

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher provides information regarding the background of the research, statement of the problem of the research, objectives of the research, significances of the research, and definition of the key terms.

### 1.1 Research Background

After watching the *Uncharted* (2022) movie the researcher was interested in analyzing this movie because there is something that makes *Uncharted* (2022) movie different from other adventure movies. This movie has a unique approach to the main character. The narrative in this movie not only explores Hero's physical journey but also his emotional journey. Nathan Drake as a hero is not someone who is simply obsessed with treasure or wealthiness but has deeper motivations that drive him to embark on the adventure.

Furthermore, the researcher noticed that no previous studies on genre formulas, especially in the context of adventure formula, have discussed the *Uncharted* (2022) movie as a research object. Therefore, by choosing the *Uncharted* (2022) movie as the object of research provides an opportunity for researcher to explore aspects that have not been studied before in genre formula analysis.

*Uncharted* (2022) is an action-adventure movie adapted from the popular PlayStation 3 video game, *Uncharted: Drake's Fortune*, which was originally released in 2007. The movie also draws inspiration from its sequel, *Uncharted 4: A Thief's End*, which was released in 2016. The *Uncharted* movie was directed by Ruben Fleischer, who is known for his work on other popular movies like *Zombieland* (2009), *Gangster Squad* (2013), *Venom* (2018), and *Venom: Let There Be Carnage* (2021). The production of the *Uncharted* movie began in 2008, but due to the global pandemic, its release was postponed several times. Finally, it premiered in February 2022 in Indonesia, and it can now be watched on the Netflix digital streaming service.

The story of *Uncharted* (2022) movie starts when Nathan Drake (*Tom Holland*), also known as 'Nate,' along with his older brother named Sam (*Rudy Pankow*), attempts to steal the first world map ever created by the greatest sailor named Magellan, which is kept in the Boston Museum. However, as they try to take the map, they were caught, and both of them are then taken back to the orphanage. Later on, Sam, who doesn't want to be arrested by the police, intends to escape and search for the treasure sought by Magellan, but Nathan has to stay in the orphanage. Sam promised to return. However, after twelve years, Sam never returned. At that time Nathan Drake works in a bar and becomes a street-smart kid. He is then recruited by a seasoned treasure hunter Victor "Sully" Sullivan (*Mark Wahlberg*), who admits that he knows Nathan's older brother, Sam, who had missing twelve years earlier. Sully recruits Nathan to discover Ferdinand Magellan's lost treasure.

Their mission to find Magellan's treasure turns out to be much more difficult than they expected. As partners in adventure, they must face a number of competitor villains who are also want to get the treasure. Among their competitors is Santiago Moncada (*Antonio Banderas*), who claims to be the rightful owner of the treasure. During their journey, Nate and Sully meet Chloe Frazer (*Sophie Ali*), another treasure hunter who has a connection with Sully. In addition, they encounter Jo Braddock (*Tati Gabrielle*), a female mercenary who works for Santiago Moncada. The journey for Magellan's treasure unfolds with numerous unexpected developments, challenges, and tests of their determination, alliances, and decision-making.

In addition, the author of adventure fiction often follows a typical formula or template to create their narratives, based on the characters and story line that occur in the *Uncharted* (2022) movie, the researcher chooses this movie as an object of this research to be examined in detail what formulas are presented to make this movie becomes an adventure genre. According to Saricks (2009, p. 6) genre is defined as any sizable group of fiction authors and/or specific titles that have similar characteristics and appeal in specific patterns. Genres, then, are not limited to the traditional Mysteries, Romances, and so forth, but the idea can be expanded to include any larger group of fiction that shares characteristics and appeal elements.

Additionally, a formula can be understood as a narrative structure or set of dramatic conventions that authors employ to create a specific type of story or character. Different genres of stories, such as romance, comedy, horror, or adventure, often have different formulas. These formula help define genre-characteristics that allow audiences or readers to identify the type of story they are watching or reading. As Cawelti (1976, p. 5) states, literary formula is a narrative

structure or dramatic conventions used in many individual works. Common usage of the term literary formula refers to larger plot types.

Considering literature has evolved along with the development of technology, in this current era, writers can use multimedia elements such as images, videos, and audio to tell their stories. As a result, movies can be considered as a form of literature because they share a number of elements such as plot, character, theme, and narrative. According to Mario Klarer (2004, p. 54), although a movie has its specific characteristics and terminology, it is possible to analyze movies by drawing on methods of literary criticism, as movie criticism is closely related to the traditional approaches of textual studies. In this view, movies can be analyzed using many of the same critical techniques and approaches used to study works of literature.

Moreover, to examine the adventure formula in the *Uncharted* (2022) movie, the researcher is using Joyce G. Saricks' (2009) theory. Saricks' (2009, p. 16) explains that the adventure genres are action-packed, featuring a hero on a mission, and often involving physical pursuits and puzzles, and the story is often set in exotic locales. The *Uncharted* (2022) movie seems to follow this convention very well, presenting elements of action, a hero's journey in search of treasure, physical challenges, and a setting of exotic places. In accordance with Saricks' theoretical understanding about adventure formula.

Furthermore, adventure formulas in literature serve as a framework that guides the development of the story and its key elements. These formulas involve specific patterns and elements that are commonly associated with the adventure genre. For example, it may feature a hero or a group of characters undertaking a journey or quest, encountering obstacles, and achieving a significant moral mission. The formulas often include elements such as exploration of unknown places, and the discovery of treasures or secrets. As Saricks (2009, p. 16) mentioned that the prototypical Adventure story features a hero on a mission, and he must face a range of obstacles along the way. The reader gets a firsthand look at the exotic locale in which the story is set. The reader participates in suspenseful derring-do, joining the hero as he extricates himself from multiple dangers along the way and overcomes the physical dangers to complete his mission successfully. In many cases, characters in the adventure genre discover their true selves along the way. Many lessons can be learned from the adventure genre, such as friendship, loyalty, never give up, and so forth.

Interesting focus of adventure fiction is the story featuring the journey of a main character through a series of risks, challenges, and thrilling experiences, such as exploring

unknown places, fighting with enemies, facing natural disasters, or discovering treasure. Cawelti, as cited in Saricks (2009, p. 15) defines adventure fiction as the story of the hero - individual or group - overcoming obstacles and dangers and accomplishing some important and moral mission. Saricks (2009, p. 17) further notes that in adventure, the plot usually concentrates on a desperate mission that is physically dangerous to those involved and usually has serious, life-and-death ramifications.

In addition, the researcher has read some of the similar research in the form of genre formula that is adventure formula, romance formula, and thriller genre formula with different literary objects as supporters of this research. Moreover, researcher has not found any other researchers who have used this movie as an object of research in the context of genre formula. Thus, this research aims to fill this knowledge gap by analysing how the *Uncharted* (2022) movie adopts or presents genre formulaic elements in the construction of its narrative.

## 1.2 Statements of Problem

Whilst the Adventure Formula has been a significant component of the adventure genre in movies, there is still a need to analyze and comprehend its application, specifically in the *Uncharted* (2022) movie. In this context, this research aims to examine two research questions as follows:

1. How is the adventure formula depicted in Ruben Fleischer's *Uncharted* (2022) movie?
2. How does the character of Nathan Drake support the adventure in Ruben Fleischer's *Uncharted* (2022) movie?

## 1.3 Research Objectives

Based on the previous problem identification, the objectives of this research are:

1. To find out how the adventure formula is depicted in Ruben Fleischer's *Uncharted* (2022) movie.
2. To analyze the character of Nathan Drake in Ruben Fleischer's *Uncharted* (2022) movie.

## 1.4 Research Significances

The researcher hopes that this research can provide benefits for further researchers who are interested in the analysis of literary works, especially in analysing adventure formulas. By

reading this research carefully from beginning to end, future researchers are expected to find and understand the answers to the research questions.

In addition, the researcher hopes that this undergraduate thesis can make a positive contribution to English Literature students who are interested in exploring similar topics, especially those related to the adventure formula in popular literary works. It is hoped that the results of this research can be a useful reference in the development of further research and provide useful insights in the understanding of the analysis of adventure formulas in literary works.

## 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To prevent any misunderstandings when reading this research, this section will provide definitions of some of the key terms. The meanings and interpretations of these terms may vary, so a brief explanation will be provided to emphasize their literary definitions.

### 1. Structuralism as Literary Criticism

Structuralism in literary criticism is an approach that emphasizes the intrinsic elements that build a literary work. According to Jabrohim (2001, p. 55), in conducting structural analysis, researchers seek to comprehensively understand the structure of literary works by identifying and analyzing each element that contributes to the composition of the work as a whole.

### 2. Movie

A movie can be defined as a recorded story or narrative presented through a series of moving pictures, intended to be viewed on television or at the cinema (Hornby, 2015, p. 983).

### 3. Structure of Movie

Nurgiyantoro (1998, p. 23) said there are two elements that contribute to the construction of a literary work, namely intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are the elements that exist within the literary work itself. The intrinsic elements that shape it include Theme, plot, characters and characterization, setting, point of view, and language style.

### 4. Genre of Fiction

Genre is a specific category or type used to classify works based on their general characteristics and themes. As mentioned by Saricks (2009, p. 6) genre is defined as “any

sizable group of fiction authors and/or specific titles that have similar characteristics and appeal.

#### 5. Adventure Formula

Adventure formula is a common narrative pattern or structure used in adventure stories. Cawelti (1976, p. 39) states in literature, an adventure is the story of a hero, either individual or a group, who faces and overcomes multiple challenges.

#### 6. Hero

An identifiable hero is always found in adventure fiction. A hero can appear as an individual or a group, they fight on the good side and have great power to solve problems in the journey of adventure within the story.

#### 7. *Uncharted* (2022) Movie

*Uncharted* (2022) is an action-adventure movie adaptation of a popular video game series with the same title. It was produced by Columbia Pictures and directed by Ruben Fleischer. *Uncharted* tells the adventures of Nathan Drake, a treasure hunter and courageous explorer, who gets involved in the search for a legendary treasure.

