CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

*Angels and Demons* movie is released on 15 May 2009. The director of the movie is Ron Howard. Brian Grazer and John Calley as the producer of this movie. This movie adapted from *Angels and Demons* novel by Dan Brown. The type this movie is drama with duration 146 minutes. The cost production of this movie $133 M. Filming of *Angels and Demons* took place in Rome, Italy, and the Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City, California. Tom Hanks reprises the lead role of Robert Langdon, composer Hans Zimmer and screenwriter Akiva Goldsman also return.

The director of this movie is Ron Howard or Ronald William Howard. He was born on March 1, 1954 at Oklahoma. Ron Howard is son from Jean Speagle Howard and Rance Howard. His mother as an actress and the father as a director, writer and actor. His family moved to Burbank, California in 1958, the year before his younger brother born, Clint Howard. Howard graduated from John Burroughs High School, and later attended the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts but did not graduate. He left it because he could learn more from actual experience. The early career he as a actress in *Andy Griffith's TV son, Opie Taylor, on The Andy Griffith Show* and *Howard Cunningham's son and Arthur Fonzarelli's best friend, Richie Cunningham, on Happy Days*. After that, he stopped from acting and became the film director. His films are *Splash, Cocoon, Backdraft,*

Angels and Demons movie tells about Pope and illuminati. It started from death of the Pope is unnatural. Over the throne is empty, the papal apartment will be locked during the nine days of mourning and that the time was known as the "Tempo Sende Vacante" the empty throne. After the mourning period is over, then the church will hold a conclave of cardinal (preferiti) will lock themselves inside the Sistine Chapel to hold an "Onclava" papal election meeting. Silvano Bentivoglio, Dr. Vittoria Vetra and other crew, the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) that make antimatter and then it lost. When the battery runs out will explode, with a huge explosion that will destroy the Vatican.

Robert Langdon, Dr. Vittoria Vetra and Vatican police work together to find the four cardinals who was kidnapped and also to find antimatter. The first victim found Cardinal Ebner die in the underground room which means the show "earth", in Chigi Chapel, Santa Maria Delpopolo church. The second victim found in the middle of the field Lamassa Cardinal St. Peter off by punching holes in his lungs, which shows the "air". The third victim found cardinal of the church of Santa Maria Della Vittoria with the state fire that shows "fire". The fourth victim found in the Pizza Novona at fountain and still life. Because the fourth victim still life, they get clue where antimatter place that antimatter was in the Castle Sant' Angelo (lightening of the church). When they found antimatter the battery only lasted 5 minutes then Padre
(people from the church) try to bring it by helicopter and blow it up in the air, the Vatican was finally rescued.

When Robert Langdon and Dr. Vittoria Vetra see the tape side of Padre Television footage, they found the main perpetrators of this incident by making up stories about the Illuminati. Eventually, he committed suicide by burning himself. Pope's election has been a success-elect is the Father of Italian Cardinal Elbert.

*Angels and Demons* got some responses from the audience after this movie released. There are positive responses and negative responses. First, Richard Corliss in *Time* magazine gave the film a positive review stating that *Angels and Demons* has elemental satisfactions in its blend of movie genre that could appeal to wide segments of the audience. Second, Dick Stell, in IMBD users *Angels and Demons* had a lot plot points on science versus religion and a wealth of information that Dan Brown researched and linked together in an engaging fictional piece of work. Third, review aggregate website Rotten Tomatoes reports that 36% of 237 critics have given the film a positive review, with an average rating of 5.1/10.

The negative responses, Kim Newman awarded critic from 5 people and 3 people said:"every supporting character acts like an unhelpful idiot to keep the plot stirring, while yet again a seemingly all powerful conspiracy seems to consist of two whole evil guys. Second, Website Rotten Tomatoes give negative responses too, the site's general consensus is that *Angels and Demons* is a fast-paced thrill ride, and an improvement on the last Dan Brown
adaptation, but the storyline too often wavers between implausible and ridiculous, and does not translate effectively to the big screen.

This movie gets four nominations, in 2009 from Teen Choice Awards with category Choice Movie on Drama and Choice Summer Movie. Second, World Soundtrack Awards with category Outstanding Supporting Visual Effects on a Feature Motion Picture. In 2010 gets two awards Art Directors Guild with category Contemporary Movies Allan Cameron (production designer) and World Soundtrack Awards with category movie Composer of the Year Hans Zimmer. It was the ninth highest grossing film of 2009 with a grossing of $485,930,811 worldwide.

From the synopsis above and understanding *Angels and Demons* movie, the writer was interested in analyzing this movie because five reasons. The first is the characterization, especially the main actor “Robert Langdon” with intelligent can solve clue step by step, Which reading of the instructions from beginning to end in making people amazed by his cleverness.

The second reason is the plot, the plot is faster and dense which audient were not given time to take rest when look at the movie. From the beginning of the story where the pope's sudden death coupled with the loss of antimatter and the alleged return of the underground organization called "Illuminati", which they have relationship to one another. The next solving the mystery until the discovery of antimatter, the unfolding of the pope's death and the truth about the Illuminati organization was the mastermind of the perpetrators of the church itself "Padre".
The third reason is the setting of place, the rich from history in the church. Have a magnificent church building where it has a high art and the basement full of mystery. The audient found the meaning from sculptures in every detail part of the building itself.

The forth reason is the symbol. The major character can solving problems with the reading of the sign that is so impressive by the main character from the beginning of writing ambigram until the actual unfolding of all mysteries. Here shows all the sign have meaning and significance with all of mystery can be solved by good and neat.

Based on the statement above, the writer uses symbolism in semiotic prospective as an appropriate theory to analyze in this research. The literary work is always symbolism. In this study, the researcher is interested and challenged in analyzing the movie using semiotic perspective and encourages herself to give title: **SYMBOLISM IN RON HOWARD’S ANGLES AND DEMONS MOVIE (2009): A SEMIOTIC APPROACH**

### B. Literature Review

After looking for several literature reviews in the Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. The writer found three researches about *Angels and Demons*. They are three researchers who have conducted the study of *Angels and Demons*.

study in social behavior as reflected in *Angels and Demons* novel. The result of the study reveals relationship between the novel and the social reality. Dan Brown depicts hypocrisy about character through social, economic, religious and science and technology aspects in his novel.

Second, Dewi Listyoningrum (2011) entitled “Strife for Power in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* Movie (2009): A Marxist Approach”. This study focuses in analyzing how the character doing the power. Specifically, this study analyzes Angels and Demons movie using Marxist’s theory, to show the readers about strive for power, it means that this movie show strive to get power or to be a leader in catholic (Pius).

The last, Masningrum Innayatullah Anggrahini (2011) entitled “Conflicts of Faith and Science in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* Movie (2009): A Sociological Approach” this study focuses especially in the conflict that happen between faith and science in *Angels and Demons* movies issue, the researcher would like to analyze *Angels and Demons* movie based on sociological perspective.

The differences this study and the three previous studies are in the sign, and in the perspective in analyzing the data. The researcher puts her study about “symbolism” in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* movie. Moreover, in perspective of analyzing the data, the researcher uses semiotic approach.
C. **Problems Statement**

In conducting this research, the writer is going to focus the observation on symbolism used in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* movie. With the problem of this research as follow:

a. What are the symbolisms used in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* movie?

b. What are the meanings of symbolism used in Ron Howard’s *Angle and Demons* movie?

D. **Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problem that have been stated above, the objectives of the study are:

a. Analyzing the movie based on its structural elements.

b. Revealing the symbolism and their meanings used in the movie.

E. **Limitation of the Study**

This study focuses on semiotic approach, especially symbolism in Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons* movie. The researcher will research about symbolism used in Ron Howard’s *Angles and Demons* movie.

F. **Benefit of the Study**

The study of symbolism in Ron Howard’s *Angles and Demon* movie has several benefits they are:
1. **Theoretical Benefit**

   To enrich the study of literature especially on Ron Howard’s *Angles and Demons* movie and it is contribution for English department student particularly in learning movie.

2. **Practical Benefit**

   To conduct framework analysis for another student to study sign especially symbolism in comprehensive as well as to improve student or the reader knowledge, especially semiotics used to analyze movie in literature.

G. **Research method**

1. **Type of the Study**

   In this research, the researcher uses the qualitative research in the form of literary work. Qualitative research does not need a statistic to explore the facts, so it does not include any calculation and enumeration.

2. **Object of the Study**

   The object of the study is symbolism in Ron Howard’s *Angles and Demons* Movie.

3. **Type of the Data and the Data Sources**

   a. **Type of the Data**

      Type of data in this research is picture, the text that shows the way to solve the problem.

   b. **Data Source**
Types of data sources in this research are categorized into primary data sources and secondary data sources.

1) Primary data source is the *Angles and Demons* movie itself

2) Secondary data source all report that writer finds from the library or virtual source that will support the primary data. Including book research report and research paper.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

In this case, the writer uses two techniques in collecting the data:

a. Observation

   This step is used to make the analysis by watching the film repeatedly to get the understanding about this film

b. Literary research

   There are some procedures in library research, they are:

   1) Watching the film repeatedly and understanding about this film.

   2) Finding out the important data and identifying the relevant elements.

   3) Talking notes.

   4) Arranging data into several parts based on its classification.

   5) Developing data to get the last result.
5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

Because the writers purpose the study is focus on the specific of symbolism in semiotics, the writer will present symbolism that to solve the problems in this movie. Analysis the data to be clear the meaning from the symbolism itself. The following steps of technique of data analysis will be done by the writer, such as:

a. Selecting the data that show to solving the problem in the movie.

b. Analyzing the data on symbolism.

c. Describing the meaning of the symbolism above.

H. **Research Paper Organization**

The research paper consists of five chapters. The first is introduction that consists of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of research, objectives of the research, benefit of the research, and method of the research and paper organization. The second chapter is underlying theory that consists of the theory that the writer used to analyze the object of research here the writer used Semiotic approach. The third chapter presents the structural elements of the movie consists of character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, theme and style mise-en-scene and Cinematography. The fourth chapter presents the semiotic analysis consists of denotative level, connotative level and discussion. And the fifth chapter is conclusion and suggestion.