

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter discusses the five components, including the background of the research, problem formulation, research objectives, research significance, and definitions of key terms.

#### 1.1 Background of The Research

Detective fiction is a product of popular literature. Its nature that is liked or liked by many people is one of the meanings of the many definitions of popular literary works (Nurgiyanto, 1998, hlm. 1). There are also various types of popular literature products; some are in the form of essays and some are in the form of films. With its nature, which is indeed set to be liked by many people, the literary product has the main goal of being commercial. Therefore, several publishers and writers have summarized a formula that aims to reach a broad market, ranging from themes, and ways of presenting language techniques, and writing to make it easier for the literary industry to provide easy-to-understand reading and consume more of these works (Adi, 2011, hlm.20). Popular literature is also divided into three genres, namely; Adventure, mystery, and romance. However, this research will only focus on hard-boiled detectives.

Mystery has more sub-genres and one of them is detective, which is again broken up into classic detective and hard-boiled detective. There are four important points in the detective genre, including the victim, the criminal, the detective, and those involved in the crime (Cawelti, 1976, hlm. 147). The difference between classic detective and hard-boil lies in the setting and the narrative situations of the main character. The setting of the place is an important instrument in the detective hard-boil formula; it is a modern city. The large city is symbolic of sterile modernity, corruption, and death, all hidden behind a gleaming facade; it is, in essence, a moral wasteland in which crime is predominant (Howard, 2010, p.9). Of the four elements and the

background of the modern city, the author uses the film *Rush Hour 2* as the object of research.

*Rush Hour 2* opened on August 3, 2001; the film was a commercial success, grossing \$347.3 million worldwide, making it the highest-grossing film in the franchise. The film, directed by Brett Ratner and written by Jeff Nathanson, is 1:30:07 in length. The situation in the film is color by the roles of Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker, where Jackie, who is known as an action actor, adds to the impression of fighting action-filled with acrobatics. Apart from action actors, Jackie is also known as a comedy actor who in *Rush Hour 2* was accompanied by the role of Chris Tucker which added to the comedy color in the film.

Jackie Chan is the main character who plays a detective from Hong Kong named Lee, and Chris Tucker plays James Carter, who works in the Los Angeles Police Department, apart from his job. Carter also plays Lee's friend and colleague in an investigation carried out while Carter is on vacation. In Hong Kong. As an action actor, Jackie Chan is successful in his role as a detective because apart from his job of dismantling the crime syndicate committed by the antagonist character, he is also forced to engage in several battles in an attempt to uncover a case.

It was not in vain that Lee, who had colleagues from Los Angeles, helped in his investigation of the case. Carter contributed a lot to his involvement in the investigation. An unexpected thing happened when Lee, who had an inner conflict due to being accused of collaborating with enemies and covering up a case with the murder of a gang leader, Ricky Tan. Carter offers his analytical knife to monitor the movements of a large white businessman who is suspected of being Ricky Tan's criminal partner, Steven Reign. The analysis offered by Carter is very satisfying; they are both re-involved in the investigation under the supervision of American Special Agent Isabela.

Apart from Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker, the film also stars John Lone as Ricky Tan, Alan King as Steven Reign, Roselyn Sanchez as Isabella Molina, Harris Yulin as America's Special Agent, Zhang Ziyi as Hu Li, Don Cheadle as Kenny, and Kenneth Tsang as Superintendent Chin. Apart from hypnotizing the connoisseurs of popular

Fiction products, they also succeeded in hypnotizing the author to raise the product into a study and analysis of the product.

There has been some previous research on hard-boiled detective fiction, the following; first, *The Hard-Boiled Detective: Personal Relationship and The Pursuit of Redemption* by David George Howard (2010), The first paper from David George analyses the Black Mask detective story with mature aspects that a detective character must have personally such as character, daily life day, and thought rather than acting. *Masculinity in Dan Brown's Hard-Boiled Detective: An Analysis on The Da Vinci Code* by Diny Siti Hardianty (2016), this paper is from Hardianty, one of the studies on the detective aspect of Dan Brown's novel *The Da Vinci Code*. By analyzing hard-boil detective formula and the main character's masculinity in the novel. And finally *Classics and Hard Detective Fiction* by John M. Reilly (1975). In this analysis, Reilly explains the difference between the intrinsic elements in the classic detective and hard-boil genres.

From several examples of previous research, it is a summary of the differences between one study and another, and that too is included in this analysis. With these differences, this analysis only focuses on the hard-boiled detective formula in the *Rush Hour 2* movie.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the Background of The Research, this study limits the analysis to the formula applied to the *Rush Hour 2* movie: into two research questions as follows;

1. What is the detective story element applied in *Rush Hour 2*?
2. How is the hard-boiled formula built in the movie *Rush Hour 2*?

## **1.3 Purpose of the Research**

Based on the research question above, the research has two purposes for this research as follows;

1. To understand how the hard-boiled detective formula is applied to Rush Hour
2. To analyze how the detective as hero built in the Rush Hour 2.

#### **1.4 Significance of Research**

In practice, this research is expected to be a reference for readers who want to analyze problems that are not much different in popular literature. In addition, this research hopes to be able to participate in science and especially academics, helping to understand the hard-boiled detective formula. Furthermore, theoretically, this research is expected to reinforce the theory of the hard-boiled detective formula in the movie, especially in Rush Hour 2.

#### **1.5 Definition of Key Term**

1. Popular Literature:

A genre in literature whose creation is intended to entertain and produced for commercial purposes, these two elements are a major formula that cannot be separated from popular literature. Entertainment and commercial is a setting to meet human needs as well as a system of mutualism that is intended for the creator of the work or the author of his efforts in making the work.

2. Mystery Genre:

In principle, the basis of a story in this genre is the investigation and discovery of the main problem or case that has or is happening, all of which are arranged on the basis of the main principles in a mystery genre. Broadly speaking, genres in popular literature are divided into several types, including: adventure, mystery, and romance.

3. Detective fiction:

Detective fiction is a sub that falls into the mystery genre, as it involves search and discovery in a problem. The outline in this story involves a mystery

that must be solved by a detective or a professional investigator. Detectives are also divided into two subs with different formulas, including: classic detective and hard-boiled detective.

#### 4. Classical Formula:

Classical detective or traditional detective is a story that deals with an unsolved mystery by investigating using rational thinking to find the truth and solutions to a problem.

#### 5. Hard-boiled Formula:

In the hard-boiled detective story, the hero is usually surrounded by the threats, and there is always the suspense that is constructed. This genre does not only show the clues solving, but also the pattern of action. The outline of a hard-boiled sub-detective, in this formula, in general, the hero is always surrounded by threats in every investigation of a problem, as well as tension that is always built in every scene. The pattern of action is also a very important performance apart from just solving problems.

#### 6. Main character roles:

The development in hard-boil detective stories is colored by four main characters, namely victims, criminals, detectives and those who are involved in investigators or in crimes.

#### 7. Action pattern:

The detective becomes a hero, in other patterns of action there is also tension that is always presented in a threat, as well as a modern city that is used as the background, and the involvement of women's roles as assistants or complexity in a plot of investigation.