

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature review is a fundamental part of a research. It consists of previous studies and theoretical review. In this chapter the researcher explains about the previous studies and theoretical review.

A. Previous studies

Previous studies in this research are required in order to check if this research has never been conducted by any previous researcher. The studies are also important to see the connections, relevance, as well as difference between this research and other research that have the same or similar topic. This part is important in accordance with the novelty of the research.

There are previous studies found. The first study was conducted by Sangianglili (Sangianglili, 2012) in "*Dekonstruksi Dan Rekonstruksi Konsep Hero Dalam Film 'Megamind'*". This thesis analyzes the deconstruction that occurs in the superhero genre animated film, *Megamind*. Through a comparison between this film and classic superhero films, it was found that this film had reconstructed the superhero story convention in aspects of characterization, storyline, and perspective. However, through the study of postcolonialism and gender, deconstruction efforts in this film contain dualism. On the one hand, these efforts appear to have resisted white supremacy and the value of conventional masculinity and femininity that often appear in superhero films in general. But, on the other hand, there was ambivalence in the

deconstruction effort because in the end it emphasized these patterns. Furthermore, the deconstruction was aimed to reconstructing different hero concepts. Through the figure of Megamind, there are a number of things that are trying to be emphasized, namely the process of becoming a hero and a power that is not merely physical. This research use Derrida's deconstruction theory as an inner basis this research. In analyzing the efforts of further deconstruction, this theory is associated with several other concepts such as postcolonialism and gender.

The second research was done by Safira Indah in "*Batman Sebagai Pahlawan Borjuis*" (Indah, 2013). The Batman character as the character who is described as a bourgeois superhero is one of the superhero figures in a very famous Hollywood film. Batman being one of the superheroes whose background comes from a billionaire family and is one of the most glamorous superhero, he uses this riches to become a superhero (Batman). This type of descriptive research is to explain a problem or situation that aims to make a systematic review of the signs that appear in the Batman film again. The method used is Ronald Barthes' semiotic analysis, namely by dissecting a text through two levels of marking, namely denotative and connotative meaning. The technique of running data is in the form of documentation. The research results have several signs that indicate that Batman is a hero with bourgeois status, an upper class, and a pro-capitalist and individualist figure. However, the evil character is precisely the proletariat. This information can be seen from the proof of several aspects of the penguin, namely the antagonist characters such as clothes, cameras, the environment, and the penguin's attitude. The author hopes that society

can critically understand what is. The protagonist is not always good, but can also be seen from other sides such as human values, capitalism and social class, and vice versa, the antagonist who does not always have a bad figure.

The third research was conducted by I Made Astika in the Analysis of the Formula "*Diari Kambing Jantan oleh Raditya Dhika*". Humor is synonymous with anything funny that makes people laugh. Characteristic in comedy is the humor seen from the use of language and the choice of topics discussed. In "*Diari Kambing Jantan*", there are a number of humor formulas that can be categorized into the comedy genre. The type of humor available is personal humor against goat characters and can be classified as literary humor because it is contained in a diary. By using the bombastic slang, "*Diari Kambing Jantan*" is favored by the public with a different presentation in the form of comedy, amidst heavy reading laden with values in society. In this regard, the function of humor offered in the "*Diari Kambing Jantan*" is more directed at its function as recreation. In this case, humor serves to get rid of routine boredom in everyday life. This is just for entertainment. Refreshes the reader's mind, with some very hilarious and entertaining notes.

The three previous studies before discussed the comparison between the main character chosen by the researcher with other characters or with other films related to the same superhero story. Wean while in this study is a study that will discuss the representation and modification of the superhero (protagonist) formula of the genre on Tony Starks's character. The research will focus on the traditional formula of superhero.

B. Theoretical Review

If previous studies deal with novelty, theoretical review is about the theoretical foundation that becomes the basis of the analysis. In this research there are several theories that are used, i.e. theories of character and characterization, the literary formula, and the traditional formula of the superhero genre.

1. Character and characterization

According to Barnet (1988) Character is a figure that appears in a literary novel, poetry, drama etc. The term "figure" refers to the person or actor of the story.

a. Types of Characters

There are three categories of character types, they are complexity of personal or traits, development of change in the story, and the role characters (Aminudin, 2013). The explanation of each point is as follows:

i. Types of Character based on Complexity of Traits

Complexity of personal has two categories namely flat characters and round characters. According to Aminudin (2013) flat characters are stereotypes that often occur in fiction. This character, can be seen from the figure who has several traits. While the round character is a very complex character and has many sides (Aminudin, 2013).

ii. Types of Character based on Development or Change in the Story

Development of change is a character that has a change in a story. These are divided into two categories namely static characters and dynamic

characters. Static characters are characters that have a permanent character and have no change or development from the beginning of the story to the end of the story. While dynamic characters are characters that have change and appearance in terms of character, personality, views, etc.

iii. **Types of Character based on The Role of the Character**

Role characters have two categories, namely the main character and supporting characters. The main character is a character who has a problem in the story or a character who has an important role in a story. The main character is divided into two namely the protagonist character and the antagonist character. Characters who have good characterization so people like this character are called protagonists. While characters who have bad characterizations, and sometimes people do not like to be called antagonists. (Aminudin, 2013). And then supporting character is that support the main character.

b. Methods of Characterization

Characterization is the author's way of describing a character in a story. Physical portrayals are also useful for giving connoisseurs of literary works about how the character is in the story (kamalia, Pratiwi, 2019). For example how the character responds to a conflict, through dialogue, or through the character's description. There are several methods that can be used to determine the characterization of a character

in a story. According to Aminuddin (2013), there are nine ways for reader or audience of literary works to understand the characters in a story .They are:

- a) direct explanation from the author
- b) a direct description by the writer through visuals and appearance
- c) shows how it behaves;
- d) character dialogue with himself
- e) understanding ways of thinking;
- f) how other characters talk about it;
- g) how other characters talk to him;
- h) how other characters react to it, and
- i) how the character reacts to other characters

2. Literary Formula

Studies on literary formula is commonly conducted on popular literature, also called genre fiction or popular fiction. This genre commonly has exact formula. Literary formula can be understood as a structural pattern or common characteristics of a certain genre of literature. According to John G. Cawelti in (Grella, 1976). In general, the literary formula is a narrative structure or called a dramatic convention (Grella, 1976). Formulas in popular literary works can be represented in the formulaic storylines, plots, conflicts, and also characters; e.g. in love stories, the plots are just the same.

3. Traditional Formula of the Superhero Genre

Another example popular literature with certain formula is the superhero genre. One of the manifestations of the superhero genre formula is in the character of the protagonist, or the superhero itself (Heer & Worcester, 2009), as seen in the table below.

Table.1. Characteristics of Superhero

No.	The Formulaic Character of a Superhero (Protagonist of the Superhero Genre)
1	MISSION: A superhero always has a selfless, pro-social mission (non-selfish character)
2	POWERS: A superhero has superpowers, e.g. extraordinary abilities, advanced technology, highly developed physical mental or mystical skills
3	IDENTITY: A superhero usually has dual identities, i.e. as an ordinary person (kept secret) and as a superhero
4	COSTUME: A superhero has a superhero identity manifested iconic costume, expressing his biography, character, powers, or origin (transformation from ordinary person to superhero)
5.	ENDING: Super heroes always have happy endings, whether they got beautiful women or Popularity.

A superhero has several formulaic characteristics. Firstly, it deals with the mission, a superhero always has a selfless, pro-social mission. A superhero is a non-selfish character. According to Cawelti (Cawelti, 1969), some superhero serves as one of the characters or figures to complete the mission and moral important in terms of character villain, benefit from the action is to get the figure of a beautiful woman. The story of a superhero has never escaped the action of super heroes who carried out the action of truth and quell evil with various obstacles. This type of superhero story is a type of superhero storyline that is very simple, oldest, and widest.

Second, it is about the powers. A superhero has superpowers, e.g. extraordinary abilities, advanced technology, highly developed physical mental or mystical skills. These powers make superheroes are almost never defeated at the end of the stories in traditional superhero stories.

Third, it is about the identity. A superhero usually has dual identities, i.e. as an ordinary person. This side is usually kept secret for the public. The other side is the superhero identity, which is open and by the public.

Fourth, it deals with the costume. The identity of a superhero is uniquely strengthened by its peculiar costume. A superhero has a superhero identity manifested iconic costume, expressing his biography, character, powers, or origin, which shows the transformation from an ordinary person to a superhero.

The above characteristics of the protagonist in a superhero story are so common and typical, which then constitute its formula. However, as the time goes, there have been some modifications or shifts or changes of the formulaic character of

a superhero, to make this kind of character more natural and realistic. It will be investigated in this research.

