

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. Background of the Study

*Gladiator* is a 2000 American movie. It was directed by Ridley Scott, produced by Douglas Wick, David Franzoni, and Branko Lustig, the screenplay is by David Franzoni, John Logan, and William Nicholson. The movie was produced by DreamWorks studio. The movie has duration 92 minute and release at May 5, 2000 in United States. This movie takes on action, adventure, and drama movie genre and English language as the dialogue. This movie can present a good drama and adventure and also powerful action.

Born on November 30, 1937 in South Shields, Northumberland, England, Ridley Scott was raised in London, Cumbria, Wales and Germany. He attended the West Hartpool College of Art and London's Royal College of Art. While studying at the latter, he made his first short film. After graduating with honors, Scott was awarded a traveling scholarship to the States. There, he worked with award-winning documentary filmmakers. Upon his return to the UK, he joined the BBC as a production designer and after a year, was promoted to the BBC directing team, where he directed the BBC series *Z Cars*. Three years later, Scott went on to form his own company, which became one of the most successful

commercial production houses in Europe. Over the course of 10 years, Scott directed over 2000 commercials, many of which have won awards.

*The Duellists* (1978) marked his transition to the big screen. The visually striking Napoleonic war film won the Jury Prize for Best First Feature at Cannes. But it was the breakthrough hit *Alien* (1979) that established Scott as both an important director and a favorite among horror and sci-fi fans. The film also won an Oscar for its special effects. In addition, the film is credited for having a strong female lead character in the form of Ripley, played by Sigourney Weaver.

In 1982, Scott had trouble with his third effort, *Blade Runner* (1982). After several conflicts with studio executives over the content and finale, a voice over narration and more positive ending was added. The end result incited criticism from film purists and the film in turn received negative reviews. Finally, in the early '90s, the director's cut was released and the film was considered a landmark science-fiction film.

In the meantime, three more films followed, *Legend* (1986), *Someone to Watch over Me* (1987) and *Black Rain* (1989) but in 1991, Scott earned his greatest commercial and critical success with *Thelma & Louise* (1991). Starring Susan Sarandon and Geena Davis as the film's two heroines, it garnered six Oscar nominations, including Best director for Scott and also became a feminist movie standard. He followed it up with three complete flops: 1492: *Conquest of*

*Paradise* (1992), *White Squall* (1996) and *G.I.Jane* (1997). The latter was also criticized by the military for using incorrect terminology and by American Arab leaders for a scene in which Arabs were killed.

He then took a break from directing to produce the TV series, *The Hunger* and the 1998 black comedy *Clay Pigeons*, before returning to directing with the highly-anticipated sequel to *The Silence Of The Lambs*, *Hannibal* (2001) and *Gladiator* (2000), the latter of which became the summer hit of 2000, and earned him his second Academy Award for Best Director. The following year he returned to the Oscars, once again as a nominee, this time for his directorial work on *Black Hawk Down* (2001). In 2004 he received the George Pal Memorial Award from the Academy of Science Fiction, Fantasy and Horror Films. He re-teamed with his *Gladiator* (2000) star, Russell Crowe, for a move that was a change of pace for both of them—the romantic comedy *A Good Year* (2006) and then again for the drama *Body of Lies* (2008), also starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Crowe also starred in his next feature, *Robin Hood* (2010) (Ridley Scott Bio, 2010).

Maximus is a powerful Roman general, loved by the people and the aging Emperor, Marcus Aurelius. Before his death, the Emperor chooses Maximus to be his heir over his own son, Commodus, and a power struggle leaves Maximus and his family condemned to death. The powerful general is unable to save his

family, and his loss of will allows him to get captured and put into the Gladiator games until he dies. The only desire that fuels him now is the chance to rise to the top so that he will be able to look into the eyes of the man who will feel his revenge

In *Gladiator*, victorious general Maximus Decimus Meridicus has been named keeper of Rome and its empire by dying emperor Marcus Aurelius, so that rule might pass from the Cesar back to the people and Senate. Marcus' neglected and power-hungry son, Commodus, has other ideas, however. Escaping an ordered execution, Maximus hurries back to his home in Spain, too late to save his wife and son from the same order. Taken into slavery and trained as a gladiator by Proximo, Maximus lives only that he might someday take his revenge and fulfill the dying wish of his emperor. The time soon comes when Proximo's troupe is called to Rome to participate in a marathon of gladiator games held at the behest of the new emperor, Commodus. Once in Rome, Maximus wastes no time in making his presence known, and is soon involved in a plot to overthrow the emperor with his former-love Lucilla, Commodus' sister, after whom he lusts, and also the widowed mother of Lucius, heir to the empire after his uncle, and democratic-minded senator, Gracchus.

Upon the sudden death of Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius, his trusted and successful general Maximus Meridicus is unlawfully imprisoned and condemned to the gladiator games by Marcus' twisted son Commodus. As the new emperor, Commodus fears Maximus could use his heroic stature to depose

him and become leader himself. But Maximus gains fame as a gladiator and uses his celebrity to cause further damage to Commodus' tenuous hold on the susceptible Roman people, hoping to inspire them to rediscover their lost values and overcome the corruption that is eating away at them. These actions prompt Commodus to square off mano a mano with Maximus in the Colosseum with the fate of Rome at stake.

A dying Marcus Aurelius plans to name his loyal and brave General Maximus as his successor in order to restore the power of the Roman Senate. However, his power-hungry, jealous son Commodus learns of the plan, murders Marcus Aurelius, and plans to execute Maximus in order to secure his claim to the throne. Maximus escapes execution, but is sold into slavery and is forced to become a gladiator. Eventually, Maximus and his fellow gladiators are sent to Rome to perform for Commodus. Through his bravery he wins over the masses and reveals his true identity, much to the chagrin of Commodus. (Plot Summary for *Gladiator*, 2010)

The movie won five Academy Awards in the 73rd Academy Awards ceremony, including the Academy Award for Best Picture. The film's epic scope and intense battle scenes, as well as the emotional core of its performances, received much praise. The film's success may have helped to revive the historical epic genre, with subsequent films such as *Troy*, *Alexander*, *300* and Scott's own *Kingdom of Heaven*.

*Gladiator* has four points which make the researcher interested in this movie. The first this movie depicts about the gladiator itself, that is an entertainment in Roman emperor which shows the duel die or life. In this film, also clearly defined how the enthusiasm of Rome society about this game.

The second is about the genre of this movie. In this movie we don't find one but three of genres; they are action, adventure, and drama. The action is shown at the battle of the Roman soldier in beginning of the movie. Also we can find the action on the battle of the Gladiator in Coliseum. The adventure and drama can we find in story of Maximus as a Roman general became a gladiator.

The third is that the movie won many award such as; ARIA Music Award, OSCAR, ASCAP Award, Saturn Award, Eddie, ASC Award, Excellent in Production Design Award, Award of The Japanese Academy, BAFTA Award, Anthony Asquith Award for Film Music, Blockbuster Entertainment Award, Bogey Award, European Film Award, Golden Globes Award, and many more of award.

The last is the loyalty of major character in this movie, Maximus. He is a farmer from Spain who has become Emperor Marcus Aurelius' most trusted general. Because of Commodus arrogance he became a slave of gladiator. Although he became a slave his loyalty to the Rome is unchanged.

Motivated by the fact mentioned above, the researcher is eager to explore the Maximus loyalty in this film entitled **“LOYALTY OF MAXIMUS IN**

## **RIDLEY SCOTT'S *GLADIATOR* MOVIE (2000): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH".**

### **B. Literature Review**

The researcher has found other researcher ever been studied with some object of *Gladiator* movie. The first was done by Erwan Sumiyanto (UMS, 2008). *Coping behavior of Maximus in Ridley Scott's Gladiator Movie: An Individual Psychological Approach*. He finds the result of the analysis shown at that the personality of Maximus is influenced by his coping behavior that is dominantly shaped from his ambition to fight back the tyrant Commodus the son of Cesar. As the one who is different from his society, Maximus becomes the self reliant to his social life. He is responsible man, gently, and looks full in the face to his problems. Maximus's personality is shaped dominantly from his coping behavior that brings him to be good man with the good personality.

The second was done by Allen Ward (University of Connecticut, 2001). *The Movie Gladiator in Historical Perspective*. He is comparing the movie of *Gladiator* with the true history of *Gladiator* itself. He found the inaccurate of movie with the history. Like Marcus Aurelius' death, on movie he died in the campaigning season of A.D. 179, but Marcus died on March 17 of 180, just as he was about to launch another great military campaign.

Concerning with the previous research, this research will give the additional research on *Gladiator* Movie. But the writer puts in different

perspective. In this research the writer wants to analyze the Maximus Loyalty in Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* Movie by using an Individual Psychological approach.

### **C. Problem Statement**

In this research, the researcher proposes a single problem statement. The problem of the research is "How is Maximus's loyalty for Rome empire reflected in Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* movie?"

### **D. Objectives of the Study**

Dealing with the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the film based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze the film especially loyalty of Maximus to the Rome empire by using the Individual Psychological Approach.

### **E. Limitation of the Study**

The writer focuses on analyzing Maximus Character based on Individual Psychological approach.

### **F. Benefit of the Study**

#### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

- The result of the research paper can be used as input in Individual Psychological Theory.



- The result of the research can be used as the reference for those who want to conduct a research in Individual Psychological approach of literature analysis.

## **2. Practical Benefit**

- To enrich the researcher's knowledge and experience dealing with Individual Psychological Perspective.
- To give a deeper understanding in literary field as a reference to the other researcher in analyzing the movie into different perspective.

## **G. Research Method**

### **1. Types of the Study**

This type of research is descriptive qualitative. Descriptive qualitative is a type of research which result the descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from the observed object.

### **2. Type of the Data and the Data Sources**

The data in the research can be divided into two kinds of data they are primary and secondary data.

#### **a. Primary Data Sources**

Primary data in the research consist of data collected from the film of Ridley Scott's *Gladiator*. The data taken from the script dialogue, character's description, plot and all of the statement related to the problems.

b. Secondary Data Sources

Secondary data is collected from other literatures discussing about individual psychoanalytic, literary books, criticism, and some article related to the film.

**3. Object of the Study**

The object of the research is the film of Ridley Scott's *Gladiator* with duration 2: 35 minute, release on 5 May 2000 in United State by Universal Studios.

**4. Technique of the Data Collection**

In conducting this study, the writer uses the techniques as follows:

- a. Note taking
- b. Scene capturing

While the steps which are used by the writer are as follow:

- a. Watching the movie.
- b. Reading the script.
- c. Classifying the data.
- d. Browsing in the internet to look for related information such as movie script, movie's identity, public response, etc.
- e. Reading relevant books.

## **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data, the researcher use descriptive analysis. It means that the researcher interpret the text and the context. Then, the researcher uses the data to find the loyalty of Maximus written by Ridley Scott's.

## **H. Research Organization**

This research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and research organization. Chapter II is underlying theory involving the theory of individual psychology that will be used to analyze the data. Chapter III is a structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer explains the structural elements and technical elements of the film. Chapter IV is individual psychological analysis. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion.