

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This first chapter will present five explanatory topics of this entire thesis, including the research background, statement of the problem, research purposes, research significance, definition of the key term, and organization of writing.

1.1 Research Background

Literary work is the result of human imagination through creative ideas and feelings. Literary work in the social order has an important role because the process of creating literary works does not escape the social conditions that often occur around the environment. Every day humans learn about the process of life that is being experienced. Apart from living experienced by oneself, human beings can also learn the process of life through literary works. Thus, it is not surprising that literary work are expressions or reflections of life as a source of inspiration presented in the form of beauty.

Popular literature is the same as other literary works containing human life and is acceptable to many people. According to Adi (2011), popular literature is written to fulfil the public's wishes and can be highly valued because its values are contained, and many people can accept it. The number of people who consume it can be known through its sale. Therefore, the term is popular, which means something that most people can consume.

One form of popular literary work that is close to the public is film. Film is a work of popular literature that is raised through visual media using spoken language

or dialogue and is created through the author's imagination, which can be conveyed through the message in a film. Many films or series are mass-produced because they are often used as a medium that describes social life in society. According to Klarer (2013), the symbiosis of words and images culminates in film because film records the words spoken and the appearance of images in a way reminiscent of books and allows for multiple displays or readings.

Film is called narrative art because it is created in a combination of audio and visual. It continuously affects each of them, including the image, sound, and movement of people on the screen, and makes the film the most powerful realistic art. According to Mintz (1983), the product of popular literature is responsible for those involved in making it so that its motifs and functions are more valuable than the product's aesthetics. However, the creation of popular literary works is not only for mass consumption but also for several hidden purposes. Thus, analyzing and criticizing popular literary works, including films, is necessary.

One of the sciences used to study popular literary works, especially films, in depth to analyze the characters created by the creator is by using literary psychology. The creator can express creative ideas by displaying the psychological aspects of the characters so that they can be closely related to the psychological aspects. The creator can describe aspects of the psyche using his own psychiatric experiences or from imagination arising from the subconscious. Therefore, the literary and psychological aspects have a close relationship. According to Minderop (2010), literary psychology is an interdisciplinary science that can combine

psychology and literary science with the aim of understanding the human psyche very broadly and deeply.

The object used in this study is from the film *A Beautiful Mind*. This film revolves around a mathematician named John Nash who suffers from schizophrenia. Videbeck (2010), mentioned that schizophrenia is a disease that affects the brain. Thus, it causes the emergence of thoughts, perceptions, emotions, movements, strange and disturbed behaviors. When John Nash met Charles, Marcee, and William Parcher, his life changed completely. He was prosecuted by William Parcher as an undercover agent to crack the secret code of Russia. His life worsened as did his relationship with his wife, Alicia. In the end, when John was giving a speech at Harvard, he was arrested by one of the mental doctors for suffering from a mental disorder. It turned out that the three friends were just hallucinations he created himself. Feeling that he did not match the drugs given by the doctor, he finally stopped taking the medicine. He also struggled with his illness helped by encouragement from his wife. Then, John's struggle led him to win the Nobel Prize in economics.

The structuralist point of view of a literary work consists of the intrinsic aspects that make it whole. Intrinsic aspects are plot, characters, characterizations, setting, theme, and point of view. As according to Taghizadeh (2013), literature consists of language, and language is brought as a whole from a structuralist point of view. Therefore, analyzing some of the characters in the story can be an analysis of structuralism.

Characterization of characters can be influenced by conflict problems, especially internal and external conflicts. Characters can appear naturally like humans, especially in literary works in the form of movies. The character's appearance can also be closely related to the psychological aspect. As according to Petrie & Boggs (2017), a conflict in films often brings significant changes. One of the changes brought about by conflict is a change or character development. Hence, any character faced with conflict will try to defend themselves or survive, so this form of self-defense usually leads to the development of the character itself. Thus, conflict can lead to the development of a character's personality. On the other hand, character development can also lead to new conflicts, and it happens because of character development.

The film *A Beautiful Mind* presents aspects that are closely related to the psychological problems faced by the main character. Some factors cause personality disorganization in John Nash's character, such as depression, lack of interest in life, feeling useless, hopeless, and always anxious, resulting in changes and developments that affect the continuity of the story in the film. The personality development of John Nash's character arises because of the insistence of the id, which cannot manifest the ego, so the ego becomes anxious and reduces it by using various ego defence mechanisms. Through this problem, this study would reveal how the character's characterization, the conflicts that occur in character, and the process of personality development on mental problems that can affect his life.

This research is relevant with some previous studies that discuss related topics, first about Mental Illness of The Main Character in The Joker Movie Script By

Todd Phillips And Scott Silver (2019) by (Awalliah 2020). This study focuses on discussing mental illness that occur in the main character in the film. This film using the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud. In this study there were 21 data in the first part and 14 data in the second part that had been analyzed based on the research problem. The method used in this reasearch is descriptive qualitative. The difference in this study is from the object used. The contribution to this study is how the researcher can understand and analyze psychological characters with a definite point of view.

Second, The Characterization and Conflict of John Nash's in A Beautiful Mind Movie Script by Akiva Goldsman by (Putri 2020). This research focuses on the characterization of the main character and the internal conflicts that occur in the main character in the script A Beautiful Mind movie. The research is qualitative, and all the data is analyzed qualitatively. This research uses Heyman's (2011) theory in analyzing characterizations supported by the psychological theory of (Maslim 2013). In this study there were 39 data in the first section and 12 data in the second section that had been analyzed based on the research problem. There are several similarities in the characterization theory in the study. The difference in this research is in the focus of the research and statement of problem. The contribution of this research is how the researcher can understand the psychological aspects of characters using different theories.

Third, Main Character's Characterization Change in Movie Dr. Seuss: The Lorax, by (Nugraha 2017). This research focuses on changing the characterization of the main character in the film Dr. Seuss: The Lorax. The main problem of this

study is the characteristics of the main character and changes in the characterization of the main character. This research uses the theory of character and characterization. The methods used are structural and descriptive qualitative. In this study there were 8 data in the first section and 17 data in the second section that had been analyzed based on the research problem. The difference in this study is from the focus of the study, the object used. The contribution to this study is how the researcher can understand and how to analyze characterization in literary works in the form of films.

Fourth, The Defense Mechanism and Conflict of Protagonist and Deuteragonist Character in Completing Their Mission in "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" and "Django Unchained" Movie, by (Fatahurozy 2018). This research focuses on defense and conflict mechanisms and problem-solving strategies to achieve the missions carried out by the protagonists and deuteragonists in both films. This research uses the theory of literary psychology. The method used is comparison. The activities carried out are analyzing, interpreting, and assessing the two objects, which are then compared with the results. In this study there were 20 data in the first section and 22 data in the second section that had been analyzed based on the research problem. The difference in this research is the research's object, method, and focus. The contribution to this research is how to understand and analyze the defense mechanism of characters in literary works, especially in the form of films.

Five, Schizophrenia in A Beautiful Mind Film, by Kurniawati (2008). The study focuses on depictions to understand mental illness from schizophrenia. The

question is how the narrative structure and the cinematic techniques of A Beautiful Mind film describe John Nash's schizophrenia; and how the schizophrenia of John Nash is depicted in the movie. This research uses a qualitative method, and the data will be qualitatively analyzed. The theory uses film structure and schizophrenia theory. In this study, there were 35 data in the first section and 63 data in the second section that had been analyzed based on the research problem. The difference in this research is in the focus of the research discussion. The contribution to this research is how to understand the schizophrenia experienced by John Nash depicted in the film and analyze it through narrative and systematic techniques in the film.

Based on what has been stated by the researcher above, this study explains the characterization and development of the main character's personality. Thus, this study uses the theory of Petrie & Boggs to analyze the characterization of John Nash's personality and the psychoanalytic theory of Sigmund Freud. Both theories were chosen in this study because they are considered the most relevant theories to analyze and explain the problems present in the main character.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Personality is a prominent trait in a person that can react and interact with other individuals and is an important aspect of psychology in determining one's behavior that can change and generate different perceptions. Like the personality reflected in the main character of the film A Beautiful Mind, who is overwhelmed with hallucinations so that it becomes a cause of the appearance of psychological problems and can be regulated by ego defense mechanisms to defend itself. With

the cause of the emergence of problems in the main character, this research will be further studied which is formulated into the following questions:

1. What is the characterization of the main character John Nash in the film A Beautiful Mind by Ron Howard?
2. How is the personality development of the main character John Nash in The Film A Beautiful Mind by Ron Howard?

1.3 Research Purposes

Based on the focus of the problem, the objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To find out the characterization of the main character John Nash in the film A Beautiful Mind by Ron Howard.
2. To find out the personality development of the main character John Nash in the film A beautiful by Ron Howard.

1.4 Research Significance

Theoretically, this research is expected to make new contributions and be able to add scientific insight into the results of research in the field of literature, especially in popular literary works in terms of narrative elements in films, especially characters, characterization, conflict, and character personality development. This research is also expected to be a reference material for researchers conducting research on narrative elements in films. Then, they can apply relevant theories in their research. As for practically, this study aims to introduce readers and connoisseurs to popular literary works, especially in the film

genre. And this research is expected to help readers to understand the content of the film *A Beautiful Mind*, especially the characterization and personality development of the main character John Nash using the theory of Petrie & Boggs and supported by the theory of psychoanalysis Sigmund Freud.

1.5 Definition of the Key Term

1. Literature

Literature is a work of human imagination that reflects the state of social reality, such as experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, and beliefs in a form of depiction of life using the tools of language.

2. Film

Film is an audio-visual medium in the form of moving images or videos that become an entertainment and are widely consumed by people.

3. Main character

The main character is a character who has an important role in a story, and is often featured in various events.

4. Characterization

Characterization is an attempt to display the character played and described by the author in a literary work. When analyzing characterizations, the emergence of conflicts that cause the story to continue.

5. Personality development

Personality development is one's willingness to organize internal aspects or mental attitudes and external behavioral aspects of self, namely how to present oneself or appear on the outer side of oneself in the perception of others.

1.6 Organization of Writing

This research contains five chapters; Chapter I as an introduction that presents the background of the research, statement of problem, research purposes, research significance, definition of the key term, and organization or writing. Chapter II is the theoretical framework. This chapter discusses theories related to aspects that form the basis of this research and helps answer existing problem statements. These aspects include popular literature, characterization, character, psychoanalysis in literature, psychoanalysis theory. Chapter III is a research methodology. This chapter present systematic method related to the research. The method to be discussed starts with research method, source of data, sample of data, technique of collecting data, and technique of analysis data.

Chapter IV is the discussion part. This chapter presents data analysis was carried out using characterization theory from Petrie & Boggs and supported by psychoanalysis theory from Sigmund Freud to answer the main character's problems in this study related to characterization and personality development. Chapter V is the closing part. This chapter presents the conclusions of all data analysis and discussion in this study. In addition, this chapter also contains suggestions for future research related to similar topic.