

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Film or movies are literary and cultural works that are copyrighted and protected. Film is also a communication medium that has images, sounds and colors. According to Severny (2013), film is the art of simulating experience to communicate ideas, stories, perceptions, feelings, beauty, or atmosphere by recording or programming moving images along with other sensory stimulation. Film is the most modern literature of this century. No doubt that the film is a kind of literature that is so attractive to the public. According to Villarejo (2007), the film is also a literary work that is often analyzed by academics in both the lectures and field researchers, because in many interesting elements to be explored in more depth. More advantages this kind of literary works is the presence of the film and audio visual depictions that wraps the story, so that makes the film more attractive than other types of literary works.

Someone will more easily understand the meaning of the story they are watching the movie. In other words, according to Barton (2010: 245), movie will give a more effect on the audience because of what people see they will imitate what they write people will remember, and what they memorized will be forgotten. Movie is a mirror of the real human's life, this is why the writer chose the movie as an object of this research.

The science fiction movie is one of the most popular movie genres in the moment. This movie is a genre of movie that had used science fiction as the basis of the story. It is speculative, the depiction of the story on the basis of science fiction about phenomena that is not fully accepted by science in the real world. In other words, a science fiction movie is the result of a mixture of fiction and reality that includes the flow of knowledge in it. This is the reason why many people criticize science fiction because it makes no sense. According to Sava (2018), *Green Lantern* is

one of the fictional science fiction adventure movie based on the *Green Lantern* comic book. The movie is full of quick action and special effects and tends to appeal to teenagers.

A review of *Green Lantern* completed the Australian Council on Children and the Media (ACCM) (2011). *Green lantern* is a (super hero) movie science fiction and violence. The film is directed by Martin Campbell and was released on 17 June 2011. This film tells the story of a perennial parent race known as The Guardians created an intergalactic super hero force known as the *Green Lanterns*, which play a role in maintaining peace and protecting the universe from evil. To fight an ancient enemy called Parallax using fear as the source of his power has escaped his imprisonment and went out to destroy the universe. But before fighting parallax, Hal Jordan is a cowardly superhero in the face of every challenge. So, how would Hal Jordan struggle as a super hero in the face of the parallax who will rule the world?

Based on the problems in this film, the researcher can observe the *Green Lantern* movie (2011) is a hero who has a fear in the face of the enemy. Which the enemy here is the parallax, which has the power to absorb the energy of fear in his enemies. So, in the study of this problem, the researcher uses Greimas structural narrative, because of the magnitude of this film when viewed from the structure of the story. Hal Jordan is as the main character that initially has a timid character then turns into an unbeatable hero.

According to Reynolds (2011), the outline of the problem in this film is about a man who is always afraid to of facing problems or challenges so that it is a weakness that cannot be removed from him. However, the initial opinion of the man can be broken by him and assisted with his friend. Hal dismissed his initial opinion with the confession and conviction that he has a great fear so that he can fight fear on him. Hal as a hero that has friends who always support and train him to face parallax in the galaxy that wants to rule the world.

Vladimir Propp's (1958: 3) concept of 31 functions of action into 20 functions are group into three syntagms: syntagmes contractuels (contractual structures), syntagmes performatives (performance structures or "organizational") and, syntagmes

disjontionnels (disjunctive structures). These functions can be squeezed again into 7 characters, namely heroes, villains, penders (donors), helpers, daughters and fathers of the princess, sender, and fake heroes. Eriyanto, (2013: 95)

In the theory of A.J Greimas (1966), the theory of structural narrative in actantial model through various interpretations in linguistics source from Ferdinand de Saussure on the one hand, as well as Vladimir Propp's fairy tale theory on the other. As mentioned Greimas (in Schelefier, xliii), "from their spheres of action" Greimas (1984: 223). An analysis of real action or thematicization, especially those depicted in the text or literary drawing can use a model called actantial model. In the actantial model, an action may be broken down into six components, called actants. Actantial analysis consists of assigning each element of the action being described to the various actantial classes. Furthermore, with a focus on the relation between structural narratives with model function of actantial, Greimas offers the three spheres of opposed concept as follows: subject - object, sender - receiver, helper - opponent. In the way the story or film is narrated, there are some components that cannot be ignored. For him, the smallest part of story is called as actant. The actant is the action of the character. The actions of the character build the story. An actant is "a class of actors that shares a certain characteristic quality" (Bal, 1997: 197). The actions are very influential in the story. Without the actions, there is no character, without character, there is story. The relation among characters makes a structure, called actantial structure. This structure shows that the characters are their performances.

This movie plot is very interesting to analyze because it expresses how a timid hero who became an unbeatable hero. Taking into account the different background with the end of the struggle of the hero makes this film interesting to discuss. The researcher had chosen Greimas' narrative theory (1984), to analyze the film. Furthermore, this study aims to learn more about how the perspective of Greimas's narrative theory looks at the narrative structure depicted in this film. The author described this research in two parts of the scheme, the first being the narrative actantial scheme and the functional narrative schema.

According to Greimas (1966), Narrative actantial schema is about schema used to analyze events in a real or fictitious story. In this scheme explains an event divide into six structures which is told through structural actions, this theory is a combined inspirational framework between Vladimir Propp's theories. The functional narrative schema is the timeline of how the story is narrated. It has the beginning, the transition, and the ending of the story. Of course, there must be relation between the actants and function in the structural narrative.

### **B. Scope and Limitation of the Study**

The scope of this study is about literary analysis in *Green Lantern* movie (2011). The limitation of this study focus on Greimas' structure narrative in *Green Lantern* movie (2011)

### **C. Statements of the Problem**

Based on the background, it is found that the problem in this movie challenges the fear of a super hero in opposing his enemy. The problems are stated as follows.

1. How is Hal Jordan's character narrated in *Green Lantern* movie (2011)?
2. How does Hal Jordan transform from zero to hero in the structural narrative?

### **D. Purposes of the Study**

By knowing the problem statement faced by a hero who has a fear against his enemy, the purposes of this study are:

1. To describe the character of Hal Jordan in *Green Lantern* movie as an actantial model.
2. To describe Hal Jordan's transform from zero to hero in *Green Lantern* movie viewed from scheme of functional model.

### **E. Significances of the Study**

From the purposes that have been explained previously, the significances of the study can be written as follows:

1. This study uses structural narrative theory, this can help a teacher to teach a movie using actantial methods.
2. This research uses *Green Lantern* movie can explain about the honesty for students.
3. This research uses *Green Lantern* movie which can be motivating to achieve the unyielding goals to students.

## F. Definition of the Key Terms

This part functions to lead the understanding for the reader to be in the context and the proposed problems of this research. The key terms are in following list:

1. **Structural narrative or actantial:** structural narrative or actantial model is a device that can theoretically be used to analyses any real or thematized action, but particularly those depicted in literary texts or images. In the actantial model, an action may be broken down into six components, called actants.
2. **Narrative actantial schema** is about schema used to analyze events in a real or fictitious story
3. **The functional narrative schema** is the timeline of how the story is narrated. It has the beginning, the transition, and the ending of the story. Of course, there must be relation between the actants and function in the structural narrative.
4. **Functions of action** grouped into three syntagms: syntagmes contractuels (contractual structures), syntagmes performanciel (performance structures or "organizational") and, syntagmes disjontionnels (disjunctive structures).
5. **Actan** is the smallest part of story and *actant* is the action of the character. The actions of the character build the story. (Bal, 1997: 197)