CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher describe research explanation that consist research background, research questions, research objectives, research significances, and clarification of the key terms.

1.1   Research Background

Humans are part of social life. In essence, the goal of social life is to share kindness. Having a good social life could make us happier because the way we distribute our kindness could reflect on our deep psychology. Despite it, of course, human beings are dynamic. They have a variety of personalities. Whether it's good or bad, not all personalities can be judged by other people. Every human being has an inner personality that cannot be valued from an outside view.

Persona is the public image of an individual. The original word persona means mask, so the mask we wear in public give us a certain image. Persona is thus the product of social adaptation, which plays an important role in society. The existence of the persona also cannot be separated from consciousness or self-awareness. According to Carl Gustav Jung In his book Two Essays on Analytical Psychology :

> "The persona is a complicated system of relations between the individual consciousness and society, fittingly enough a kind of mask, designed on the one hand to make a definite impression upon others to conceal the true nature of the individual."(Jung, 1956: 203)

The persona archetype assists human beings in adapting to their surroundings and fitting into the society in which they live. Being too closely associated with this

archetype, on the other hand, may cause people to lose sight of their true selves or become unrecognisable.

Shadow is the inner side of an individual. This type of archetype is part of one's unconsciousness. Shadow is the dark side of an individual personality. It also affects a person's condition. Carl Gustav Jung also believed that every human being has his own 'shadow'. The shadow exists and is composed of repressed thoughts, instincts, and desire.

> "The shadow is a moral problem that challenges the whole ego-personality for no one can become conscious of the shadow without considerable moral effort. To become conscious of it involves recognizing the dark aspects of the personality as present and real." (Jung, 1959: 22)

Shadow also described as archetype that reflecting anarchy, wildness, and demonic. In order to shape what Jung called the shadow, those characteristics that we hate, or would rather ignore, come together.

Archetypes originated from a concept created by Carl Gustav Jung. His research on archetypes is believed to have originated with his disapproval of the psychology theory by Sigmund Freud. Archetypes are a universal pattern that describes traits and behaviours that can describe a person's entire figure in believing in morals, ethics, religious, and culture. When he describes how the process of the subconscious mind happens, he writes also about *persona, shadow, self, and anima/animus.* Jung states that

> "Archetypes are systems of readiness for action, and at the same time images and emotions. They are inherited with the brain-structure—indeed, they are its psychic aspect. They represent, on the one hand, a very strong instinctive conservatism, while on the other hand they are the most effective means conceivable of instinctive adaptation." (Jung, 1970: 45)

Jung believed that archetypes played an important role in identifying human nature. In general, humans are dominated by one specific type of archetype. Archetype is expressed and realized by how many individual influence factors and personal experiences.

The persona and shadow archetypes portrayed by the main character in *Joker* (2019) cannot be separated from human life. Humans are part of social life. In essence, the goal of social life is to share kindness. Having a good social life could make us happier because the way we distribute our kindness could reflect in our deep psychology. Despite it, of course, human beings are dynamic. They have a variety of personalities. Whether it's good or bad, not all personalities can be judged by other people. Every human being has an inner personality that cannot be valued from an outside view.

Film is a visual image and a sound effect that can convey a story displayed on a screen. Many literary works were adapted into film forms (Eagleton, 1996: 149). For example like *The Great Gatsby (*2013) based on F. Scott Fitzgerald novel, *The Shining* (1980) based on Stephen's King Novel, *The Silence Of The Lambs* (1991) based on Thomas Harris novel. Similarly to literature, films also express human thought in order to extend the scenario of enlightenment. The elements of film are a form of creativity created by filmmakers. Creativity results are shown to the audience to get emotional effects so that pleasure is achieved. The film itself can reflect a nation's culture and influence the culture itself for its connoisseurs. In addition to being part of popular entertainment, movies also become a medium to educate and influence the audience. Nowadays the film has become a form of an

image that can mention the culture of reflection that exists in life, it is presented so clearly. Through visuals and audio, movies can describe things that exist in human life with their message. In the book of The Art of Watching Film, Petrie and Boggs state that :

> "Film even surpasses drama in its unique capacity for revealing various points of view, portraying action, manipulating time, and conveying a boundless sense of space. " (Petrie & Boggs, 2012)
>
> The function of the film can be a representation of social value for the

audience. The message is taken from what the film presents through a sad picture or entertainment. That way, the film becomes one of the very powerful mass media because it has various aspects that can even have an impact on real life, it makes one of these media very rapidly growing in life. One method to notice an element's functions is to consider the element's motivation. We can expect any element in a film to have some justification for being there because films are human constructs. This justification serves as the motivating force behind of element. (Borwell & Thompson, 1974: 8)

If positioning as an audience, with us looking at the motivations seen inside can certainly affect us. Whatever type of film, be it a documentary or a drama, it has an important signification with its dramatic effects on the real world. So the film has a big influence on the development of pop culture. Popular culture has affected individuals all over the world. In the book of Popular Culture Theory and Methodology: A Simple Introduction (Browne, Ray & Browne, Pat 2006), Popular culture encompasses all aspects of life that are not solely intellectual or creatively elite, such as spoken and printed words, music, images, things, and items. As a

byproduct of popular culture, the film is an important way to draw people in. Furthermore, the picture might be recognised as a sound combination.

Joker (2019) is an American thriller film directed by Todd Philips. He also wrote the Joker movie script with Scott Silver. Produced by Warner Bros, DC Films was released on October 4, 2019. The characters in the film are adapted from DC comics. Joker movie wins so many awards. At the Oscars, *Joker* (2019) won Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role, Best Original Score for Motion Pictures, and several other nominations. While at the Golden Globes, *Joker* (2019) won Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture – Drama, Best Original Score - Motion Picture. Then at the Bafta Award, *Joker* (2019) won Best Leading Actor, Original Music, Best Casting. With so many awards, even joker ranked first as one of the most grossing films of all time with a restricted rating.

Stories of *Joker* (2019) focuses on the journey of failed comedian Arthur Fleck (starring Phoenix), a man who is rejected by society and grows into a horrible villain. Arthur was raised in a lower-class family and struggled to make a living as a stand-up comedian. His life is often abused pill. This is made clear in the trailer while trying to comfort a young child on the bus even though Arthur Fleck's face is visibly overwhelmed with disappointment and despair. He was later rebuked by the child's mother for being disruptive. Besides, his work as a clown in charge of holding signs in the streets led to him being bullied, even once lying in an alley. Arthur Fleck seemed accustomed to being treated unfairly by the neighbourhood. Arthur's lowest point of life came when he was mocked by presenter Robert De Niro on national TV. So much disappointment made him a bitter person and

eventually, turned into a murderer. Arthur transforms his identity by becoming the Joker, showcasing an evil new person. (Phillips, 2019)

The reason for choosing *Joker* (2019) as an object for research is the consideration of many approaches. *Joker* (2019) is a literary adaptation that has psychological aspects experienced by the main character. The film attracted a lot of controversy in its release year (Gajanan, 2019). The first is that a person who has a special figure in the social world can dramatically change the nature of the individual if something bad happens to him. Especially, if the existence of an individual is not accepted by the public, then surely there will be a change in the behaviour of an individual. This representation appears in the film *Joker* (2019), how the existence of Arthur Fleck's character as a comedian followed by the mental illness suffered resulted in not being accepted by society. So he had a difficult life, full of abuse, and traumatic. The response of the social outer world transforms himself into someone who takes their pain and turns it into a dark figure who believes that life is meaningless or *nihilism.* This can form a representation of a persona that is increasingly covered by the shadow. The second is the psychological aspect displayed by the main character. Arthur Fleck character experiences unusual mental disorders including pseudobulbar affect, a condition in which a person who cannot control laughter and crying results in pressure on the person experiencing it. The condition of the mental disorder is evident in the real world, and not just in the movie. The Third is the symbols. In *Joker* movies (2019), both narrative and mise-en-scène contain a lot of symbolism that can appear the idea and quality of a film. So that it can dig much deeper about the hidden meaning of the literary work. As

Abrams wrote in his book A Glossary of Literary Terms, Symbolism develops the phenomenon into an idea, and the idea into an imagery, in such a way that the idea remains indefinitely active and unapproachable in the imagery, and would remain inexpressible even if stated in all languages. (Abrams, 2012: 396)

Last is, its influence on culture. *Joker* (2019) is full of ambiguity. Joker character (Arthur Fleck) who has a mental disability can trigger a person when watching, both positive and negative perspective. The positive is how the main character can invite people's concern for people with disabilities and poverty. We need to admit, that the concern for people with disabilities and poverty both in terms of morals and infrastructure is still lacking. This can trigger the concern of many people. However, the negative is how the violent action that the Joker Character (Arthur Fleck) performs in the film can be a violent act by people. These are the reason *Joker (2019)* gets a Restricted (R) rating but in the same get the highest rated movie of 2019 in IMDB (IMDB Charts: Top Highest Rated Movies: 2019). A Film is given a restricted category because it contains elements of bloody violence, disruptive behaviour, language, and/or brief sexual images.

The researcher was interested to find the persona and shadow archetypes experienced by the main character Arthur Fleck in *Joker* Movie (2019). From some of the inner worlds and outer worlds that affect psychology behaviour in the main characters in the *Joker* movie, the author discovered many problems that occurred in the social life of Arthur Fleck. Some of the problems not only occurred in the psychological aspects of Arthur Fleck but also in aspects of the outside world. Thus allowing the topic of problems to occur is connected with the theory of persona and

shadow archetypes by Carl Gustav Jung. Jung's analytical psychology theory was due to the consideration that the approach was suitable for studying persona and shadow experienced by the main character. In 1912, Carl Gustav Juv was developing his theories known as analytical psychology or Jungian. He published several works that had great influence in the realm of psychology over his differences with Sigmund Freud. One of his most influential works is the book Psychology of the Unconscious. (Jung, 1916: 16)

Also, another reason the author wrote this study is because of the understanding of the theoretical basis and the study of the object. In writing research work. An understanding is an obligation for writing the object. Believing the field to be researched and liked is a must for researchers. So that knowledge of the scope of the field of study will be avoided from obstacles that will occur (Setiawan, 2018: 9). The problems that will be examined must have a connection with the scope of the study that is taken with the level of difficulty that allows gaining level of convenience that still reflects a decent thing of exploration.

Previous research related to topics has been discussed by Muhammad Abdul Latif undergraduate students of English Literature Department, Faculty of Adab and Humanities, Bandung State Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. The study describes archetypes and hero's journey in harry potter, the order of phoenix novel by JK Rowling, using archetype theory by Vogler. The result that can be found in the thesis is how the author finds the archetypes displayed by the main characters such as Harry Potter, Hermione, and Ron that represent the meaning of the hero archetype.

Other relevant research related to the object, research conducted by Grant Pine from Pelita Harapan University in 2020 entitled *Representasi Kriminalitas Film Joker*. In his research work, the author discusses the study of semiotics that examines the signs and meanings of criminality and crime shown in the joker character. In the results of the analysis, there are several scenes obtained about aspects of connotations, denotations, and myths of criminality represented in the past. And also the representation of criminality in the joker film in the form of body gestures, dialogue, and facial expressions.

The focus of this research to conduct the study and analyze the problem with the title: "PERSONA AND SHADOW ARCHETYPES OF ARTHUR FLECK WHICH APPEAR IN JOKER MOVIE (2019) by psychoanalysis approach through narrative and mise-en-scène which will be explained in this research.

1.2 Research Questions

As every film has its narrative and mise-en-scène to describe a personality of the character in the film. This research focuses on finding out persona and shadow archetypes in *Joker* (*2019*) using analytical psychology Jungian archetypes theory by Carl Gustav Jung. Based on the research background, the problems that can be analyzed in the *Joker (*2019) is formulated into two research questions below:

1. How are persona and shadow archetypes portrayed by Arthur Fleck in the *Joker* (2019) ?
2. How is the process of self-realization achieved by Arthur Fleck in the *Joker* (2019) ?

1.3   Research Objectives

This research is aimed to find out persona and shadow portrayed by main character Arthur Fleck in film Joker (2019) using analytical psychology Jungian archetypes theoretical approach by Carl Jung. The followings are the research objective:

1. To analyze the persona and shadow of Arthur fleck's life through narrative and mise-en-scène approach in the *Joker* (2019)

2. To describe the process Arthur fleck's self-realization against the society world through narrative and mise-en-scène approach in the *Joker* (2019)

1.4   Research Significances

The results of this study are expected to be significant in two areas: theory and practise. Furthermore, research is expected to provide knowledge in studying literary criticism in films. In this case, the discussion conducted in this study is about character analysis based on psychology in a literary work.

- Theoretically, this research is expected to increase knowledge and understanding of persona and shadow archetypes as self-realization, specifically from the thought of Carl Gustav Jung.

- Practically, this research aims to provide an interpretation of how the narrative and mise-en-scène could examine the meaning of persona and shadow archetypes of the character itself. So that it can fully understand the analysis of the psychology of a character through the theory of Carl Gustav

Jung.   And also to evokes certain feelings or vibes for the audience in *Joker* (2019).

1.5   Definition of Key Terms

Persona is the way an individual represents the face and personality of social life. The term persona comes from Latin meaning a 'mask'. Persona archetype helps human individuals to adapt to the world around them and fit into the society in which they reside. (Jung, 1990: 123)

Shadow is the hidden side of people, as part of the unconscious mind and is made up of suppressed thoughts, instincts, and desires. Our attempts to modify expectations and cultural norms cast a shadow. The shadow comprises everything that is not just unpleasant to society, but also to one's own morals and values. Anger, violence, hatred, and prejudice are examples of such traits.. (Jung, 1959: 22)

Archetypes are a universal pattern that describes traits and behaviours that can describe a person's entire figure in believing in morals, ethics, religious, and cultural. (Jung, 1970: 45)

Film is a visual image and a sound effect that can convey a story displayed on a screen. The elements of the film are a form of creativity created by filmmakers. Creativity results are shown to the audience to get emotional effects so that pleasure is achieved. (Borwell & Thompsons, 1974: 2)