

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

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

Nowadays the existence of self identity is one of important things for someone to show their own characters, power and to survive in many conditions. In development era there are so many influences and movement which is changing people personality and gender originality. At this time gender are able to show the equivalence, view, differences, patterns and other behaviors. So in order to hold the self existence and gender originality, people must prove their own power self such as woman with their feminine side and man with their masculinity. In our life feminity and masculinity are formed by the culture in some people environments. Feminity and masculinity are usually associated in certain cultures. It relates with the ideal role which is represented of masculinity and feminity it self. Each role should be obtained to maintain the predicate to be masculine or feminine.

People's views about the masculine and feminine eventually become a standard to realize the establishment of the division in their respective roles, and then it will influence people to behave according to the role they want. In a case such as when a man wants to be masculine, they will do things that are associated with masculinity. Most men think masculinity is derived from the physical form which they must accentuate the athletic body, his gallantry and good-looking face. Actually masculinity is not only coming from that point of

view, but more likely in the role of responsibility of the man himself in action as well as they can face their problems, power to survive and do many good things. According to MacKinnon (1987: 36) men's psychology defines most sports, their needs define auto and health insurance coverage, their socially designed biographies define workplace expectations and successful career paths, their perspectives and concerns define quality in scholarship, their experiences and obsessions define merit, their objectification of life defines art, their military service defines citizenship, their presence defines family, their inability to get along with each other defines history, their image defines God, and their genitals define sex.

Phoenix (2010) said that masculinity is traditionally considered to be characteristic of a man, it is the trait of behaving in ways considered typical for a man. So, masculinity can be a form representation of tough, strong and macho man, strong which not only physically but also in terms of strong inner self. In this case masculinity include of strength, independence, action, responsibility, courage in making decision and etc. That masculinity concept actually can make the masculine man more become meaningful in their society life. Therefore the men have to develop these things to be masculine and realize the real masculinity concept. "Masculinity is not something given to you, but something you gain. And you gain it by winning small battles with honor" Mailer (1966: 201).

According to Lukes (1974), Power is measured also by the ability to implant in people's minds interests that are contrary to their own good. In

people lives human power comprise of mental power and physical power. These are visible powers. The third power called spiritual power is not to be seen. Scientific creations of the modern era are the outcome of the mental powers of the human beings. These creations are yet to come to it is optimum level and they are revised, updated and upgraded every day. It goes to prove that these creations have, in no way, decreased the importance of human power in any way. They have to some extent, reduced the drain on physical power of the human being. Human power refers to the human intelligence and human workforce. Quality of human power depends on various factors like education, literacy, skills and natural instincts. These qualities contained in major character of this movie. He explores his power such as his natural instincts, his mental and physical power to survive and proves that he can be a real superhero in Gotham city.

*The Dark Knight Rises* is a 2012 superhero film directed by Christopher Nolan, who co-wrote the screenplay with his brother Jonathan Nolan and the story with David S. Goyer. Featuring the DC Comics character Batman, the film is the final installment in Nolan's Batman film trilogy, and it is the sequel to *Batman Begins* (2005) and *The Dark Knight* (2008). Christian Bale reprises the lead role of Bruce Wayne/Batman, with a returning cast of his allies: Michael Caine as Alfred Pennyworth, Gary Oldman as James Gordon, and Morgan Freeman as Lucius Fox. The film introduces Selina Kyle (Anne Hathaway), a sly, morally ambiguous cat burglar, Robin Jhon Blake (Joseph Gordon Levitt) an orphaned police officer which and Bane (Tom

Hardy), a mercenary bent on destroying Gotham City. Drawn back into action by new threats facing the city, an older Bruce Wayne is forced to come out of retirement and become Batman once again.

This film tells about the last sequel of Batman trilogy after *The Dark Knight*. Eight years after Harvey Dent's death, the Dent Act grants the Gotham City Police Department powers which nearly eradicate organized crime. Feeling guilty for covering up Dent's crimes, Police Commissioner James Gordon writes a resignation speech confessing the truth, but decides not to use it. Batman has disappeared, with Bruce Wayne becoming a recluse. Cat burglar Selina Kyle obtains Bruce's fingerprints from his home, kidnaps a congressman, and then disappears. Selina hands Bruce's fingerprints to Phillip Stryver, an assistant to Bruce's business rival John Daggett, in hope of having her criminal record erased. Stryver double crosses Selina, but she uses the congressman's stolen phone to alert the police to their location. Gordon and the police arrive to find the congressman, then pursue Stryver's men into the sewers while Selina flees. A masked man called Bane captures Gordon. Gordon escapes and is found by John Blake, a once-orphaned patrol officer who has deduced Batman's true identity from their similar backgrounds. Gordon promotes Blake to detective, with Blake reporting directly to him.

Wayne Enterprises is unprofitable after Bruce discontinued his fusion reactor project when he learned that the core could be weaponized. Later, Bane attacks the Gotham Stock Exchange, using Bruce's fingerprints in a transaction that bankrupts Wayne. Alfred Pennyworth, concerned that Bruce

has not moved on from being Batman, reveals to him that Rachel Dawes has intended to marry Dent before she died, and resigned in an attempt to dissuade him. Fearing that Daggett, Bane's employer, would gain access to the reactor, Bruce asks board member Miranda Tate to take over his company. Bane kills Daggett later. After being promised the software to erase her criminal record, Kyle agrees to take Batman to Bane, but instead leads him into a trap. Bane appears and reveals that he intends to fulfill Ra's al Ghul's mission to destroy Gotham with the League of Shadows remnant. He delivers a crippling blow to Batman's back, and then takes him to a foreign, well-like prison where escape is virtually impossible. The inmates tell Bruce the story of Ra's al Ghul's child, born in the prison and cared for by a fellow prisoner before escaping, the only prisoner to have ever done so Bruce assumes the child to be Bane.

Meanwhile, Bane lures Gotham police underground and collapses the exits. He kills Mayor Anthony Garcia and forces an abducted physicist, Dr. Leonid Pavel, to convert the reactor core into a nuclear bomb before killing him. Bane uses the bomb to hold the city hostage and isolate Gotham from the world. Using Gordon's stolen speech, Bane reveals the cover-up of Dent's crimes and releases the prisoners of Blackgate Penitentiary, initiating a revolution. The wealthy and powerful have their property expropriated, are dragged from their homes, and given show trials presided over by Dr. Jonathan Crane, where any sentence means likely death.

After months of recovery and re-training, Bruce escapes from the prison and enlists Kyle, Blake, Tate, Gordon, and Lucius Fox to help stop the

bomb's detonation. While the police and Bane's force clash, Batman defeats Bane, but Tate intervenes and stabs Batman, revealing herself to be Talia al Ghul, Ra's al Ghul's child, who escaped the prison aided by her fellow prisoner, Bane. She plans to complete her father's work by detonating the bomb and destroying Gotham, but Gordon blocks her signal, preventing remote detonation; Talia leaves to find the bomb. Bane prepares to kill Batman, but Kyle kills Bane using the Batpod. Batman pursues Talia with the *The Bat*, an aircraft developed by Fox, to bring the bomb back to the reactor, where it can be stabilized. Talia's truck crashes, but she remotely destroys the reactor before dying. With no way to stop the detonation, Batman uses *The Bat* to haul the bomb over the bay, where it detonates.

In the aftermath, Batman is presumed dead and is honored as a hero. With Bruce also presumed dead, Wayne Manor is left to the city to become an orphanage, and Wayne's remaining estate is left to Alfred. Fox discovers that Bruce had fixed *The Bat*'s autopilot, and Gordon finds the *Bat-Signal* refurbished. While visiting Florence, Alfred witnesses Bruce and Selina together. Blake resigns from the police force and inherits the Batcave.

Christopher Jonathan James Nolan was born in London 30 July 1970, to a British father, who worked as an advertising copywriter, and an American mother, a flight attendant. As a dual citizen of the United Kingdom and the United States. Married with Emma Thomas in 1997, his girlfriend at UCL and long-time film producer. They have four children and reside in Los Angeles. He is a film director, screenwriter, and producer, who is well known for his

*The Dark Knight* trilogy (2005–2012), the science fiction/heist film *Inception* (2010), and the psychological thrillers *Memento* (2000), and *The Prestige* (2006). He has been described as one of the most accomplished and influential filmmakers of his generation. He spent his childhood in both London and Chicago. Nolan was educated at Haileybury and Imperial Service College, an independent school on Hertford Heath in Hertfordshire, and later read English literature at University College London (UCL).

He began making films at the age of seven using his father's Super 8 camera and his toy action figures. While living in Chicago, he made short films with film director Roko Belic. They collaborated on a surreal 8mm short, *Tarantella* (1989), which was shown on Image Union, an independent film and video showcase on the Public Broadcasting Service. He was also briefly affiliated with Dan Eldon's African charity projects in the early 1990s. Nolan began his professional film making career with a series of short films. *Larceny* (1996), a short he made in black-and-white with a restricted cast, crew and equipment in the space of a weekend, contained many traits later to be seen in his first feature. *Larceny* was funded by Nolan himself, but shot using the society's equipment. Then *Doodlebug* (1997), Nolan directed his first feature film, following, in 1998.

In 2000 As a result of the film's success, Newmarket Films optioned the script for Nolan's next film, *Memento*. *Memento* was subsequently mentioned by many critics as one of the best films of the decade (2000–2009). In 2005, Nolan co-wrote and directed *Batman Begins*. After Warner Bros.

Batman Begins was released on 15 June 2005 to acclaim and commercial success. The film revived the franchise, and heralded a trend of darker genre films, that either retold back-stories or rebooted them altogether. Batman Begins ranked as the eighth highest grossing film of 2005 in the United States and the ninth highest grossing worldwide. The film was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Cinematography and for three BAFTA awards.

Before returning to the Batman franchise, Nolan directed, co-wrote and produced *The Prestige* (2006). *The Prestige* is an adaptation of the Christopher Priest novel about two rival magicians in the 19th century. In late July 2006, the sequel to *Batman Begins* was officially confirmed as *The Dark Knight* (2008). Considered one of the best films of the 2000s and one of the best superhero films ever made, the film received highly positive reviews and set numerous records during its theatrical run. After the success of *The Dark Knight*, Warner Bros. contracted Nolan to a seven-figure deal to direct *Inception* (2010). Nolan directed, wrote and co-produced the film which was described as "a contemporary sci-fi actioner set within the architecture of the mind".

In 2012, Nolan directed his third and final Batman film *The Dark Knight Rises*. Nolan was initially hesitant about returning to the series, but agreed to come back after developing a story with his brother and Goyer that he felt would conclude the series on a satisfactory note. The film was released 20 July 2012 to critical acclaim, and like its predecessor, it performed extremely well at the box-office. During a midnight showing of the film at the

Century 16 cinema in Aurora, Colorado, a gunman opened fire inside the theater, killing 12 people and injuring 58 others. Nolan released a statement to the press expressing his condolences for the victims of what he described as a senseless tragedy. Despite the horrific tragedy surrounding the release of the film, *The Dark Knight Rises* became the thirteenth film to cross the \$1 billion mark, and Nolan the second film director to have two separate films doing so (the first being James Cameron with *Titanic* and *Avatar*).

Based on the story of movie above *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* has a lot of values that teach us something really important. There are four reasons that make researcher interested to analyze this movie. First, this film is phenomenal, and highly anticipated by Batman trilogy lovers and has the highest rating of the year 2012.

Second, this film has a special meaning, it has positive reactions and effects after watching it. People can know what is the 'real' hero is, what is the real sacrifice, the real loyalty and commitment from Batman as a superhero, his self devotion for Gotham city, about his believes, faith, the way he survive in a collapsed condition and could eventually bounce back. Audience can find out what the meaning of heroism so they can practice it in lives.

Third, investigating the meaning of masculinity and power, it is the key point to effort and provides the understanding of masculinity and power in many ways especially in today's life. So, the audience can understand the real

meaning of masculinity and power in all of point of views, and they are not misleading.

Four, the present researcher as a student in Department of English Education of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta from Teacher and Training Faculty. This study is necessary to add insight and insert more knowledge to her professional competence as teacher later. And to complete the thesis as the requirement of graduation program.

Learning from the figure that has stated on that story above, the researcher finds the reason that is to study *Batman the Dark Knight Rises movie* by using psychoanalytic approach. Here masculinity and power occurs when the main character, Bruce Wayne must fight against him self and also for his life, for the existence of Batman as a superhero, and also for the things he believe in, when he must take the right decision for the survival of Gotham city, he sacrificed everything for the sustainability of Gotham city while he was also plagued by internal problems that made him have to hide and lock himself in his house. Until one day he has to get out from his exile, because the instigation of his influential people and there are too many events out there involved him and forced him to reveal himself again, he must continue to fight the inner and the decision usually of selfishness among people who continue to support and leave. And he has to defend the existence of the forceful, strong and masculine Batman as a hero who always needed by Gotham city where the city was become chaotic and unorganized. *The Dark Knight Rises* movie has a masculinity and power in main character, the psychoanalytic approach

by Sigmund Freud is suitable in analyzing this film through the major character.

The approach will discuss about *Id*, *ego* and *superego* of the major characters, such the analysis of identity from the major character, also masculinity and power which is shown in major characters.

In this research paper, the researcher is encouraged to entitle the research as the following “**Masculinity and Power Reflected in Christopher Nolan’s *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* Movie (2012): A Psychoanalytic Approach**”

## **B. Literature Review**

There is no previous study on *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie at least in university in central java. So that the researcher cannot compare this research with other research because this is the first study of *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie. The researcher uses a psychoanalytic approach to analyze the data and using of *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie as an object. The writer analyzes *Masculinity and Power Reflected in Christopher Nolan’s Batman The Dark Knight Rises Movie (2012) : A Psychoanalytic Approach*

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the reason in the Background of the study, the resesarcher proposes the problem statement as follows, how are masculinity and power reflected in Christopher Nolan’s *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie (2012) ?

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

In this research, the researcher limits the object with focuses on major character in *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie by Christopher Nolan's on 2012, based on an Psychoanalytic Approach.

#### **E. Objective of the Study**

According to the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To analyze *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie based on its structural elements.
2. To analyze masculinity and power in *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* by using a psychoanalytic approach.

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

The researcher expects this research to be useful for other by deciding the benefits of study into two, they are as follows:

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

To give some contributions to larger body of knowledge or the development of knowledge particularly the literary studies on Christopher Nolan's *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie.

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

The study is expected to enrich the knowledge and experience of writer and other students at UMS or other universities which are interested with literary studies.

## **G. Research Method**

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

In this study the writer applies a descriptive qualitative research. The data sources are library and literary data. The writer analyzes the data by using individual psychoanalytic approach. The steps to conduct the research are the following 1). Determining the type of the data, 2). Determining the object of the study, 3). Determining data and data sources, 4). Determining technique of the data collection, and finally 5). Determining technique of data analysis.

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

The object of this study is *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* movie by Christopher Nolan and was produced in 2012 by Warner Bros Pictures and released on July 16 2012 in United States.

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

There are two types of data, called primary and secondary data, as follows:

#### **a. Primary Data**

The primary data source is the movie of *Batman The Dark Knight Rises* produced by Warner Bros Pictures.

#### **b. Secondary Data**

The secondary data sources are books or any information related to masculinity and power in man or human.

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

The techniques of data collection are as follows:

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

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

In analyzing the data, the researcher applies a descriptive approach. The steps taken by the writer in analyzing the data are as follows: firstly, analyzing the data based on its structural elements. Focus will be paid on the structural analysis of the movie. The second step is analyzing data based on individual psychoanalytic approach.

### **H. Research Paper Organization**

The research paper organization of *“Masculinity and Power Reflected in Christopher Nolan’s Batman The Dark Knight Rises Movie (2012): A Psychoanalytic Approach”* consists of five chapters which are presented as follows: Chapter I is introduction of the research that includes the background of the study, previous study, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, and research method, and paper organization. Chapter II

presents the underlying theory consisting of the notion of Psychoanalytic, System of Personality, masculinity and power. Chapter III is the structural elements of the movie by describing character and characterization, setting, a point of view, plot, theme and style of the movie and a brief discussion. Chapter IV is Psychoanalytic analysis dealing with the problems in the movie. Chapter V contains conclusion and suggestion.