

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, researcher has formulated the introduction of the research in order to aim the understanding of the research more about. The introduction consists of background, statement of problem, research objective, research significance, and definition of key terms.

1.1. Background

Four Horsemen is one of mythical creatures in Bible. It is known as Apocalyptic Beast in Bible. The Old Hebraic Scriptures and the New Testament warn mankind of the dark omen ahead of us, in the Day of Judgement. The scriptures tell of the most terrifying beasts that will rise upon this day and wreak havoc on mankind.

Although, the Bible describe about the mythical creatures such as Four Horsemen, Angels, Lucifer, and others for purpose of the religion. But nowadays, people can treat the Bible as a literature works just as like normal books. Reading Biblical stories as mythology gives the freedom to understand their underlying meaning in a way that these stories were factually true. According to Prickett (653), “For him the Bible was to be read as ‘any other book’, and not to be subject to what he called ‘bibliolatry’—the idolizing of individual texts torn loose from their context and used as if they had a free-standing universal meaning. Similarly, its importance was not secured by divine fiat, but rather something to be discovered by practical and imaginative experience by the reader.”

In several literary works, there was a character or theme taken from Bible as reference. Character such as Angel, Demon, Lucifer maybe it usual for us to hear because it is a character general in any religions. But, character of mythology Four Horsemen it is identically with character origin from Bible. In several literary works, there are stories or character use this icon, such as in Films are *Horsemen* (2009) features murders that are inspired by the Four Horsemen, *Now You See Me* (2013) features a group of magicians who go by the name of The Four Horsemen, *X-Men: Apocalypse* is a (2016) film whose lead character Apocalypse is seen in a post-credit teaser in the film *X-Men: Days of Future Past* with the Four Horsemen watching as he builds pyramids. Subsequent publicity information has revealed that his 'Horsemen' in the film will be Magneto, Psylocke, Storm and Angel. And in form of books are *Incarnations of Immortality*, a long-running series of fantasy novels by Piers Anthony, was influenced by the mythology of the Four Horsemen, *Women of the Apocalypse*, an anthology of four novellas by Eileen Bell, Roxanne Felix, Ryan T. McFadden, and Billie Milholland features four modern, Albertan heroines facing down the Four Horsemen, in four speculative fiction variants on the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse. From all of the title films or books with take Four Horsemen as the character in their works, the latest one is *X-Men : Apocalypse* movie.

The reason researcher chooses movie as their object of the research because it is easy to understand, not to take long time for watch it than read novel, and also the data it can be seen as visualization. As Adi (29) said, many students of the faculty of literature of love to pick a movie as an object of his research because the first is a movie considered easier because reading a lot is considered more difficult than watching a movie, second is because of the interest, the third reason is nowadays, the fourth reason is saturation in high literature works and the fifth is a strong impulse in popular culture communities around the world.

For another hint to work this research, researcher looking for clues from researches before which have done by: [1] Sintia (2015) "*The Comparison of Plot and Characterization in 'Frankenstein' Novel and Adapted Movie*", this paper compare two literary works, Marry Shelly's *Frankenstein* and the adaptation movie with the same title directed by Kenneth Branagh. This research uses ecranisation theory that is proposed by Pamusuk Eneste. The result shows that there are differences in plot and characterization between Frankenstein's novel and movie. Based on ecranisation theory there is three changes of adaptation. First is reduction, there is are two changes in plot between novel and movie. Second is addition, there is one addition character in movie that never exist in the novel. Third is changes variation, there are seven changes in plot that extended original story in the novel. [2] Romadhonawati (2016) "*Frontier Myth in Zane Grey's Riders of The Purple Sage*", many critics and scholars acknowledge that high literature or an art contains something remarkable while popular literature is created for one's pleasure and enjoyment. It is because the work of popular literature has its archetype or formula for its story, such as American wilderness which must be exist in every Western story that birth frontier. This formula also is one of the ways to differ the story from an art. The researcher used frontier and Western genre theory to be constructed as theoretical underpinning and genre or structuralism approach to solve the problems. The result of the research showed that this novel contains the myth of the frontier because of the existence of American wilderness. This myth of the frontier could be seen as a rugged life, then innocence proposed as an ideal, finally sectionalism is rejected. Besides, this myth also proposed significance are influenced American in his identity and behavior. As identity, the frontier myth makes America known as a State which has variety, considered as the promised land, and has its own hero. As behavior, frontier myth considers American as an individualist, democratic, and optimist. [3] Hardiyani (2011) *Mitologi Kiamat*

Dalam Film 2012, it tells about the mythology of Apocalypse in the film 2012, by seeing how the mythology of Apocalypse displayed verbally or nonverbal. As well as the meaning of semiotics that is contained in the sign or existing code in the movie 2012. Results of the study show that the mythology of Apocalypse in the movie 2012 utilizing symbols that had previously been accepted in the community, as symbols of cultural or traditional beliefs. The demolition of the myth can be done by dismantling semiologist uses the idea of Barthes. Barthes intended to expose them these myths by showing the connotations and the elements that become a myth that it seems unnaturalization as well as the analysis aim saw between markers with the alert so that the myth of the Apocalypse in accordance with the forecast Mayan. The implication of this research is theoretical understanding of the the mythology of Apocalypse delivers new perspectives in understanding and reading theory of semiotics Roland Barthes. The methodological basis, this study enriches the analysis of myth or mythology using semiotics theory Roland Barthes which is still rarely used in communication research.

1.2. Statement of Problem

From the background above, the researcher finds that movie *X-Men : Apocalypse* took their character from Biblical Myth is Four Horsemen. Hence the problem, can be formulated into following question:

1. How is the characterization of Four Horsemen both in the movie and Bible?
2. What are the factors of transformation of the Four Horsemen from Bible into the movie?
3. What are the means of the transformation icons of the characters shown in the movie toward the concept of Four Horsemen in Bible?

1.3. Research Objective

Based on the statement of problem above, researcher arranged the objectives of this research are:

1. To explain about physical of Four Horsemen transform from Bible description into the movie.
2. To analyze the means of the difference icons of the character that shown in the movie toward following concept of Four Horsemen in Bible.

1.4. Research Significance

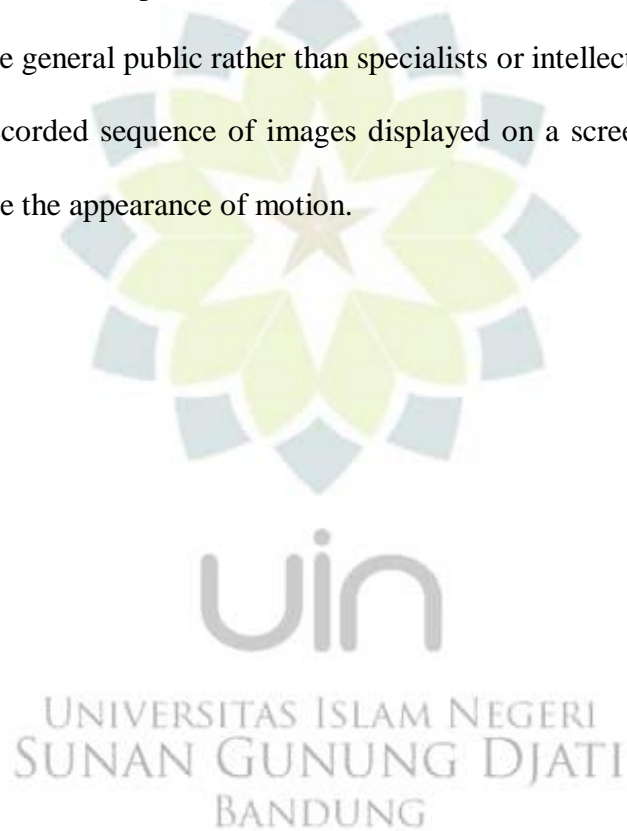
Practically, the significance of this research, for the researcher is study for improving the understanding how to apply criticism literature theory to literature works, and also this research adds a new understanding about biblical myth in literature works.

For other researchers, this research could be a guidance or reading source for their researchers related to myth or structuralism in movie. For the reader, this research is significant especially for the student of literary faculty for becoming reference in popular literature.

Theoretically, this research directed to develop research about biblical myth in popular literature. Besides for knowing that it is true that in biblical myth, can also be part a literature works which is can be transform depend on genre or purpose of the movie.

1.5. Definition of Key Terms

1. Biblical Myth: is the body of myths associated with Christianity. This is set of stories or characteristics is believed by the people over many generations for its social function. The some of biblical myth are: Angel, Apocalyptic Beast, Leviathan, Lucifer, Oceanus-Biblical, etc.
2. Popular: (of cultural activities or products) intended for or suited to the taste, understanding, or means of the general public rather than specialists or intellectuals.
3. Movie: (chiefly) A recorded sequence of images displayed on a screen at a rate sufficiently fast to create the appearance of motion.





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