

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 shows the phenomenon in his life. It means that when the authors make their literary works, they express the problems in relationship with the author's point of view. Of course it gives influence in every work of an author.

Truth is one of the central subjects in philosophy. Truth has been a topic of discussion in its own right for thousands of years. Moreover, a huge variety of issues in philosophy relate to truth, either by relying on theses about truth, or implying theses about truth. (<http://plato.stanford.edu/entries/truth/>).

Prince of Persia is an example of movie that has theme struggle. It is directed by Mike Newell. The writers of this movie are Boaz Yakin, Doug Miro, and Carlo Bernard. Its title comes from the main character of this movie that is Dastan. This movie is distributed by Walt Disney Pictures. *Prince of Persia* is a 2010 movie. This movie was first released at 26 May, 2010 in United State of America. This movie is played by Jake Gyllenhaal as Dastan, Gemma Arterton as Tamina, Ben Kingsley as Nizam, Alfred Molina as Sheik Amar, Steve Toussaint as Seso, Toby Kebbell as Garsiv, and then Richard Coyle as Tus. *Prince of Persia* movie has running time 1 hour 56 minutes or 116 minutes.

Prince of Persia is the best movie directed by Mike Newell. He was born in March 28, 1942 in St. Albans, Hertfordshire, England, UK. Newell studied at Cambridge, later moving on to work at Granada Television as a trainee in 1963, where he worked in various aspects of production for several years before making his TV directorial debut. Newell's U.K. television feature debut, *The Man in the Iron Mask* (1977) served as his springboard to international success, finding theatrical release in the U.S. Continuing with work in television in the following years, Newell began to concentrate on his attempts to move into feature territory in the late '70s. Offered directorial hand on a slew of similarly themed romantic comedies in the wake of the success of *Four Weddings* (including *Notting Hill*, [1999]), and taking advantage of one such offer with the less successful Hugh Grant comedy *An Awfully Big Adventure*, Newell proved his versatility and struck gold again in 1997, with *Donnie Brasco*. In 1999, Newell spun a tale of dysfunctional air-traffic controllers with *Pushing Tin*, "a movie about people crashes, not plane crashes." ~ Jason Buchanan, Rovi.

Besides of *Prince of Persia* movie, he also becomes the director of some movies, such as *Love in the Time of Cholera* (2007), *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2005), *Huff: Season 01* (2004), *Mona Lisa Smile* (2003), *I Capture the Castle* (2003), *Traffic* (2000), *High Fidelity* (2000), *Best Laid Plans* (1999), *Pushing Tin* (1999), *Donnie Brasco* (1997), *Photographing Fairies* (1997), *Into the West* (1993), and some movies. Since his career he got

5 nominations in some movie awards and he won 11 awards in some movie awards in European and USA.

This movie tells about a young fugitive prince and princess who must stop a villain who unknowingly threatens to destroy the world with a special dagger that enables the magic sand inside to reverse time. This movie takes setting in Morocco and England. The genre of the *Prince of Persia* movie is action, adventure, fantasy, and romance. The budget of this movie is 200 million USD.

The plot follows Dastan (Jake Gyllenhaal), a street urchin in Persia, historically in the Persian Empire in the sixth century. After showing courage in the market place, he is adopted by the king. Fifteen years later, Dastan, and his royal blooded foster brothers Garsiv and Tus lead the Persian army in an attack on the sacred city of Alamut, under the assumption that the city's people are selling weapons to their enemies, as shown by Nizam (Ben Kingsley), the King's brother and adviser. As Garsiv leads the initial assault, Dastan decides to lead a surprise attack with his friend Bis (Reece Ritchie) against the orders of his brother. He manages to open the eastern gate of Alamut and prevents further casualties. During the fight in the city, Dastan defeats one of Princess Tamina's (Gemma Arterton) guards who was in the possession of the mythical Dagger of Time. The dagger gives its owner the ability to go back in time for a short period so that the user can try to correct any mistake or redo any

moment. Alamut falls to the Persians, Tamina is captured and is offered as a wife for Tus, which would make the city of Alamut a part of the Persian Empire.

The Persians celebrate their victory, but during the celebration Prince Dastan is fooled into presenting a poisoned gown seemingly given to him by Tus to King Sharaman (Ronald Pickup), which fatally burns the king. Prince Dastan is held as the perpetrator of his father's murder. He escapes the castle with Princess Tamina while Bis, his best friend, is killed trying to save them. Together, they embark on a journey, the Prince wants to prove his innocence, while Tamina wants to safeguard the Dagger of Time. On the first night, Tamina attempts to kill the prince and recover the dagger, but Dastan accidentally activates the dagger and learns about its ability to rewind time for one minute and in doing so, prevents Tamina from attacking. Dastan believes that Tus knows about the dagger and frames Dastan for their father's murder in an attempt to seize the throne and the dagger, thus becoming the most powerful ruler of Persia.

During their journey, the duo meets a group of merchant-bandits, in the valley of slaves, including entrepreneur and ostrich racing-organizer Sheik Amar (Alfred Molina) with his friend Seso (Steve Toussaint) who hails from the Ngbaka, masters of the throwing knives. Dastan offers Tamina up as a slave in return for their hospitality. However, the bandits try to take the

Dagger of Time and take Dastan to the newly crowned Tus because of the reward for his capture; they fail in the process, while the two escape.

Dastan and Tamina return to Persia for King Sharaman's funeral. Dastan tries to convince his uncle Nizam that he was not the cause of his father's death, only to discover the dagger was taken by Tamina. Instead, he notices the burns on Nizam's hands, which indicate he is the one who sets up the murder of the King. Furthermore, Nizam has set up an ambush for Dastan along the Persian streets and after a conflict with his brother Garsiv, Dastan escapes.

Meanwhile, back in Persia, Nizam is aware that Dastan knows he is responsible, trying to convince the newly-crowned King Tus and Garsiv that Dastan is trying to overthrow them and must be killed without a trial to avoid a rebellion. When this fails, Nizam hires the Hassansins, a group of highly-skilled warriors who once served as hired killers for Persian royalty. Nizam kept the sect hidden for his own ends after Sharaman has them disbanded.

Dastan catches up with Tamina and explains that the villainous brother of the King, Nizam is behind it all. The attack of Alamut was based on false allegations provided by Nizam and promoted with a motive to attain the Dagger of Time and use it with the massive Sandglass, which is hidden under the city of Alamut. This way, Nizam would go back in time before he had saved Sharaman from being attacked by a lion and undo the act, hence ensure that he becomes the King of Persia. However, Tamina reveals that the

Sandglass is the vessel holding the Sands of Time, which the Gods conjured to punish humanity for its sins. A pure hearted girl, offering her life, convinces them to seal the sands. Should the Dagger use of time to pierce the Sandglass, the sands would be released and destroy the entire world. The holder of the Dagger may also turn back time as far as they please. The pair then put aside their differences and agree to work together to protect the dagger.

Dastan and Tamina are again captured by Sheik Amar, Seso, and their group when they have chaos and cause back to Valley. Sheik intends to claim the reward for turning them in to renew his business. But that night, when everyone is asleep, the Hassansin leader (Gísli Örn Garðarsson) attacks the group in an oasis by controlling a number of vipers. Many of the group die, but Dastan uses the dagger to rewind time, and, foreseeing the attack, manages to kill all the snakes single-handedly, saving Seso in the process. The Hassansin leader is then left in a sand dervish.

The next day, the pair accompanied by Sheik and Seso, travel to the secret sanctuary in the mountains near India, where it is possible to seal the dagger by returning it to the stone where it came from. In order to do so, Tamina would have to sacrifice herself, but it fails as they run into Garsiv's men. Dastan, however, manages to persuade his brother that he is innocent, only for Garsiv to be killed by a flurry of spike-knives thrown by a Hassansin. The Hassanin attack, killing many of the group, while their leader manages to snatch the Dagger of Time from Tamina (who was knocked unconscious in

the battle) by using a trained snake. However, Dastan is saved from the last Hassassin by Garsiv, who then succumbs to his injuries.

Tamina and Dastan, as well as Sheik Amar and Seso, return to Alamut to reveal the truth about Nizam and the dagger to Tus. First, they must get the dagger, which is kept in the sacred temple, guarded by the Hassassin who killed Garsiv. Seso, the master of throwing knives, fights the spike-wielding Hassassin to obtain the dagger. He manages to kill the Hassassin after a well aimed throw, yet is fatally wounded in the process. Seso manages to throw the Dagger out of the window to Sheik and Dastan before dying. Sheik Amar then distracts the guards by serving as a decoy while Dastan shows the truth about the Dagger to his brother Tus by killing himself, only to have Tus rewind time with the dagger. Afterward, Tus is killed by Nizam, and Dastan is incapacitated by another Hassassin. The Dagger is once again in Nizam's hands, but Dastan manages to defeat the Hassassin with Tamina's help. She realises that the Hassassin had been a spy inside the city of Alamut and must have been the one who told Nizam about the Dagger.

Nizam goes to the Sandglass caves beneath Alamut, as Dastan and Tamina race to stop him. Tamina opens a secret gate leading to the chamber, allowing them to take a short cut to the Sandglass. En route, they encounter the leader of the Hassansins; however, after a close fight, Dastan gets the upper hand and stabs the Hassassin before throwing him into the chasm. They then manage to reach Nizam as he pierces the Sandglass with the Dagger.

During the final confrontation, Nizam knocks Tamina over the edge of the chasm and Dastan desperately catches her hand. Knowing he cannot stop Nizam and save her, Tamina professes her love for Dastan and lets go, sacrificing herself to stop Nizam. Dastan fights Nizam as they both hold their hands on the Dagger. Dastan then uses the Dagger's button to open the Sands of Time container and use its power against Nizam. The Sandglass slowly cracks and the sandstorm are shown destroying Alamut. Dastan is then able to use the Dagger and turn back the time as the Sandglass breaks, ending up at the point when he first held the Dagger during the siege of Alamut.

Dastan uses his knowledge to reveal Nizam's evil plan to his brothers, gaining their acceptance by revealing what Tus told him about the meeting with their father prior to the attack. Exposed, Nizam attempts to kill Dastan but ends up dying by Tus' blade. After apologizing for the ransacking of her city, Tus suggests that perhaps Tamina should become Dastan's wife as a sign of good will. The Prince returns the Dagger of Time to her as a gift, as she looks at him surprised. The two of them are next shown talking to each other and Tamina expressing her surprise about Dastan's sudden change in behavior and hinting that he may have discovered something to which he replies that they are in control of their own destiny.

Prince of Persia invites controversy for society. It invites pro and contra about this movie. Many people are interested in this movie because this movie contains with action, the history story, and also the romantic story.

Hollywoodrulez from Australia gave the movie 10 stars, he said “A fantastic piece of work” and he also write, “Well as always Jake impressed me at his fullest and the film was a fantastic piece of work. I expected it to be once I knew Jerry Bruckheimer was the producer and once again he impressed me. The visual effects team on the film deserves to be credited due to there brilliant work throughout the entire movie”.

Besides that, Danny Maniac from Pakistan said “Don't care what people say, I LIKED IT!!!”. He also write “wow wow..I really liked it! I mean, yes I am a huge game fan and so it was pretty easy for me to engulf the plot as I was expecting it, but still there were some surprises and some really cool graphics that I loved! I must say though, that being a game fan is an important factor if you want to like this movie.

Nevertheless, *Prince of Persia* invites some contras, one of them is noted by Silent Mike from Star Box said “Prince of Persia: Sucks!”. Besides that Nookie Monsta from New York said: “Make it stop”. He also writes “if anyone out there listens to just one review in their entire lifetime let it be this one. If you find yourself thinking “Hey maybe we should watch *Prince of Persia*” turn around run into a wall as hard as you can and I promise it will be time better spent. There is not one moment where this movie is remotely interesting, the script, acting, directing are just horrible”.

Prince of Persia is the interesting movie. There are three reasons that make writer be interested to analyze this movie. The first is the movie tells about history. This movie tells about the history of Persia. This movie tells

about a history of the society life in Persia. Watching this movie makes the writer understand all about Persia in that era. All of this history makes the writer be interested to explore this movie.

The second reason is, *Prince of Persia* movie tells about the struggle of Dastan. It tells about how struggle for truth of Dastan's life in Persia. He is brave to get truth in his life.

The third reason is *Prince of Persia* movie contains not only about Dastan but also about social condition on ninth century in Persia. This movie presents the societies condition in Persia. Watching this movie makes the writer understand societies' life and discrimination on ninth century in Persia.

According to those reasons, the researcher would like to the struggle for truth of Dastan's life in Mike Newell's *Prince of Persia* movie based on the individual psychological Perspective, and the title is **STRUGGLE FOR TRUTH OF DASTAN'S LIFE REFLECTED IN MIKE NEWELL'S PRINCE OF PERSIA MOVIE (2010): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

There is one researcher who has conducted the study of *Prince of Persia* movie. The researcher is AR. Fachrudin (2011) entitled "Social Discrimination in Mike Newell's *Prince of Persia* (2010): A Sociological Approach". The focus of this study is on the social life condition in ninth century of Persia. The outcomes of this study are as follows: (1) Mike Newell's *Prince of Persia* reflects social condition occurred in ninth century

of Persia. (2) Mike Newell's depicts social discrimination that creates crimes in *Prince of Persia*. (3) *Prince of Persia* is Mike Newell' satire and criticism toward unbalance situation and condition that can be found in character's characterization, narration and dialogue.

The differences of this study and the previous study are in the theme and perspectives. This movie focuses in the struggle for truth of Dastan's life in Mike Newell's *Prince of Persia* movie based on the individual psychological Perspective while the first previous study focuses on the social life condition in ninth century of Persia.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of the research is "How is the struggle for truth of Dastan's life reflected in *Prince of Persia* movie directed by Mike Newell?"

D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses on analyzing the struggle for truth of Dastan's life based on individual psychological approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follow:

1. To analyze the structural elements in *Prince of Persia* movie.
2. To analyze the struggle for truth of Dastan's life in *Prince of Persia* movie based on an Individual Psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study of the struggle for truth of Dastan's life reflected in *Prince of Persia* movie has two benefits.

1. Theoretically

This research will improve the study of literature as the modern art especially in *Prince of Persia* movie and the elements.

2. Practically

The results of the study will improve the writer's knowledge of the struggle for truth of Dastan's life reflected in *Prince of Persia* movie.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

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

2. Type of Data and Data Source

a. Type of Data

The data of this study are scenes and dialogue in *Prince of Persia* movie by Mike Newell.

b. Data Source

1) The primary data source is the movie and script of *Prince of Persia* movie by Mike Newell.

2) The secondary data source is information theory including references and materials relating to the study whether picking up from books and internet.

3. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Prince of Persia* movie by Mike Newell.

4. Method of the Data Collection

The method of the data collection in this study is documentation.

The writer watches the primary data repeatedly to reach more understanding of source. Next, the writer takes, compares, quotes, and studies others data into some categories and develops them into a good unity.

5. Technique of Data Analysis

The technique of data analysis in this study is descriptive, researcher uses individual psychological approach and draws conclusion.

H. Research Organization

The researcher systematizes this research into 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, theoretical approach, research method, and research organization. Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which presents Notion of Individual Psychology, Basic Concept of the Individual Psychology, Structural Elements of the movie and theoretical application. Chapter III is Structural Analysis of the movie, which involves the structural elements of the character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, theme, and discussion. Chapter IV is Individual Psychological Analysis. Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.