

**ADAPTATION ANALYSIS OF *HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE*  
NOVEL BY J.K. ROWLING INTO FILM BY DAVID YATES**  
ANALISIS FILM ADAPTASI DAVID YATES DARI NOVEL J.K. ROWLING  
“HARRY POTTER AND THE HALF BLOOD PRINCE”

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**ABSTRAK**

Saat ini banyak karya-karya sastra yang di transformasikan ke dalam sebuah karya adaptasi. Diantaranya adalah novel J.K Rowling yang berjudul *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* dengan judul yang sama. Dengan obyek tersebut, artikel ini berfokus pada motif- motif yang ada dalam proses pengadaptasian dari novel ke sebuah film adaptasi. Dalam proses transformasinya, menimbulkan beberapa perubahan, dalam bentuk pengurangan dan penambahan. Perubahan-perubahan ini dikarenakan adanya konsekuensi dari perbedaan media, yaitu teks dan audiovisual. Ada tiga masalah yang dibahas dalam penelitian ini. Pertama, perubahan-perubahan apa saja yang telah dibuat oleh tim produksi, kedua, konsekuensi dari perbedaan media terhadap cerita di novel dan film, ketiga, motif yang terkandung dalam film adaptasi *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince*. Selanjutnya, kami menggunakan metode bandingan dalam artikel ini. Dalam proses analisis, kami menggunakan teori adaptasi dan analisis semiotika. Selanjutnya, artikel ini dimulai dengan mengelompokkan perbedaan yang ada di novel dan membandingkannya dengan film. Setelah itu kami menggunakan analisis semiotik untuk membantu menemukan ideologi yang terkandung dalam novel dan film. Ideologi ini yang nantinya akan mempermudah menemukan motif yang terkandung dalam film adaptasi ini. Ada beberapa hasil dari analisis menggunakan teori adaptasi yang di dukung oleh pembacaan semiotika, yaitu: ideologi dominan yang terkandung dalam film adaptasi ini adalah ideologi kapitalis yang menjelaskan akan adanya motif ekonomi dan budaya dalam film adaptasi ini.

**Kata Kunci:** Adaptasi, Novel ke film, Mitos, Motif adaptasi

**ABSTRACT**

*Nowadays, there are many literary works that is transformed into an adaptation work. One of them is J.K rowling's novel entitled Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince with the same title. Using this object, this article focuses on the motives that exist in the process of adapting the novel and make it into the form of a film adaptation. During process of transformation, it arises some changes and some excisions. These changes because of the consequences of the differences in the media, the text and audiovisual. There are three issues discussed in this research. First, what are the changes that have been made by the production team, the second, the consequences of differences in media against stories in novels and films, the third, the motives that contained in the film adaptation of Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince. Then, we use comparative method in this study in order to compare the differences between the novel and the film. During the process of analysis, we use the theory of adaptation and semiotic analysis. Furthermore, this article begins by classifying the differences that exist in the novel and compare it to the movie. After that, we use semiotics in order to help find the ideology that contained in the novel and the film. This ideology helps on finding the motives that contained in the film adaptation. The results of the analysis are: dominant ideology in the film adaptation is capitalism ideology that explains the economic and cultural motives in this film adaptation*

**Keywords:** Adaptation, Novel into Film, Motives of Adaptation, Myth

**1. Rationale**

After the success of the fifth novels before, J.K Rowling's Harry Potter sixth novel series was being adapted into film in 2009 by David Yates as the director and Steve Kloves as the screen writer. This film arise many curiosities among Harry

Potter fans. As an adaptation film, it arises many differences between the novel and the film itself. Hutcheon said that all the adapters relate stories in their different ways. They use the same tools that storytellers have always used but the stories they relate are taken from elsewhere, not invented the

new one (2006: 3). It means that the adapters take their material from others that being adapted. They use stories that come from novels, comics, plays, poems, or video games. Nowadays the discussion about adaptation analysis are not merely about fidelity or not. Mary Donaldson-Evan stated that, their interest on this film adaptation centered on the way a particular film adaptation “reproduced” a particular novel, and the films were judged based on whether or not they were “faithful” to the fictional narratives that inspired them (2009: 24).

During the process of finding the motive, this article also needs a supporting theory; here we use the theory of sign proposed by Roland Barthes. Barthes here explains that there is an order of signification, namely myth. Myth here is a type of speech, everything can be a myth provided it is conveyed by a discourse (1991:107). By using Barthes’s myth, it will easy to find the relation between sign shown by the image in the film scene and text in the novel. Using the signs, it helps to find the different ideologies from the novel and the film. After finding the ideologies, finally, the meaning of the differences is proven and lead to the motive beyond its film adaptation.

In order to conduct this article, we compare the novel and its film adaptation. After comparing both of them, we question three things: what kind of changes that the film production team have made during the process of transformation, the consequences of the different media upon novel and film stories, and the motive beyond the adaptation of *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* novel to *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* film. Concerning the problem to discuss, this study has three goals. They are: to find out the changes that have made by the film production team, find the effects of the changes, and finally find the motive beyond adaptation novel into film

## 2. Research Method

This research is compatible to use qualitative research since it supports written information and images that is essential to the study of this article. As Blaxter *et al.*, (2010: 65) stated that qualitative research is a type of research that deals with collecting and analyzing information in a form of non-numeric. The qualitative may be in a form of text, photograph or

images, videos, sound recordings and so on. This research use comparative method since it compares the differences between the novel and the film.

The primary data come from the information about the meaning of life that is represented in the novel and its film adaptation, and the changes that has been made during the process of adaptation. The secondary data come from the data that support the information about the meaning of life in the novel and its film adaptation, adaptation journals, essays, articles, or any other texts that support the analysis. Then, the data from novel and film are categorized into some themes that is related to the meaning of life especially about death, love and kinship. Using these themes, each of them is analyzed using Barthes's myth analysis in order to find the dominant ideology. Then the ideologies that have been found, are lead to the adaptation theory and lead us into the motives of this film adaptation.

## 3. Result

Based on the data that have been collected and analyzed, it founds that there are some changes, the changing of setting when the bridge collapses, additional characters, some plot are condensed. The changes give influence to the ideology from both of them. There are two kinds of ideologies on this film adaptation. There are capitalism and the universality of love. According to each theme, there are capitalism that become the central ideologies of this analysis. From the central ideology that has been found, it is processed using the theory of adaptation in order to find the motive. Hutcheon stated that there are four kinds of motives in adaptation (2006:86-94). As a result, this study finally found that economics lures and cultural capital motive that have been arise in this film adaptation. Since capitalism becomes the most ideologies that arises in the film adaptation, it can be relates with the economic lures motive of adaptation. In addition, according to the capitalism side film tells us about how capitalism works. By showing human existence do not depend on the bloodline or family background, the film shows how to make some efforts in order to get the acknowledgment from others. Thus, it can be relates with cultural capital motive. Since this film adaptation has a relation to pedagogical

impulse.

In order to reveal the differences of the ideologies, we will show the result scheme:

THEMES	IDEOLOGY IN NOVEL	IDEOLOGY IN FILM
The Importance of Bloodline	Feudalism: Family background as the dependency of human existence	Capitalism: efforts become the dependency of human existence
Fear of Death and Powerless	Feudalism: Brockdale bridge is an uncommon bridge, it does not represent the modernity. Thus it is merely feudalism, since feudalism the cities are considered otherwise from cities in capitalism.	Capitalism: Millennium Bridge as the symbol of modernity, since in capitalism cities are the centers of economic and political power
The Commensurable life between Muggle and Wizard	Feudalism: there is a boundary territory that makes them separated each other.	Capitalism: no boundary territory to make a mess in other world
The Power of Love	Christianity: love become the most powerful to face the darkness	The Universality of Love: love is salvation

#### 4. Discussion

In discussing this research, we try to analyse the differences on the novel and the adapted film. Adaptation can be said as a kind of repetition, but it is a repetition without imitation (Hutcheon, 2005: 7). A repetition from the early work to the new one does not make any exact imitation from the earliest work. Film adaptation always arises

many changes during its production. It is because of the tendencies of different media. Since it is from telling to showing mode of engagement, as a novel the media is a text, while the media of film is an audiovisual. As an adapted work, the process of transformation from novel into film also produces different representation. The differences here will be gathered into some themes and analyze using myth analysis in order to find the ideology that leads us to the motive of this film adaptation. There are four themes that have been made according to the meaning of life in the novel and the film. The meaning of life in the novel and film gathered by themes about death, love, and kinship.

The first discussion in this research is the analysis of the theme about the important of bloodline. There is a distinction of the bloodline in wizard world. There are Half Blood wizard, who is the decendent of Muggle and Wizard, and Pure Blood Wizard as the decendent of pure wizard. Hutcheon argues that in an adaptation film, there are always differentiation. It is not only copy the source, but also arises many changes (2006:176). In this view, myth about the influence of the wizard bloodline in novel has different representation when it is transformed into film adaptation. The different representation is explained in the family background of a character, Lord Voldemort. In the novel, he is explained as a half-blood wizard. There is no explanation about the scenes that revealed his real identity in the film. These differences underline that in a transformation from novel into film adaptation involving many excisions on the plot and character. Hutcheon stated that most of the viewers saw this excision as a negative, as subtraction, when the plot are condensed and concentrated, they can become more powerful (2006: 36). In this case, it is not only the excision about the plot but also on the characters. In order to cover the real identity of Voldemort, film production team make an excision on the plot and character about Voldemort's family. According to the novel's plot, it explains that Merope, Voldemort's Mom, has been falling in love with a Muggle namely Tom. As in conversation between Harry Potter and Dumbledore in novel:

“So Merope was...sir, does that mean she was...Voldemort’s mother?”

“It does,” said Dumbledore. “And it so happens that we also had a glimpse of Voldemort’s father. I wonder whether you noticed?”

“The Muggle Morfin attacked? The man on the horse?”

“Very good indeed,” said Dumbledore, beaming. “Yes, that was Tom Riddle Senior, the handsome Muggle who used to go riding past the Gaunt cottage and for whom Merope Gaunt cherished a secret, burning passion.”

(Rowling, 2005:253)

Based on the quotation above, process of transformation from novel into film rise an excision to the plot. The novel tells a fact that Voldemort was a descent from a Muggle namely Tom. In order to cover the fact, Voldemort tries to relieve his identity on various ways. The belief of only a Pure Blood Wizard will exist as the most powerful wizard makes Voldemort relieve his real identity. In addition, in novel there are not only Voldemort that relieve his identity but also one of Hogwarts teacher namely Severus Snape. As Voldemort done, Severus Snape also want to hide from his real identity by using his power as a teacher always mocking on his students who have half-blood parentage. Born as a half blood makes him ashamed with his real identity. As in conversation between Harry Potter and Hermione in novel:

“Well...yes,” said Hermione. “So...I was sort of right. Snape must have been proud of being ‘Half a Prince’, you see? Tobias Snape was a muggle from what it said in the *Prophet*.”

“Yeah, that’s fits,” said Harry. “He’d play up the pure-blood side so he could get in with Lucius Malfoy and the rest of them...he’s just like Voldemort. Pure-blood mother, Muggle father...ashamed of

his parentage, trying to make himself feared using the Dark Arts, gave himself an impressive new name – *Lord Voldemort*- the Half-Blood *Prince* – how could Dumbledore missed -?” (Rowling, 2005:750)

This fact proves that the parentage has important influence to human existence. Both of Voldemort and Severus Snape also want to relieve their real identity. The existence of Pure Blood makes them believe that when they have Pure Blood parentage, they will have the power of mightiness. According to this fact, the novel emerges about feudalism. Both Harry Potter and Voldemort come from the mix blood, and this reason makes them special and they have a special survival power to live in the two worlds. That, as Barthes says, is the meaning. The meaning in terms of the first order of signification that is what it denotes. However, Barthes goes on to explain the further meaning. The sign of Harry Potter and Voldemort are hybrids become the signifier of the cultural values that represents in the scene. That takes us into what Barthes refers to as myth. Under the operation of this myth, the sign becomes a second-order signifier. Thus, the signified is: What make Harry Potter and Voldemort special are their Bloodline origins. The privileges they have come from their family background, there is a dependency of bloodline relationship. Furthermore, according to this signified, it leads to the meaning of feudalism. Since feudalism always relates their power to conquer another with the nobility. Thus, the ideology in *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* novel is mostly about feudalism. As Mark R. Hatlie stated on his journal entitled “*Feudalism vs. Modernity*”: Power is personal and connected to the nobility <http://hatlie.de/pdf/feudalismvsmodernity.pdf> [accessed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013]. The film shows the opposite, film shows about efforts on finding the human existence. Harry has to compete with Malfoy as the Pure blood wizard (at 00:33:10-00:37:46). Even Harry is a half-blood wizard, he became the winner at that time by using some efforts. It proves that there is no dependency of bloodline to be the winner. It is related to the

meaning of capitalism. Capitalism comes from bourgeois class. They do not derive from nobleman parentage. Capitalism is essentially the investment of money in the expectation of making a profit, and huge profits could be made by some considerable risk (Fulcher, 2004:2). It means that there must be an individual effort with rational consideration to gain welfare or particular achievement.

The second themes is about the fear of death and powerless. Myth about fear of death and powerless in the novel represented by a lot of murders, damages, and abductions everywhere, and it happens both in magic and muggle worlds. Huge events happen everywhere, begin with collapsing Brockdale bridge. These mess caused by Voldemort and his followers. The fact that Voldemort's power has been arisen makes some mess in wizard world. Hutcheon stated that when the adapters creates a stories, it is not necessarily repeating (2006:176). It means that, the adapter in creating the stories. In the film do not merely repeat fully according to the source, in this case they change the setting. Film shows The Millennium bridge that replaces the Brockdale bridge in the novel was collapsed (at 00:02:24-00:02:45). By replacing the bridge setting, it symbolizes the film production team to show the modernity as the central of the city, London. London becomes the symbol of economy and political power. It relates to the meaning of capitalism. Mark R. Hatlie stated that cities are the centers of economic and political power <http://hatlie.de/pdf/feudalismvsmodernity.pdf> [accessed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013]. It means that film wants to emerge about capitalism and in other hand the novel emerges feudalism.

The third themes is the commensurable life between muggle and wizard. Novel tells us about muggle and wizard always keep separate in order to get the balance life between both of the. But in film, it is show that wizard invades muggle world. There is an adding character when this scene happens (at 00:01:18-00:01:30). Thus, it leads into the meaning of capitalism. While it relates with capitalism, it shows that there are no boundary territory to make a mess on other world like a muggle world for Voldemort. Using the power of his mightiness the muggle seems to be powerless. As Hatlie stated that:

The state exercises absolute, centralized sovereignty over a distinct territory. This territory is based on features which are usually deemed somehow eternal or primal: ethnic or religious borders, geographic features, divine providence. Territorial changes are considered traumatic. What sovereignty entails has changed over time, but can include claims to the exclusive loyalty of the population, control of religion, control of the cross-border traffic, control of information and communication, etc.

<http://hatlie.de/pdf/feudalismvsmodernity.pdf> [accessed on March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013]

The last is about the power of love. The novel tells us about how love can gives an impact on personality between Harry Potter and Voldemort. Harry has much loves from his died parents. They sacrifices themselves in order to save Harry. According to this fact, it makes Harry feels confident to defeat Voldemort using his power of love and to be loved. Using this loves, Harry never be afraid with the power of Voldemort's mightiness. It can be shown that:

'Yes, you have,' said Dumbledore firmly. 'You have a power that Voldemort has never had. You can-'

'I know!' said Harry impatiently. 'I can love! It was only with difficulty that he stopped himself adding, 'Big deal!'

(Rowling, 2005:601)

Therefore, in a form of novel Harry gets much love as his power to defeat Voldemort. Love becomes the most powerful to face the darkness. Thus, it is related to the meaning of love in Christianity belief. Dr. Standford E. Murrell stated in his research entitled "*Let There Be Love*": Love offers protection during the dark days of spiritual warfare for believers are to put on "*the breastplate of love.*" (1 Thess. 5:8). In a form of film, it only shows a plain scene about loves can defeat the darkness. Film production team made an excision the scene about the power of love, it explains on a plain scene (at 00:12:40-

00:13:43) and it only shows about the power of mightiness. That takes us into what Barthes refers to as myth. Under the operation of this myth, the sign becomes a second-order signifier. Thus, the signified is: Love is salvation. It leads us to the ideology of the universality of love.

From the dominant ideologies, the motives that have been found are economic lures and cultural capital. Since the economic lures and cultural capital dominate this film adaptation by looking at the ideologies of each themes.

## 5. Conclusion

The analysis finally comes into the resolution. According to the ideologies that have been found, the film adaptation motive has been found too. Here, based on the adaptation theory, the motive is the economic lures. Since the economic lures motive, the adapter wants to adapt a work because of they want to have the benefits on their adapted work. The benefits here mean that they can obtain much money from their adapted work. The benefits sometime come from the franchise of the work that being adapted. In addition, Hutcheon said that the popular writer would make lots of money for their works. Lots of money makes the adapters want to achieve the benefits from the well-known writer (2006: 88). They make some excisions, changing the setting of collapsing bridge, and shows about the human existences do not depend on the bloodline or family background, are in order to get the main theme about capitalism. Moreover, by changing the setting it shows about the modernity of London, and it can be relates to the capitalism. Since, London represents about the central of economic and political power with its modernity. In addition, as an adaptation film it is need high technology to conduct and to support this production. Technology also has probably framed in adaptation, in that new media have constantly opened the door for new possibilities for all three modes of engagement. Since the imaginative visualizations among readers is likely greater in fantasy fiction than in realist fiction (2006: 29). In this case, the utilization of high technology also require much money on it. Thus, it is no surprise that economic motivation affects all stages of the adaptation process.

Finally, the discussion about *Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince* adaptation film is complete. The next study should be conducted by other researchers: are there any others motive beyond this film adaptation? Are there related to art ideology?. Thus the next researcher should be conducted to give plausible resolution to the the problems that have the same goals. Finally, this writing is wishfully become a great support for the next researcher that has the same passion to work on the same discipline.

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