INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains the introduction chapter. It consists of background of research, statement of problem, purpose of the research, significance of research, conceptual framework, definition of key terms and previous study. This chapter also explains the reason why the researcher conducts the research.

1.1 Background of Research

Fiction is an imaginary or unreal story. It can be in the form of a novel. The word "novel" comes from Italian language novella. The word novella literally means "a little new stuff", and then interpreted as "short story" (Abrams, 2009: 226). It sounds like a novel and short story are similar, but actually they are not. The theme, character and characterization, setting, and plot of a novel and short story are different. A novel can be said more complex than a short story. For example, if the short story usually only focuses on one character, the novel does not. Abrams explains that the short story focuses on the protagonist character and its plot primarily focuses on the course and outcome of the event (2009: 331).

In this study, the researcher chooses a novel as the material object of the analysis because of some reasons. First, a novel frees imagination, both of writers and readers. For writers, everything is possible. They can write many things or conditions that are impossible to happen in real life. For readers, when reading a novel, their imaginations can portray the story inside the novel freely. Novels improve our imaginations. Second, a novel can contain other literary genres such as poem. Eagleton writes in The English Novel: An Introduction that:

> "The novel quotes, parodies and transforms other genres. It is the queen of literary genres. . . . There seems to be nothing it cannot do. It can investigate a single human consciousness for eight hundred pages. Or it can recount the adventures of an onion, chart the history of a family over six generations, or recreate the Napoleonic wars." (2005: 1-2)

From the paragraph above, it can be known that a novel is a literary genre which has capability to provide a place for other genres. Therefore, in the researcher's

opinion, a novel seems to be a mother of literary genres. Nurgiyantoro (2012: 23-24) writes that a novel as fiction has intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are elements that directly influence and construct the story of the novel. They are theme, plot, point of view, character, characterization, and setting.

Extrinsic elements are elements outside the novel. They indirectly influence the system or the structure of the novel. The examples of extrinsic elements are the biography and psychology of the author.In this study, the researcher chooses a novel as the material object of the analysis because of some reasons. First, a novel frees imagination, both of writers and readers. For writers, everything is possible. They can write many things or conditions that are impossible to happen in real life. For readers, when reading a novel, their imaginations can portray the story inside the novel freely. Novels improve our imaginations. Second, a novel can contain other literary genres such as poem. Nurgiyantoro (2012: 23-24) writes that a novel as fiction has intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are elements that directly influence and construct the story of the novel. They are theme, plot, point of view, character, characterization, and setting. Extrinsic elements are elements outside the novel. They indirectly influence the system or the structure of the novel. The examples of extrinsic elements are the biography and psychology of the author.

Here, the researcher focuses on intrinsic element that is character. Characters in a story or a novel are important because they move the plot inside it. There is at least one character as a focus in a novel. There are female or male characters or both in a novel. Female characters in a novel are considered to be an important topic to discuss because women seem oppressed by gender roles widespread in society. It happens not just in the real life but also in fictional works. The patriarchal culture is one example of gender roles widespread in society. It places men as dominant and women as subordinate in all aspects. As written by Abrams about the patriarchal system, "It is male centered and controlled, and is organized and conducted in such a way as to subordinate women to men in all cultural domains: familial, religious, political, economic, social, legal and artistic" (2009: 111).

The researcher chooses Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel as the material object. *The Da Vinci Code* is a 2003 mystery thriller novel by Dan Brown novel by an American author, Dan Brown and the fourth book in his Robert Langdon series, following *Angels & Demons, Inferno and The Lost Symbol*. This novel was released on April, 2003 by Doubleday.

The Da Vinci Code provoked a popular interest in speculation concerning the Holy Grail legend and Mary Magdalene's role in the history of Christianity. The book has, however, been extensively denounced by many Christian denominations as an attack on the Roman Catholic Church, and consistently criticized for its historical and scientific inaccuracies. The novel nonetheless became a worldwide bestseller that sold 80 million copies as of 2009 and has been translated into 44 languages. This novel presents a woman who is the key of how the plot inside the novel moves. This become the reasons why the researcher chooses Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel as the material object.

It follows symbologist Robert Langdon and cryptologist Sophie Neveu after a murder in the Louvre Museum in Paris causes them to become involved in a battle between the Priory of Sion and Opus Dei over the possibility of Jesus Christ having been a companion to Mary Magdalene. The title of the novel refers to the finding of the first murder victim in the Grand Gallery of the Louvre, naked and posed similar to Leonardo da Vinci's famous drawing, the Vitruvian Man, with a mathematical message written beside his body and a pentagram drawn on his chest in his own blood.

The researcher pays more attention to the role of Sophie Neveu as the main discussion in this research. The researcher is curious about Sophie Neveu's role as a woman character in the novel. It is an interesting topic because in this novel Sophie Neveu is presented as a genius woman character who often guides the main male character. She is a cryptologist. It means she gets equal right and opportunity to experience equal education as men so that she is considered as a reflection of women equality. Yet, she is alienated by her society work because of the fact that she is just a woman.

The Da Vinci Code novel is dominated with women's struggles along the story. Brown spreads the idea of sacred femininity in this novel. The idea of sacred feminine side or Mother Goddes has happened since ancient times. Most people worshiped female deities. Brown says in his novel that it has happened because of a reason as he states, "Because their religion was based on femininity reproduction and therefore agriculture played an important part in their lives" (2003: 36). There are many parts of the novel talking about women's struggles. For example, there is a story of Mary Magdalene who represents a woman movement story when Jesus trusted her to guide the chapel. Guiding the chapel is usually done by the men. Jesus chooses her to do this. Another example is the legend of yin and yang which talks about a balance between women and men. In addition, this novel also presents Sophie Neveu's character. Neveu is the main female character in The Da Vinci Code novel. Neveu which has genius that reflects the women's equality, with her character she have trying to find out her family's secret, the truth of her family's accident story, and her real identity.

The strong character of Neveu is very unique. Her strong character does not only show her great character, but it also has its own reason. Neveu has to struggle against the people who want to cover her family secret. She has to be separated from her family. She feels lonely for years without her parent's love, and she just libes with her grandfather, Jacques Sauniere. Neveu's struggle and her genius to open up her family secret color the story of *The Da Vinci Code*. It is very interesting to be analyzed.

The Da Vinci Code presents Neveu's struggle and her genius along the story. Neveu's character in this novel brings the spirit of feminism. Feminism itself always speaks around the decade as women's movement that struggle for women's right in the world, which is dominated by men's roles. There are many proofs of the domination of men in the society as Dominic Strinati says, "One of them is the male domination in taking a decision in the society, the male voices are more listened than the female ones because of the society's mindset that a male has more influences and smartness than a female" (2003: 181). Even though women have big influence and have smartness as same as men. Men still dominated woman. For the reason above,

feminism continuous speaking up through the century in order to get women's right.

Consequently, this research tries to examine women's issues by analyzing women equality inside Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel. Women's issues are issues relate to women's roles, rights, responsibilities in personal, and social. This research is intended to speak out women's voice and to increase society's awareness about women's ability, also tries to show society or public that the ability of women is valuable as men's ability. Based on the great issues of feminism above, the writer choose liberal feminism theory by Betty Friedan to analyze *The Da Vinci Code*, especially to analyze the main female characters in the novel, Sophie Neveu. in addition, researchers also will find the characterization method used by the author of the novel *The Da Vinci Code* to help analyze the role of Sophie Neveu.

1.2 Statement of Problem

According to the background of study, the research questions of this research are:

1. What is the characterization method used by the author to describe Sophie Neveu's characterization in *The Da Vinci Code* novel?

2. What are the roles of Sophie Neveu as a reflection of women equality in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel?

3. What is the factor that make Sophie Neveu able to play these roles?

1.3. Purpose of Research

In line with the research questions, the objectives of this research are:

1. To find out the characterization technique used by the author to describe Sophie Neveu's characterization in *The Da Vinci Code* novel

2. To find the roles of Sophie Neveu as a reflection of women equality in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel

3. To describe the factor that makes Sophie Neveu able to play these roles.

1.4. Significance of Research

This research has the significances both practically and theoretically. Practically, this research helps academic readers (students, lecturers, researchers, etc.) in understanding the role of women in literary works. Also, this research can be a

reference about women's role and feminism in literary works. For non-academic readers, this research helps them in understanding the characters of Sophie Neveu, and the story of the novel easily. Theoretically, this research helps to find out how women's role is presented in literary works. It is also intended to add literary analysis in feminism theory.

1.5 Conceptual Framework

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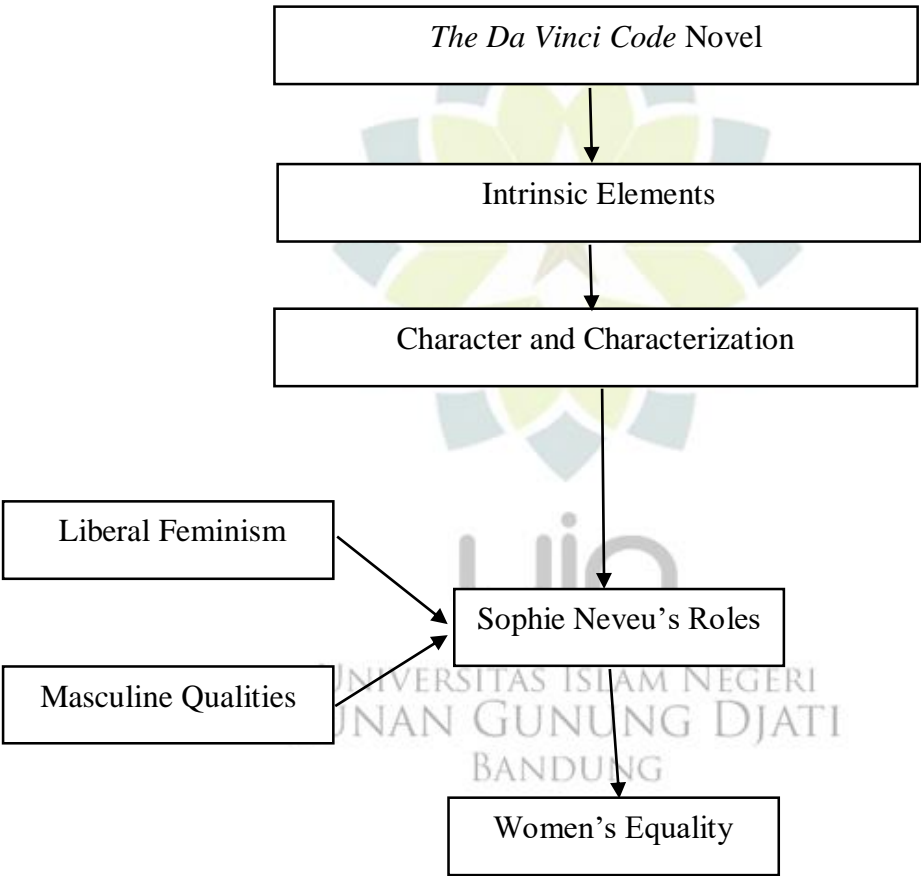
Diagram 1: Conceptual Framework of The Roles of Sophie Neveu as Reflection of Women's Equality

Diagram 1 shows the structure of the researcher's understanding of how research problem explored.

The topic of this research is the roles of Sophie Neveu as a reflection of women

equality in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel. It relates with women's issues in a fictional work. The researcher uses the theory of Liberal Feminism by Betty Friedan. In addition, researcher also uses supporting theories in this study that are Novel, character and characterization and masculine qualities.

A novel or often referred to as a romance is a fictional prose story in a certain length, which depicts characters, real movements and scenes that are representative in a plot or a situation that is somewhat chaotic or tangled. Tarigan said that the novel has the characteristic of relying on characters, presenting more than one impression, presenting more than one effect, presenting more than one emotion (1991: 164-165).

Nurgiyantoro (2010: 10) suggests that novels are fictional works built by building elements, namely intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. The novel is also interpreted as a prose-shaped essay that contains a series of stories of someone's life with others around him by highlighting the character and nature of the perpetrator. The novel is a type of literary work written in a narrative that contains certain conflicts in the life stories of the characters in the story. Usually novels are often referred to as works that only tell a part of someone's life. This is supported by the opinion of Sumardjo (1984: 65) that is while novels are often interpreted as just telling stories about a part of someone's life, such as the period before marriage after experiencing a period of love; or the part of life when a person experiences a crisis in his soul, and so on.

The novel is a story of prose that is storytelling that tells of an extraordinary event from the lives of people (story characters; pen.), Extraordinary because of this incident the conflict was born, a dispute, which distorted their destiny. Based on some expert opinions regarding the understanding of the novel above, researchers refer to the opinion of Nurgiyantoro (2010: 10) because the understanding of the novel is related to the intrinsic element of the work of fiction. This is in accordance with the purpose of the research, namely identifying one of the intrinsic elements, namely the behavior of the character. In addition, the notion of the novel presented by Nurgiyantoro is clearer and easier to understand.

A novel could not be form without a story in it. It also happen in story, story could not be called as a story without any characters in it. Main Character, according to Gill, is figures who hold an important role, dominant and high intensity in each conflict that builds a story, and they will also usually be complex and fully developed. To say that someone is a character, it is suggested that he has a strange eccentric personality. To say that the character has characteristics, can be implied through his moral righteousness. To say something about a person's character, needs to be involved discussion of his personal values behavior. Charles McGraw said that as a literary term, however, the character was created for a work of fiction (1996: 45). A well-developed character is one that has been thoroughly characterized, with many traits shown in the narrative. The better the audience knows the character, the better the character development. Through characterization makes characters well-rounded and complex. This allows for a sense of realism. As an example, according to F.R. Leavis, Leo Tolstoy was the creator of some of the most complex and psychologically believable characters in fiction. In contrast, an underdeveloped character is considered flat or stereotypical.

Character development is very important in character-driven literature, where stories focus not on events, but on individual personalities. Classic examples include War and Peace or David Copperfield. In a tragedy, the central character generally remains fixed with whatever character flaw (hamartia) seals his fate; in a comedy the central characters typically undergo some kind of epiphany (sudden realization) whereupon they adjust their prior beliefs and practices and avert a tragic fate. Historically, stories and plays focusing on characters became common as part of the 19th-century Romantic Movement, and character-driven literature rapidly supplanted more plot-driven literature that typically utilizes easily identifiable archetypes rather than proper character development.

According to Perrine Lawrence, there are three principles that need to be observed in characterization, there are: The character are consistent in their behavior; they do not behave one way on one occasion and a different way another unless there is clearly

sufficient reason for the change. The character are clearly motivated in whatever they do, especially there is any change in their behavior, we must be able to understand the reason for what they do, if not immediately, at least by the end of the story. The characters are plausible or life like.

It means every character who presents the story always behaves as their real characteristic. The actors indirectly tell to the audience what the characteristic in the story into their own character. The actor can apply their performance.

Another principle is how to analyze a character. We can analyze character from many aspects through the words, action, narrator, and description of another character. Analyzing through the words means that analyzing the words from the script of the story. Another principle of analyzing character is the action of every character in the story. As Robert Di Yanni said that the character identity and personality are derived essentially from four things: (1) their actions-what they do: (2) their word-what they say and how they say it; (3) their physical attributes-what they look like; (4) the responses of the other characters to them what other say or do to or about them. Of these however, our sense of characters coherence derives mainly from his or her speech and actions. From these we gain a sense of who characters are and what they are like (2002: 33).

The character method is used by a writer to develop characteristic. The method includes (1) showing the character appearance, (2) displaying the character actions, (3) revealing the character's thought, (4) letting the character speak, (5) getting reaction of others.

Based on definition above, the writer concludes that character is a person on literary work. Character in literature is an extended verbal representation of human being, specifically the inner self that determines thought, speech and behavior. Thought, dialogue, action, and commentary, literature make these interaction interesting by portraying characters who are worth caring about, rooting for and even loving, although there are also character whom public may laugh, dislike or even hate. The character in a novel can also show its own message that is inherent in every

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storyline it acts on, one of which is the spirit of feminism.

According to Facio Alda the word "feminism" has meaning as "a range of theories and political agendas that aim eliminate all forms of discrimination against women due to sex and gender as well as class, race, ethnicity, ability, sexual orientation, geographic location, nationality, or other forms of social exclusion" (2013: 5). It means feminism is a movement which believes that there is inequality between women and men in society so that it attempts to liberate women from all unequal forms. Therefore, simply, feminism as theory is a set of propositions on conditions, forms, tendencies of gender issues which focuses on women.

There are some types of feminism theory. Tong elaborates eight types of feminism theory (2009: 11): (1) Liberal Feminism, (2) Radical Feminism, (3) Marxist and Socialist Feminism, (4) Psychoanalytic Feminism, (5) Care-Focused Feminism Multicultural, (6) Global and Postcolonial Feminism, (7) Ecofeminism, (8) Postmodern and Third-Wave Feminism.

This research focuses on women equality. Therefore, it uses Liberal feminism as the theoretical approach. Generally based to tong in her book, Liberal Feminism based is a movement which strives in the achievement of women equality right in social, politic, economy, and personal aspects (2009: 14). Hughes defines the word "equality" as a set of rules, norms and principles that are equally applicable to everyone and can be recognized and acceptable to everyone‖ (2002: 36). It means something can be called as equal if the rules, norms, and the principles do not give disadvantages to others. Equal does not mean same identically. Equality needs measurement so that those two things can be said equal (2002: 36).

The researcher uses Liberal Feminism as a theory in this research, specifically the theory of Liberal Feminism by Betty Friedan. This theory contains a proposition that women and men as human beings should be allowed to exhibit their feminine and masculine qualities. Women and men are expected to work together in order to get happiness as equal persons (as cited in Tong, 2009: 32- 33). By permitting women and men to show their feminine and masculine qualities, it means women and men

are in equal position in the society. Women and men have ability to have both feminine and masculine qualities.

This research tries to describe the roles of Sophie Neveu as a reflection of women equality who shows her masculine qualities. Masculinity is generally close to the presence of men. But masculinity itself is basically a value that develops in a culture and becomes an index of certain traits. Thomas Carlye argues that masculinity is associated with independence, strength, and an action orientation. Carlyle puts forward masculinity as a value that has dimensions that are widely used as measures of success and of course in many cultures this is very synonymous with the appearance of men in general (2013:157).

Basically masculinity is a cultural scale that determines the tendency of attitudes that are closely related to general stereotypes close to men's lives but are relative in each culture. According to Wibowo masculinity is a concept that is present as a social construction. Davies said masculinity and femininity are not private property but are structural properties of our society, these two concepts are conditioned and arise from social interaction (2013: 159). Davies's opinion is essentially that the concept of masculinity is formed or deliberately constructed, namely through various forms of interaction that involve various values that develop in society

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to have the shared understanding, it is best to define the key terms as follows:

a. Character: Character is a person in a story or a play (Duffy and Pettit: 1953).

b. Characterization: Characterization is the way to create the image of character, then the portray of characterization can be seen by the action of character, the statement of character, the thought of character, the physical of character and what the character says and thought about himself or herself (Sudjiman:1990).

c. Masculinity: Masculinity is a set of attributes and behaviors that are generally in men.

d. Femininity: Femininity is a set of attributes and behaviors that are generally in women.

e. Female Masculinity: Masculinity has been produced by and across both male and female bodies (Halberstam:1998).

1.7 Previous Study

This research was inspired by several previous studies including:

First, research is entitled "Analysis on the Issue of Women Oppression in F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*" by Affroni and I.M. Hendrarti. They used a qualitative research method in analyzing the impact of patriarchy in the society depicted in *The Great Gatsby* movie and the form of women oppression in the movie. Feminism theory by Rosemarie Tong was used in their paper. The paper concluded that Daisy Buchanan and Myrtle Wilson represented the oppressed women in the patriarchal society. The similarity between those prior researches with this paper is discussing the same topic about women's issues whereas the differentiation is in the data or objects that are analyzed. This research is a new one that analyzes women's issues in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel.

Second research is "Analysis of Intrinsic Elements of Ito's Secret Meede Novel and The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown: A Comparison" by Tuslianingsih, Faculty of Cultural Science, University of Indonesia 2010. This research discusses about intrinsic element analysis based on the point of view, plot, characters and themes. The theory used in this study is comparative literature in the analysis of intrinsic elements in which there is a point of view and focus on storytelling, flow and channeling, character and characterization, and themes. The other hand, the approach used is qualitative method using library research, and using descriptive analytical techniques. It can be concluded that Secret Meede's novel and Da Vinci Code novel have many similarities. In comparative literature, this is likely to occur because a particular work is influenced by another work. In a study conducted by Tuslianingsih he concluded that Meede's Secret novel was influenced by the Da Vinci Code novel.

The third, titles Grey's Struggle for Independence Life as Seen in Ann Bronte's Agnes Grey: A Feminist Study. It is written by Iramaya Nainggolan, a literary researcher from State University of Yogyakarta. Based on her research, women experience two problems; patriarchal power and women's images. In patriarchal power, she finds that women suffer from restrictions on mobility, having opinion, and career. In women's images, women are not expected to have career and inability for doing domestic work. In terms of responding it, she finds four struggles; working outside the house, expressing opinions, showing self-independence, and showing ability to work. After finding the problems and struggles of Grey, she concludes that women have the same ability to have a career like men get.

Fourth, the research at 2011 by Cici Nurhasanah in The Struggle for Independent Status of Two Women Characters in Khaled Hosseini's A Thousand Splendid Sun's Novel, focused on two problems. Those are the factors which cause the two women characters in A Thousand Splendid Sun struggle to get their independent status and the efforts of the two women characters to get their independent status. The result of this researches are: First, the factors caused the two women characters struggle to get their status are patriarchy system, marriage system, war condition and social status. Second, there are difference effort between the two women characters in A Thousand Splendid Sun, Mariam and Laila. The one (Mariam) efforts was adaptation as a housewife and protest with act. In the end, she tries to protest by resisting when her husband torture her, until she killed him. The other one (Laila) did some effort to equal with man, such as get education like man and want to marry with man her loved. However, the both characters have similar efforts to get out from their restraint. They want to change their status as an object and eliminate stereotype toward women and then show their existence in the world. They also want to chase their independent status or freedom. From the research above, it has been obtained some informative inputs as reference to improve the comprehension of literary study about feminism in literary work.

Fifth is the research entitled Feminist Ideology in Friedan's Book "The Feminine

Mystique" by Siti Fatimah at 2012. This research discussed two problems. Those are what American women in "The Feminine Mystique" and the ideal role of women to liberate themselves from the oppressive gender in the book. The researcher used Beauvoir theory to solve the problem in the book. Finally the researcher took the conclusion about the representation the images of American women are formed social and culture. The researcher also found about the ideal role of women to liberate women from the oppressive gender through women as a good mother and wife and women as an artist.

There are also skripsi that use feminist theory as a tool to analyze the research. First, Agustina is a literary researcher from the State University of Yogyakarta. She writes a skripsi entitled Women Subordination and The Struggle as The Response to the False System in Sandra Cisneros' The House on Mango Street. In her research, she analyzes a woman who becomes the victim of a false system in the society. She explains that there are some effects because of the false system for women. She explains that limited mobility, marriage injustice, sexual exposure, and the historical background are the four forms of subordination experienced by the main character. In responding them, she writes that there are two forms of the struggle. The struggle for herself is the first form of struggle, includes having a home and school, a new name, and rejecting social myth. The second struggle is the struggle for social; assisting women in social life.

Seventh also thesis titles Grey's Struggle for Independence Life as Seen in Anne Bronte's Agnes Grey: A Feminist Study. It is written by Iramaya Nainggolan, a literary researcher from State University of Yogyakarta. Based on her research, women experience two problems; patriarchal power and women's images. In patriarchal power, she finds that women suffer from restrictions on mobility, having opinion, and career. In women's images, women are not expected to have career and inability for doing domestic work. In terms of responding it, she finds four struggles; working outside the house, expressing opinions, showing self-independence, and showing ability to work. After finding the problems and struggles of Grey, she

concludes that women have the same ability to have a career like men get.

The last thesis titles An Analysis of Characterization of the Main Characters in "The Social Network" Movie by Latif Muntafiq, English Educational Department. Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training. State Islamic Institute (IAIN) of Tulungagung. The reader an awareness that story happens in a movie is a reflection from a real life. Characters are people in narratives and characterization explains about things done by a character. Moreover, there are several reasons why the writer studied characterization of the main character in "The Social Network" Movie Script, First, the writer is interested in studying literature about movie, this movie has remarkable characters. Second, this movie can give inspiration to all people. The statements of research problem are: 1) How is the main characters' physical appearance? 2) How is the main characters' personality? 3) How is the main characters' social status? 4) How is the main characters' social relationship?. The method in this study is qualitative by using library research, the data for the research is all sentences and dialogues among the character in the movie which are related to the characters' characterization. The steps to collect the data are: a) Watching "The Social Network" movie, by understanding the movie and analyzing every motion or activity, b) Reading movie script and dialogs of the "The Social Network " movie produced, c) Identifing all sentences and dialogues in the movie to get the data, d) Choosing the data dealing with the problems that will be investigated, the writer used a structural analytical approaches as the data analysis. The findings of this research reveal that: Mark and Eduardo are the main character in the movie, because they are given much contribution of the story. The characterization is about the main characters' physical appearance, personality, social status, and social relationship. Mark's physical appearances is, he is a male that sweet looking, he has short body, thin man appearing no more than twentieth years old, with brown and curly hair, he have little oval face, Pointed nose. His personality shows that he is respect the other people around him but in the end he became useless, his social status he is an educated person, he is one off Harvard University Student, He has good social relationship with people in his surroundings. Another main character is

Eduardo. His physical appearance is, a handsome man who his body is thin. His personality is a good friends, his social status is, he is High educated person, he is from upper classes. And, he has good relationship with people in his surroundings.