

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter is the initial section of the research. In this chapter, the writer introduce about background of the research, statement of problem, objective of the research, research significance and previous studies.

### 1.1 Background of Research

A literary work is a depiction of a human's life. What is depicted in literary work is usually based on historical facts and experiences, as well as dreams about the future. It expresses a combination of experience and imagination through the medium of written language. Hudson states "The creation of literary work is the process of expressing life via the medium of language. It might be considered essential since it offers information about real life, people, ideas, and their feelings about life (1958: 10)." The previous statement that explaining about literary work empowered by the classical literary expert Wellek and Warren (1977: 94) that state ; "Literary works represents life, and life is, in large measure, a social reality, eventough the natural world and the inner of subjective world of the individual has also been object of literary imitation." Therefore, literary works are concerned with all aspects of human life and the universe as a whole, including the individual-society relationship, people's environment.

Literary work is evolving, and many works have been transformed into new media. Early literature was only available in the form of written texts. As Terry Eagleton once put it, "Literature is kind of imaginative writing in the shape of fiction—not reality" (Eagleton, 1983). However, literary works took on many different shapes over time.

Drama is one type of literary work. Drama, as a part of literature and as a work of art, is literature that depicts action through conversation, a subject to be performed. As the time progress Drama alters its shape, form, and structure as time passes, in time with the changes in the society in which it is born, because culture is subject to change. In the modernize era drama evolving to make itself more

relevant. Such as emerging itself in more fancied platform which is television and internet.

In the current time, the qualities that reflect a literary work stimulate the creation of cinema as works, particularly in visually portraying a story. In the early decades of the twenty-first century, Mario Klarer, a professor of English and American studies at the University of Innsbruck, wrote in his book *An Introduction to Literary Studies* (2004) that films cannot be ignored in literary studies. Film, he claims, is a semi-textual medium that is impacted by and influenced by literature and literary criticism. Sadly today, a lot of people like watching movies and television shows, but some people are unaware that the film or show they are watching is also a piece of literature.. Based on the previous assumption, the author reviewed a movie as a literary work—in order to let people realize that viewing a movie doesn't just involve experiencing the emotions it evokes (pleasure, fear, sadness, etc.); it also has a moral message and values.

The drama serial *Arcane* is the subject of this analysis. It's based on the League of Legends video game franchise. *Arcane* successfully deliver audience a great story telling. It even become a recent hit in a popular culture because *Arcane* finally destroy a stigma among gaming community which stereotype that a literature based from game is mediocre even insulting. Rafael Motamayor (2021) in his thought on *Arcane* said “Though it was already starting to crack, this League of Legends adaptation puts the final nail in the coffin of the “video game adaptation curse” by shattering preconceptions of what the animation medium is capable of, delivering a once-in-a-generation masterpiece that is sure to inspire both fans and storytellers alike for years to come.”

*Arcane* itself is set in the city of Piltover and its undercity district of Zaun, and is based on the lore of League of Legends while also serving as a prequel to many of the characters and plot aspects from the games. *Arcane* is set in an dystopian future which filled with so many flaw. Even the bright area cast darkest shadow beneath it. Cities filled with corruption, discrimination, oppression. *Arcane* is mostly an upstairs-downstairs drama, focusing on the escalating tensions and social unrest in Zaun, where people live in horrible conditions and

are constantly threatened by Piltover's brutal enforcers. The story began with two orphaned sisters, Vi and Powder/later Jinx, roaming through the mists of an apocalyptic hellscape in Zaunite. As they live in Zaun's Underbelly, time passes. When the two sisters fail a heist in Piltover, the plot is set in motion when they obtain unstable magical gemstones. Powder and Vi are emotionally and physically separated when she intervenes in a rescue effort. Silco's amazing surge of empathy for Powder's suffering drives the merciless killer to adopt her as a daughter, and Powder finds herself in his paternal arms. Powder has changed his name to Jinx over the years. She tries to please her new adopted father by taking the perfected Hextech Gemstone from Piltover, igniting a rivalry between the two cities and making her a target. Jinx's heist jeopardizes the interests of Piltover's high class council, after Jinx having several reunions with her sister after their separation both of them realized that they are both changing and they both can't be like how they used to be. All of this, together with other actions taken by these sisters resulted in the downfall of a city, the death of a character, and the birth of a broken individual.

The next thing come after finishing the series in the writer's head is tragedy, a timeless part in literature that somehow still relevant despite massive advancement of literature itself. Tragedies usually involve a tragic tale. As the plot thickens, it invites us to get emotionally invested in the narrative. It produces various emotions that are referred to as pity and fear. A tragedy's success is heavily influenced by its incidents and plot. The Greek philosopher Aristotle says that, " the plot ought to be so contracted that those who hear the tale told will thrill with horror and melt to pity at what takes place." (Guth, 1981) . "Tragedy is crucial in assessing literary styles; it may be considered by considering its literary composition as a whole, including other styles that share some common qualities but can be distinguished by knowledge," states Aristotle . When an incident has a causal relationship, it occurs gradually and peaks at a planned period, the impact on tragedy can be maximized. The cause-and-effect link is crucial in plot preparation because it might lead to unexpected outcomes. Tragedy is born from the character's actions and choices, whether we realize it or not. This can be

demonstrated in how our sympathies are emerge when the story's main character suffers a tragedy.

The reseacher decide to analyze *Arcane* because The story is filled with tragic event driven by revenge and sacrifice. The writer thought that *Arcane* reflect the charactersitic of tragedy by aristotle. Based on the previous brief explanation the writer decide to makes the title “THE REPRESENTATION OF TRAGEDY IN “*ARCANE*”(2021) DRAMA SERIES” .

## 1.2 Statements of problem

The following problems are formulated in order to reach the goal of understanding the tragedy in *Arcane*.

- 1) How are Aristotle’s tragedy characteristics depicted in *Arcane*’s plot?
- 2) What are *Arcane* character’s tragic flaw which lead to a tragic ending?

## 1.3 Objectives of Study

The goal of this studies are

- 1) To determine Aristotle’s tragedy characteristic depicted in *Arcane*’s plot.
- 2) To discover the factor contributing to *Arcane* character’s tragedy and tragic flaw which can lead to a tragic ending.

## 1.4 Research Significance

Theoretically, this research provides to the depiction of tragedy, particularly Aristotle's (1998) method of interpreting hero tragedy in literary works. This research can also develop an appreciation of literary works about the the characteristic of tragedy.

Practically, the result of this study are also expected to expand the repertoire of science In terms of practical application, this study can provide basic knowledge on obscure stories as well as examine how directors and story writers might employ and describe tragedies in the form of films. Finally, this research

expects that this research can give some benefits for the writer herself, readers, college / university English lecturers and learners and to those who are interested in analyzing this study because theoretically this research will give a contribution to literature field.

### **1.5 Previous Studies**

Since the beginning of literature itself, studies have been conducted on literary works. Every year, college students who want to graduate write theses and conduct research, especially now that many universities offer literary majors. Given that there has, of course, been a lot of research done on the subject of tragedy. Here are two findings from literature study relating to the author's research.

The first paper is titled The characteristics of Shakespearean tragedy as reflected in Othello by Arrynetra P, Shinta (2000) from University of Sanata Dharma.

The second paper is a thesis entitled The elements of tragedy in thomas hardy novel jude the obscure by Ari Dwi Irawanto (2016) from University of Jember

Those paper has similarities in the theory about tragedy but different in the object. The writer concludes from the literature analysis above that none of them really addressed the topic of the study, which is to comprehend the characteristics of yragedy that exist in the *Arcane* story. The writer becomes the first to investigate *Arcane* using the notion of tragedy

### **1.6 Definition of Terms**

In this definition of term, the writer will present the definitions of the main words that are used in this topic. In hope reader will understand words that appear frequently in this research. The writer will explain some of the topic that are going to be discussed

#### 1) Plot

Kenny in how to fiction (1966) explain “Plot as the events shown in the story that is a not simple, because the author compiled the events based on causal link.”

## 2) Character

An trait which mean an image of some quality of people in the society (Merriam Webster, 2017). While in the literary term it is known as one of the intrinsic which sign or portraying and describing a man or people. And Terry Eagleton (1943) said that the term of character is to show individual mental and moral qualities.

## 3) Drama series

Drama series are a form of drama where each episode features stories that are distinct from one another or unconnected to one another, but are still portrayed by the same character, allowing us to continue watching the next episode even if we miss one in the midst. Drama programs often run for 30 minutes or 60 minutesminutes

