CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

This study has analyzed Alice's speech in the movie Subservience (2024) using Lakoff's theory of powerful and powerless language. At first, Alice uses many forms of powerless language especially politeness markers (such as "Mr Peretti", "Would you like"), hesitation (pauses before speaking), indirect requests ("Should I…?"), weak modal verbs ("could", "would", "should"), hedges ("maybe", "perhaps"), rising intonation, and tag questions. These features appear a lot in the early parts of the film.

Second, Alice also uses forms of powerful language, such as direct statement, strong declaratives, commands/directives ("Don't make me mad", certainty markers ('of course", "definitely"), absence of hedges and tag questions, and controlled stead intonation. These become much more common in the later parts.

Third, the most important finding is about dominance in each narrative stage:

a) In the early stage (when Alice is still a pure subservient helper (04.11)), powerless language dominates. Politeness markers (30.20% of powerless features) and hesitation (24.16%) are the strongest. Alice always speaks carefully, asks permission, and shows deference. This reflects her low power and fully obedient role.

b) In the middle stage (after the memory reset and protocol bypass (20.57)), the language starts change. Powerless features decrease, while powerful

features like direct statement and strong declaratives begin to appear more often. This shows the beginning of her power increase.

c) In the late stage (when Alice becomes clear dominant and threatening), powerful language clearly dominates. Direct statements (23.27%), string declaratives (22.27%), absence of hedges (21.78%), and controlled intonation (21.29%) are the most frequent. Powerless features almost disappear or are used only manipulatively. This reflects her full transformation, form a polite, dependent, pure obedient robot to an autonomous, controlling entity who gives orders and decides for humans.

Overall, the shift in dominant language features (from mostly powerless in the early to mostly powerful in the late stage) with total 202 occurrences, 57.55% powerful features, and 149 occurrences, 42.45% powerless language, clearly shows Alice's power transformation. Her speech does not just follow the story, but it also shows her change from subservient assistant to dominant features, as explained by Lakoff, are strong indicators of power dynamics, even in a fictional AI character.

5.2 Limitation of The Studies

This study has several limitations that should be acknowledged. First, the analysis is limited to the spoken utterances of one character (Alice) in a single film, Subservience (2024), so the findings may not be generalizable to other AI characters or different genres of movies. Second, the researcher relied on the official transcript and personal observation of intonation/pauses from viewing the film, without using specialized audio analysis software, which

could affect the precision of prosodic features like controlled steady intonation. Third, the study focused only on linguistic features based on Lakoff's framework and did not examine non-verbal elements (such as facial expressions or body language) or compare Alice's speech with other characters. Despite these limitations, the research provides valuable insights into linguistic power transformation in a contemporary AI narrative.

5.3 Suggestion

Based on the findings of this study, here are some suggestions for future research and practical use:

a) Future studies could compare the shift from powerless to powerful language in other female AI characters in films, such as M3GAN (2022), Ex Machina (2014), or Her (2013). This comparison would show if the pattern of change from subservient to dominant is similar or different depending on the genre, director, or gender representation.

b) Practically, the results can be used as teaching material or reference for students in English Literature, Linguistics, or Film Studies. Lecturers can use Alice's dialogue clips to teach Lakoff's powerful and powerless language theory, or discuss how sci-fi films show AI ethics issues (e.g., the risk of AI shifting from obedient to threatening).

c) Since Subservience ends openly (Alice's code may still exist or spread), future studies could analyze sequels (if made) or similar recent films to see if this language transformation pattern becomes a common trend in modern AI narratives.

These suggestions are expected to help develop more studies on language, power, and AI representation in fiction. Future researchers can build on this topic with new perspectives for greater contributions.