

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the background of research, the statement of problems, research objective, research significant, and definition of key terms.

### 1.1 Background of the Research

An obvious distinction between popular literatures is one of the forms of popular culture. It is demeaned and thought as literature that is not aesthetics. However, in the development literature, popular literature had a lot of attention from readers. Popular literature attaches importance to reader. In contrast with other literature which prioritizing values or arts, popular literature is reader oriented (Adi, 2011:30). Wherefore, the one of the aims of popular literature is to get the reader amused and entertained.

The engagement of the popular literature has been widely developed, as the work of literature has been visualized into another form called movie. Cinema and literature are connected to each other with differences in their own ways. Movie is also used in a response to written work of literature.

The movies were chosen out of the American experimental tradition to represent various techniques of marrying the two arts; written literature as the art of utterance and movie as the art of showing. (UK Essays, 2018). In short, the in the development of literature was a process that fused between two that are different but represent each other, which is widely known as movie that becomes acknowledged as one of popular literature works.

Furthermore, a work can be called a popular literary work because of the theme, manner of presentation and writing following a general pattern (Adi, 2011:20). Afterwards, there are several genres in popular literature, hard-boiled is one of the sub genres. Same as classical detective story, hard-boiled which one is popular sub-genres in popular literature, is developed from the mystery genre. It attracts audience by thrilling and puzzling plot of the story.

Hard-boiled detective is a genre that is different from classic detective fiction, but the use of patterns in hard-boiled fiction has similarities with classic detective's action patterns, namely: Introduction of the Detective, the presentation of the crime, through the investigation, to a solution and apprehension of the criminal (Cawelti, 1976:142).

Significant differences are found in the way the pattern is used in hard-boiled fiction. Then hard-boiled fiction has an important aspect that makes a work of fiction said hard-boiled genre namely; (1) a modern city as background, (2) detective as the hero, (3) suspense and threat, (4) the role of woman, (5) and changing the meaning.

In the *Se7en* (1995) movie by director David Fincher, researchers found that the movie contained important aspects of a hard-boiled fiction formula. Proving that the detective story in the movie includes hard-boiled fiction. However, when viewed from the side of the use of formulas, there is a difference in the way the formula is presented into a story form in the movie with the formula that is said by Cawelti. This is the reason why this research was conducted.

Literary research is intrinsically usually carried out by examining elements in fiction, such as characters and characterizations, plot, plot structure, setting, and theme. Research into popular fiction genres is also carried out by looking at the elements of popular fiction. However, different from the elements of literary works, the elements in the context of popular fiction are called formulas. This means that to uncover the above problems the researcher uses literary analysis intrinsically. Because the object of research in this study is popular literature, researchers will analyze the formulas that exist in the work of fiction.

Formula in literary works, first of all, a kind of literary art. It can be analyzed and evaluated like any other kind of literature. According to Cawelti (1976:8-9) There are two central aspects of formulaic structures: The first, their essential standardization and their primary relation to the needs of escape and relaxation. In order to consider formula literature in its own terms and not simply to condemn it out of hand.

Then, the second established conventional structures are particularly essential to the creation of formula literature and reflex the interests of audiences, creators and distributors. Audiences find satisfaction and basic emotional security in a familiar form: in addition, the audience's past experience with a formula gives it essence of what to expect in new individual examples, thereby increasing its capacity for understanding and enjoying the details of a work.

In the above quotation, it can be concluded that the research on formulas in literary works is to place the researcher on the audience side to get the details of the literary works so that the formulas presented in a literary work can be clearly

understood. In the analysis of the formula in the *Se7en* (1995) movie, researchers used Cawelti's hard-boiled detective theory.

Previous studies come from Howard's *The Hard-Boiled Detective: Personal Relationships and The Pursuit of Redemption*. It illustrated about an aspect, the detective, which becomes the center of the story related to a person or community in the story and how the problem arose in the context of detective personal relationship (Howard, 2010). The following preceding research is from Stolarek's traditional and modern aspects of crime literature in hard-boiled detective fiction. It described the process of shaping the postwar American crime literature, especially in hard-boiled crime fiction. Nevertheless, it described the distinctive elements that differentiate the hard-boiled genre with a traditional detective novel (Stolarek, 2015).

The last research is conducted by Comesi and Austenfeld's *The Tough Guy in Western and Hard-boiled Fiction*. This research enlightened the gender's point of view in hard-boiled fiction genre. It described the characteristics of the detective as a male, his action and his attitude. (Comesi and Austenfeld, 2013) Thus, this research will take a different way with the previous researches. This research will be analyzing a popular literature work which name *Se7en*.

*Seven* or *Se7en* is the dark and merciless movie in the Hollywood mainstream. This movie won 26 different awards and becomes one of the popular literary works of hard-boiled detective of the most famous.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

The title of this research is "*Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction Formula in David Fincher's Se7en Movie (1995)*". In this research the researcher will analyze the movie intrinsically by looking at the formula contained in *Se7en* movie(1995). According to an explanation of the background of the study, *Se7en* movie can be analyzed using theory of hard-boiled formula because the problem of this research is; there is a development that has similarities in the formula outline, but in the story in the movie the formula is presented to be different. To answer these problems the researcher provides operational research questions as follows:

1. How are the formula of hard-boiled detective fiction works in *Se7en* movie?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

This study of the research is intended to explore students enhancement regarding to the research, as follows:

1. To find out and understand the formula of hard-boiled detective fiction works in *Se7en* movie.

## **1.4 Significances of Research**

There are two significances from this research, theoretically and practically. This research is expected to be useful both theoretically and practically, as explained below.

### **1.4.1 Theoretical Significance**

Theoretically, this research is a reference for those who are interested in enriching the knowledge. This research is also generally directed to the readers and especially to the students for further analysis, this research is directed to those who

are interested in detective and hard-boiled formula study as a reference and enrich the concept widely and from research in accordance with the field of science in the popular literature study. Especially in the field of literature that uses the formula of detective and hard-boiled on analyzing the movies that its concept theory is put forward by Jhon G Cawelti.

#### **1.4.2 Practical Significance**

Practically, this research can provide knowledge about the detective and hard-boiled formula on popular literature for readers, and motivate the readers to do research about the detective formula on movies by using a different object and to make the reader literate the detective formula contained in the movies.

#### **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

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

- 1. Popular Literature** is a literature categorized as an entertaining and commercial literature. The entertainment and commercial are connected to the reader. The reader will be amused by the story in popular literature and commercial aspects will arise from the sale of the literary work.
- 2. Formula or fiction formula** is defined specifically by predictable narrative structure. Formulaic tales incorporate plots that have been reused so often easily recognizable.
- 3. Detective Fiction** is a subgenre of crime fiction and mystery fiction in which an investigator or a detective—either professional, amateur or retired—investigates a crime, often murder.

4. **Hard-Boiled Detective Fiction** is a tough unsentimental style of American crime writing that brought a new tone of earthy realism or naturalism to the field of detective fiction. Hard-boiled fiction uses graphic sex and violence, vivid but often sordid urban backgrounds, and fast-paced, slangy dialogue.

