

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Literature is the presentation of human life. Literary works as the process of reflection of the author's imagination that shows the phenomenon in his life. Literary works deal with human life, it is appropriate to use psychology as an approach in understanding human being from psychological point of view. With such social interaction, an understanding of literary work also has conspiracy with human being. "Since literature is the exposition of man's mental life, it can be said that literature has tight relationship to psychology. Literature and psychology have the same object of research that is human being" (Wellek and Warren, 1956: 91)

In modern era, human as social creature must organize the life style to socialize with other. Besides that, people have to try hardly to get luxuriousness by themselves. Because of that reason they always strive to do anything in this world. Desire is an action of people to survive or to do something, usually something good for their life. All of efforts of human being must be arranged in line with desire to be better.

Human desire must be directed toward another desire. In other words, in order that Self-Consciousness is born from the Sentiment of self, in order that the human reality comes into being within the animal reality, this reality must be essentially manifold. Therefore, man can appear on earth only within

a herd. That is why the human reality can only be social. But for the herd to become a society, multiplicity of desires is not sufficient by itself; in addition, the desires of each member of the herd must be directed or potentially directed toward the desires of the other members. ([http://www. Braungardt. Com/Philosophy/Kojeve/Desire. Htm](http://www.Braungardt.Com/Philosophy/Kojeve/Desire.Htm)).

Desire is a call to action in man, but what action is called is not specified. For man, there is no predetermined appropriate response to any desire. In man, there is only the desire. Before man can respond to desire, he must discover the nature of the desire; what it is a desire for; what is required to fulfill it, and what are the consequences of fulfilling it? And when he knows all these things, there is still no action. The important difference in these desires is the “feeling” of desire, or “passion,” we associate with them. While there are feelings associated with all our thoughts, in general the kind of desire we have for proximate ends, like an education, jobs, or flu shots, are not accompanied by the kind of “felt” desire we have for food, or comfort, or sex. (<http://theautonomist.com/autonomist/philosophy/desire.html>).

*Clash of the Titans* is example of movie that uses desire. It is a 2010 American film directed by Louis Leterrier, written by Lawrence Kasdan, the music in the movie is by Ramin Djawadi, and the cinematography is by Peter Menzies Jr. This movie is produced in American by Warner Bros Pictures and budget while the project of movie is 125 million USD. This movie was released in America in April 2, 2010. The duration of this movie is 106 minutes. It is a good movie, because it's nominated in many awards.

The film took Teide National Park, the second most visited national in Spain was chosen by the producer to be the location of the film. The film also took place in Wales, the Canary Islands (Spain) (primarily at the World Heritage Site Teide National Park in Tenerife), Maspalomas Dunes, Gran Canaria, and Timanfaya National Park in Lanzarote. Aerial photography was conducted in Iceland and Ethiopia. Volcano scene was taken at the Harriet hole in Dinorwic Slate Quarry in Wales wrapped at the end of July. This slate quarry has also been used for locations for *Willow* and *Street Fighter*. Good choice in location is very important to improve the story, beside that this movie is also very interesting to show. The director of *Clash of the Titans* movie is very famous in the world movies circle.

*Clash of the Titans* is the movie directed by Louis Leterrier. Louis Leterrier was born on June 17, 1973 in Paris, France. He is the son of director Francois Leterrier. He was guided artistically by his mother. At the age of 18, after some training in advertising and publicity, he left France to study cinema at the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Louis Leterrier as the director of the movie also makes the other movie.

In 1997, he assisted Jean Pierre Jeunet on the set of *Alien: Resurrection*. On returning to France, he worked with Luc Besson on the production of commercials for *Internet Club* and *L'Oreal* as well as on the film *Joan of Arc*. He also collaborated, as the second assistant director, with Alain Chabat on the production of *Asterix & Obelix: Mission Cleopatre* (2002). Later in 2002, Louis Leterrier directed *The Transporter*, an action

movie starring Jason Statham. In 2008, as part of the current wave of the French directors employed in Hollywood, he directed his first big-budget American film, *The Incredible Hulk*. In 2010 he also released *Clash of the Titans*, which tell about the son of Zeus who wants to be a human.

The film begins with the story of the Titans. Zeus is ruler of the heavens, Poseidon is king of the seas, and Hades (tricked by Zeus) is left to rule the Underworld. Zeus creates humankind, and in time, humankind begins to question the Gods.

A millennium later, a fisherman named Spyros finds a coffin in the sea. A baby and his dead mother are in it. Spyros adopts the boy (whom he names Perseus) and raises him as his own son. Years later, the now adult Perseus is aboard a small fishing boat with his family, when they witness a group of soldiers from Argos destroying a massive statue of Zeus, as a declaration of war against the Gods. Hades appears in the form of a flock of Harpies and massacres the soldiers. After Hades has achieved victory, he destroys the fishing boat as well, drowning Perseus' family.

Perseus is found by soldiers, who march him into Argos. He is brought before King Cepheus and Queen Cassiopeia, during their celebration of the war on the gods. Cepheus and Cassiopeia are oblivious to the lives already lost in the newly declared war. The King makes boastful statements to disrespect the gods, and the Queen compares their daughter Andromeda to the goddess Aphrodite, much to their daughter's dismay.

Zeus is extremely angry, who gives Hades the opportunity to appear before his brother on Mount Olympus. Hades argues that the Gods must act

with vengeance against the uprising, and convinces Zeus that he has to be allowed to destroy Argos. Hades appears in the courtroom, kills the remaining soldiers and ages Cassiopeia to the brink of death. Hades threatens that if Princess Andromeda is not sacrificed to appease the Gods within ten days, Argos will be destroyed by the Kraken. As he departs, he identifies Perseus as a Demigod. Hermes the Messenger God informs Zeus that his son Perseus is alive in Argos. Zeus refuses to protect his son when he learns of this.

The King imprisons Perseus, because he will not fight with Argos against the Gods. Io reveals to Perseus his true lineage. In order to punish King Acrisius for his own war on the Gods, Zeus disguises himself as Acrisius and seduces Danae, impregnating her. Acrisius knows the moment and angry with Danae. Then Acrisius take Danae into the coffin and throw away in the sea. After learning that killing the Kraken would allow him to have his revenge against Hades, Perseus agrees to lead Argos' finest soldiers on a quest to find the Stygian Witches. They are joined by a pair of monster hunters named Ozal and Kucuk. Io follows as well.

Hades finds Acrisius (then called Calibos) and reveals his plan to use the Kraken to destroy Argos, thereby strengthening himself and gaining his revenge against Zeus for his betrayal after the Titan battle. Hades imbues Calibos with superhuman powers in order to kill Perseus.

While in the woods, Perseus discovers a sword forged in Olympus, as well as Zeus' sacred herd of flying horses, the Pegasus. Perseus refuses both the sword, which only he can use, and Pegasus, which the Gods offer to as an assistance, as Perseus does not wish to become a god. Calibos attacks the

group and kills nearly all the praetorian guards and tries to murder Perseus, but is forced to flee after Draco cuts off his hand. However, Calibos' blood forms giant scorpions out of the sand, which attack Perseus and kill all of the guards, except for Draco, Solon, Eusebios and Ixas.

The survivors are saved by the Djinn, a band of former human shamans who have turned themselves into the Demons of Arabian mythology, by replacing their battle wounds with ashwood and black magic. Though they do not trust the Djinn at first until their leader Sheikh Suleiman heals Perseus' wounds. When Solon and Draco see Suleiman healing Perseus, they think he is attacking him and tries to save him. Suleiman effortlessly defeats all the warriors and says that the only way to help Perseus is by them all working together. The Djinn joins Perseus' group, because they have wishes to see the Gods overthrown.

The heroes go to visit the Stygian Witches and are told that the solution lies with the head of the Gorgon Medusa, which could kill the Kraken by turning it to stone. When Perseus is warned that his group will die in the process, all of the Djinn, except for Suleiman, leave them. Ozal and Kucuk also leave, explaining that they cannot fight in the Underworld. Perseus is visited by Zeus who offers him asylum on Mount Olympus, but he refuses. Zeus gives him a golden drachma as a means to bribe Charon, for passage into the Underworld.

In the battle with Medusa, the Gorgon shoots Solon, and he falls to his death. Medusa kills Ixas and Eusebios by petrifying them. Perseus then lures

Medusa out, and Sulieman tries to behead her but only manages to cut through a few snakes on her head. Medusa traps Suleiman by coiling her tail around him and attempts to petrify him. Suleiman cannot be petrified and he self-destructs, blasting a part of her body by using his magic. Draco then sacrifices himself by distracting the injured Medusa, so that Perseus is able to behead her. Emerging from the Underworld, Perseus sees Calibos stab Io from behind. After a short duel, Perseus kills Calibos, using the sword from Olympus, which restores Calibos to human form. With his last breath, Calibos urges Perseus not to be like the Gods. Perseus watches as Io is transformed into gold dust and is swept away to Olympus. He then rides Pegasus back to Argos, with Medusa's head.

In Argos, the Cult of Hades plots to sacrifice Andromeda to the Kraken. As the Kraken is released, Hades reveals to Zeus that the destruction of Argos will give him enough power to overthrow the other Olympians, ending Zeus's reign, as revenge on Zeus for cheating him, but Zeus reveals Perseus is still alive in Argos. Although Hades sends his harpies to kill Perseus, Perseus uses the head of Medusa to turn the Kraken into stone and saves Andromeda. Cepheus stops Prokopion, the cult leader, from killing Andromeda by grabbing his burnt arm, which in turn stabs Cepheus, but both Cepheus and Prokopion are then crushed by the Kraken's stone hand. Hades appears and smugly sneers that as he is immortal, Perseus cannot kill him. Perseus retorts that Hades can live forever, but not in the world of humans. He then uses the Sword of Olympus (amplified with Zeus' lightning) and throws it at Hades in the chest with it, pushing Hades back into the

Underworld, never to be seen again. Andromeda asks Perseus to become king of Argos, but he declines. Zeus again offers Perseus his place on Olympus, but Perseus declines this as well. Zeus warns him that Hades will someday return for revenge again when humankind's fear is great. Since Perseus insists on staying on Earth, Zeus (before disappearing) resurrects Io, while Pegasus flies overhead.

*Clash of the Titans* invites controversy for society. Unlike a lot of the Hollywood remakes being green lit nowadays, most people agree that *Clash of the Titans* is a film that was due for a makeover. The original was made in 1981 and featured stop motion effects created by Ray Harryhausen. Sure, they were cool at the time, but the film looks dated now, and it takes away from a fantastical story like this when the special effects are no longer cutting edge. Considering the current renewed interest in sword and sandals epics, this movie should have been an easy win for all parties involved.

Based on the fact, writer is interested in studying this movie. There are four reasons for this. Firstly, *Clash of the Titans* movie tells of Perseus' desire to be human. In this movie, Perseus who is son of Zeus has desire to be human than be God. He wants to be human, because since child until adult he lives with human. In the last story Zeus again offers Perseus his place on Olympus, but Perseus declines this as well. Zeus warns him that Hades will someday return for revenge again when humankind's fear is great. Since Perseus insists on staying on Earth, Zeus (before disappearing) resurrects Io, while Pegasus flies overhead.

Secondly, this movie is challenging. From beginning this movie always shows difficulties the human to get luxurious. Perseus as major character of the movie has experiences from journey his life. Perseus has a grudge against the gods. Perseus' resentment cause while on a fishing trip with his adoptive father and family, they are passed by some soldiers from Argos tearing down a statue of Zeus. Hades attacks the soldiers and the fishing boat with the crossfire. It makes disappear of the ship and all the occupants with it except for Perseus. The Argos' soldiers find Perseus on the beach and take him back to their city.

Thirdly, Sam Worthington as the major character has a good play role. He has good emotion in each part of movie. Sam Worthington's sudden rises to stardom continues with this film, starring in his third major blockbuster in the span of a year after his roles in the ridiculously successful *Terminator Salvation* and *Avatar*. While he has a certain amount of charm, and an everyman quality, this is probably his least memorable performance out of the three. Perseus does not feel particularly heroic, since his stubbornness to use gifts from the gods just comes across as stupidity, rather than pride or bravery.

Fourthly, this movie reflects psychoanalytic. This movie and especially Perseus as major character has conflicts from child until adult that is development personality in his life. In his child, he lives with the fisherman and always lives in the sea. In his live, he gets more conflicts happen around him. How he manages his emotion and also how he controls his desire to be a human.

Seeing the *Clash of the Titans* characteristic above, especially character of Perseus and then there lies the interesting part to analyzing of Louis Leterrier's *Clash of the Titans* movie. The researcher is interested to analyze the Perseus' desire to be human in Louis Leterrier's *Clash of the Titans* which will elaborate in problem statement.

Based on the background above, the writer proposes to conduct a research entitled **“PERSEUS’ DESIRE TO BE HUMAN IN LOUIS LETERRIER’S *CLASH OF THE TITANS* (2010) MOVIE: A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH.”**

## **B. Literature Review**

*Clash of the Titans* movie which is directed by Louis Leterrier represents a modern movie, which was released in 2010, but it is very interesting to be analyzed because of its structural elements and its substances. As long as the researcher knows, there is no research that has been conducted before, whether in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or even for some universities in Surakarta. So, this research is the first study that ever constructed in Surakarta.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the background of choosing the subject above, the problem is “How is the Perseus’ desire to be human that reflected in *Clash of the Titans*?”

#### **D. Limitation of the Study**

In this research, the writer focuses on analyzing Perseus' desire to be human based on a psychoanalytic approach.

#### **E. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of this study are:

1. To analyze the structural elements of film in order to describe how the motivation give the main character, Perseus' desire to be human.
2. To analyze the film by means of psychoanalytic approach.

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

The benefits expected from this research are as follow:

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

To give someone contributions to the larger body of knowledge or the development of knowledge particularly studies in Louis Leterrier's *Clash of the Titans* movie.

##### **2. Practical Benefit:**

To give deeper understandings in literary field as the reference to the other researcher, and enriches the literary study, particularly among the students especially on Muhammadiyah Universty of Surakarta.

## **G. Research Method**

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

This type of research is qualitative in which the researcher does not need statistic to collect, to analyze, and to interpret data.

### **2. Types of the Data and the Data Source**

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

#### **a. Primary data**

Primary data is the main data obtained from *Clash of the Titans* movie directed by Louis Leterrier released in 2010.

#### **b. Secondary data**

Secondary data is the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism, and some articles related to the movie.

### **3. Object of the Study**

The object of the research is the movie of Louis Leterrier's *Clash of the Titans* with duration 106 minutes, produced in America by Warner Bros Pictures in 2010.

### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

In this research, the researcher uses the library. The data are collected from the books related the topic. The first step is watching the movie *Clash of the Titans* many times to identify the problem and find the data. Then it is continue by reading the relevant theory with the subject, finally the collecting the supported data from any critical review, internet and other references related the topic.

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

The technique of data analysis is descriptive in which the researcher uses a psychoanalytic approach especially Freud's theory and draws a conclusion.

## **H. Research Paper Organization**

This research consists of the five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and research paper organization. Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which present notion psychoanalytic, structure of personality, and theoretical application. Chapter III is structural element of the analysis of the movie, which involves the structural element of character and characterization, casting, plot, point of view, *mise en scence*, cinematography, sound, editing, and discussion. Chapter IV constitutes Psychoanalytic approach of the personality. The last is chapter V which contains conclusion and suggestion.