

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains five components to build the research. They are background of research, statements of problem, research question, significances of research, and definition of key terms.

1. 1 Background of Research

Human's daily life is fully constructed by sign and symbols. There are many concrete things in this world that can be recognized as sign from a simple to a complex one. A flag, a logo, a trademark, a monument, a portrait, and etc are common examples of sign that habitually found among us. Pierce argues, "Sign is something which stands to somebody for something in some respects or capacity." As it will be seen, a sign can stand for something else to somebody only because this 'standing for' relation is immediated by interpretant (Eco, 1979: 15). Pierce also insists there are two basic principles of characteristics of sign. Those characteristics are 'representative' and 'interpretative'. Sign is representative when sign is meant as something represents something else. While sign is interpretative when sign is meant as it gives an opportunity for interpretation depend on who use and accept it (Dadan Rusmana, 2004: 50). Pierce distinguished three classes of signs; these are defined in terms of kind relation between the signifying item and which it signifies; an icon, an index, and a symbol (Abraham, 1985: 275). An icon functions as a sign by means of inherent similarities or shared features. An index is assign which bears a natural relation of cause or effect to what it signifies (Abraham, 1985: 276). In a symbol, the relation between the signifying item and what it signifies is not a natural one, but entirely a matter of social convention (Abraham, 1985: 276). From those three classes of signs, symbol is

the most superior because it has function of thought, imagination, and sense (Burhan Nurgiyantoro, 1998: 42). Thus, this research concentrates to analyze the symbols in literature.

The writer got inspiration to make a research script whose title is “*The Image of Heroism in Tolkien’s The Hobbit*” by Cecilia Wiklander which is introducing the aspect of hero and what a hero is in her literature work. In her studies of hero in *The Hobbit* novel, the hero that is described in Tolkien’s *The Hobbit* is different than other common heroes in literature: Hercules, Achilles and Beowulf to mention a few, all of whom are strong males and warriors. Bilbo, however, is a small hobbit with more heart than muscles and he still changes the world into something better. As example, accomplishments in battle and material success are all expected from a typical hero. In traditional heroic aspect often includes a quest or a vow for revenge, wealth and fame. All these motives are commonly used in the shaping of a hero in battle.

Meanwhile in Guntara, Saepul work who wrote about *The Symbol of Life and Death in into the Wild Movie : The Literal and Descriptive Study of Symbolism*. He shares the idea of defining the symbolism in literature works that every symbol is sign and every sign has meaning which refers to condition around it. It could refer to textual or contextual meaning. Symbols in this analysis can be analyzed by literal and descriptive phase. Literal phase serves the analysis which shows literal meaning of the symbol. It is like lexical meaning which is taken from dictionary. Meanwhile, descriptive phase shows the analysis by seeking contextual meaning. Also as share the same viewpoint of the use of Peirce’s triadic theory of symbolism.

Previously, symbol in literature can represent human’s conflict like the symbol of battle. In the movie *The Patriot*, almost the whole film is symbolic in nature especially the main character connection. *The Patriot* is about a struggle of a man named Martin Benjamin, a veteran from previously war which is now taking care of his family. Both his role as father and veteran soldier had him to protect both of his family and his country which he must carry his fate along his struggles. In real life, the

term of hero can be linked to many aspects in daily life from to helping other in needs to relieving people stress. Even picking small litter on the road can counted as heroic aspect. Then because the symbol of battle term can be found almost everywhere around people daily life heroism act can be encountered in daily life even the condition may be difficult to compromised.

After review those reason above which is interest the writer to define and researching the battle and symbol based on the previous studies. The writer is decide to analyze the symbol of battle in Roland Emmerich's *The Patriot*, and entitled this graduating paper as **“SYMBOL OF BATTLE IN ROLAND EMMERICH MOVIE *THE PATRIOT*”**.

1.2 Statement of Problem

In *The Patriot*, Roland makes his movie come alive with a significant use of symbols. The symbol itself may stand the reference of duty in intrinsic element of this movie. It can be formed as many categories but in this research is more focused about the symbol in the main character that later affected the story. Symbol in literature can be identified based on some appropriate theories. Symbol, according to Peirce, is a part of sign, so that it is characteristics are similar with sign's characteristic; representative and interpretative. In this research paper, the writer tries to identify, analyzed, and categorize those symbols based on “Theory of Symbols” by C.S Peirce. Peirce divides symbols into three elements: Interpretation, Object, and Representament.

Therefore, the problem analyzed in this research concern the searching of symbol of battle in Roland's *The Patriot*, representing and interpreting the category of symbol through a process that is constructed by the relevant theory symbol by C.S Peirce.

1.3 Research Question

1. What is the representation of battle symbol in *The Patriot* movie?
2. How is the process of triadic relation in each symbol of battle *The Patriot* movie?

1.4 Research Objective

Based on the problem above, the research object for this research is formulated into these lines below:

1. To represent symbol of battle on *The Patriot* movie.
2. To describes the triadic relation process of each symbol of battle on *The Patriot* movie.

1.5 Research Significance

Therefore is several significance of this research which is;

1. For the researcher, theoretically it will be in form of a challenge in improving the comprehension of study in the Literature Department.
2. Practically this research gives new understanding about the symbol in literature because the researcher is interested to symbol as for the reader, this research has a significant to be directed to the students of literary subjects; and the literary study especially for the further analysis.

Furthermore, this research is a reference is directed to those who are interested to this research, or who are interested in watching move *The Patriot* or perhaps those who like symbol