

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Film is one of the literary works that is currently developing very rapidly. Film is a literary work because it is a form of modern drama. According to (Indriani et al., 2019) that films provide treats in the form of text containing images that display photos with the illusion of motion and action in real life. Film is a mass communication media with a presentation method is in the form of a series of pictures taken from a moving object showing a scene or series of movement events that occur continuously with its function as a medium of entertainment, education, and lighting. Film is also a form of literary work that emphasizes deep character development related to emotional themes that can attract the attention of the audience. One of the hallmarks of the romance genre is that it involves emotionally realistic stories and relationships. The story line usually deals with solving difficult relationships. Wyatt (2004) this is in accordance with the film *Message in a bottle* which is about the discovery of true love and the relationship between Theresa and Garrett.

Movies have enormous power to have a psychological impact. The strength of film lies in its suggestive power because basically films are created based on the realities of society and the environment. This is in accordance with the strength of films in representing life so that they are able to contain cultural values of society, without us realizing that after watching a film there will be an impression that is embedded in everyone's memory. This impression will be deposited from within the person concerned, because it is deep enough to eventually affect the pattern or attitude.

A film can tell us about a life, either about love, social, culture, politics, economics and science the film that the writer analyzes, namely *Messages in a bottle*, by way of the film there is a link in the aspects of life that are told in an attractive audio-visual language in accordance with the nature of film work as a medium of entertainment, information, promotion and a means of means expressing the emotions of the audience. Some films tell

about love that is able to make people interested in watching. One of them is a film entitled *Message in a Bottle* which was inspired by a novel by Nicholas Sparks and made a film by Luis Mandoki. Sometimes a person may find the joy of life is in loving someone. Love can be an important emotion that people are bound to experience. Not only that, love can also be expressed through songs, poetry, or stories such as in this research which will be discussed later.

Film *Message in a bottle* opens with the scene of Theresa jogging in the morning finding a message in a bottle by the beach with English dialog displaying. *Message in a Bottle* is a 1999 American romantic drama film directed by Luis Mandoki and produced by Kevin Costner, Denise Di Novi, and Jim Wilson. Based on the inspiration for the novel of the same name by Nicholas Sparks in 1998, this film stars Kevin Costner, Robin Wright, and Paul Newman. *Message in a Bottle* was filmed in Maine, Chicago and Wilmington, North Carolina.

This film involves Theresa, who plays the main character who is divorced from her husband and becomes a single parent to a twelve-year-old son. Early Theresa found a message in a bottle near the beach during his vacation when she was going for a morning jog. She read the message carefully and was the most touching cry. The author of the message is Garrett. He expressed his deep love for the dead Catherine. For Theresa, she had to be vigilant enough to build relationships with other men because her husband had already left her. Challenged by his intense curiosity, she tried to find a real writer. Starting from the same hope of finding a mate, Theresa and Garret finally get to know each other well, but Theresa doesn't reveal the love letters she found to Garret

The conflict begins when they argue, Garret finds a letter for Catrine in Theresa's apartment. For Garret, it is a private matter and should not be known, let alone published. Garret was very angry with Theresa and didn't want to hear the explanation from Theresa that night, finally Garret went home alone. Tragically this story ends in grief because Garrett died while sailing. He helps people who are caught in the storm and the waves of the sea. His voyage was affected by his disappointment with Theresa. However, he has written a

letter specifically addressed to Theresa in his letter he expresses his love and apologizes to Catherine that he loves Theresa.

This film is very interesting to watch, especially young people because the storyline is good and very touching. Indeed, the stories in *Message in a bottle* are mostly about sad romance but behind the stories implies some deep motivation for people to stay strong and continue to live life no matter how difficult life is. Many of the phenomena of heartbreak that lead to suicidal thoughts or behavior are one of the moral values that can be taken from this film.

Theresa was very careful in opening her heart especially to getting to know other men, but did not diminish her intention to love Garrett because of the strength of her love. Here there is a psychological effect on divorced women as we know that previously Theresa had experienced failure in a relationship. Zhang, (2020), widows have a higher average level of traumatic sadness, depression and anxiety symptoms (compared to with a widower). Not infrequently a woman usually looks for other activities to get over her problem. That's how to lighten the burden so as not to drown in sadness. However, it is possible for those who want to reconnect like the character Theresa.

Here the figure of Theresa is depicted with the features of a single parent who is strong, sincere and has a strong love power, because actually a person's character is influenced by psychology. Like the Oxford English dictionary, which defines emotion as any action or upheaval of thought, lustful feelings of every great and overwhelming mental state. Meanwhile, by Chaplin in the *Dictionary of Psychology* defines emotion as an aroused state of an organism that includes conscious changes, so deep is the nature of behavior change.

Theresa is shown the main character who is quite contrasting, seen in terms of the physical, action and background of the character who is the reference in this study using psychoanalytic approach which includes visualization aspects in the depiction of Theresa's character in the film. This researcher will examine with a qualitative descriptive technique with a psychoanalytic approach. Researchers also used Sigmund Freud's personality theory, namely dividing the form of personality into three kinds of

psychological qualities, namely: Id, Ego and Super-Ego. Basically psychoanalytic pays attention to the psychological (Septiadi, Hidayat Nur. Andayani. Wardani, n.d.) elements of the characters in the film work. The human aspect in this work can reveal a personality based on the behavior of a character who can become a picture in humans.

Zhang (2020) explains that a work of art in terms of psychoanalysis is a manifestation of conflict without the artist being aware of his childhood experiences or the work he produces. Interest in drama and other works such as films arises from the fact that in the story there is a kind of self-reflection, because of the feelings or passion that is raised so that a person will be able to identify himself more deeply. Basically, psychoanalytic gives attention to the psychological elements of the fictional character in his film. So that the human aspect in this work can reveal the personality of the character's behavior which can be a picture of guidance in humans.

Researchers are interested in the film *Message in a bottle* because it has its own features, this film teaches us to respect life and keep people who respect us and keep doing our best, this is what motivates researchers to analyze more deeply the depiction of Theresa's character traits and the researcher chose to use a psychoanalytic approach which according to him could explain and represent the characters of these characters, not only that the researcher will analyze the meaning of true love which is depicted in the film *Message in a bottle*.

In this study the researchers were interested in discussing a bottle, because here the bottle is the main reason in this study because only one bottle can make two people love each other. This study uses the same research object as previous researchers, but of course there are differences in it. If the previous research only analyzed the character and moral values, in this study, it analyzes the meaning of Theresa's true love based on a psychoanalytic approach. Research using a psychoanalytic approach is generally applied to analyze drama works included in the film *Message in a bottle* this research discusses human personality. The psychoanalytic approach to literary works is an alternative study that is relevant to the case that occurs in this film, because the story that is highlighted is a case of love about the meaning of loyalty to a partner and the power of love in finding true love for the features of the

character Theresa Therefore, the researcher raised the title: THE MEANING OF TRUE LOVE AS SEEN IN THERESA, THE MAIN CHARACTER IN FILM *MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE* DIRECTED BY LUIS MANDOKI (1999)

## **B. Problem Statement**

The research problem can be formulated as follows:

1. How is the depiction of Theresa's character viewed from the psychoanalytic approach in the film *Message in a bottle*?
2. What are the features of true love as seen Theresa in the film *Message in a bottle*?
3. How is true love illustrated in the film?

## **C. The Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of this research is to find out

1. To describe the character Theresa in terms of a psychoanalytic approach.
2. To identify the features of true love as seen in Theresa in film *Message in a bottle*.
3. To describe true love which is illustrated in the film.

## **D. Benefits of the Research**

1. Theoretical Benefits

Theoretically, this research is useful to provide broader insights to art connoisseurs, especially on how to analyze characters using a psychoanalytic approach.

2. Practical Benefits

Practically this research is used so that the authors can create an even better work in order to broaden the knowledge of art connoisseurs.