CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents introduction of the research. It contains background of the research, research question, research objectives, significant of the research, definition of key term and organization of writing.

1.1 Background of the Research

Mother! movie is a movie with many symbols contained within. That is the reason of choosing this problem. First, from the title itself "*Mother!*" is a word mother with exclamation mark in the end. Therefore, the title itself must be a symbol. All of characters in the movie are the symbol of something else. They are related with the stories in *Bible*. The characters are also had no name. The relation between the movie and the stories in *Bible* could be found in several scenes.

Another reason is because this is the newest movie. This movie produced in 2017 and also a popular literature. It called by popular literature because the movie was produced in the modern era or twenty century and the characteristics of the movie itself knowing as the characteristics of popular literature. From 2014 until 2017 the popular genre are mystery or horror genre. The repetition of that same genre for over three years shows that the genre is popular, so that it called by popular literature as it mentioned by Mintz (1983).

The movie with drama, horror and mystery genre has its own formula. In another mystery and horror genre, the symbols are used to solve the problem, but in this movie the problem is the symbol itself. These symbols are the forming of the story.

Using symbol to deliver message is makes the movie more special rather than a movie that deliver the message clearly and explicitly. It makes the audience will having another experience of watching. The movie will not getting boring and like the general movie.

Symbol is discussed in semiotics. Semiotics has important role in popular literary studies because semiotics is related to the social issues or familiar issues. Semiotics according to the Paris School, posits the existence of universal structure that underline and give rise to meaning (Martin and Ringham, 2006: 2). It means that semiotic is a key tool to ensure that intended meanings of something that hardly or ambiguously understood by the person on the receiving and semiotics can help solving that confusion and ensuring clarity of meaning. In *Mother!* movie, symbols could be find in every scenes.

Symbol is the principal notion to the aesthetics; it is coextensive with the beautiful and thus with art, and is opposed only to other signifying relations, such as the sign, the image or the schema. It can be understood that, symbol in semiotics could be found by identifying the sign or the symbol itself could be the sign, schema or an image. It means that symbol could be verbal and non-verbal (Todorov, 7: 1977).

Symbol is used by writers to enhance their writing. Symbol can give a literary work more richness and color and also can make the meaning of the work deeper. Symbols can take many forms including a figure of speech where an object, person or situation has another meaning other that it is literal meaning.

Symbol also could be the action of the character, word, action or event that has a deeper meaning in the context of the whole story.

In this research, the researcher analyzed the meaning of the symbols that appear in the movie. The researcher wants to analyze about the reason why the mother became the center point of all of the symbols and to analyze the relation between one symbol and another.

1.2 Statement of Problem

Before making research questions, the researcher arranges and categories the objects of research that will be analyzed. The objects of research in the movie are the heart of the earth, the baby as the sacrifice, a fight between brothers and so on. Besides of, the researcher found the problem about choosing the symbols that representation the correlation between one and another. To simplify this research, the researcher makes two research questions as follows:

1. What are the symbols in *Mother!* movie?

2. How do the whole symbols in the *Mother!* movie connect to each other?

1.3 Research Objective

Through the research question above, the research is intended:

1. To find out the meaning of the symbols that appear in the movie and its meaning that emerged in the *Mother!* movie.

2. To analyze how symbols works and communicate with another symbol in the *Mother!* movie.

1.4 Significance of the Research

Based on the background of the research, this research is expected to give the additional study and contribution to the literary study. This research is focus on semiotics and popular literature study. This research is expected to enrich the study about semiotics, especially in interpreting the meaning of symbols. For the audience of the movie, this research can give the explanation about the hidden messages of the movie.

1.5 Definition of Key Terms

To prevent misinterpretation the term that applied in this research, the researcher has the explanation on the terms that require to be explained are:

1. Symbol; according to Peirce, symbol is the general name or description which signifies its object by means of an association of ideas or habitual connection between the name and the character signified.

2. Convey; is to impart or communicate by statement, suggestion, gesture or appearance.

3. Message; is a discrete unit of communication intended by the source for consumption by some recipients.

1.6 Organization of Writing

This paper is organized into five chapters, there are:

1. Introduction

In this chapter, the writer present the background of the research, statement of problem, purpose and significance of the research, definition of key terms and organization of writing.

2. Theoretical Foundations

This chapter is consists of theoretical ground work, which are the relationship between one symbol and another and the relation with the Peirce theory. Actually the connecting between Peirce's theory, especially the application of the triadic theory with the symbols.

3. Research Method

As the third part in this research, the researcher elaborates research method. It begins with the research design, the data and the source of data, the technique of collecting data and technique of analyzing data.

4. Data Presentation and Discussion

This chapter provides data representation and discussion based on the data that is taken from the movie and entire theoretical books and other sources which support this analyzes, such as the theory of Charles Sanders Peirce especially based on the Triadic Relation.

5. Conclusion and Suggestions

    This chapter is the final chapter that provides the conclusions of the whole

analysis and suggestion for better understanding.