

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter deals with the research introduction of this research. Introduction in this research divided into several sub-topics; the background, research questions, research objective, research significance and clarification of key term.

1.1 Background

Literary works in their interdisciplinary studies, are brought together with other sciences such as psychology and thought to form a literary psychology approach. Literary psychology is the study of analyzing literary works by considering the relevance and role of psychological studies (Ratna, 2004, p. 350). Meanwhile, Wellek and Warren suggest that the term of psychology in literature has four possibilities. First, the study of author psychology. Second, the study of the creative process. Third, the study of psychological laws applied to literary works. Fourth, the study of the impact of literature on the psychology of readers (Wellek & Warren, 1976, p. 90).

According to Walgito in his book *Pengantar Psikologi Umum*, (2004, p. 10) psychology is a branch of science that examines and studies activities that are considered manifestations of human psychic life. When the study of psychology is used within the framework of literary science, they will be interrelated because they both talk about things related to humans. The difference is only if literature talks about humans creating imaginary worlds while psychology talks about humans in real life. Although the human nature depicted in literary works is fictitious, the author uses real people as models in depicting the

characters. Literary research with the study of psychology has advantages such as: first, the importance of literary psychology to examine more deeply aspects of character; second, through this approach can provide feedback to researchers about the problem of character developed; and lastly, this research is very helpful for analyzing literary works that are always related to psychology (Endraswara, 2008, p. 12).

Poetry, drama and fiction become part of literature, and the film becomes a work of fiction (Levin, 1949, p. 10). Film as a narrative literary work that has several intrinsic elements such as themes, characters and settings. According to David Bordwell films communicate information and ideas, and they show us places and ways of life we might not otherwise know. Important as these benefits are, though, something more is at stake. Films offer us ways of seeing and feeling that we find deeply gratifying. They take us through experiences. The experiences are often driven by stories centering on characters we come to care about, but a film might also develop an idea or explore visual qualities or sound textures (Bordwell, 2015, p. 2)

Literary work will be more alive if it is supported by the presence of characters with different personalities in it. Meanwhile films according to Nurgiyantoro, every character in a film becomes an important element in building a story. The most important character is the main character, because the main character is told a lot in storyline and is always related to other characters. The main character greatly determines the development of the plot as a whole, also the main character becomes the actor in the occurrence of conflict in the development of the plot (Nurgiyantoro, 1998, p. 177). In the relationship between each character often causes conflict both individually, in groups and even personal conflicts which are called psychological conflicts.

Psychological conflicts according to Nurgiyantoro (1998) is a conflict that occurs in a person's mind or heart. This occurs when a person experiences conflict with himself or internal problems due to the conflict of two different

desires, beliefs, or choices as well as unwanted expectations. In a film, the character occupies a strategic position for the author to describe human life with all its conflicts. By focusing on the characters and conflicts in a film, it is closely related to the psychological aspect. The theory related to the study of literary works through psychology is the psychoanalytic theory introduced by Sigmund Freud.

One of the film that get people attention, especially in the year 2021 is *Shang Chi and The Legend of The Ten Rings*. The film was directed by Destin Daniel Cretton and produced by Marvel Studio as American Superhero Film based on Marvel Comics. In addition to being part of the *Marvel Cinematic Universe* (MCU), another interesting thing is that this film is the first Marvel film to feature an Asian hero as the main character amidst the uproar of emancipation of non-white people in the United States. Endro Priherdityo as the editor of CNN Indonesia reviewed this film. Priherdityo (2021) mentioned, through *Shang Chi* Marvel not only provides new story pieces, but also displays the richness and beauty of Asian culture with a western-style narration of beauty.

This film tells of a journey in finding the identity of a young hero, Shang Chi. What is more interesting in this film that has a backwards plot is a superhero film that appears with a story with a family conflict background. In addition, the theory of Hero's Journey by Joseph Campbell (1949) are used to analyze the storyline in the film. Based on a film that has a superhero theme, Joseph Campbell's theory is useful in reviewing every story journey that the character in the film *Shang Chi And The Legend of The Ten Rings* goes through to find the identity of the main character or hero in the film. The director and screenwriter of this film, Destin Daniel Cretton, tells the story of a dysfunctional, messy family, with the story of a father who is not very close to his son and demands that his child be according to his wishes. This film also depicts the character of Shang Chi who is forced to face his destiny. This is what causes a psychological conflict within Shang Chi.

Based on the nature and development of the very complex conflict that occurs in the film *Shang Chi and The Legend of The Ten Rings*, it is really fascinating to discuss. In researching this problem, the study uses theory of literary psychology. The theory used in this research is Sigmund Freud's psychoanalytic theory. According to Freud, personality structure conflicts are conflicts that arise because of conflicts between the *id*, *ego* and *superego* (Freud & Hall, 1921). Based on these thoughts, the researcher is interested in studying the film *Shang Chi and The Legend of The Ten Rings* through the psychological conflicts experienced by the main characters. The researcher also uses Kurt Lewin's theory (1935) about three types of motives to find the factors behind the conflict in Shang Chi's mind, such as:

1. Approach-approach conflict
2. Avoidance-avoidance conflict
3. Approach-avoidance conflict

Besides Sigmund Freud's theory of personality, Freud also developed a theory about the ego defense mechanism that is used as a way to resolve a conflict. Among others are, *repression*, *sublimation*, *projection*, *displacement*, *rationalization*.

The first previous study was researched on 2018 by Rahmawati.M from University of Muhammadiyah Makassar with the title *Konflik Psikologis Tokoh Aisyah dan Fahri dalam Film Ayat-Ayat Cinta 2 sebagai kajian psikologi sastra*. In her research, Rahmawati describes the form of conflict experienced by the two characters, namely Aisyah and Fahri in the film *Ayat-Ayat Cinta 2*. She also explains what factors cause psychological conflict between the two characters. In addition, she also described efforts to resolve conflicts that occurred. This research is a previous study with Indonesian language films as objects, which makes this research different..

The second previous study was researched on 2011 by Nurul Hikmah Maulanie from State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah with the title *An*

Analysis of Esther's Psychopath Problem in Orphan Film View From Psychoanalysis Theory by Sigmund Freud. This study also discusses the psychology of the main character in a film using Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis as a theory, but what is different in this study is using psychopathology theory.

The third previous study was researched on 2019 by Yustina Fitriani from Nahdlatul Ulama University of East Kalimantan with the title *Analysis of Psychological Aspects of The Main Character in Movie "Joker" Based on Sigmund Freud Theory.* This study has the same subject of study, which is the film with superhero backgrounds, but the different that Joker is an antihero film where the Joker character as hero who does not have the nature or journey as other heroes.

Meanwhile, of the three previous studies above have similarities where all research uses the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud. The things that distinguish three studies above from this research are the use of the theory of Hero's Journey by Joseph Cambell in analyzing the storyline in the journey of Shang Chi's character in the film *Shang Chi And the Legend of The Ten Rings.*

1.2 Research Questions

This research is focused to find out the type of psychological conflicts experienced by Shang Chi as the main character, then looks for the factors causing the conflict and begins to describe the resolution of the conflict. Which this are:

1. What are the narrative elements in the film *Shang Chi and the legend ten rings* ?
2. What are the types of psychological conflicts of the main character in the film *Shang Chi and the legend ten rings* ?

3. How does main character resolve his psychological conflicts in the film *Shang Chi and the legend of the ten rings* ?

1.3 Research Objectives

In the research above, researcher focused on the analysis of the conflicts experienced by the main characters in the film *Shang Chi and The Legend of the Ten Rings*. The research is aimed;

1. Describe the narrative elements are found in the film *Shang Chi and the legend ten rings*.
2. To describe the types of psychological conflicts experienced by the character Shang Chi which is depicted in the film *Shang Chi and the legend ten rings*.
3. Describe the efforts of the main character to resolve his psychological conflicts which is depicted in the film *Shang Chi and the legend of the Ten Rings*.

1.4 Research Significance

This research is expected to provide benefits both theoretically and Practical.

1. The research findings, theoretically, are expected to enrich the comprehension and understanding of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud.
2. The research findings, practically will be useful for;
 - a. English Literature Students

This research can be used as another reference for the students of English Literature program who interested on psychoanalysis especially about personality analysis conflict.

- b. The other readers

Hopefully, this research can give a preview of psychoanalysis.

c. The other Researcher

Hopefully, this research can give a preview of psychoanalysis by Sigmund Freud to analyze the main character's personality conflict in a film story .

1.5 Clarification of Key Terms

1. *Literary psychology* : Literary psychology is a literary study which is interdisciplinary, because it understands and examines literature by using various concepts and theoretical frameworks that exist in psychology. Literary psychology has four possible meanings, namely the study of the psychology of the author as a type or as a person, the creative process, the study of types and psychological laws applied to literary works, and studying the impact of literature on the reader. (Wiyatmi, 2011)
2. *Psychoanalysis* : Psychoanalysis is a special term in literary psychology research (Endraswara, 2008). This theory deals with the function and development of human mental (Minderop, 2010, p. 11).
3. *Conflict* : Conflict is something dramatic, refers to a fight between two equal forces and implies a countermeasure.(Wellek & Warren, 1976)
4. *Psychological conflict* : Conflict that occurs in the mind or heart of a person. This occurs when a person experiences conflict with himself or internal problems due to a conflict between two desires, beliefs, which are not in accordance with what is expected. (Nurgiyantoro, 1998)
5. *Film* : Film is a thin membrane made of celluloid for negative images (which will be made portraits) or for positive images (which will be played

in theaters). Film is also defined as a play (story) of living pictures. (Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, 1990)

6. *Main Character* : Main character is a figure 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. (Grill, 1995)
7. *Shang Chi And The Legend of The Ten Rings* : This film directed by Destin Daniel Cretton and produced by Marvel Studio as American Superhero Film based on Marvel Comics. The film *Shang Chi And The Legend of The Ten Rings* released in 2021, also tells of a journey in finding the identity of a young hero, Shang Chi.





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