

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter's introduction, An outline of the research is given in this chapter. It includes the background of the research, research questions, research objectives, research significances, previous studies, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Background of Research

Literary works are an art form that expresses intentions and purposes originating from their authors. Literary works themselves are an explicit system of thought. They contain many aspects such as theories, ideas, and reflections. This comes from the author who plays a crucial role in presenting the results of that literary work.

According to Noor (2011), the fictional world is the framework of the literary work. The meaning of this is that literary works are a form of fiction, which means they are not the same as the reality of the real world. Although it is fiction, literary works are also an implementation of the realities of life. Aminuddin (2009) states that every literary work is constructed with structural elements. The meaning is that literary works are elements that evoke thoughts and emotions for the author, especially in filmmaking. In a film, the idea of mutual synchronization with other elements will be embedded in the story. And characters are one of the important roles in literary works. The author can freely determine the characters in the creation of literary works. Fananie (2001) conveys that their thoughts and feelings about what is happening in the world are expressed through the characters in the literary work. Characters have a unique role in controlling a story. The author can freely direct the characters through various problems in the storyline.

The researcher decided to study the movie "Perfume The Story of a Murderer" because it tells the story of a killer. This film is adapted from a famous novel of its time, originally published in German under the title "Das Parfum" by

Patrick Süskind. The novel explores the sense of smell and its emotional connections. The story focuses on the main character named Jean Baptise, an orphan living in France in the 18th century. Jean Baptise was born with an extraordinary sense of smell, able to detect and distinguish the aromas of the natural world around him. After the novel became a bestseller, there was a high demand for a film adaptation of "Das Parfum."

The researcher wants to study the film *Perfume The Story of a Murderer*, which is a drama film adapted directly from its novel. Tom Tykwer has been chosen to direct the film. This film also stars Ben Whishaw as Jean Baptise, Alan Rickman as Antoine Richis, Dustin Hoffman as Giuseppe Baldini, David Calder as Bishop Grasse, and other renowned actors. This film discusses the ambition of a poor young man who wants to create a fragrance. In his story, Jean Baptise has a special ability, which is his sense of smell. With it, he could smell something that the masses could not. Because of his actions, Jean Baptise feels that heavenly pleasure is when he can possess a scent that makes him feel as if he is in paradise. In every journey to find the best perfume, Jean Baptise realized that to create a great masterpiece, something must always be sacrificed. In his creation, Jean Baptise needed beautiful women with a distinctive fragrance. Jean Baptise required 12 women to create the best perfume formula of the moment. By killing those women and using animal fat to preserve the distinctive scent of the women he targets. This shows that Jean Baptise is an ambitious person. However, his journey to achieve his masterpiece was not easy. Because during his time, social inequality was very palpable, and we must not forget the various forms of torture that Jean Baptise endured. Having big dreams and coming from a proletarian background is not easy. And finally, Jean Baptise was able to achieve his dream of creating a masterpiece perfume derived from the scent of the twelfth woman.

It should be distinguished by the way they dress and the treatment given by the master to those he refers to as slaves. In this realm, there are several types of slavery, including Bondage of Goods, Debt Bondage, Forced Slavery, and Forced Marriage. For that reason, it is important for the researcher to pay attention to the

small details that occur in *Perfume The Story of a Murderer*. The origins of slavery lie in social classes that differentiate one human being from another, supported by existing empirical evidence.

1.2 Statement Problem

From the background of the research, there are two issues that the researcher will discuss. Based on the problem statement above, the researcher seeks to address the issue with the following research questions:

1. What kind of social classes in *Perfume The Story Of a Murderer* Movie by Tom Tykwer?
2. What types of slavery in *Perfume The Story Of a Murderer* Movie by Tom Tykwer?

1.3 Research Objective

This section outlines the research objectives in accordance with the research problem that has been formulated previously. This study aims to:

1. To analyze the various social classes present in the movie *Perfume The Story of a Murderer*.
2. To find out the differences types of slavery depicted in *Perfume The Story of a Murderer*.

1.4 Reseach Signifiante

This research is beneficial for academics, especially for those who wish to delve deeper into social class and slavery in literature. Furthermore, this research is useful for researchers involved in the literary field, particularly in the course of classical literary theory, which is a mandatory subject for students majoring in literature. Basically, this research is expected to contribute to the development of literature. This research also serves as new knowledge and information for literary researchers. Personally, this research is expected to help the researcher gain a deeper understanding of social class and slavery in the film. This research focuses on

identifying social classes and slavery in the movie *Perfume The Story of a Murderer*. The significance of this research is:

1. For researchers, this study can add new knowledge and experience regarding social class and slavery in the film.
2. For readers, this research can provide additional knowledge and serve as a reference for future literary studies.
3. Additionally, the researcher hopes this study can contribute to the development of knowledge and have a positive impact on the theories of social class and slavery.

1.5 Previous Study

Previous research can be used as a guiding source in writing research. References can be obtained from various sources, such as books, journals, or even scientific papers. Therefore, previous research plays an important role in studies as it serves as a foundational reference in developing existing research as a benchmark for comparison. The previous studies referred to by the researchers in this study are as follows:

The first research by Fitriya (2019), with the title “Differences In Social Class In Novel Like Events In The South Of Banten By Pramoedya Ananta Toer.” This research aims to explain the social class differences in Pramoedya Ananta Toer's novel "Once an Event in Banten Selatan," as well as how the uprising of the lower class (proletariat) ends tyranny from the upper class (bourgeoisie) owing to social class disparities. This research takes a Marxist viewpoint. The study's findings are as follows. First, Pramoedya Ananta Toer's novel *Had an Event in South Banten* is a novel that discusses social class distinctions between the higher (bourgeoisie) and lower (proletariat) classes, thus causes conflict between the two social classes using Marxist theory. Second, the form of resistance of the lower class society (proletariat) to end the oppression of social class differences in the novel by the bourgeoisie.

The second is conducted by Subekti, Faris Maulana (2022), With the title "Social Class in the Novel The Great Gatsby," the researcher focuses on the social classes present in the novel The Great Gatsby. The researcher explains that social class there is something related to the description and analysis of production and distribution. Because the novel The Great Gatsby tells the story of money and wealth, it clearly depicts the social classes present in the novel. From a Marxist perspective, it is said that this is a representation of the fact that people are never satisfied with what they have, even if they seem to have everything. So this research focuses on the materialism that encompasses much of The Great Gatsby.

The third is conducted by Nirmala, Amarendra Ati (2018), titled "Subtraction Adjustment: The English-Indonesian Translation of the Novel Perfume." This research focuses on the translation from English to Indonesian in the novel Perfume. In this study, the researcher aims to inform that the translation of the novel Perfume also contains errors. By using subtraction adjustments, there are subtypes of reduction such as repetition, reference specification, combination, transition, category, vocative, and formula. The meaning is that the specifications are the elements of integration from the translation that align with the theory used by the researcher so that the translation can be carried out correctly.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

To clarify the definition in this thesis, the researcher conveys the definition of key terms as follows,

1. Social class is the differentiation of the population or society into classes in a hierarchical manner, in which the occurrence of class distinctions in society is based on economic factors, education, employment, and the relationship between the status (position) of a family member and the status of other family members, (Jordan, 1971).
2. The Upper class can be characterized by the amount of wealth, influence on both individual and general community groups, having a high income, a

high educational background, and also having a stable family life, (Jordan, 1971).

3. The Lower Class usually consists of unskilled workers who have relatively lower incomes, the Lower Class has a low educational background and is also a recipient of welfare funds from the government, (Jordan, 1971).
4. Slavery as a form of social domination in which individuals (slaves) are completely alienated from their social and political community. According to Patterson, slavery is "social death" because slaves lose their rights and social identity, (Patterson, 2006).
5. Bondage of Goods Property slavery, also known as classic slavery, derives its name from the fact that people are viewed as personal property of their owners and traded as commodities. This is the most uncommon type of slavery in the world today (Brace, 2004).
6. Debt Bondage is when someone makes a financial pledge to themselves, Their creations are worth more than what was originally borrowed. Debt is frequently passed down to succeeding generations (Ruis, 2011).
7. Forced slavery occurs when a person is forced to work against their will, under threat of violence or other punishment, with restrictions on their freedom, (bales,2004).
8. Forced marriage can be considered a form of slavery if one of the parties, usually a women, experiences violences, threats, intimidation, etc. And are required to engage in sexual activity and perform household chores and other work without personal control, (Shidart, 2008).