

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Salt is a 2010 American thriller movie directed by Phillip Noyce, written by Kurt Wimmer and starred by Angelina Jolie, Liev Schreiber, Daniel Olbrychski, August Diehl and Chiwetel Ejiofor. Jolie plays Evelyn Salt, who is accused of being a Russian sleeper agent, and goes on the run to try to clear her name. The movie had a panel at the San Diego Comic-Con on July 22 and released in North America on July 23, 2010 and August 18, 2010, in the United Kingdom. *Salt* grossed \$294 million at the worldwide box office, and received positive reviews, praised the action scenes and Jolie's performance, found the plot predictable and implausible. The DVD and Blue-Ray was released on December 21, 2010, and featured two alternate cuts which provided different endings for the movie.

Philip Noyce was born in Griffith, New South Wales, attended Barker College, Sydney, and began making short movies at the age of 18, starting with *Better to Reign in Hell*, using his friends as the cast. He joined the Australian Film & Television School in 1973, and released his first professional movie in 1977. Many of his movies featured espionage, as Noyce grew up listening from his father's stories with the Z Special Force during World War II, and had an interest in the theme.

Salt movie told about Evelyn Salt who was a CIA agent and highly respected by all, including her boss, Ted Winter. Out of the blue, a Russian spy walked into their offices and offered a vital piece of information: the President of Russia would be assassinated during his forthcoming visit to New York City to attend the funeral of the recently deceased U.S. Vice President. The name of the assassin: Evelyn Salt. Concerned about the safety of her husband, who she did not contact, she went on the run. Winter refused to accept that she was a mole or a double agent but her actions began to raise doubts. Just who Evelyn Salt was and what she was planning.

As a CIA officer, Evelyn Salt swore an oath to duty, honor and country. Her loyalty would be tested when a defector accused her of being a Russian spy. Salt went on the run, using all her skills and years of experience as a covert operative to elude capture. Salt's efforts to prove her innocence only served to cast doubt on her motives, as the hunt uncovered the truth behind her identity.

Two years before, the CIA field agent Evelyn Salt was captured in North Korea and tortured. Her beloved husband and entomologist Mike Krause pressed the US Government to make a swap and brought Salt back home. On the present days, the highly efficient Salt performed administrative work with her boss, Ted Winter. When a Russian defector pretended as a CIA, Salt was assigned to interrogate him. Out of the blue, the man accused Salt of being a Russian agent in charge of killing the President of Russia during his visiting to New York to attend the funeral of the American Vice-President. Salt claimed that she was innocent and

asked Ted to call her husband, but she was not successful in her attempting. Salt asked Ted to give protection to her husband but she decided to flee to seek out Mike. Ted did not believe she was a Russian spy but the Secret Agent Peabody ordered his agents to capture Salt whether she is dead or alive.

The movie received many favorable reviews. Review aggregation website Rotten Tomatoes reported that 61% of critics have given the movie a positive review based on 209 reviews, with a rating average of 6 out of 10. Some responses after watching the Salt movie, there were some pros and cons. This movie received positive reactions by *Jamie Griffin* said that after waiting for some times, now this movie was released whether they think that the movie has more action and adventure written with it. It was unstopping adventure until the very last of the movie and watching Salt has been one of the anticipated things for me. He loved to watch this movie even he watched it for several times. Monaco said that he has enjoyed *Salt* like crazy. He cannot get enough of Angelina, best movie that he has ever seen. Further, Jane said that this movie was very exciting, full of action scenes throughout the movie was played, but this was the girl version.

Other response that dislike the movie, from Inceptions said that the movie was a disappointment, it was OK good but did not expect too much from it. Shan said that he thought the audience got it wrong, or he guessed the audience need to raise your standards when it came to this particular movie genre. The twist and turns of the movie was great. Bello said that once again, another overrated movie

with an actress who I could never take seriously. It is like Transformers but with a horrid effort to be serious.

The movie's marketing campaign included a panel at the San Diego Comic-Con on July 22, 2010, and an episodic average entitled "Day X Exists", where players watched episodes and performed missions to unveil the terrorist plot. It was released in North America on July 23, 2010. It was released on August 18 in the United Kingdom, despite poster advertisements suggested that it would be released on August 20. The Deluxe Unrated Edition Blue-ray and DVD was released on December 21, 2010 by Sony Pictures Home Entertainment. It included three versions of the movie: the original theatrical movie and two additional unrated extended cuts were not seen in theaters with two alternate endings. A Theatrical Edition DVD was also released. In the home video charts, *Salt* debuted at first in the rentals and third in sales.

Sony predicted an opening weekend take in the low-\$30-million range, while commentators thought it would come in closer to \$40 million and beat *Inception* for the number one spot at the box office. *Salt* opened in 3,612 theaters, with an opening day gross of US\$12,532,333-\$13,470 per theater and on its opening weekend, \$36,011,243-\$9,970 per theater - behind only *Inception*, which made \$42,725,012 in its second weekend. *Salt* also grossed \$5 million from 19 minor international markets. On its second weekend, it declined in ticket sales by 45.9% making \$19,471,355-\$5,391 per theater and placed number three behind *Dinner for Schmucks*, but by opening in 29 countries that same weekend, it grossed \$25.4

million internationally. *Salt* ended up grossing \$118,311,368 in the United States and Canada and \$175,190,850 in other countries, for a worldwide total of \$293,502,218.

The reasons the researcher analyzed the *Salt* movie. First, this movie had a good cinematography. Either from setting picture, visual effect, music illustration, sounds editing, or another aspect supporting in making this movie.

Second, the movie has a good plot; the beautiful plot can show from the way of story. Watching this movie by guessing the ending of the story or plot was the most difficult thing to do since it was unpredictable. *Salt* title itself was taken to be the central figure in this movie, the Evelyn Salt, played by Angelina Jolie was so perfect. Angelina Jolie was already used to play in action movies in character, so in playing this character could be very fascinating. Besides the advantages of this movie in the action very well, also the story that was difficult to predict. *Salt* title itself was taken to be the central figure in this movie, the Evelyn Salt, played by Angelina Jolie was so perfect. Angelina Jolie was already used to play in action movies in character, so in playing this character could be very fascinating. Besides the advantages of this movie in the action very well, also the story that was difficult to predict.

Third, *Salt* also gave an education; it showed that women were strong, good physical, and masculinity. We had to stand for about love and career; sometime we had to sacrifice our love because of career. So in this movie led to think critics

while stand for everything. Not only man could fight against criminal acts, but also women.

The last, the film received one Academy Award nomination, for Best Sound Mixing, which it lost to *Inception*. It was also nominated for Satellite Awards for Cinematography and Original Score.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher was interested in analyzing the *Salt* movie. The writer applied feminist approach in analyzing her study, especially Amazon feminist. So, this study the researcher encouraged herself to give a title, “SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION OF POWERFUL WOMEN TO FIGHT AGAINST CRIMINAL ACTS IN PHILIP NOYCE’S *SALT* MOVIE (2010): A FEMINIST APPROACH”.

B. Literature Reviews

The *Salt* movie directed by Philip Noyce is an interesting movie. As far as the writer knows, there is no research that conducted by the other researchers in analyzing this movie. So the researcher conducts a research on *Salt* movie by using feminist approach. This study focuses on powerful women to fight against criminal acts in *Salt* movie by using feminist approach. So the writer constructs the title “**Social Construction of Powerful Women to Fight against Criminal Acts in Philip Nonce’s *Salt* Movie (2010): A Feminist Approach.**”

C. Problem Statement

The problem of the study is “How is the social construction of powerful women to fight against criminal acts reflected in Philip Noyce’s *Salt* (2010) movie using Amazon Feminism?”

D. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the research are:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze the movie based on feminist approach.

E. Limitation of the Study

The writer will analyze how social construction of powerful women to fight against criminal acts in *Salt* movie is viewed from the feminist approach. It is as a means of analysis on the central character Angelina Jolie to fight against criminal acts, viewed from feminist approach.

F. The Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from the research are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

To give some contributions to the longer body of knowledge of the development of knowledge particularly studies in *Salt*, directed by Philip Noyce

of the other literary researchers, especially in the study of *Salt* movie manuscript.

2. Practical Benefit

To get deeper understanding in literary field and literary study especially Amazon Feminist.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

This type of research is qualitative study which takes the source data from words and other written text. Qualitative study is concerned with providing description of phenomena that occur naturally. This study is attempted to present the data from perspective of the observed subject.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

Types of the data are texts and images. Texts such a dialogue or movie script that used by actor or actress by Kurt Wimmer and current revisions by Brian Helgeland on January 16, 2009. Images consist of some action or scene is played by the actor or actress.

In this research, the researcher takes two kinds of data:

a. Primary Data

The primary data source is the movie itself; *Salt* by Philip Noyce.

b. Secondary Data

Secondary data is the other related to the research such as some books, movie script, commentaries, and other relevant articles.

3. Object of the Study

The object of the research is the movie of Philip Noyce's the *Salt*, running time of the movie is 131 minutes, published by Columbia pictures. The release date of this movie was in 2010.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The techniques used in this research; namely note taking and image capturing.

- a. Note taking. This technique used to analyze the data in form of text.
- b. Image capturing. To analyze the images of *Salt* movie, the writer uses capturing technique.

The methods to collect the data are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie repeatedly and learning the script.
- b. Taking note of the important parts in both primary and secondary data.
- c. Identifying the topic in the movie.
- d. Capturing the scene of the movie.
- e. Determining the major character.
- f. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- g. Arranging, researching, and developing the materials which is selected into a good unity toward the topic of the study.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis is descriptive in which the researcher uses feminist approach, especially Amazon Feminist. The analysis uses word, sentences or picture as the data research, and the data reports will contain quotation or documentation.

H. Paper Organization

This research consists of six chapters. Chapter I will be Introduction, which consists of background, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research organization. Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which presents Notion of Amazon Feminism, Basic Concept of Amazon Feminism, Structural Elements of the Film and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is Social Background of America. Chapter IV is Structural Analysis of the movie, which involves the structural elements of character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style, theme, and discussion. Chapter V is Amazon Feminist Analysis. Chapter VI is Conclusion and Suggestion.