

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

A hero has motivation to do or play something better and prove it to other people that he can do the thing in a high level. A hero is person that is amazed because of his achievement and quality. A hero is also a pawn that has a soul in line to protect and manage the community. Now, viewers consider that the development of hero is difficult to grow again. This problem is as the indicator of a hero. There are many ways to determine who hero is or who will be a hero. Sometimes an individual who has more authority can be called a hero, but actually a true hero is an individual who really has great dedication.

Everyone has problems in his life. The problems make people aware of what they have done. People have their own views in facing the problems in their lives. Those problems make them full of struggle in their lives so that they will look for the final goal to get success.

From zero to hero for life is an interesting object not only for psychologist or author of novel but also for movie director. The cinema always reflects the situation that happens in the certain time the order to reveal the reality in human life. Besides, film gives knowledge to understand the essence of life and contributes to the understanding of the reality of life in order to the realistic.

Sometimes, the goal of life will become difficult to be enjoyed. The problems in human life cannot be separated from thinking, feeling, and acting. Those are actually bringing up influence for the literary work. Literary work is as an expression of the author's feeling and emotion because literature arises from an author who lives as human being. Therefore, literature closely relates to psychology in understanding human beings including experiences facing the life.

According to Gerow (1989:4), psychology is a scientific study of behavior and mental process. Psychology is a science; it means that a science is an organized body of knowledge gained through application non scientific methods. By behavior people know that what organism does, how they act, and how they respond. Psychologists study what an organism does, but some of the reactions that the organism does is so easily observed; however, they often can be measured in such a way to make them verifiable (Gerow, 1989:5).

There are many literary works which rise psychological aspect such as *The Blind Side* movie. *The Blind Bide* is one film that illustrates from zero to hero experience on teenager, particularly on his psychological sphere. It tends to show the effect on Michael Oher's psychology, how Michel Oher is able to face feelings of from zero to hero in his life. *The Blind Side* movie is directed by someone who reflects Michael Oher's conditon in his life, which may be a problem for him. *The Blind Side* movie is about poverty and it has a happy ending. *The Blind Side* was directed by John Lee Hancock and published in

2009. The setting of place is at Atlanta International School and The Westminster Schools in Atlanta, Georgia. *The Blind Side* is a 2009 American semi-biographical sports drama film. It is written and directed by John Lee Hancock, and based on the 2006 book *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game* by Michael Lewis. The storyline features Michael Oher, an offensive lineman who plays for the Baltimore Ravens of the NFL. The film follows Oher from his impoverished upbringing, through his years at Wingate Christian School (a fictional representation of Briarcrest Christian School in the suburbs of Memphis, Tennessee, his adoption by Sean and Leigh Anne Tuohy, and on to his position as one of the most highly coveted prospects in college football. For her performance, Sandra Bullock won the Academy Award for Best Actress, as well as the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress and the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Female Actor in a Leading Role. The film itself also received an Academy Award nomination for Best Picture. More than 3 million copies of *The Blind Side* have been sold since its March 23 release. The film was released in the United States on November 20, 2009, the duration is 129 minutes, and produced by Alcon Entertainment and released by Warner Bros. This film spends \$29 million and gross revenue \$309,208,309. The film premiered on November 17 in New York City and New Orleans and opened in theaters on November 20 in the rest of the United States and in Canada.

The author of *The Blind Side* movie is Michael Lewis. He was born in New Orleans 1960. He is an American contemporary non-fiction author and

financial journalist. His bestselling books are *The Big Short: Inside the Doomsday Machine*, *Liar's Poker*, *The New New Thing*, *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game*, *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game*, *Panic and Home Game: An Accidental Guide to Fatherhood*. He is currently a contributing editor to *Vanity Fair* .

Mike Oher who was born on May 28, 1986 is an American football offensive tackle for the Baltimore Ravens of the National Football League. He was drafted by the Ravens in the first round of the 2009 NFL Draft. He played college football at the University of Mississippi for the Ole Miss Rebels. His life through his first year of college is one of the subjects of Michael Lewis's 2006 book, *The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game* and the subject of the 2009 film *The Blind Side*.

"*The Blind Side*" is based on the remarkable true story of Baltimore Ravens offensive left tackle Michael Oher (Quinton Aaron). Michael grew up in the inner city housing projects with his mother in Memphis, Tennessee aptly named "Hurt Village". Michael's story begins with him being homeless and coming from a broken home with a drug-addicted mother, and an absentee father. Because of his family circumstances, Family Services took control of his life as he was growing up. Unfortunately, he was being bounced around in and out of foster homes, and now as a teenager he has taken it upon himself that he would rather be homeless. By a stroke of luck, and the coach's wish for a player the size of Michael, he ends up enrolling in a private Christian school where the Tuohy kids go. Michael is a quiet person. He is shown to have a

kind of childish personality, because he tries to play with kindergarten children (Rachel St. Gelais) who reject or ignore him. Michael is befriended by S.J. Tuohy (Jae Head), the youngest Tuohy whose connection to Michael starts the ball rolling.

One icy winter night, as Michael is walking down the road to the school gym, where he is sleeping, Leigh Anne Tuohy (Sandra Bullock) with her husband Sean (Tim McGraw) and children Jae and Collins (Lily Collins) pick Michael up and take him home for the night. However, he stays for the next night, which puzzles Sean, although the children accept Michael matter-of-factly. Soon, Leigh Anne offers him a room and bed. As she starts making him greater and greater favors, he comes to research through Michael's exams and the only positive feedback that teachers could ever say about him is that he had big protective instincts. Leigh Anne will use that to explain him how to play in the field. Up to that moment, he wasn't able to get the hang of the game and its rules, and he wasn't able to understand what his role in the field was.

From that moment, Michael starts to play well and is useful to his team. At the traditional Christmas card photograph of that year, Leigh Anne invites him to appear on the photo. Leigh Anne's friends Beth (Rhoda Griffis), Elaine (Eaddy Mays) and Sherry (Ashley LeConte Campbell) meet regularly at a local expensive restaurant. The friends laugh about Leigh Anne's "project in the projects", but she cuts it off, saying that if they do not respect what she does, she will stop seeing them.

An opportunity arises for Michael to play at university level. However, he needs his grades to improve, so the Tuohys hire a private tuition teacher, outspoken and kind Miss Sue (Kathy Bates), who will immediately succeed. During their Geography lesson, she makes a stupid remark about some university burying the bodies of dead people in their game field, which Michael seems to believe blindly.

There comes a moment when Leigh Anne wants to have a face-to-face conversation with Michael's mother (Adriane Lenox). Although she seems unresponsive in the beginning, the mother finally wishes Michael the best. She says that social services had branded Michael "a runner", and she forecasts that Leigh Anne will find one day that he has run away for good without giving any previous notice. Leigh Anne also faces some guys from the projects which had threatened Michael. They are left speechless when she threatens them and is not afraid of them at all.

Three universities want Michael. Sean Junior to talk to the coaches, and leads the negotiations on Michael's behalf. When Michael gets his grades high enough, he must make a decision, and he does. He chooses the university where Sean had played for, and where Leigh Anne was a cheerleader. That causes Investigator Granger (Sharon Morris) to move onto the matter before Michael arrives there. She questions him as though they were holding interrogatory preceding at a police station. She thinks that the Tuohy and Miss Sue are using Michael to benefit that particular university.

After thinking and questioning Leigh Ann on the matter, Michael realizes that the Tuohy is now his family, and tells Granger that is his reason why he chooses that university. The end of the film Michael Oher says that he wants to be success and become a professional foot player later on and Sean went out to the game field with Michael before all local games.

This film is based on the true story of Leigh Anne and Sean Tuohy who take in a homeless teenager African-American, Michael "Big Mike" Oher, where the film is very interesting to be discussed. There are some aspects that make this film interesting. The first is Michael Oher takes up the through a quiet person character. Each character is described in the most details and they are extremely colorful. Director develops the characters to be easy known and understood though the performance of actors. The characters of course are supported by casts that present their best performance. Michael Oher's performance is naturally as a homeless boy. There is Anne, she is a good person. She is a Christian and has much empathy. She is a kind person who likes helping people and friendly. The characters as if really become the real character in the actor's life.

The second aspect is the nuance and the reflection the movie. The film portrays poverty, richness, sadness, happiness and homeless. The nuance is a homeless person that can change his life to be a good football player that receives scholarship to the university that he wants. The result of film can show a great story with colorful characters and look natural.

The third aspect is the interesting visualization of the movie. The director makes the film greater than real life. The visualization is applied in setting, costumes, make up, lighting, lenses, and everything. The lighting on the street, indoor, and costume make everything together to form aspect of entrance. Director gives visual perfection using cinematography to convey the story showing the world of Michael Oher's point of view.

The fourth aspect is teachers can take the moral value in this film such as teaching is from heart not from emotion, giving motivation and confidence are so important, so that the students are brave to act. Besides, this movie can be enjoyed in all level of human being, because this movie is able to make the spectacular conscious that there are still many people as Michael Oher out there.

The last is the psychological condition which is reflected by Michael Oher. There are social problems that affect the psychological condition of Michael Oher. In *The Blind Side*, there is a portrayal of psychological danger in which it appears because of the social demand. Poverty, crime, suffering and homeless are also problems portrayed in this film. This movie also presents the issue of parents' and families' influence on teenager development, particularly major character (Michael Oher). On the other hand, these lacking condition affects his ability to get affection and esteem from others. It can be known that *The Blind Side* movie is closely related to psychological aspect reflected in each character. Based on the story of the film, the writer is interested in doing the research on the problem of Michael Oher by using an

individual psychological approach focusing on the From Zero to Hero his personality. The writer conducts a research entitled: **FROM ZERO TO HERO IN *THE BLIND SIDE* MOVIE AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

## **B. Literature Review**

There are many students of English Department who have ever studied the individual psychological perspective analysis as a research problem. *The Blind Side* movie is an interesting movie and as far as the writer knows there is no such kind of research that has analyzed film for the title From Zero to Hero of Michael Oher studied by the students of English Department in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. So the researcher cannot make the comparison with another researcher because it is the first study in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

In this occasion, the researcher takes An Individual Psychological Approach to reveal from zero to hero of Michael Oher as one of the major character of *The Blind Side* movie.

## **C. Problem Statement**

In this study, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The problem statement of this study is “How is Michael Oher From Zero to Hero reflected in *The Blind Side* movie?”

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

In this research, the writer will focus on the study on the analysis of the individual psychological analysis of the Zero to Hero for Michael Oher in *The Blind Side* movie viewed by an individual psychological approach.

#### **E. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze the movie especially the character of Michael Oher in *The Blind Side* movie based on the individual psychological approach.

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

The benefits expected from the study are as follows.

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

The result of this research will give contribution to the world of literature, beside development; especially in the study of “*The Blind Side*”.

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

This study is expected to give deeper understanding about the movie especially in an individual psychological approach.

## **G. Research Method**

### **1. Type of the Study**

The research of this study is qualitative research, which takes the sources data from words and other written text.

### **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is *The Blind Side* Movie. It is analyzed by using an individual psychological approach.

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

In this study, there are two sources of data namely primary and secondary data sources.

- a. Primary Data Source of the study is the movie itself: *The Blind Side* movie by John Lee Hancock.
- b. Secondary Data Source is taken from other sources such as internet, article, book, author's biography, essay, comments, critics, scrip of the movie and other relevant information.

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

The data collecting technique used in the study are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie for the several times.
- b. Reading the script of movie.
- c. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
- d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary sources.
- e. Classifying notes from the material and some other resources related to the movie and the analysis.

- f. Reading the books that are connected to the research.
- g. Browsing to the internet to get some information articles that are related to the research.

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

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It involves with structural elements of the movie and an individual psychological approach.

## **H. Research Paper Organizer**

In order to make research is easier to follow; the research paper is decided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction covering background or the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, underlying theory, research method and the research paper organization. Chapter II presents Underlying Theory. It deals with notion of individual psychology, basic assumption of individual psychology, structural elements of the movie, and theoretical application. Then, Chapter III is Structural Analysis of *The Blind Side* Movie; (1) The structural Elements of *The Blind Side* movie; It consists of structural elements of *The Blind Side* movie including character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and technical elements of the movie; (2) Discussions. Chapter IV presents Individual Psychological Analysis of *The Blind Side* Movie, which deals with the analysis of the problems' movie that is related with the theory. There is also discussion in this chapter. Chapter V consists of Conclusion and Suggestion.