

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This is introductory chapter of the paper. It covers the research background, research problems, research objective, research significance, and clarification of the key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Mood is the emotional tone pervading a section or the whole of a literary work, which fosters in the reader expectations as to the course of events, whether happy or terrifying or even disastrous (Abrams, 1999, p. 14) . It is usually developed in a literary work through various literary devices including setting, diction, theme, and tone. Not only through literary devices, but also mood can appear through film by its elements.

Mood in film is constructed and very influenced by lighting, as one of the cinematic elements. Moreover, lighting is not only related to the look of a film, but more than that lighting is related to the mood that the spectators will receive. According to Federico Fellini, an Italian director, stated that lighting is everything as it expresses ideology, emotion, color, depth, style. It can efface, narrate, and describe. With the right lighting, the ugliest face and the most idiotic expression can radiate with beauty and intelligence (David Bordwell, 2010, p. 131) . In addition, certain aspects of lighting can be controlled artistically and some of the critical decisions affecting the look of film concerns lighting. In the hands of directors and cinematographers, lighting is a powerful and magical tool to create moods. According to Boggs (2008, p. 114) by controlling the intensity, direction, and characters of the lighting, a director is able to create dramatic effects and convey emotional mood.

As a form of expression, film employs the compositional elements of the visual narration (line, form, mass, volume, and texture) that have the same functions as other elements of literary works, such as rhyme in poetry, settings in novels, and dialogues in drama. Furthermore, then visual narration is processed and packaged through cinematography techniques. Cinematography is skills of creating images in films, also it is a creative and an interpretive process that leads to a process of creating a work more than just an activity of recording an event or scene (Hummel, 2001, p. 1).

Further, cinematography is the essential things when a director will make a film. Making a film will always intersect with the elements of filmmaking. Pratista (2008, p. 32) divides the elements of filmmaking into two, there are narrative elements and cinematic elements in which both elements interact and continuous to make a film. Narrative elements are the elements that related to aspects of the story or theme of a film and every films have narrative elements such as plot, characters, conflict, settings, point of view. Besides, cinematic elements are ways to process the narrative elements into visual or also referred to aspects of technique of filmmaking. Cinematic elements (cinematography), which bring up the meaning and relevance to literature/figurative language, consists of *framing* to define point of view and settings; *angle* to define tone; *lighting* to define mood/atmosphere; *movement* to define conflicts; and *editing* to define plot (Sudarisman, 2016, pp. 246-247) . As film is contained cinematic elements that relevance to narrative elements, thus, film is recognized as a part of literature and a form of literary works.

Since the appearance of film, there was a kind of short documentary film by the Lumière Brothers. The film which was recognized as the world's first cinema, was screened in Boulevard des Capucines, Paris, France, with the title of *Workers Leaving the Lumière's Factory* on December 28, 1895 (Joseph D. Straubhaar, 2009) . This inaudible film, which only lasted a few seconds, illustrated how factory workers left their workplaces when they went home. At the beginning of the birth of film, there was no clear purpose what film for and plot

was still unstructured. However, when the idea of making film began to be industrial opportunity, film began to have more conceptual plot and story. Since then, film presented compelling narrative as new form of literary works for the connoisseur of literature (Villarejo, 2007, p. 2). One example of the best films based on IMDb, *The Shawshank Redemption*, a 1994 American drama, is able to arouse feelings for anyone who watch it. This film ranked first as the top highest 250 films based on IMDb version (IMDb Charts: Top Rated Movies).

The Shawshank Redemption (1994) is an adaptation of novella *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* (1982) by Stephen King. This film, written and directed by Frank Darabont, tells story about Andy Dufresne, a smart American banker, who is sentenced on charges of murder of his unfaithful wife and her lover and sent him to Shawshank State Penitentiary in 1947 despite his confess of innocence. In this prison, there was a warden, Byron Hadley who enforced the rules very strict and Warden Norton who made the rules but then it turned out the fact that he was a corrupt. In the first two years, life of Andy in prison was so difficult, he was often framed and beaten by bad prisoners, The Sisters, led by the homosexual and rapist, Bogs. Over time, during the ordeal, he began to befriend with Ellis Boyd Redding, simply known as "Red", a parole prisoner also a guy who knows to get things in that prison. Andy and Red were being good friends. Further, Andy confided in Red about his life as it was Red whom Andy first opened up to. Once, Andy asked Red to get a rock hammer, he needed it to shape the rocks as kind of his new hobby. At first, by asking rock hammer, Red was suspicious of Andy who would run away from prison using that hammer. In fact, the suspicion then disappeared when he saw the hammer that was sent turned out to be small and it seemed impossible to run away with the hammer digging the very thick wall. The next, Andy also asked a poster of Rita Hayworth, Marilyn Monroe, and Raquel Welch after watching of *Gilda* (1946). In the spring of 1949, Red, Andy and all the guys were assigned to resurface the roof. In the middle, Andy heard the conversation of Byron Hadley about division of inheritance and tax, then Andy came closer to Hadley and gave him advice about

tax. Because of this, Andy won over the rest and all the guys got free cold beers drinking. All the guards became good to Andy and asked about accounting, including Warden Norton, soon he hired Andy to manage his money laundering. For exchange, Andy asked Warden to expand for library in prison which was run by Brooks. One day, there was a new prisoner, Tommy Williams, a young thief came to the Shawshank Penitentiary and met Red and Andy. Tommy then told stories to Andy that once he shared a cell with a murder of a banker's wife and the fella she was banging and the murder laughed crazily knew that the banker was wrongly accused. Knowing this fact, Andy thought he could be free from prison as he did not wrong then he tried to report this to Warden Norton, but then Norton denied and he killed Tommy to shut down the fact. Norton was afraid of losing Andy and soon his corruption would be exposed. Andy was disappointed of Norton. In short, one night, Andy escaped from the prison without anyone knows, including Red. Apparently, he had planned to escape from prison from 20 years ago. Andy had hopes and dreams, after he was released from prison, he wanted to live in Zihuatanejo, a beach town on the Pacific coast of Mexico. Overall this film tells about friendship and hope, that having hope is a good thing for humans and all our efforts to do. Also the most popular quotes, "Get busy living, or get busy dying".

According to the story, *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) has drawn many criticisms from various film critics, both in terms of narrative elements, motion pictures and cinematic elements. In addition to film ranked first according to the IMDb version as mentioned before, the film *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) also received "American Society of Cinematographers Awards for Outstanding Achievement in Cinematography in Theatrical Releases" in 1995 and also "Japan Academy Prize for Outstanding Foreign Language Film" in 1996. Although there are many similar stories about the lives of prisoners in prison and attempt to find a way to escape, such as the story of *The Green Mile* (1999), *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) film still has its own characteristic storyline that is simple but it contains lifetime moral messages and it is able to stir emotions for

those who watch the film. According to Alex (in IMDb Review Section, 2008), *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) was just magnificent. The movie kept at a great steady pace along with the writing and great cinematography, also the composition of the lighting set the atmosphere in amazing way. Roger Deakins, the cinematographer of *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994), composed the lighting with the narration and the set of place that brings into a whole story that has very important roles to play in this film. Likewise, Etedgui (1999, p. 158) said that film of *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) is probably the most consistent film in terms of its look. The film had unity, style, and feeling which pleased more than any other movies. Furthermore, the consistency in visuals by Deakins become strong tools to visualize the story through film. Like a painting, it succeeds in bringing out the audience to a certain place of emotion that the audience can dwell in. The cinematography and sets of lighting in *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) make the cinematic art for the film and have become the beautiful classical film. Furthermore, this classical film is combination of realism and formalism styles. Likewise, there are few films listed as the best and most beloved films of all time based on Annual TV Shows among them are *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946) and *The Wizard of Oz* (1939), whilst Box Office proclaimed the best films are *Gone with The Wind* (1939), *The Godfather* (1972), *Star Wars* (1977), *Schindler's List* (1993), *Pulp Fiction* (1994), and more. However, *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) succeed as a new rival and then occupied the number of votes that shifted the list of films aforementioned, in spite of its beginning of appearance in 1994, *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) was not as successful as the first year of broadcast (Fraley, 2011).

Talking about the beginning of the emergence of filmmaking over 100 years ago, the film was slow-moving because making film needed much lights to record images. Eventually, film got brisk enough to capture at just a fraction of a second, and it was possible to make a film with a long duration. However, the only source that brighten enough to capture the film in a short time was just the sun which was good enough for shooting outside. In order indoor shooting scenes,

Thomas Alva Edison built sets and then he tried to shoot inside his 'Black Maria', a huge, barn-like structure with an open roof where they could open and close giant black drapes to control the sunlight (Gray, 2016). A few decades later, electric lights began to be used but the lights required a lot of energy and electricity and the film was still low. As time goes by, the technology of lighting has been improved and it does not require a lot of energy anymore, the use of lights can be much brighter with the less power and the motion pictures became faster than before. Since then, lighting has been the fundamental element in creating film. As mentioned before, the lighting used was sourced from natural lighting such as the light of sun, by then the set of place were carried out outdoors (Alton, 1995, p. 31). By the lighting sourced from natural lightings, cinematographers had experimented more in managing the needs of lighting for the purpose of the story. At first, the tools of lighting were from giant arc lights become tungsten lights, HMIs, and recently, fluorescent and LED light. The tools become easier to handle, use much less energy, and technique of lighting have development and progress. As the lighting techniques developed, different techniques of lighting can create different mood and enhance the power of films.

Based on the explanation above, it can conclude that the film has capability of entertaining the emotional response to the spectators, also the composition of the lightings put the important role to the visual narration. Therefore, this research tries to seek about mood in *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) film through lighting elements in which the composition of its lighting is formulated to create mood in this film. However, there are not many previous researches have been conducted to examine *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) film about the composition of cinematography especially lighting elements to create moods in film and how the lighting elements function as literary devices to the story. Therefore, this research is worthy of being examined as a new study.

Previous research about mood in film has been done by several researchers but mostly it is analyzed through color elements, one of them is Rick Warner (2017), who examined the affective, aesthetic, and character-based

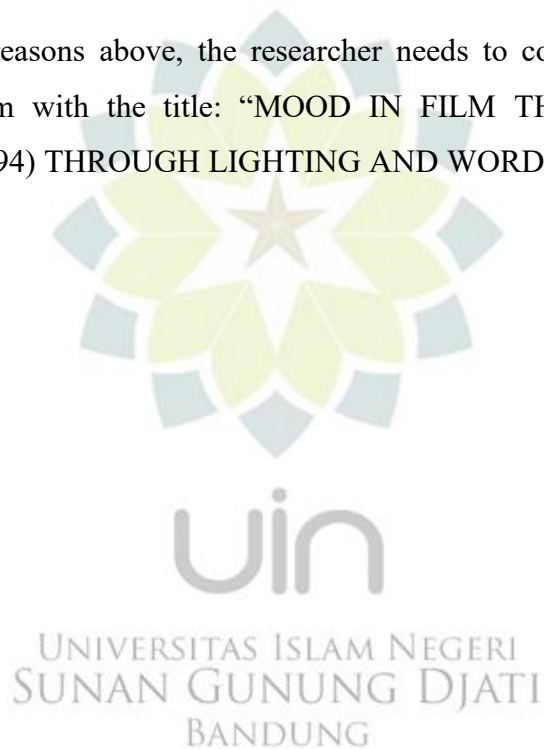
significance of the color orange in Robert Altman's *McCabe and Mrs. Miller*. This research described the inner lives of two central characters, also how the use of color revealed politicized critique of greed, inequality, and mortal violence which put an end to their relationships. The results of this research showed that chromatic scheme was mixed between cool exteriors and warm interior which had the logic of organization that implied a thematic of needed protection and desired community. Further, Robert Self (Warner, 2017) interpreted that the color contrast applied to this film was a picture that touched on the dimension of articulation of human interaction that is unspoken and unspeakable between two characters, McCabe and Mrs. Millers. Last, this final mood had an in-depth understanding of its political attitude in the context of US counterculture of the 1960s and 1970s from its distrust of institution to its critique of violence through to its exposure of the ills at the core of capitalist society.

Furthermore, there were several research about lighting which involved emotional response and the impact to the audience. As for the research has been done by Jennifer Lee Poland (2002) analyzed about how three lighting styles in a film affected emotional response of audiences. There were 162 participants watched the film and there were 54 people watched each stimulus piece. First, high-key lighting would cause the audiences to feel uplifting emotions such as happy, joy, and humor. Second, low-key lighting would cause the audiences to feel suspense, intrigue, sad, and mystery. Last, available light would feel dark emotions of realness or grittiness. In result, the participant who watched the film in low-key lighting felt mystery, malice, suspense, intrigue, and other anxious feelings. However, low-key lighting also could gain higher levels of happy and positive emotional responses.

Next, empirical research also had been examined by Pornubpan Hengtaweesub (2017). This research aimed to find out the impact of six different colors of light and lighting styles, High-key and Low-key, in 3D Animated Film to the interpretation of the audience on its narration in every scenes and emotional response that the audience felt while watching the films. In this research, there

were twenty-six scenes of animation videos with various color and lighting styles. There were 72 participants in total, 22 participants of which took part in the study, and 50 participants of which participated in the study via Amazon Mechanical Turk Platform. Based on the findings and discussion, this research showed the results that low-key lighting was the only styles giving the significant emotional effect, presenting in negative affect, and negative emotions. The interaction between the light colors and lighting styles presented for positive effect, negative effect, and basic positive emotion scales.

For those reasons above, the researcher needs to conduct the study to analyze the problem with the title: “MOOD IN FILM THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION (1994) THROUGH LIGHTING AND WORDS DESCRIPTION”.



1.2 Research Problems

As every film has its lighting elements and words description to create mood in literature. This research focuses on finding out mood in *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) using lighting elements theory by Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie. The followings are the research questions:

1. How do the lighting elements and words description create mood in *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994)?
2. How do the lighting elements in the film function to the story?

1.3 Research Objective

This research is aimed to find out mood in film *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994) using lighting elements theoretical approach by Joseph M. Boggs and Dennis W. Petrie. The followings are the research objective:

1. To find out moods prevails of each scenes through the lighting elements and words description in *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994).
2. To find out the function of the lighting elements to the story of *The Shawshank Redemption* (1994).

1.4 Research Significance

The results of this research is expected to have significance in two aspects, those are theory and practice. Further, this research will offer new perspective in understanding mood through lighting as the element of visual language and words that describe the mood. Therefore, the discussion and findings are expected to enrich new knowledge and new perspective about the relation of lighting elements and mood, also lighting elements and literary devices.

In theoretical perspective, this research is expected to help to analyze how the emotional effect or mood in short story, novel, plays, and film. Also to know how the cinematography, especially, lighting visualize the emotional effect or mood in film. This research expects to have far-reaching to help the researcher to analyze literature and film.

Meanwhile, in practical perspective, this research will add reference analysis about literature to student English Literature Faculty of Adab and Humaniora, Islamic State University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung.

1.5 Clarification of Key Terms

To clarify the words used in this study the followings are the key terms:

Mood in this study refers to what Abrams said as a feeling of the whole narrative or the section as to affect the emotional of the reader through the words describe each situation. Generally, mood is created by several literary devices; setting, theme, tone, and diction (Abrams, 1999, p. 14).

Film refers to as a story or event recorded by camera as a set of moving images and in shown in cinema or on television. The process of making film is combination of art and industry (Joanna Turnbull, 2005).

Lighting is the illumination to bright the things. In filmmaking, lighting is the fundamental elements as to creating cinematic images and is one of those biggest factors that to telling story (Alton, 1995).

Story is the series of events that depicts a journey either factual or fictional. Story in literature means a series of event in which it contains a plot, conflict, involving character and settings. Story means transferring experiences, information, vision, and also it is to entertain people who read or listen to it. (Miller, 2011).