

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the discussion on the background of the study, statement of the problems, objective of the research, significance of the research, and definition of key terms.

### 1.1 Background

The horror genre is always talked about by many people. It always attracts attention and is one of the most popular literary genres. Humans can find pleasure in situations that allow them to experience negative emotions in safe contexts, such as watching scary movies or even playing hide and seek, which is why horror films are often chosen as alternatives in testing human adrenaline.

There are several reasons why the horror genre is so popular in literature, but the most common is that the human evolved to enjoy scared. Emotions that arise such as anxiety, fear, disgust, threatened when watching or reading horror stories are part of entertainment for the reader or audience. However, despite the negative effects, horror also gives us insight into who is through the dark corners of the world, and it allows us to develop various perspectives and defense skills in the future.

In a horror story, some characteristics make this story both exciting and interesting, especially in the plot. The events of the story are shown through the actions and attitudes of the main character (Nugiyantoro, 2007:149-150). Many horror stories that are successfully entertaining lie in how the writers bring their plot so that it can be felt by the reader, of course, other characteristics such as the portrayal of characters are also influential, but horror focuses on how a series of stories are presented.

The plot is the most important part of the story. The plot reads and explains the story, answering every reason why something happened and how it can be solved because, without the plot, the story can not be formed. But there is a

difference between a plot in a horror story and a plot from another story. The plot in a horror story is not straight forward like most genres, the writer brings the plot slowly but surely, brings a little flashback that brings tension, and a sign that deceives the reader in every storyline.

Signs in literature often called foreshadowing consist of a little insight along the way that begins to grow eventually. This is what builds anticipation for viewers. Foreshadowing also directs the reader to the final ending of the story, of course, if the reader reads or pays attention to each of its clues. Foreshadowing provides a sign that becomes a prediction of the story, but that is what makes horror stories entertaining because viewers are brought to conclusions which they think is the end of the story after seeing various signs, but when it reaches the end of the story it happens that is unexpected and even surprising. Ultimately, this gives rise to both alternative storylines, the stories can imagine and the stories that occur. This is why many good horror or mystery stories end up with a plot twist, and the foreshadowing leads to it.

Researchers find this horror genre interesting, especially since there are many famous horror films such as *The Conjuring* or *Annabelle*. However, the researchers did not discuss films but novels that are often adapted into films. The researcher's love for the horror genre makes the researchers decide to research the works with this genre, the genre is also a genre that is always interesting. In selecting a research object, the researcher previously selected several objects related to the horror genre, especially those already read or watched, such as the novels by Stephen King, Edgar Allan Poe, or Agatha Christie. These writers always managed to bring about horror and gothic atmosphere in their work, even films adapted from novels or short stories have always been successful in attracting the attention of film lovers. Therefore, the researchers look for other works that are rarely used as research objects. Then a friend recommended Netflix drama series that was once famous in 2018, *The Haunting of Hill House*, as object research.

However, what attracts the researcher's attention is that this adaptation differs from the novel version. Some of the differences such as plot and also characters are told differently, so the researcher chose to read the novel, and the novel was once a recommendation as to the favorite novel of the famous horror writer Stephen King. The *Haunting of Hill House* novel turns out to be the greatest haunted-house story ever written by Wall Street Journal and was a finalist for *The National Book Award* and considered one of The Best Literary Ghost stories published during The 20th century.

Seeing that the novel has an interesting gothic horror story and also gained many recognition, criticism, and appreciation, the researcher decided to choose this novel as a research object. The novel is also rarely a research material in literary thesis especially in the Islamic State of Sunan Gunung Djati itself.

Meanwhile, researcher wants to do comparative research but with the novel from Indonesia, of course, so that Indonesia's horror novels can also be recognized by foreign readers. However, there are not many horror novel writers in Indonesia, some of the works are even less well known to society. But there is a novel that has been widely known by Indonesian horror readers, Danur novels. The novel has also been adapted into a film and has attracted the attention of the reader, it is also often as a research object but is rare in comparative literary research. After reading it turns out that the novel has some similarities in foreshadowing and plots with *The Haunting of Hill House*. Therefore, the researcher decided to choose this work as an object of comparative research.

*The Haunting of Hill House* is an old horror novel with a good plot and foreshadowing. The novel, written by Shirley Jackson, was first published in 1959 successfully bringing viewers into the mystery and suspense of Hill House. The novel has been adapted to film twice, in 1963 and again in 1999, both times under the title *The Haunting*. It was first adapted for the stage in 1964 by F. Andrew Leslie. Because of the neatness of the plot, it is not surprising that this novel succeeded in attracting Netflix to adapt it to a drama series in 2018 with the same title. The

Guardian even said that Jackson was able to treat the material that can be reduced to terrible items in the hands that are not dexterous with great skill and subtlety.

Hill House is a large house located between hills in a remote village. The house is famous for mystery stories and being haunted, this also drew the attention of Montague, an investigator, and psychologist to research the house for the sake of his research. Montague then invited three other people to accompany him by staying together in the Hill House. This story also focuses on four people who inhabit and investigate the mysteries of Hill House; Eleanor, a shy young woman who does not like her life especially after caring for her disabled mother, then Theodora the outspoken flamboyant artist, Luke Sanderson the young heir to Hill House, and Montague the investigator of the supernatural.

Hill House has both caretakers, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley, who behave like robots and refuse to approach the house at night. During the summer living there, Eleanor and the others felt something odd about the house, especially after Montague tells the story of the previous owner of Hill House who died of suicide and other unnatural accidents.

All four of the inhabitants began to experience strange events, including invisible voices and ghosts roaming the hall at night, strange writing on the walls, and other events that could not be explained. But among these four people, only Eleanor felt the most haunted, even though in some scenes Theodora also felt it, but Eleanor was more sensitive to the invisible things at Hill House. However, this raises another possibility that maybe what Eleanor felt was a form of his imagination due to childhood trauma, because he was the only one who often heard the ghosts whispering or seeing and dreaming about the house.

After spending almost a week there, the wife of Montague came to spend the weekend there together and invited his colleague Arthur Parker, the principal of a boys' school, to arrive to spend the weekend at Hill House and to help investigate the house. Mrs. Montague is a bossy and arrogant figure, but his presence explains the presence or absence of ghosts in the house. The voices increasingly whispered

to Eleanor and said that Hill House was her home, although at first Eleanor fear, but she finally confronted the terror and found herself circling every corner of the house until when she reached the old library room, Eleanor found that she was about to end her life the same as Hill House voters did before, and Luke stopped it. although at first, the reader might think that Eleanor's actions were incitement from the spirit of the owner of Hill House, this would indicate another sign.

However, Shirley invited all of her readers to believe that the house was haunted by Eleanor's point of view, but Mrs. Montague shook that conjecture. At the end of the story, the possibility that Eleanor's feelings are only part of his imagination so far, because none of the others feels what she feels. Eleanor, who felt she had fallen behind others, needed something for herself, so she began to become obsessed with Hill House and decided not to leave it, and Montague who knew that something was wrong with Eleanor then told her to leave.

Montague and Luke forced Eleanor into his car; she said goodbye and left, but before leaving her property she pushed the car into a large oak tree and assumed she was killed. Only Eleanor had a miserable fate, where she died the same way as the previous owner of the house, while other residents seemed to continue their lives without obstacles after the incident at the Hill House. What happened to Eleanor has been drawn from the beginning, where the opening sentence; Hill House has been established for 80 years, and anyone who tries to own it ends so that Hill House remains standing for another 80 years. In the story only Eleanor felt something different from the house, and ended up with her wanting to own the house, this also indicates (foreshadowing) that Eleanor was chosen by Hill House as the next victim and indicates that it wasn't the ghost in the house that haunted the house, but the house itself.

Other foreshadowings reveal how this storyline end and what it ends up with, although some viewers may be fooled into reading this sign. These signs also reveal other sides such as the characterization of each character or reveal the mystery that is at the peak of the conflict. Other works of the same genre come from Indonesia.

Danur is a modern horror novel by Risa Saraswati which is famous in Indonesia and published in 2011. This novel is enough to attract the attention of many horror readers because of the uniqueness so that in 2017 the novel was successfully adapted into a horror film with the same name by MD Entertainment. The novel gained prominence after being adapted into a film and discussed by several literary critics. This horror novel is one of the novels that has received much appreciation from horror novel lovers and quite many interests, including the researcher who is also interested in discussing this novel.

Danur is a collection of stories about a girl named Risa who can see ghosts around her. This ability was obtained since she was a child, and continued to exist until she grew up. As a child, Risa grew far from her parents, she lived with her grandmother. Although at first, it was lonely, the loneliness disappeared after the five friends came to accompany Risa. They are not human, but rather Dutch ghosts who died long before Risa was born, there were Peter, Hans, Hendrick, William, and Janhsen.

Although Risa can see ghosts, she doesn't think of her ability as a bad curse for her. Risa tries to accept her ability and befriends the five ghosts. Every day Risa is always accompanied by them, even she prefers to be friends with the ghosts rather than befriend another human. However, when she was a teenager, Risa began to conflict with her ghost friends, especially Peter, because Risa did not keep her promise to die before the age of 12. Peter and other ghost friends are disappointed with Risa and choose to leave Risa's life. There is no other choice, Risa also has to live a normal life without her five friends. After growing up, Risa increasingly ignored the ghosts around her because some of them were just bothering her. But one day, when Risa was recording a song, she heard the voice of Peter and other ghost friends, they came to encourage Risa. Even now, Risa continues with her five ghost friends.

The Risa's case, the appearance of the five ghosts could be due to Risa's quiet and introverted personality. Risa, who is not good at getting along with other people,



creates something she needs as a 'friend' for her, so Peter and the others are created. This also indicates that Risa is a lonely person and she needs something or someone for herself. This can also be seen from the figure of Eleanor in Hill House, when Eleanor was obsessed with Hill House, the reader knows that Eleanor is nothing but a lonely quiet woman. Meanwhile, in terms of plot, these both stories have both differences; The Haunting of Hill House as a horror with a haunting theme, and Danur as a horror with a ghost story theme. However, the conflict at the climax of both objects is the same that is being terrorized by a supernatural phenomenon experienced by the main character.

Therefore, researchers are also interested in further analyzing the foreshadowing and plot of both objects of this study. Although there are slight differences, some similarities between The Haunting of Hill House and Danur are also interesting to discuss. Although both are horror stories from different generations, this does not rule out that there are similarities in both stories. However, to find out how the similarities and differences in The Haunting of Hill House and Danur, the researcher used a literary comparative method to compare both works.

## **1.2 Statement of Problem**

Based on the background of the research, here are issues related to the main research theme that is foreshadowing and plot in the novel The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson and Danur by Risa Saraswati. Here are the following issues discussed in this study below:

1. What is the role of foreshadowing in the novel The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson and the novel of Danur by Risa Saraswati?
2. How is the plot formed in the novel The Haunting of Hill House by Shirley Jackson and Danur by Risa Saraswati?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Foreshadowing and plot are an important part of the formation of horror stories. Then based on the problem above, the researcher sees several things that are the objectives of the study discussed below:

1. To find out the role of foreshadowing in *The Haunting of Hill House* novel by Shirley Jackson and *Danur* novel by Risa Saraswati.
2. To discover and explain the plot in *The Haunting of Hill House* novel by Shirley Jackson and *Danur* novel by Risa Saraswati.

#### **1.4 Research Significance**

Theoretically, various perspectives of horror appear in the novels. It becomes significant because to create a complete understanding of the Horror Formula. On this basis, the researcher comparing both novels because they have related topics, about horror. The researcher takes another theory to make it easier to analyze the data. All of the data describe is compared by comparative theory and gives a new understanding of the Horror Formula.

Practically, in Academic readers, the readers can consider the research significance in appreciating literary works, including the theory, topic, and object. For the researcher, this research can enrich knowledge dealing with literary analysis and horror studies. In public readers, many people think that literary works are only related to beauty, ideal life, consideration, and others. However, this research can be a new something fresh for them and inform the reader that there are literary works that tell about ugliness, suffering, humiliation, deformity. It brings the readers to explore more and consider appreciating the literary works, including the theory, topic, and story itself.

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

- Horror Genre: These feelings of anxiety, fear, relief, and mastery are certainly an integral part of the pleasure that people derive from the genre, as are the questions that horror typically raises about fear and suffering. (Fahy, 2010:2).
- Foreshadowing: Foreshadowing happens when the reader feels that what he or she is reading will matter later in the story so they are compelled to pay attention. (Buckham, 2015:53).



- Plot: Plot is the sequence of events or events arranged by the story and can conclude what the character says or thinks, as well as what he does, but the plot only concentrates on large events. (Perrine, 1974:41).
- Comparative Literature: Comparative Literature is the study of literature beyond the confines of one particular country, and the study of the relationships between the literature on the one hand, and other areas of knowledge and belief, such as the arts (e.g. paintings, sculpture, architecture, music), philosophy, history, the social sciences (e.g. politics, economics, sociology), the sciences, religion, etc., on the other. In brief, it is the comparison of one literature with another or others, and the comparison of literature with other spheres of human expression. (Remak, 1961:3).

## 1.6 Previous Studies

In supporting the validity of this study, the researcher found several previous studies related to the same theme, method, or object in this study. *The first* research came from Dian Erthasari Idris, a graduate of the University of Lampung. Her research entitled *The Influence of Horror Movie Insidious Chapter 3 Towards The Attitude of Positive And Negative of Adolescents in The Daily Life (Study on Senior High School Students at Al-Kautsar in Bandar Lampung)* was approved in 2016. The similarity of this research is to discuss the horror genre, but the objects and methods used by Dian and the researchers are different. Dian uses quantitative methods by conducting surveys, while the researchers use qualitative and comparative methods.

The purpose of Dian's research was to find out how much the influence of horror movie *Insidious Chapter 3* towards the attitude of positive and negative of adolescents in daily life. Whether there were any changes towards the attitude of positive and negative of adolescents in the daily life can be marked by several things such as (1) at the first, adolescents who don't know knowing and believe on supernatural after watching a horror movie, (2) arising courage and pleasure or satisfied after watching a horror movie and, (3) a rising excessive fear so that was

afraid to do own activities at night. The purpose of the research was to find out is there any influence of the horror movie *Insidious Chapter 3* towards the attitude of the positive and negative adolescent in daily life. The type of this research was explanation with the quantitative approximation method. Technic sampling in Dian's research was simple random sampling with a total sample of as many as 90 respondents. Besides that, the method that was used was a survey using a questionnaire. Technic of data analyses in Dian's research was a simple linear regression test with a used t-test.

*Second*, this research comes from State Islamic University Sultan Syarif Kasim Riau Pekanbaru, the reasercher is Nurasiah in 2012 with the research title *Pengaruh Film Horor Di Televisi Terhadap Perilaku Siswa SMA Negeri 2 Tapung Hilir Desa Kijang Makmur Kecamatan Tapung Hilir Kabupaten Kampar*. As before, Nurasiah's research equation with the reasercher is that the topic taken is horror genre research, but Nurasiah focuses on quantitative research where she takes data samples by interview.

Nurasiah's research background is the rise of horror films on television and the number of students watching horror films. This research aims to determine whether there is an effect of horror films on television on student behavior. The research method used is descriptive quantitative. With a population of 215 students, because the population is too much, Nurasiah as the writer takes a sample of 23% or 50 students. The sample consisted of students in grades one to three at Tapung Hilir 2 High School, Kijang Makmur Village, Tapung Hilir District, Kampar Regency. The data collection techniques used were observation, questionnaires, and documentation. The theory used in this research is the uses and gratification theory, which is the theory that explains the use and satisfaction. Based on the data analysis, it shows that there is a positive and significant influence between horror film shows on television and student behavior at Tapung Hilir 2 High School, the effect of these shows is 35.5%. The results that have been obtained show or when interpreted with a product-moment correlation interpretation table, the effect is classified as weak or low.

*Third*, this study is the latest research found by the researcher. This research was written by Fajar Aji in 2019 with the title *Horror Genre Analysis in the film Danur: I Can See Ghost*. Fajar is a graduate of the University of Jember. This research has many similarities with the researcher's research where the topic being discussed is horror and the object under study, although Fajar is in the film version of *Danur*, while the researcher is the novel version.

Fajar's research describes the film genre and its formula for growing in a dynamic development, not only about aesthetic and historical aspects but how to find audiences during crises and the new competition in local and international industries. This research raises Indonesian films. Fajar argues that Indonesian cinema is now increasingly looking for a place in the hearts of viewers in his own country. The horror genre dominates the market through teenage horror films which generally take myths or legends from a haunted location featuring local supernatural beings. Some of the popular films include *Tusuk Jelangkung* (2002), *Kuntilanak* (2006), *Terowongan Casablanca* (2007), *Tali Pocong Perawan* (2008), and *Suster Keramas* (2009). Even Suzanna, the horror queen, played in the ghost of *Ambulan* (2008). 2017 was recorded as the year of the rise of Indonesian horror films. Since the first semester, *Danur's* film achieved the highest number of viewers with a total of both million viewers following the number of viewers in the film *Jelangkung* (2001). Fajar's research aims to describe the characteristics of the genre in horror films through the basic genre scheme (repertoire of elements).

*Fourth*, this research is a research from the State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung in 2018. The writer of the thesis is Mutia Pratiwi with the title *Symbol As The Way to Deliver Messages In Mother! The Movie*. Although not talking about comparative studies, there are still similarities between Pratiwi's research and the researcher, which is that they still talk about the horror genre, especially horror psychology and the formulas in it.

A symbol is used by writers to enhance their writing. The symbol can give a literary work more richness and color yet makes 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 than it is the literal meaning. Pratiwi's research has both problems: (1) the symbol and its meaning that appear in the Mother! Movie (2) the connections between one symbol to another. To answer and analyze the questions, Pratiwi used Peirce's theory of triadic relation that presenting the relation between the represent, object, and interpretation in semiotics. The researcher found 10 data of symbols that be analyzed using the triadic relation of the semiotic approach. This research is qualitative. As the result, the Mother! A movie is a movie representing the biblical story. All the symbols that appear in that movie are the allegory of biblical stories. Pratiwi also found that the movie was formed by the structural symbol of the biblical story. The symbols in the movie were connected. The symbols found in the movie are a house as a symbol of the Earth, a poet as the symbol of God, the poet's wife as a symbol of mother earth. The connection between one symbol to another is the whole symbols formed one intact story. The whole symbol could not be separated from the other symbol. The separating of the symbol makes the story un-complete.

*Fifth*, other research on the horror genre still comes from alumni State Islamic University of Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. This research was written by Netty Hardiyanti in 2018 with the title Atmosphere in Stephen King's Novel The Breathing Method. This research discusses the horror genre in the novel, just like the reasercher's research, however, Hardiyanti focuses on the atmosphere in horror, while the writer is foreshadowing and plot.

Hardiyanti's research analyzed the atmosphere and the elements in the novel The Breathing Method by Stephen King. The research uses formalism as the main theory. Hardiyanti focuses on the atmosphere elements using Abrams's theory and his atmosphere. The research also uses the theory of Lovecraft about horror. To seek the truth, she approaches the interpretation of the text, by reading repeatedly and take statements as data to analyze and seek the truth. Once analyzed, it was found that horror atmosphere is the hallmark of every story Gothic and is a very important element because with these elements, it is an interesting story Gothic and

tension is felt even until finished reading it. Hardiyanti uses literary criticism to analyze the data. The data is taken from The Breathing Method's novel. The result of her research is to show that there are both major means of creating the horror atmosphere: the theme and the setting because the fear exists in us is due to the influence of the surrounding environment and our suggestion on something that makes it seems real and it's associated with our emotions.

