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THE INFLUENCES OF FLASHBACK TO THE PLOT "THE IRON LADY" MOVIE

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Abstract: *The aims of th study are (1) to describe the plot arrangement of The Iron Lady and (2) to describe the type of plot in The Iron Lady. In this research, researcher was used descriptive and qualitative technique because this descriptive analysis was based on the data of the movie. The researcher collected the data by watching movie. The technique was conducted as a means to understand the intrinsic elements of the movie especially the plot arrangement and type of the plot of The Iron Lady. A qualitative analysis is a part of primary reasearch. It can be done either by investigating the subject or phenomenon. The qualitative data in this thesis are the intrinsic element of the movie that will be described and discussed in this report. The results of the research were about the plot arrangement and the type of the plot in The iron Lady movie. The plot arrangment consist of three part, they are the beginning, the middle, and the end. Based on the plot arrangement, the middle of the story is more interesting, because of the story present some complicated problems. However the story is still entertaining. Meanwhile the type of the plot of The iron Lady is Flashback. The aspects of the flasback plot are Exposition, Raising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Catastrophe.*

Keywords : *Plot Arrangement, Flashback, Story*

Abstrak: Tujuan dalam Penelitian adalah mendeskripsikan susunan plot film *The Iron Lady* dan mendeskripsikan jenis plot dari film *The Iron Lady*. Penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif dan kualitatif teknik dikarenakan analisis deskriptif ini berdasarkan data dari film. Peneliti mengumpulkan dengan menonton film. Teknik didunakan dengan tujuan untuk mengetahui hakikat dari unsur-unsur film, khususnya pada susunan plot dan jenis plot. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan susunan plot terdiri dari tiga bagian, yaitu Permulaan, Pertengahan, dan Akhiran. Berdasarkan sususana plot, bagian pertengahan lebih menarik, dikarenakan alur cerita menunjukkan permasalahan yang rumit, walaupun keseluruhan cerita masih menarik. Sedangkan, jenis plot pda film *The Iron Lady* adalah *Flaschback*. Aspek-aspek yang terdapat pada *flaschback* adalah *Exposition, Raising Action, Climax, Falling Action, and Catastrophe*.

Kata Kunci: Susunan Plot, Kilas balik, Alur cerita

Introduction

Literary work can be divided into three categories. They are prose or fiction, drama or plays, poetry or poem. A movie is a work of drama or plays. The elements of literary works can be divided into intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. The intrinsic elements are theme, plot, setting, characters, characterizations and language style. A plot is the illustration of what the characters do and where their orientation is. A plot is a series of events developed into a story chronologically. The plot of a traditional short story is often displayed of as moving through five distinct stages or sections: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and catastrophe. One of the important elements of prose fiction is character. It refers to any individual in a literary work. There would be not plot, without a character, the character is the most important element in a story and minor character that support the major character.

In this analysis of fiction it is necessary to examine the elements, not as entities in themselves, but as they are related to the whole. By relating those elements, someone can develop his or her intellectual

in understanding a story and someone will also get satisfaction for himself or herself because he or she can get some values by the end of project.

This thesis discusses of one important element in a movie called a plot, in this case, plot in a literary work could be very important because it can influence indirectly the story of the movie. By analyzing the plot there can be found some problems that shape the story. The writer focuses on the flashback plot because there is a development in the story related to the whole plot. There is an interesting flashback stated in the story that gives contribution to change the story and character. This element of plot can influence the other elements in the movie such as setting, theme or character. Relating the very important element will be interesting for the readers. It will give a new experience since that element is related to the arrangement of the story.

According to Abrams (1979:8-26), there are four approaches in identifying, analyzing, evaluating, and writing literature. The explanations of those approaches are as follows: First

Mimetic Approach, This approach mentions that literary work is an imitation of aspect of the external universe and ideas. Moreover, the literary work is an unchanging pattern of sound, sight, and movement. This approach also searches for relationship between the work and the nature. Second, Pragmatic Approach, This approach views that the literary work is something designed by the author to convey certain purposes or the readers. The applicable purposes are usually education, politics, issues, and aesthetics. This approach is meant to get the success in reading the purpose or the effect.

Third, Expressive Approach, This approach shows that the literary work is an expression of the author. Since the author is the creator of the literary work, the author has a big role when this approach is used. When analyzing the work, the critic is supposed to take into account the author's biography. His past life time, his perception, his background, ideas, feeling while he has expressing his ideas in the work. And last, Objective Approach, This approach views that the literary work is an independent, unique unity separated from external aspects. When criticizing a work, we have to focus on

the aspect or elements of the literary work. Those elements are plot, theme, character, tone, atmosphere, and setting. Therefore, the analysis is more on the relationship between the intrinsic elements of the literary work.

Based on those approaches, the writer applies the objective approach. In this case, the objective approach is used to understand the literary work, especially the elements of literary work, such as theme, plot, setting, character, and language style. In this study, the writer only focuses on the plot of the story.

Holman (1980:185) as stated in *A Handbook to Literature* a movie is a literary sheet or a roll of transparent material coated with a light-sensitive emulsion for making photograph or moving picture by synecdochial extension, a motion picture or cinema made or preserved on such material is itself called a film. According to Hornby (2006: 960), "movie is a series of picture recorded with sound that tells a story, shown at the cinema/movie theater". Meanwhile, according to Edgar (2003:234), film is like a realization on stage. The producer and director, together with

actors, artists, scene designers, costume-makers, carpenters, choreographers, and lighting technicians work together from a script movie became a great show (movie). From the definition above, we can draw a conclusion that movie is a kind of entertainment and art which enact a story through a sequence of moving pictures or images and sound. Movie not only entertains people but also can be an eyewitness of someone's life, someone that will inspire other people.

Plot may be said as the events or problems concerning with what happen in the story. According to Kennedy (1995:9), plot is the structure of events that arise out of a conflict. Based on this view, it can be said that plot is the events of the experiences by the characters both main and minor characters in the whole story. In this intrinsic element, the author tries to explore the events and the problems faced by the characters from the beginning, the middle, and the ending of the story. Therefore, plot is important and it shows the events and the problems in details, and according to Reaske (1966:29)

stated that "the five part dramatic structure of plot are exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and catastrophe".

There are two types of plot, Chronological order and Flashback. Chronological Order, According to Holman (1980:116) "chronological order is all events that occur in the order in which they happened in writing". There may be references to events from the past to the future, however the events are written in time order and Flashback, according to Holman (1980:413) wrote that "flashback is interjected scene that takes the narrative back in the time from the current point the story has reached". A device by which the writer of the fiction, a drama, or a film presents scenes or incidents that occurred prior the opening scene work.

Character plays pivotal role in all kind of narratives. Character can be fictional or based on real, historical entities, it can be human, supernatural mythical, devine, animals or personification of an abstraction. Holman (1980:74) stated that "Character refer to a person in fictional story, it's brief

descriptive sketch of a personage who typifies some definite quality". There are some types of character in which the role comparison of each type is different from each other, the one has great role and others have a bit role, those character are flat and round characters.

Flat (simple) Character as Kenney (1966:28) stated that "flat character is less presentation of human personality than the embodiment is single attitude or obsession in character". It has one side of him, it is categorized as change, they begin as the same kinds of character as they are in the end. "They are usually static or unchanging" it is stated by Russel (1966:43). In other words that flat character has a bit role in a story.

Round Character as Foster and Holman (1980:395) designated that "a character drawn with sufficient complexity to be able to surprise the reader without losing its credibility". It has all sides of him the complex character is obviously more lifelike than simple character, because in life people are not simply embodiment of single attitudes, it has large parts in the the

play, it undergoes certain changes as a result of action of the play.

According to Rahmanto (1997:213) indicators of the main character are : Major character is the person who is presented dominantly by the author, Major character is the person who has various relationship with another character, and the last Major character is the person who influences the plot most, and he is the theme builder.

Egri (1946:36-37) suggested three dimension to appraise a character, they are physiology, sociology, and psychology. In physiology, the aspects of characterization are age, height, and weight, color of hair, eyes, skin, posture, appearance, defects, and heredity. When a character is viewed, his or her sociology should also be considered. This involves classes, occupation, education, home life, religion, race, nationality, place in community, political, affiliation, amusements and hobbies. The third dimensions about the character's psychology includes sex life, moral, personal premise, ambition, frustration, chief introvert, abilities, qualities, and IQ.

Murphy (1972:161-173) divides the author's attempts to make his character understandable and come alive to the reader into nine ways as follows:

First, Personal description, the author can describe a person's appearance and clothes. He can describe a character's physical appearance using his "skillful voice of adjective" to tell the readers what the character is like.

Second, Character as seen by the other. Instead of describing a character directly, the author can describe his through the eyes and opinion of other character. What the reader gets is reflected images of the characters they encounter.

Third, Speech. The author can give the readers an insight about the characters of one person in the story through what the person says. About whenever he puts forward a description of a character, he provides some clues about his characters.

Next, Past life. By letting the readers learn something about a person's past life, the author can give the readers clues to certain situations that have helped shape a person's character. This can be

done through a direct comment of the author, through the person's thoughts, his conversation or through the medium of another person.

Next, Conversation with other characters. The author can give the reader clues to a person's character through the conversation with other characters and the things they say about them. People do talk about other people and the things they say often give us a clue about the character of the person spoken about.

Next, Reaction. The author can give the readers a clue about a person's situation by letting the readers find out how that person reacts to various situations and events. By following this characterization, the reader might expect to find quality of the characters in dealing with the various situations and events the encounter.

Next, Thought. The author can give the readers the direct knowledge of what a person is thinking about. In this respect he can do what he can do or what he can not do in the real life and she can tell the readers

what different people are thinking about the same project.

Next, Direct comment. The author can describe or make a comment on a person's character directly. Usually the author gives her comments explicit toward her character when the authors gives her opinions about the characters of the story.

And Last, Mannerism. The author can describe a person's mannerism, habits or idiosyncrasies which may also tell us something about her character. The author reveals the habits of the characters in terms of both positive and negative points of view.

In line with the limitation of the problem above, the writer formulates the problem as follows:

1. What is the plot of *The Iron Lady*?
2. How is the story arranged in the film *The Iron Lady*?

Research Method

In doing this research, the researcher used a qualitative analysis. By focusing on the qualitative technique the data in this research cannot be analyzed by means of statistical measurements. Qualitative analysis is related to the level of

goodness or superiority and badness or inferiority. Qualitative research is performed by using a technique for gathering data through observation and documentation. The researcher used two techniques to collect the data to know the plot of the film *The Iron Lady*. They are library study and literary study. The explanations of those techniques are stated as follows:

Library Study

In this technique, the researcher read and collected some references to get information about the plot of the film. Those references include some articles from internet and literary books related to this thesis as it is found in the library of Sarjanawiyata Tamansiswa University of Yogyakarta besides, the writer read other references to get information about literature and its elements. In this case, the writer quoted some theories from the references about the aspect of the literary work and the meaning of the literary work.

Literary Study

In this technique, the researcher watched the film *The Iron Lady* directed by Phyllida Lloyd for several times to get an understanding about the intrinsic elements of the film including the theme, plot, setting,

character and characterization, points of view, and language style. In this study, the researcher focuses only on the plot of the story consisting of five parts- exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and catastrophe.

Discussion

1. The Plot arrangement of *The Iron Lady*

The beginning tells about Margareth as an old lady who has dementia (hallucination disease). She prepares the breakfast and pretending that her husband is still alive. The middle describes about the flashback story of Margareth when she was a young lady and became a Prime Minister, she met her husband, the first moment when she was interested in studying politics, and the conflict when she was elected to be a member of parliament and prime minister. The end of the movie explains about Margareth who tried to struggle to fight her condition and health. She wanted to erase her past memory and tried to accept the reality that her husband passed away.

2. The Type of Plot of *The Iron Lady*

There are two types of plots: chronological order and flashback.

In this research, the researcher concludes that the plot of *The Iron Lady* is the flashback plot because the scene takes the narrative back to the time from the current point the story has reached. The arrangements of the sequence of flashback plot are exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and catastrophe.

a. Exposition

Exposition is the opening part of the story that sets the scene, introduces the main character. Margareth prepared her breakfast with her husband then back to the time when she was young.

b. Rising Action

The rising story usually begins with a problem faced by the major character or it can happen at the beginning scene. Rising action begins when Margareth was a young lady and she was interested in hearing politics from her father's speech.

c. Climax

The climax begins when Margareth left her children to follow the English Parliament Congress, and then she had been chosen to be a member of parliament, she struggled to give

opinion although she was ignored by other members because she was the only woman in that parliament.

d. Falling Action

Falling action begins when Margareth became a prime minister; she had to face many problems such as increased unemployment, demonstration, war at Falkland, and terrorism.

e. Catastrophe

Catastrophe begins when the main character has solved problems or when the conclusion of the story is reaching the end. Based on this statement, the conclusion or the end of this movie occurs when Margareth struggled to fight against her disease and fought to erase her memory about her husband and tried to let him go.

Conclusion

This movie tells us about the women that can be a leader like a man, her life, ambition, and her purpose of life. This film also shows the hard part being a leader, mother, and a wife. There are many conflicts that we can learn from this movie. When we are watching a movie, we have to recognize the plot because it is necessary for us to

identify and to appreciate the content of the story presented in the movie clearly. It means that we will understand the story from the beginning to the end more easily. It can be said that plot will give a description about the story in general. The plot of this film forces the writer to watch that film thoroughly. It is a sense of drama in this film that makes the story of the film more alive. By watching the movie, we can enrich our vocabulary mastery which can be used for daily communications. This way, our language skills in speaking, reading, listening, and writing will be improved too. Therefore, it is interesting to discuss the plot of the film entitled *The Iron Lady*.

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