CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literary works have given valuable contribution to the other works, for example the world of movie. Many good movies in the world are made from adaptation upon literary works. One of literary works is novel, mainly the best seller one provides fresh air for film production. Many directors get the idea of movie from novels. The movie itself is also a product of the art. The reason of transferring the novel to the movie is done to adapt it with the condition of the time and to make it easier for the audience to get meaning from the story. For common people, when they cannot read the novel they cannot comprehend it, they will watch the movie. The purpose is to give entertainment and certain message to all community.

A movie is a work in the visual and plastic art and noted for ‘assemble’ piece colognes built up of miscellaneous found object (Douglas, 1996:115). There are some novels performed to become of movie for example Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, King of Henry V, A midsummer Night Dream, The Red Badge of Courage, Great Expectation, David Copperfield, Oliver Twist, Pickurick Paper, Harry porter, Tale of Two Cities, Pinocchio etc. Sometimes the movies became box office on that era, for example Romeo and Juliet.
Films of this age are often criticized for lacking substance and compensate for this discrepancy with explosions, and elaborate camera work. Books, on the other hand, demand a bit more respect from the public. Many believe that concocting a script is an unsophisticated mode of writing, a copper to the gold of a novel. After careful scrutiny of both, the novel, The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne and viewing the rendition of the Scarlet Letter by Roland Joffé, one can immediately comprehend the enormous amount of work put into both, as well as the innumerable differences and similarities between them. It is easy enough to discern the common and uncommon features but one must think of why the filmmaker may have used a specific lighting, or how colors are used to symbolize themes from the book.

Hawthorne originally planned *The Scarlet Letter* to be a shorter novelette, which was part of a collection to be named *Old Time Legends*. His publisher, James Thomas Fields, convinced him to expand the novelette to a full-length novel. Hawthorne's wife Sophia later disputed that Fields had a larger role than this, complaining, "He has made the absurd boast that *he* was the sole cause of the Scarlet Letter being published!" She noted that her husband's friend Edwin Percy Whipple, a critic, approached Fields to consider its publication. Nathaniel Hawthorne was born on July 4, 1804 in Salem Massachusetts. His father and grandfather were both New England seafarers. After his father died of yellow fever, Hawthorne (who was four years old), his mother, and sisters
lived with his mother’s relatives. Following his graduation from Bowdoin College, New Brunswick, Maine, in 1825, Hawthorne returned to Salem where he struggled as a short story writer for 12 years. He published Twice-Told Tales in 1837. From 1839 to 1841, Hawthorne worked as a measurer in the Boston Custom House.

In 1842, he married Sophia Peabody. The Scarlet Letter, published in 1850, brought him recognition as an author. He published The House of the Seven Gables in 1851. Hawthorne died on May 19, 1864, at Plymouth, New Hampshire, the descendent of a long line of Puritan ancestors. He was called the greatest American writer born in the present century. His work often picture phenomena in the past at a certain time at certain places, moral and religious concerns were central to his literary art. His works are about supernatural, a guilty heart, a haunted soul, and a set his dark tales in the mysterious manner. In his work, Nathaniel Hawthorne describes and explores the American social life. He is very proficient in exploring the reality of New England in the 17th century. In this case, about the social background of Puritanism based on his life experience of his own age in the 18th century in which an “enlightenment” era developed in America. Here, Hawthorne expressed his idea about Puritanism in his novel The Scarlet Letter.

Nathaniel Hawthorn started writing *The Scarlet Letter* in 1847 and published as a novel in the spring of 1850 by Ticknor & Fields, beginning Hawthorne's most lucrative period. When he delivered the final pages to
Fields in February 1850, Hawthorne said that "some portions of the book are powerfully written" but doubted it would be popular. In fact, the book was an instant best-seller though, over fourteen years, it brought its author only $1,500. Its initial publication brought wide protest from natives of Salem, who did not approve of how Hawthorne had depicted them in his introduction "The Custom-House." A 2,500-copy second edition of The Scarlet Letter included a preface by Hawthorne dated March 30, 1850, that he had decided to reprint his introduction "without the change of a word...
The only remarkable features of the sketch are its frank and genuine good-humor... As to enmity, or ill-feeling of any kind, personal or political, he utterly disclaims such motives."

The book's immediate and lasting successes are due to the way it addresses spiritual and moral issues from a uniquely American standpoint. In 1850, adultery was an extremely risqué subject, but because Hawthorne had the support of the New England literary establishment, it passed easily into the realm of appropriate reading. It has been said that this work represents the height of Hawthorne's literary genius; dense with terse descriptions. It remains relevant for its philosophical and psychological depth, and continues to be read as a classic tale on a universal theme.

The Scarlet Letter was also one of the first mass-produced books in America. Into the mid-nineteenth century, bookbinders of homegrown literature typically hand-made their books and sold them in small quantities. The first mechanized printing of The Scarlet Letter, 2,500
volumes, sold out within ten days, and was widely read and discussed to an extent not much experienced in the young country up until that time. Copies of the first edition are often sought by collectors as rare books, and may fetch up to around $6,000 USD.

The film is freely adapted from the famous novel by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The word “free” describing the modification is well used. Roland Joffe's adaptation of Nathaniel Hawthorne's seminal novel tells the story of an intolerant Puritan community in the early days of American settlement. In the 1660s, Hester Prynne (Demi Moore) makes the voyage to the New World in order to find religious freedom and a new home for her and her husband, Roger (Robert Duvall). However, Hester proves to be too free-spirited and strong-willed for most of the conservative Massachusetts Bay colony members. She abandons the laws of the colony and sets up a home far from the town square, living by her own rules and setting the townspeople's morals on end. While waiting for her husband's arrival from England, she befriends the town pastor, Arthur Dimmesdale (Gary Oldman), a liberal-minded and passionate man who instantly strikes Hester's fancy. Although the married woman and pious pastor are strongly attracted to one another, the two refuse to give in to temptation—until Roger is reported dead in a violent Indian massacre. When the townsfolk hear about the ensuing scandal, they force Hester to wear a shameful scarlet 'A' (for adultery) on her clothing at all times while living as a moral and social outcast.
Based on the previous reason the writer will observe *the scarlet letter* by using structural theory as an appropriate theory to analyze in this research. Therefore, the writer constructs the title **A COMPARISON BETWEEN NOVEL AND MOVIE VERSION OF NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE’S, *THE SCARLET LETTER*: A STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS**

**B. Literature Review**

To support this research, two researches will be presented as follows, first; the research was conducted by the student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta namely Fitri Sri Ariyanti (2009). She conducted a research entitled “Anxiety of Arthur Dimmesdale in *the Scarlet Letter* Movie: A Psychoanalytic Approach. Secondly, Rahmawati Fauzanah (2009) conducted the research with the thesis title “A Translation Analysis of Complex Sentences in Novel *the Scarlet Letter* and Its Translation.” She was also a student in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. While, the researcher has similar object analyzing about *the Scarlet Letter* but type of the data and the data source are different so that the researcher has inspired to conduct a research after reading both. Differently the present writer wants to analyze the similarities and the differences of *The Scarlet Letter* in the novel and movie adaptation from the novel *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne.
C. Problem Statement

Based on the research background, the researcher formulates the problem statement are:

1. What are the structural elements of the novel and the movie versions?
2. What are the similarities and differences elements between the novel and movie version of *The Scarlet Letter*?

D. Objective of the Study

Based on the problem statements, the researcher has the objectives of the study as follows:

1. To describe the structural elements of the novel and the movie versions.
2. To identify the similarities and the differences between the novel and the movie versions.

E. Limitation of the Study

Based on the research, this paper has a limit to analyze the comparative between structural element of novel and movie version *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. The aspects that will be compared are character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, and theme.
F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of the study are divided into two parts:

1. Theoretical Benefit

   Hopefully, the result of this research will give some benefits to the world of literature, especially in the term of comparison in literary study.

2. Practical Benefit

   a. The researcher hopes that this study can enrich writer knowledge about the differences and similarities between the novel and movie versions.

   b. The researcher hopes that this study will help the readers to understand about the differences and the similarities between the novel and movie version.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

   In this research, the writer uses descriptive qualitative method, which focuses on the analysis of textual data. Qualitative research will not need a statistic to examine and to explore the facts. Therefore, it will not require any calculation and enumeration.
2. **Object of the Study**

The object of the study is Novel *The Scarlet Letter* written by Nathaniel Hawthorne and the movie version of *The Scarlet Letter* directed by Roland Joffe.

3. **Type of the Data and the Data Source**

In this study, the researcher uses library data, which are classified into two categories.

a. **The primary data Source**

The primary data source is taken from the movie version of *The Scarlet Letter* directed by Roland Joffe and from the original printed text novel of *The Scarlet Letter* written by Nathaniel Hawthorne.

b. **The secondary data Source**

The secondary data will be taken from other sources, which are related to the primarily data such as website from internet about the novel and the movie *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne, novel summary or movie review about *The Scarlet Letter* and other resources that support the analysis.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

The method of data collection in this study is documentation. This study collects records of primary and secondary data in short of documentation used as evidences. The researcher will use the procedure as follows:
a. Watching the movie version of The Scarlet Letter directed by Roland Joffe.

b. Reading the printed text original novel of *The Scarlet Letter* written by Nathaniel Hawthorne to be more understand in the novel.

c. Taking notes of the important parts in both versions that are related on the structural analysis.

d. Classifying data into some categories and beginning to compare.

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

   The technique of data analysis used in this study is descriptive and comparative analysis. Comparison analysis technique is used to compare one element to another. The writer puts the collected data into their categories and then begins to compare one factor to other. The things that are being compared in this study are the intrinsic elements of both versions.

H. **Research Paper Organization**

   The research paper organization of a Comparison between Novel and Movie version of Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *The Scarlet Letter*: a Structural Analysis is given in order to make the reader understand the context of the paper. The paper is organized as follows: Chapter I is the Introduction which consists of the Background of the Study, Literature Review, Problem Statement, Objectives of the Study, Limitations of the
Study and Benefits of the Study. Research Method and Paper Organization. Chapter II is the Underlying Theory. It deals with the Structural Element of Movie also Novel Analysis, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is the Structural Analysis between the Novel and the Movie *The Scarlet Letter* and Discussion in which the writer will reveal the similarities and the differences between movie and novel version. The last chapter, chapter IV is Conclusion and Suggestion.