

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter is divided into some matters, those are background of the research, statement of the problem, research objective, research significance, and definition of key terms.

#### 1.1 Background of Research

Hero, in popular literature, broadly reflects and described as the main character, because of the role in building a plot of the story "through hero is a story built in popular literature" (Ida Rochani 2016: 58). The presence of hero in a plot of movie can be supported by several things including intrinsic and extrinsic elements, especially, in popular literary works such as; the plot construction in *Inferno* movie.

As a mystery genre movie, *Inferno* has the basic concept of investigating and discover a secret through the characters in the movie. This movie shows puzzles that must be expressed one of them through hero, because the hero character has a dedication that is concerned with public interest, sacrifice, and physical effect. "The fundamental principle of the mystery story is the investigation and discovery of hidden secret" (Cawelty, 1976: 42).

In *Inferno* movie there are many characters that resemble a hero and this will be very difficult to distinguish by novice audiences because it will be very difficult to determine the real protagonist. In addition, the plot building in the

*Inferno* movie is not like the previous movies, but the very minimum hint symbols in this movie make this movie very interesting.

In determining the direction of the plot of *Inferno* movie, there are many symbols and histories that can help the hero character in building its plot. It will be a puzzle that will be revealed through hero character, the lack of a source of guidance in revealing mystery in the movie, and there are also characters that resemble their roles like a hero and it must be understood in depth.

Therefore, beside to create a unique story plot that is found in symbols, in this case, determining the protagonist (hero) and the function of hero in building the *Inferno* plot, are the most crucial thing for the audience.

The fundamental difference between *Inferno* and the two previous movies (*Angel and Demon* and *The Davinci Code*), the basic principle plot from *Inferno*, *Angel and Demon* and *The Davinci Code* are about symbols interpretation and the history of symbols itself. However, the fundamental differences between *Inferno* and two previous movies, concerns on the determining the character. In *Inferno*, there is a phase before interpreting the symbols, that is determine the protagonist character that will discover symbols and finding the mystery, because almost all of the characters are directed to the symbols, and the audience should know first the character who does not have a conspiracy, as well as doing good action for people service.

In the two previous movie, determining a symbol is only done by one character so that can be determined the protagonist character. The reason of the research uses the *Inferno* movie as the object of research, because the focus of

research on this proposal is to discuss about the hero in *Inferno* movie, but the problem continued from the actors in this movie because all of them shows the hero act that is trying to solve the problem in the mystery of the virus on *Inferno* movie. Researchers try to do research in determining who the hero in the intent of movie and what are the categories of hero using Understanding Heroism theory by Philip Zimbardo.

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In addition, Webster's New World Dictionary defines a hero as; (1) any person admired for qualities or achievements and regarded as an ideal or model; (2) any person admired for courage, nobility, or exploits, esp. in war; (3) the central figure in any important events or period, honored for outstanding qualities (Hidayatullah, 2009: 174).

This research will analysis about categories of hero character in *Inferno* movie, and the hero effect in building mystery formula in *Inferno* movie. The researcher chooses Prof Langdon character as the object of the research by using Understanding Heroism theory by Philip Zimbardo.

To prove the original research, the researcher wants to present previous research which told about hero character. Nevertheless, the similar research about hero character were done previously by some researchers :

1. Nurdini ( Sunan Gunung djati State Islamic University of Bandung, 2016) entitled "*Hero Journey in C.S Lewis The Chronicles of Naria: Prince Caspian (The Return to Naria) Novel*". The result of this research found twelve of hero representation in Prince Caspian character in *The Return to Naria* novel,

2. Sandra ( Airlangga University of Surabaya 2016) “*Hero Archetype in Ridley scott’s Exodus: Gods and Kings The Movie*”. The result of this research found two representation of Perennial American hero character in Exodus: Gods and Kings movie.

This research will analysis about categories of hero character in *inferno*, and the hero effect in building mystery formula in *inferno*. This research take Prof Langdon character in *inferno* as the object of the research by using Understanding Heroism theory by Philip Zimbardo and the title "Hero Effect in *Inferno* Movie (A Mystery Genre Movie).

### 1.2 Statement of Questions

In fact, beside the hero, there are also pro-social who are similarly moving based on conscience, initiated without expectations, “altruism is voluntary action done by a person or group of people to help people others without expecting anything but feeling kind” (David O. Sears, 1991:234). Basically, in a movie the character of a hero has a plot opposite to the antagonist, but in the *Inferno* there are some characters who have the same characteristics as the hero but it is independent of the hero or pro-social on the character. Therefore, it needs a specific analysis about determining hero characters based on their characteristics and what the function in building *Inferno* plot.

Based on the background above, this reseach deals with two questions as follows:

1. How is character Prof Langdon represented as a hero in *Inferno* movies ?
2. What are the hero effects in building mystery formula in *Inferno* movie ?

### 1.3 Research Objectives

The aims of this research based on the statement of problem are:

1. To explain the representation of character Prof Langdon as a hero in *Inferno* movie.
2. To find out the effect of hero in building mystery formula in *Inferno* movie.

### 1.4 Research Significance

The research significances are divided into two foundations, such as:

1. Theoretically, this research will be useful and raise or give contribution for student in Satate Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung especially for student English Language, who wants to learn about Understanding Heroism by Philip Zimbardo.
2. Practically, this research can be reference other researcher who interested to analyze about hero in popular literary work.

### 1.5 Definition of Key Term

To avoid any misunderstanding, especially for the readers, in this part will be presented some key terms which contained in this research. These are brief explanation in order to emphasize the meaning of the terms in literature. The definitions in this research are:

**Hero :** Hero is person who transform compassion (a personal virtue) into heroic action (a civic virtue). “The Hero is a protagonist whose life is a series of wellmarked adventures. The circumstances of his birth are unusual, and he is

raised by a guardian. He will have to leave his kingdom, only to return to it upon reaching manhood.

Characterized by courage, strength, and honor, the hero will endure hardship, even risk his life for the good of all. Leaves the familiar to enter an unfamiliar and challenging world” (Zimbardo, 2008: 7).

**Prosocial** : “Altruism is the concept of behavior help someone based on the benefits or benefits will be received later and compared to sacrifice what he is doing now to help that person. The benefits obtained from helping others must be greater than sacrifice made to help the person” (Glasman, 2009: 124).

