

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In order to make a good research, the researcher is required to prepare the interesting problems as the material for the research. Nevertheless, this problem must have a concrete background with the aim of the researcher is able to identify all the chain sequence of the problem. In addition, for the next step the researcher is afforded to present several points of discussion that belongs to this chapter as the introduction of this research. It contains about; background of study, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, frame of thinking until reviewing the previous studies that related to the problem of this research.

### **1.1 Background of Study**

In some case, literature being the best way to enrich people's experience of going to a place, meeting someone and experiencing an event in the world of their imagination, which in some situations may not happen in real life. Literature itself is a medium for language learning, which is mostly delivered orally, written text, in writing or in visual form. In the world of imagination, a person is expected to be able to produce meaning that they understand by themselves through every language they found. In everyday life, there are several forms of literary works that are commonly found, including poetry, drama, novel and film.

Basically, the purpose of creating literary work is to express the author's ideas, emotions, to their experiences. In responding to the literary work, the reader will go through a process of receiving and interacting with the text, which is based on the experience, education, and knowledge of the reader. As the result, the readers will produce meaning and get the information that they can capture in the text of the literary work. In this case, unlike poetry and novels, both of which are literary work that has a strong form because of their purpose, that is written to be read by the reader. Film, has a different purpose from that. As a different form of literary works, film is a form of transformation from text, to visual movement on the screen. It is like written, to be watch by the audience.

Furthermore, talking about film, it is one of the interesting literary works that can be used as a media to narrating a particular story. As already know, the involvement of actors and actresses, the selection of costumes, settings, plot, which are clearly depicted on the screen, make it easier for the audience to understand the story of the film itself. That is why quite a number of people are found to prefer to go to the cinema and buy tickets for watching movies. As time goes by, watching movies today is just like a human need that must be met. To look at that issue more deeply, the thing that must be understood here is, film as one of the literary works has become part of the

real world (Hunt, Marland & Rawle, 2010: 43). More precisely, has become part of the communication media in human life. Because as it is well known that films move in the realm of mass communication media. In its structure, film has its own aesthetic in the effort to convey its purpose to the public.

Nevertheless, the main course of film as literary work, lies in the narration that appears in the film. Hence, in its delivery to the audience, film has its own way, structure and language which is commonly raised in one scope namely “Narrative Elements”. In the technique of its narrating, there are two main elements that are shown to forms the integrity of the plot in the film. The two elements are Narrative Form (it can be a dialogue in a movie script) and Cinematic Form (it is like the visual movement in the concept of cinematography). Even Hunt, Marland & Rawle (2010: 43) add that narratives appear in many forms: written, verbal and visual, all of which form part of the complex language of cinema. Besides, the specific modes of communication in the film is like the intersection between everyday life and film form that creates meaning for an audience. That is why narrative is not the same as story, that is too simplistic. Narrative is about comprehension. Narrative is a fundamental facet of human communication.

From the statements above, it can be understood that films are actually have their forms and their languages that complex to understand by its audience. The audience will involve their knowledge of all elements such as narration from the dialogue to visual movements that are displayed to support the filmmakers in conveying their ideas in certain films to the audience. That is why, if we pay more attention to it, the narrative that intended and shaped by cinematic language is more comprehensive in presenting the ideas of the film itself.

In conveying their own ideas, filmmakers sometimes combine or even take a particular focus in the plot of the film. According to Boggs and Pettrie (2007) the ideas presented by filmmakers in their films focus on things such as plot, character to things such as the style, texture and structure of the film. Nevertheless, Boggs and Pettrie also add that the filmmakers that focuses on the plot to convey the idea of the film, will involve two important aspects, they are conflict and also the characterization of certain characters.

For the sake of conveying the idea of the film, again the filmmaker will pay attention to the technique of framing, and it will involve the concept of the cinematography. Rather than to shows a specific meaning, the filmmaker also has the consideration in the success of film production by producing the best quality film. It meant that, in the portrayal of the characters and conflicts itself, the techniques used must be compatible, even mutually supporting, with the aim of forming the narration. Therefore, narrative cinema itself continues to slowly absorb some of these same

artistic values and insights insight, that ultimately amplify its story telling power. (Barnett, 2008: 16)

The same thing as that shown in Brian Singer's *Bohemian Rhapsody* movie (2018), which combines the portrayal of the complexity of Freddie Mercury's character. Several things such as the characterization of Freddie Mercury through his appearance in the film, his dialogue with another characters, his actions and reaction to the plot of the film that displayed on the screen, shows the focus of this film is on the character of Freddie himself. The narrative formed from the action delivered by Freddie Mercury, is displayed clearly through existing cinematic language.

Several kinds of aspects displayed on the screen will help researchers in analyzing the focus taken by researchers in this study. Behavior, personality, actions, way of speaking and another related case, will identify how the real character of Freddie Mercury is. What happened in the story to the conflict come about, will also identify the factors that cause the possibility of Freddie Mercury to become a figure who has a complex character. In addition, from the personality and behavior of the character Freddie Mercury observed through the screen, the researcher also focuses on identifying the beliefs, thoughts and the paradigm of the character, which may currently be known by the term "ideology".

Indeed, it is not easy for now, to clearly understand the definition to the concept of, what ideology itself is. Nevertheless, according to Eagleton (1991: 28) in most commonly understandable sense, ideology is the general material process of production of ideas, beliefs and values in social life. This kind of definition is politically and epistemologically neutral. Besides, it is also close to the notion of 'culture' in a broader concept and meaning. From this understanding, the researcher takes into consideration, where the points of ideas and beliefs of the character, which is considered as the ideology of the character, are also took a role in the formation of the character of Freddie Mercury itself.

As the result, from all the statements the researcher explained above, those are some of the factors that ultimately made the researcher take a focus on the discussion about the narrative and cinematic language in Brian Singer's *Bohemian Rhapsody*. How the techniques displayed on the screen by the filmmaker to reinforce the complex portrayal of Freddie's character, have caught the attention of researcher. For this reason, in this study the researcher will present the analysis of Freddie's character, through the concept of narrative and cinematic form in this film.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the statement that researcher explain in the background, can be understood the Narrative that intended and shaped by cinematic language is more comprehensive in presenting the ideas of the film itself. There are two problem points that will be raised in this research as the topic to be examined. These two points include:

1. What do Event and Existence of “Narrative Elements” present the complexity of Freddie Mercury’s character in Bohemian Rhapsody?
2. How do the complexity of Freddie Mercury’s character as Bohemians Ideology in Bohemian Rhapsody?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Every research must have its own purpose based on the problem being examined by the researcher. Based on the statement of the problem above, the objectives of this research are:

1. To Identify Event and Existence of the “Narrative Element” that present Freddie Mercury’s character in Bohemian Rhapsody.
2. To Know the ideology of Freddie Mercury’s character in Bohemian Rhapsody.

## **1.4 Significance of Study**

Regarding to the background and the research objective, the writer hopefully able to bring significance through this study. There are two types of significance that are appear in a research, they are Theoretical Significance and Practical Significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

Through this research, the researcher hopes to contribute theoretically and comprehension to achieve new knowledge for the reader. Especially for the collegian, this theory can be used as the additional material in conducting the analysis in the field of literature regarding to the connection between film and literature itself. Besides, this research is expected to be able to increase and enrich the knowledge on the portrayal of the complexity in particular character, and how the character leads the plot to the conflict of the story in the film. And this understanding can help the reader who want to analyze the similar topic in the future day.

## 2. Practical Significance

For the collegian in English Study Program who will take focus to the topic that related this study, this research is expected to be able to add as reference in analytical analysis toward literary work, especially for the research that has the connection to the portrayal of the complexity in a particular character in a particular film.

### 1.5 Previous Study

To support the analysis of this research, researchers tried to trace various literature and previous studies which is still relevant to the problem that being the object of current research. Besides to supporting this research the aim of presenting the previous studies has not been previously in its entire, or even submitted in any form for another requirement fulfillment. Therefore, for the first one is the original work from Naufal Nurrahmat, entitle Cinematic Language in Batman: The Dark Knight Movie (2008). Department of English Study Program, State Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. His research was discussing about the irony that represent in Batman movie using the concept of cinematic language. Besides, he was also discussed about breaking the rules of shots in Batman the Dark Knight Movie (2008) which reflect the message of the movie. And all the discussion is presented using the theory and concept of cinematic language.

The second research came from Tirta Nyuminnar with the title Representation of Female Stereotypes in Sense and Sensibility Film (2008) Through Cinematography and Narrative Elements. Department of English Letter, State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta. This research was talking about the stereotypes of female in Sense and Sensibility movie, and she was analyzing it using the theory and concept from cinematographic and narrative element. In addition, in accordance with the stereotypes of female, she was also presented the theory of feminist film (cinefeminism) which describe the general description of women in most Hollywood films that most of these plays raise question about the expectation that women will become mothers and the centrality of nurturing and serenity to idea of feminist.

For the third reference of previous studies came from Dwi Aranda Welly Prayogi, with his research entitle Analisis Unsur Sinematografi Dalam Membangun Realitas Cerita Film The Blair Witch Project. Department of Study Television and Film, Jember University. In this research, he was talking about the reality of the story in The Blair Witch Project which is built through cinematographic elements in the film. Definitely, he was presented the theory about cinematography for analyzing the data. In relation to the extension of "build the reality", he presented an explanation of the concept of realist film, supported by the theory and concepts of realism in the horror film genre.



The three previous studies were taken in order to support and enrich the references for the discussion in this study, because the previous research presented by the researcher above have slight similarity to this research. Nevertheless, the researcher wants to dedicate this researcher as a bridge and challenge to the reader by bringing up different topics and problems, even with the same concept of analysis.

## **1.6 Definition of Key Term**

It is obviously to know that there are many terms arise in human's life. Each term will have a different meaning. This condition will depend on the situation, context, and in what field the term will be used. Even in the education world, especially in languages, some of the same terms are often appear with different meanings depending on the context of the problem at hand. Therefore, in order to avoid misunderstanding the writer try to clarify some of the key terms used in this study. And the definitions are put forward:

### **1. Character**

Character becomes an absolute element in a fictional story. Character are very important because it is directly support the process and the continuity of the storyline. Because naturally, the character in a story is like an active agent whose job is to provide the description about the story itself. However, haracter is someone who acts, appears, or is referred to as playing apart in literary work. Character is created to represent the author's idea, as a literary term, however character is a person created for a work of fiction. (Abrams (1999: 32)

### **2. Cinematography**

A cinematic film takes advantage of all the special properties and qualities that make the film medium unique. The first and most essential of these is the quality of continuous motion. A cinematic film is truly a motion picture—a flowing, ever-changing stream of images and sounds sparkling with a freshness and vitality all its own, a fluid blend of image, sound, and motion possessed by a restless compulsion to be vibrantly alive, to avoid the quiet, the still, and the static. Everything is packaged in one concept, namely cinematography. (Boggs and Petrie, 2007: 127)

### **3. Complexity**

The term complexity used in this case relates to the character of a person in the film. Complex means something difficult or tricky. In this case, the complexity of a character means that the character has many-sided; they might require an essay for full analysis and live by their very roundness, by the many points at which they touch life. Furthermore, the character undergoes a permanent change in some aspect of character, personality, or outlook. The change may be a large or a small one; it may be for better or for worse; but it is something important and basic: it is more than a change in

condition or a minor change in opinion. And for the complexity that occurs in a character, the character is classified into the round and dynamic character type. (Perrine, 1985: 69)

#### 4. Conflict

Conflict is the mainspring of every story, whether it be told on the printed page, on the stage, or on the screen. It is the element that really compares our interest, heightens the intensity of our experience, quickens our pulses, and challenges our minds. (Boggs and Petrie, 2007: 71)

#### 5. Ideology

In most commonly understandable sense, ideology is the general material process of production of ideas, beliefs and values in social life. Ideology is an attempt of human thought to undergo social practices associated by communities in their life. Whether it is right or wrong, still, ideology symbolizes the condition and experience socially significant group or class. It means here, as a set of beliefs which coheres and inspires a specific group or class in the pursuit of interests judged to be desirable. (Eagleton, 1991: 28)

#### 6. Narrative

The first thing to be considered in film analysis and production is the complexity of the overarching narrative structure. This implies that narrative is about stories. On one level it is, but narrative analysis is about much more than that. Narrative analysis is the study of the specifics of communication as it relates to structure – the details of the language that film uses. (Hunt, Marland & Rawle, 2010: 38)