CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Adaptation is often recognized in purely furtuitous effects, and natural selection is invoked to resolve problems that do not exist (Williams, 1966:4). The adaptation process takes place under natural selection, where an organism becomes better suited to its habitat. Also, the term may refer to some characteristics which stand out as being especially significant in the organism's survival.

Adaptations develop as the result of natural selection operating on random genetic variations that are capable of being passed from one generation to the next. Variations that prove advantageous will tend to spread throughout the population. Human beings are biologically adapted for culture in ways that other primates are not, as evidenced most clearly by the fact that only human cultural traditions accumulate modifications over historical time. The key adaptation is one that enables individuals to understand other individuals as intentional agents like the self. This species-unique form of social cognition emerges in human ontogeny at approximately 1 year of age, as infants begin to engage with other persons in various kinds of joint attention activities involving gaze following, social referencing, and gestural communication. Young children’s joint attention skills then engender some uniquely powerful forms of cultural
learning, enabling the acquisition of language, discourse skills, tool-use practices, and other conventional activities. These forms of cultural learning allow human beings to, in effect, pool their cognitive resources both contemporaneously and over historical time in ways that are unique in the animal kingdom.

Adaptation in this movie is appeared by the director Ryan Murphy, the reasons why he appeared little about adaptation maybe the story of this movie was real story in Ryan Murphy’s life. Ryan Murphy (born November 9, 1965) is an American writer, film and television director and producer, best known for creating the television shows Nip/Tuck, Popular and Glee. Murphy grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana, in an Irish Catholic family. He attended Catholic school from first through eighth grade, and graduated from Warren Central High School (Indianapolis). He has described his mother as a beauty queen who leave it all to stay at home and takes care of her two sons. She has written 5 books and worked in communications for over 20 years before retiring. His father worked in the newspaper industry as a circulation director before he retired after 30 years. After coming out as gay, he saw his first therapist, who found nothing wrong with him other than being too precocious for his own good. Murphy performed with a choir as a kid, which would later inform his work on Glee.

In 2006, Murphy wrote the screenplay for and directed the feature film running with Scissors. Based on the memoir by Augusten Burroughs,
the movie version starred Annette Bening, Alec Baldwin and Brian Cox, and, as the young Burroughs, newcomer Joseph Cross. A lawsuit was filed by Burroughs's mother and other relatives regarding the film, alleging defamation. The outcome of the case is unknown. In 2010 Murphy directed Julia Roberts in an adaptation of Elizabeth Gilbert's memoir *Eat, Pray, Love.* The film was a box office success but a critical failure, getting harsh reviews criticizing its pacing and lack of credibility.

The story of this movie starts when Elizabeth Gilbert returns to New York City from a trip to Bali where she meets medicine man (101 years or 64 years old) Ketut Liyer (Hadi Subiyanto), read her palm and foretold her future of a brief and a long marriage, loss of all her worldly goods before regaining everything confused and unhappy in her marriage to Stephen (Billy Crudup) while his career plans are as flaky as a croissant. His devotion to his wife is unambiguously genuine and passionate Liz (Julia Roberts), a writer, files for a divorce. Earlier her best friend with a new baby Delia Shiraz (Viola Davis), married to Andy (Mike O'Malley), a Caucasian, cautions Liz about motherhood: “Having a baby is like having a tattoo on your face”. From the heights Liz then dives into the cupped palms of David Piccolo (James Franco), an actor performing in her stage play, who interests her in joining his Hindu meditation sessions. This love affair doesn't satisfy her either, so she plans a three-part journey to Italy, India, and Indonesia to find herself spiritually and put her life balance.
Elizabeth Gilbert (Julia Roberts) has everything a modern woman is supposed to dream of having—a husband (Billy Crudup), a house, a successful career, yet like so many others, she found herself lost, confused, and searching for what she really wanted in life. Newly divorced and at a crossroads, Gilbert steps out of her comfort zone, risking everything to change her life, embarking on a journey around the world that becomes a quest for self discovery. In her travels, she discovers the true pleasure of nourishment by eating in Italy; the power of prayer in India, and finally and unexpectedly, the inner peace and balance of true love in Bali. She spent four months in Italy, eating and enjoying life ("Eat"). She spent three months in India, finding her spirituality ("Pray"). She ended the year in Bali, Indonesia, looking for "balance" of the two and found love ("Love") in the form of a dashing Brazilian factory owner.

In *Eat, Pray, Love*, cultural elements are very important, because Elizabeth Gilbert visited many places, there are Italia, India and Indonesia. So she should be able to adapt with many cultures in are countries. Italia has European cultures and many kinds of food (Eat). India has the power of religion in Hindu’s religion, so Elizabeth Gilbert should be able to adapt this religion culture (Pray). And in Bali she must adapt to the society view and cultures in there and finding balance in life (Love).

There are four reasons why the writer is interested to analyze this movie. They are as follows. The first reason because *Eat, Pray, Love* outlines the story of Elizabeth Gilbert and her experiences in many
countries. The story starts out when Elizabeth Gilbert goes to many countries after her life is broken. She wants to find out herself by going abroad to Italy, in India, and Bali. Beside that *Eat, Pray, Love* has the point that comes from true story that has been experienced by Elizabeth Gilbert before. Her experiences around many countries shed light on many aspects of the state-owned. It is the most important point that can be learnt by her in order to expand her knowledge about many aspects such as social aspect, religious aspect, economic aspect, political aspect, cultural aspect. All of them are the most important aspect which should be known as the manifestation of the adaptation in one place to the other. Those are aspects that can support psychologically aim to apply the social communication all around the world.

The second reason is the importance of adaptation in order to learn many cultures in all around the world. It is the most important aspect that should be applied in order to expand knowledge especially in both of cultural and social aspect. In *Eat, Pray, Love* movie, adaptation is the dominant point because it is unintentionally applied in every second of the movie itself. It is absolutely required aims to increase the point of the view to gather the cultural aspect of each country. Beside that, without adaptation, the person would not learn outside in their culture because they could not communicate with each other especially if they meet the different culture. It can be concluded that adaptation is much more
important in the way to develop more understanding about many cultures all around the world.

The third reason is education in social life. We can find educational values in this movie by knowing Elizabeth Gilbert’s journey to other countries. Elizabeth Gilbert gives many social lessons to apply in society life. In this aspect the social life that can be learnt is the social appreciation to many cultures. We can see in this movie, Elizabeth Gilbert always appreciates the cultures belong to the country all around the world even she learns each country that has been explored by her chronologically. In order to learn all of them, her passion of humanity clearly appears when she learns the culture which is clearly different by her own culture. It is the important point and could be the dominant thing in this movie how the social appreciation is able to develop the personality of human being in every aspect.

The fourth reason of the film is the application of the adaptation in the social life of human. In this point the adaptation is able to develop the personality of the human. In the other word the positive things of the adaptation could be the reflection of social life. It emphasizes that aspects of the adaptation can increase knowledge. In order to learn many cultures all over the world, the person should apply adaptation no matter it is difficult or not. Without adaptation as the form of the simple thing in social life, the person cannot expand their education based on the aspect of sociological approach. It can be said that the application of the adaptation
is the most important thing in order to expand their knowledge aim to develop the values of humanity.

Based on the reasons above the writer will observe Ryan Murphy’s movie by using sociological approach. So the writer constructs the title **ELIZABETH GILBERT’S ADAPTATION WITH MANY CULTURES IN EAT, PRAY, LOVE MOVIE (2010) BY RYAN MURPHY: A SOCIOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

The writer wants to present previous research dealing with *Eat, Pray, Love* movie analysis. The first researcher is Angriani (*USU, 2011*). She conducted a research entitled *An Analysis of Searching True Identity in Elizabeth Gilbert Novel Eat Pray Love.* Her research focused on major character of the self finding after divorced. She tried to search true identity when traveled in Italy, India, and Bali.

The second researcher is Widyanti (*UMS, 2012*). She conducted a research entitled *India as Source of Spirituality in Eat, Pray, Love Movie Directed by Ryan Murphy (2010): A Sociological Approach.* She aimed to show India as source of spirituality in *Eat, Pray, Love* movie directed by Ryan Murphy (2010) using Sociological Approach. It is done by establishing two objectives: the first is analyzing the movie based on its structural elements and the second is analyzing India as source of spirituality in *Eat Pray Love* movie based on sociological approach.
The third researcher is Mulatsiwi (UMS, 2010). She conducted a research entitled *Finding Happiness Reflected in Eat Pray Love Movie Directed by Ryan Murphy: A Psychoanalytic Approach*. She described the urgency of issue happiness that is reflected in that movie by the character and characterization of the major character, and also setting of this movie. This movie focuses on the major character where Liz Gilbert is a writer and world traveler to find her happiness.

The fourth research is Azizah (UMS, 2010). She conducted a research entitled *Ways To Get Happiness in Eat Pray Love Movie (2010): An Individual Psychological Approach*. Based on the analysis, the study reveals there are some ways to motivate Elizabeth Gilbert to get her true happiness that is never got in her life. Whereas, Liza was a very successful career woman and she was married. The writer is interested to research the major of the main character from the movie *Eat Pray Love* that is Elizabeth Gilbert.

This research is different from the previous research. The researcher will analyze adaptation in many cultures in *Eat, Pray, Love* movie. Here the researcher uses Sociological Approach.

C. Problem Statement

Concerning the idea which has been explained in the previous background of the study, the problem statement of this study: “How is Elizabeth Gilbert defining adaptation with many cultures reflected in *Eat, Pray, Love* movie?”
D. Limitation of the Study

The writer focuses this research in analyzing Elizabeth Gilbert’s adaptation with many cultures in *Eat, Pray, Love* movie by Ryan Murphy based on sociological approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze Ryan Murphy’s *Eat, Pray, Love* movie based on the structural elements of the movie.

2. To describe Elizabeth Gilbert’s adaptation with many cultures in *Eat, Pray, Love* movie by Ryan Murphy based on sociological approach.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits of the study are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

   The study is hoped to give a new contribution and information to the larger body of knowledge, particularly the literary studies on Ryan Murphy movie.

2. Practical Benefit

   The study is hoped to enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and another students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another Universities who have interest with literary study on the movie from Sociological Approach.
G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

In this research, the writer uses a qualitative research. It this library research while data source are using literary data. It purposes to analyze the movie using psychoanalytic perspective. The steps to conduct this research are (1) determining the type of the study, (2) determining the object of the study, (3) determining type of the data and the data source, (4) determining technique of data collection, and (5) determining technique of data analysis.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is Eat, Pray, Love movie directed by Ryan Murphy and publishing by Sony Pictures in 2010. It is analyzed by using sociological approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

There are two data sources that are needed to do this research.

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source of the study is Eat, Pray, Love movie directed by Ryan Murphy from Sony Pictures and the script movie written by Ryan Murphy and Jennifer Salt.

b. Secondary Data Source

The secondary data sources are books and other sources that support the analysis.
4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The technique of data collection is library research, the steps are:
   
   a. Watching the movie several times.
   
   b. Reading the movie script.
   
   c. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
   
   d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary data.
   
   e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
   
   f. Taking notes from the material and some other resources related to the movie.

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

   The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with the structural elements of the movie and sociological approach.

H. **Paper Organization**

   The research paper organization of “Elizabeth Gilbert’s Adaptation with many Cultures in Eat, Pray, Love Movie by Ryan Murphy: A Sociological Approach” is as follows: Chapter I is Introduction; it consists of Background of the Study, Literature Review, Problem Statement, Limitation of the Study, Objective of the Study, Benefits of the Study, Research Method, and Paper Organization. Chapter II is Theoretical Approach; it consists of Sociology of Literature, The Major Principles of Sociology of Literature, Theory on Social adaptation,
Structural Elements of the Movie, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is social background and cultures in Italy, India, and Bali which covers social aspects, political aspects, economic aspects, science and technology, cultural aspects, and religious aspects, and the life of director. Chapter IV is Structural Analysis of *Eat, Pray, Love* movie; (1) The Structural Elements of Eat, Pray, Love movie; it consists of Narrative Elements of the Movie, Character and Characterization, Setting, Plot, Point of View, Theme, Technical Elements of the Movie, Casting, Mise-en-Scene, Lighting, Cinematography, Sound, and Editing; (2) Discussion. Chapter V is Sociological Analysis of Eat, Pray, Love movie. It consists of the social aspect, political aspect, economic aspect, science and technology, cultural aspect, and religious aspect. Chapter VI is Conclusion and Suggestion.