CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In this thesis, the researcher uses the term superwoman as an issue. Superwoman is a term used to describe a woman who performs all the duties typically associated with several different full time roles, such as wage earner, graduate student, mother and wife. In the fiction world, superwoman also means that a woman with more than human powers.

Shirley Conran, author of the original Superwoman in the 1980s, described superwoman as a woman who do it all, to have it all (Nicolson, 2002:7). According to Nicolson (2002:13) Superwomen gained prominence in the late 20th century and, despite efforts to demolish her influence, she remains the icon of the 21st century Western woman. Women have always been expecter (and expected themselves) to cope with a great deal, to manage and support their lives of their lives of their families (Nicolson, 2002:13).

Taken from Eastern Kentucky University’s Womensstudies website, Feminism is a multi-disciplinary approach to sex and gender equality understood through social theories and political activism. Historically, feminism has evolved
from the critical examination of inequality between the sexes to a more nuanced focus on the social and performative constructions of gender and equality. Feminist theory now aims to interrogate gender inequalities and to effect change in areas where gender and sexuality politics create power imbalances. Intellectual and academic discussion of these inequalities allows women to go into the world aware of injustices and to work toward changing unhealthy gender dynamics in any scenario.

_The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo_ is a 2011 English-language thriller film directed by David Fincher, written by Steven Zaillian from the Swedish novel of the same name by Stieg Larsson. The film stars Daniel Craig as Mikael Blomkvist and Rooney Mara as Lisbeth Salander and tells the story of a man's mission to find out what has happened to a girl who has been missing for 40 years, and who may have been murdered.

In summary of the movie, Mikael Blomkvist (Daniel Craig), co-owner of Swedish "Millennium" magazine, has just lost a libel case brought against him by crooked businessman Hans-Erik Wennerström. Meanwhile, Lisbeth Salander (Rooney Mara), a researcher and computer hacker, has compiled an extensive background check on Blomkvist for a job that Swedish magnate, Henrik Vanger (Christopher Plummer) wants him to perform. In exchange for damning information about Wennerström, Blomkvist agrees to investigate the disappearance and possible murder of Henrik's grandniece, Harriet, 40 years ago. While hunting for clues,
Blomkvist uncovers a notebook filled with information that may help explain Harriet's disappearance.

Salander, who is under state legal guardianship due to diagnosed mental incompetency, is appointed a new guardian, lawyer Nils Bjurman (Yorick van Wageningen). He takes control of Salander's finances and rapes her. She stuns him with a taser, blackmails him, and regains control of her life.

Blomkvist hires Salander to further investigate the notebook's content, and she uncovers a connection to a series of murders that occurred from the late 1940s to the mid 1960s. During further investigation, Salander and Blomkvist become lovers. Henrik's brother Harald (Per Myrberg) identifies Martin, Harriet's brother (Stellan Skarsgård), as a possible suspect. Meanwhile, Salander makes increasingly revealing connections between Harriet's disappearance and the entire Vanger dynasty. As more connections are made about the Vanger family, Blomkvist deduces that Harriet is still alive, living under a false identity to hide from Martin. Blomkvist confronts Harriet, who describes the generations of abuse within the Vanger family and Martin's knowledge of her involvement in her father's death. Finally free of her brother, thanks to Salander and Blomkvist, Harriet returns to Sweden and tearfully reunites with Henrik.

As promised, Henrik gives Blomkvist the information on Wennerström, but it is not helpful. Salander responds by hacking Wennerström's computer and presenting
Blomkvist with the necessary incriminating information about his activities. This evidence vindicates "Millennium" and destroys Wennerström.

Salander also hacks into Wennerström's bank accounts and transfers two billion euros into her own accounts. During this time, Wennerström is murdered. On her way to give Blomkvist a Christmas present, Salander sees Blomkvist and his longtime lover and business partner Erika Berger (Robin Wright) walking together happily. Heartbroken, she throws the gift away and rides off on her motorcycle.

The movie itself is directed by Davi Fincher. David Andrew Leo Fincher (born August 28, 1962) is an American film and music video director who is known for his dark and stylish thrillers, such as Seven (1995), The Game (1997), Fight Club (1999), Panic Room (2002), and Zodiac (2007). Fincher received Academy Award nominations for Best Director for his 2008 film The Curious Case of Benjamin Button and his 2010 film The Social Network, which also won him the Golden Globe and the BAFTA for Best Director. His most recent film is 2011's The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, an English-language adaptation of Stieg Larsson's novel of the same name.

Fincher was born on August 28, 1962 in Denver, Colorado, the son of Claire Mae (née Boettcher), a mental health nurse who worked in drug addiction programs, and Howard Kelly Fincher, who worked as a bureau chief for Life under the name Jack Fincher. When Fincher was two years old, the family moved to San Anselmo in
Marin County, California. Fincher moved to Ashland, Oregon in his teens, where he graduated from Ashland High School. Inspired by *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, Fincher began making movies at age eight with an 8 mm camera. Fincher eschewed the film school route, getting a job loading cameras and doing other hands-on work for John Korty’s Korty Films. He was later hired by Industrial Light & Magic in 1983, where he worked on productions for *Twice Upon a Time, Star Wars: Episode VI – Return of the Jedi*, and *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. In 1984, he left ILM to direct a commercial for the American Cancer Society, that would show a fetus smoking a cigarette. This quickly brought Fincher to the attention of producers in Los Angeles and he was given the chance to direct the documentary *The Beat of the Live Drum* featuring Rick Springfield in 1985. Though he would continue to direct spots for companies like Revlon, Converse, Nike, Pepsi, Sony, and Levi's, Fincher soon discovered music videos and went on to direct many promos.

There are four reasons why the researcher interested to study *The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo* movie. The first reason is the movie has a good cinematography. Either from setting picture, visual effect, sounds editing, or another aspect supporting in this movie.

The second reason, the movie has a good plot. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* is a thriller movie and the plot makes audiences always guessing about what would happen next. The movie also has a plot twist.
The third reason, the movie has good critics. Many movie critics acclaimed David Fincher’s work on this film. Fincher can manage to build on the original film without copying it, reinventing it or ignoring it.

The fourth reason, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* gives an education about women. The main character on this film is an independent woman with high intellegency but often ignored because of her dark lifestyle. She proved that society should not judge people by their outer appereances.

The researcher uses feminist theory as an approach to analyze *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie, because the main character reflected the power of woman which is a good phenomenon to analyze using feminist approach. This movie also shows gender equality between men and women. So, from the illustration above, the writer give title, **SUPERWOMAN REFLECTED IN DAVID FINCHER’S THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO MOVIE (2011): A FEMINIST APPROACH.**

**B. Literature Review**

There is no previous study on *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie, at least in university in central java. So that the writer cannot compare this research with other research because this is the first study of *The Girl with the Dragon Tatoo* movie. The writer uses Feminist Approach to analyze the data and using of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie as an object. The writer analyzes **SUPERWOMAN**
REFLECTED IN DAVID FINCHER’S THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO MOVIE (2011): A FEMINIST APPROACH.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the background of the research formulates the problem in this study follow “How is superwoman reflected in David Fincher’s The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo movie (2011)?”

D. Objectives of the Study

1. To analyze superwoman reflected in David Fincher’s The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo movie (2011) based on the structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze superwoman reflected in David Fincher’s The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo movie (2011) based on the feminist approach.

E. Limitation of the Study

To focus on the study, the researcher needs to limit the study. The writer is going to analyze Lisbeth Salander’s character in The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo movie directed by David Fincher by using feminist approach.

F. Benefits of the Study

The benefits expected from this study is, as follows:
1. **Theoretical Benefit**

   The result of this research can enrich the body knowledge related to the research on *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* Movie and also give contribution of the development of literary studies in UMS especially for English Department.

2. **Practical Benefit**

   This research can be additional references to other researchers who want to analyze *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* Movie, especially those are interested in the study of feminist approach.

G. **Research Method**

1. **Type of the Study**

   In this research, the researcher applies qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. Its purpose is to analyze using feminist approach. The steps to conduct the research are as follows: (1) determining the type of the study, (2) determining the object of the study, (3) determining data and data source, (4) determining technique of data collection, and finally (5) determining technique of data analysis.

2. **Object of the Study**

   The object of the study is *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by David Fincher and was first premiered in 2011 by Columbia Pictures.
3. **Type of the Data and the Data Source**

   There are two types of data, namely primarily and secondary data, as follows:
   
   a. **Primary Data**: the primary data source is the movie of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* produced by Columbia Pictures.
   
   b. **Secondary Data**: the secondary data sources are books or any information related to the superwoman that support the feminist approach.

4. **Technique of the Data Collection**

   The techniques of data collection are as follows:
   
   a. Watching the movie repeatedly
   
   b. Taking notes of important parts both primary and secondary data
   
   c. Arranging the data into several groups based on its theoretical category
   
   d. Selecting particular parts considered important and relevant for analysis
   
   e. Drawing conclusion and formulate its pedagogical suggestion

5. **Technique of the Data Analysis**

   In analyzing the data, the writer applies a descriptive approach. The steps taken by the writer in analyzing the data are as follows: the first is analyzing the data based on its structural elements. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the movie. The second step is analyzing the data based on feminist perspective. Focus will be paid on the meaning of superwoman.
H. Research Paper Organization

This research paper consists of six chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which contains the background of the study, previous studies, problem of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. Second chapter is underlying theory. The third chapter deals with social background of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie. Fourth chapter deals with the structural analysis of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie. Analysis and discussion of *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* movie is presented in fifth chapter. Finally, the sixth chapter consist conclusion and suggestion.