power Relation between Maria and the Clients*

Maria experienced deep frustration when she was fired by Roger. She had to bury her dream of becoming a rich and famous model. She felt confused because there was nothing she could do in a strange place and far from her home. Even to return home, she did not have enough fare. She decided to find another job to survive. Suddenly her phone rang, and she was contacted by an unknown Arab man who asked her to meet her at a restaurant. The man was tempted by Maria's beauty and then took her to the hotel.

##### *Datum 9*

*'You're very pretty,' said the man. 'If you come up and have a drink with me in my hotel room, I'll give you a thousand francs.'* (Eleven Minutes, p. 33)

*'Pay the bill and let's go and have that drink at your hotel.'*

*And everything happened as expected: she went to the Arab's hotel, drank champagne, got herself almost completely drunk, opened her legs, waited for him to have an orgasm* (Eleven Minutes, p. 35)

From the data above, there was a form of power relation between Maria and the Arab man. The Arab man had a control to Maria. He knew that Maria was desperate and really needed money. This kind of relationship was between seller and buyer. With the money the Arab man had, he could pay Maria to have sex with him at the hotel. The Arab man had more power while Maria was less power. Maria decided to serve the Arab man. In this case, the existence of power that used by the Arab man arose from the money proffered by him. That money could influence Maria's actions to comply with his invitation.

Maria started work at the Copacabana club. She had thought through all the consequences. She was forced to enjoy the job she chose as a prostitute. She must be ready to serve all club customers who approach her whether it's just to drink, dance or even have sex. Milan informed her that it was time for Maria to serve a special client at the Copacabana bar. That client was Terence, a record company in England. The reason Terence was being a special client was that he paid the prostitutes exorbitant prices. Terence already knew who he had to deal with. Terence built a relationship directly with Maria. When Terence took Maria to the hotel, he paid her one thousand francs. The form of the power relation between Terence and Maria was described in the dialogues and expressions as follows.

##### *Datum 10*

*'Sit there,' he said, indicating a chair by the desk.*

*It was an order! A real order. Maria obeyed and, oddly enough, she felt excited.*

*'Sit properly. Back straight, like a lady. If you don't, I'll punish you.'* (Eleven Minutes, p. 94)

*'Kneel down!' said Terence in a low, chilling voice.*

*Maria obeyed. She had never been treated this way, and she didn't know if it was good or bad, only that she wanted to go forward;*

*'You will be punished because you are useless, because you don't know the rules and because you know nothing about sex, life or love.'* (Eleven Minutes, p. 96)

From the data above, it can be seen how the form of power works in the relationship between Maria and Terence. Power here shows that the position of Terence was the main operator of power and dominates it in the relationship with Maria. Terence's large payments to Maria make him rights over Maria. Terence treated Maria like a mistress who had to obey all his orders. Terence's power was in the form of beating, hurting, and raping women. The power relations between the two were unstable because Terence completely dominates power, while Maria was helpless in serving this special client.

Maria couldn't move when this client approached her again. Maria couldn't refuse Milan's request to serve Terence. Here was Terence's treatment of Maria a second time. Terence called it a ritual of sensational sexuality.

*Datum 11*

*'Do you want to go ahead?'*

*A thousand francs. A hidden Universe. Her boss watched her. The certainty that she could stop whenever she chose.*

*'I'd like my usual drink and my usual dance, and some respect for my profession.'*

*He hesitated for a moment, but it was all part of the theatre, dominating and being dominated.* (Eleven Minutes, p. 115)

*'Sit with your legs apart.'*

*'Stand up!'*

*'Don't look at me. Lower your head, respect your master!'* (Eleven Minutes, p. 116)

Basically, the relationship between Maria and Terence was a service provider and customer. It was just that Terence's character was not the same as Maria's other customers. The power possessed by Terence dominates Maria in their relationship. This relationship placed Maria in a powerless situation. With a bigger fee, Terence exercised power in a sadistic manner while Maria only carried out her duties as a prostitute professionally.

Next, the researcher would describe the power relationship between Maria and the man who changed her for a better life. The chronology of meeting Maria and this young man was in a cafe. The young man's name was Ralf Hart. Coelho continues the story of Maria and Ralf very long in his novel. The next day, Ralf came to Maria at the Copacabana bar. Ralf wanted to have a closer relationship with Maria. That night, Ralf asks Milan if he would pay Maria three times as much as usual. In his relationship with Maria, Ralf became a regular at the Copacabana bar.

*Datum 12*

*'I'm going to spend the rest of the night with her. I'll pay you as if I were three clients.'*

*'Let's go back to my house.'*

*'What an absurd excuse!' she thought.* (Eleven Minutes, p. 80)

At Ralf's house, they talked a lot about family, ideals, and love. From there they began to fall in love with each other. The relationship between the two was getting clearer, namely a pair of lover. Ralf taught Maria many things. Ralf also understood Maria's work as

a prostitute. Ralf accepted Maria because of the light that radiated from Maria's body, which was not possessed by ordinary women. The light created a special power for Ralf.

Illustrated by Paulo Coelho that they had a complex sexual relationship. Amazingly, this was the first time Maria felt the pleasure of having sex, because she had never felt it from previous clients. Maria ascribed those feelings to a relationship built out of love that would take away all pain. And that love was in her lover, Ralf Hart.

*Datum 13*

*I allowed him to penetrate me for as long as it took;*

*'Come on!'*

*He knew what he was saying, and I knew that this was the moment; I felt my whole body soften,*

*I ceased to be myself- I was no longer listening, seeing or tasting anything - I was merely feeling.*

*'Come on!' (Eleven Minutes, p. 173)*

The data above showed that Maria and Ralf Hart had a powerful sexual relationship. Maria was penetrated up to five times at the time. Ralf Hart exercised power over Maria in the form of satisfying his sexuality. In this case, the exercised power was obeyed and served by Maria to the end, but this power did not lead to the domination of power because Maria still had freedom over herself. Power relations are different from power domination. The difference between domination and power can also be seen by considering the existence of another model of power relations. Power relations as strategic games between freedoms (Mudhoffir, 2013).

### ***The Resistance of Maria against the Male Characters in Eleven Minutes Novel***

According to Foucault, power will emerge from every gap and form of relationship. There is no part that does not have power in daily interactions. The power that arises due to the presence of other forces is called resistance (Sayer, 2012). In the theory of power relations, Foucault states that where there is power, there is resistance, or rather the consequence, this resistance is never in a position of exteriority in relation to power (Vinthagen & Johansson, 2013).

The relationship between Maria and the men indicated the power of each party. Maria was often on the side of powerless, so in several conditions she had to give resistance. Resistance had always been part of the emergence of power. In the concept of power relations adopted by Foucault, resistance remained a central component of the emergence of power. Maria was the impact of the power controlled by men in the novel. As a woman, Maria was unable to fight the man physically because as a prostitute she had to work professionally according to the system regulated in the Copacabana bar.

### ***Maria's Resistance through the Discourse***

In his novel, Paulo Coelho told that Maria was stranded in a strange city far from where she lived. The only capital she had was facial beauty and a qualified posture. Maria's isolation in Switzerland made it difficult to survive, while it was also difficult for her to find a job. Also, her parents expected her to be a successful person. Thus, she was willing to sell herself to men to get money.

Maria's resignation from work as a model in Switzerland occurred because she made several mistakes which were claimed as acts that violated the contract at Roger's company. When he confirmed that Maria had made a fatal mistake and then fired her

without giving a penny of her salary, Maria did not accept it and wanted to take matters into her own hands by involving a lawyer.

*Datum 14*

*She went back to Roger's office, this time speaking reasonable French, which now included the word 'lawyer'. She left with a few insults and five thousand dollars in compensation -a sum of money beyond her wildest dreams- and all because of that magic word 'lawyer'."(Eleven Minutes, p. 28)*

The data also showed the resistance of the exploitative towards workers. Maria's refusal to accept the employer's decision was only in the form of threats, not resistance by hitting or taking other violent actions. The discourse by a threat with the word 'lawyer' proved to change Roger's mind. Initially, he did not give a penny of compensation, it turned into five thousand dollars for Maria. This frightened Roger of the threat, so he paid for it to avoid more complicated dealings with the courts and the law. In this case, money became a tool for Roger to settle his affairs with Maria. Maria also canceled her plan after receiving the compensation money.

From the analysis above, it could be seen that Maria's discourse could reverse the power held by the male characters in the novel. In terms of resistance initiated by Foucault, he told that discourse can be a very powerful tool in maintaining power, but it can also be used as a means of resistance through tactics such as subversion, criticism, and resistance to authority and hegemony (Foucault, 1995).

Without realizing it or not, such discourse creates a powerful effect so that it can subdue people's awareness to follow the idea. Such discourse can control, direct and ask someone to do something they want (A. Rahma, 2018). This was exactly the impact that was experienced by Maria that with a discourse in the form of threatening male characters, she could reclaim her rights.

*Maria's Resistance through the Disobedience*

Another form of resistance was when Maria decided to stop being a prostitute at Milan's Copacabana bar. Maria had been judged as a reliable prostitute to beat the other prostitutes. Maria's presence at the Copacabana bar made the bar always full of visitors. Milan as a pimp always profits from Maria's services.

*Datum 15*

*'You can do most kinds of sexual activity on your own, but if they stopped believing that it was more fun with another person, my bar would go bankrupt and you would have to find work in a greengrocer's shop. By the way, your special client said that he would be here tonight, so make sure you turn down any other offers.' (Eleven Minutes, p. 152)*

*"Oh, I will, including his. I came to say goodbye. I'm leaving. 'Milan appeared not to react.'"(Eleven Minutes, p. 152)*

The form of resistance as the data above was an act of defiance. Milan, as a pimp, had the right to arrange for Maria to do her job at the bar. From that data, Milan asked Maria to continue intimate relations with a special customer and refused all other customers. However, Maria disobeyed the order by stopping working as a prostitute at the Copacabana bar. Maria's action was carried out in a good way, meaning that no physical violence was committed. However, Maria chose to leave the Copacabana bar after holding

herself back from Milan for so long. Therefore, there was nothing to limit Maria's actions from doing anything.

In his writing *The Subject and Power* (1982), Foucault said that resistance in the form of disobedience can be effective to change power. Foucault stated that resistance in the form of disobedience can be a powerful strategy in fighting power and fighting for freedom and justice. Maria's departure from the bar would reduce Milan's income as a pimp. From this resistance, Milan's authority over Maria disappeared and she regained her freedom as an ordinary woman.

## CONCLUSION & SUGGESTION

*Eleven Minutes* was a fictional novel by Paulo Coelho. This novel tells the story of a woman named Maria who had a stunning beauty. Since she was a teenager, Maria has had sexual activity with several men. With her beauty, Maria felt she had the potential to become a famous model in the city. But fate said otherwise, Maria just became a prostitute in a bar named Copacabana in Switzerland. During her profession, Maria met many male clients who demanded sexual satisfaction from her body. The male characters in this novel were the boyfriend and Malfson as the partners, the owner of draper's shop, Roger, and Milan as the employers, and the Arab man, Terence, and Ralf Hart as the clients.

Researcher have examined the novel *Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho in two parts. First, it discussed the form of power relations between Maria and male characters in the novel. This study concluded that the interaction between Maria and the male character created a temporary power relationship. In several situations, Maria was the party that had power over the male characters, for example, her relationship with the boyfriend and the owner of draper shop. Meanwhile, since Maria was working as a prostitute, she was being controlled by the pimp or clients who come to the Copacabana bar. The power relations between them place Maria as a powerless party over the power exercised by men. Maria's orientation to sex was the wages given. Thus, all of Maria's actions changed and were affected by the power that enveloped her.

The second discussion was about the resistance of Maria against power relations between male characters in the novel. As a woman, Maria did not provide resistance in the form of violent opposition that injures other parties, but resistance by threats and actions that can influence their thoughts and actions towards Maria. The resistance carried out against the male characters in the novel is through the discourse and disobedience. The resistance through discourse was done by a summon of a lawyer for exploitative activity that was carried out by one employer. Meanwhile, the resistance through the disobedience was in the form of refusal to the pimp's orders by leaving from working as a prostitute in the Copacabana bar.

The Novel *Eleven Minutes* by Paulo Coelho was a very interesting novel to read, especially for teenagers. Coelho described the story of a woman's quest for identity in a unique and realistic way. In research that used this novel as an object, there were many other aspects to be discussed as well as many benefits that can be obtained. The significant development of this research was the inspiration for application in society. Research using the same theory can also be continued because, in terms of power relations, there were still many variations of literary works that can be criticized more deeply.

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Journal of Literature, Linguistics, and Cultural Studies

Vol. 2, No. 2, pp.280-294

E-ISSN: 2986-9552

Website: <http://urj.uin-malang.ac.id/index.php/LILICS/index>

**LILICS**  
Journal of Literature, Linguistics, & Cultural Studies

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