

# CHAPTER ONE

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background of Study

Literature is a kind of art, usually written which offers pleasure and illumination. Literature is also composition that tells us stories, dramatize situations, express emotions, and analyze advocate ideas. Klarer (2004: 1) said that in most of cases, literature is referred to as the entirety of written expression, with the restriction that not every written document can be categorized as literature in the more exact sense the word. Literature may be classified into some genres.

According to Devitt A.J. (2004:64) Genres do not make texts, people do. Genres influence actions, but in the end, people make the actions that comprise genres. Genres interact with other genres in sets, and users employ genre repertoires in ways that create communities. Genre also reflects, constructs, and reinforces the values, epistemology, and power relationships of the groups from which it is developed and for which it functions.

There are several classic major genres of literature, they are fiction, comedy, drama, horror, romantic, tragedy, mythology, fantasy and many others. Each of genre also has their own sub-genre, one of them is fantasy.

Jackson (1981: 1), states :

Fantasy, both in literature and out of it, is an enormous and seductive subject. Literary fantasies have appeared to be free from many of the conventions and restraints of more realistic texts. Fantasy is a form of literary genre in which a plot cannot occur in the real world. Its plot usually involves witchcraft or magic taking place on an undiscovered planet of an unknown world.

As already mentioned above, that fantasy is one of the genre which the plot usually involves certain things related to magic and witchcraft. Besides, in fantasy they are divided into several subgenres. According to New York Times (2017) *The Mortal instruments: City of Bones* is the first urban fantasy subgenre book of author Cassandra Clare's *New York Times* bestselling series *The Mortal*. The novel is set in modern day New York City. It was published on March 27<sup>th</sup> 2017, this novel became a best-selling novel, and it ranked at number 8 on the New York Times Best Seller list. This book tells the story of a fifteen years old girl named Clary, who heads out to the Pandemonium Club in New York City, she hardly expects to witness a murder. Much less a murder committed by three teenagers called as shadowhunter, covered with odd markings. This is Clary's first meeting with the shadowhunters, warriors dedicated to ridding the earth of demons and keeping the odd werewolves and vampires in line.

According to Clare (2007), Clary's life becomes more populous and more amazing than she had ever imagined, the city where she lives may look normal, but who would have thought that the emerald square of Central Park was the venue where the faerie courts met on mid-summer evenings, where the vampires danced the nights away at Pandemonium Club, and there the alleys of Chinatown down which the werewolves slunk at night and of course there walked warlocks inside of the New York City. Inside the novel, fantasy aspect is really influenced the story such as the characters, plot, setting and also theme.

In this research paper, the writer analyzes Urban Fantasy, one of the sub-genre of Fantasy. According to John Clute and John Grant in their book *Encyclopedia of Fantasy* (1997), Urban Fantasy is a city (place), a city may be an icon or a

geography. A city may be seen from afar and is generally seen clear, it tells from within and from the perspective of characters acting out their roles, it may be difficult to determine the extent and nature of the surrounding reality. Urban Fantasy is normally text where fantasy and the mundane (human) world intersect and interweave throughout a tale which is significantly about a real city. This sub-genre consisting supernatural or magical elements, different with other fantasy genres, urban fantasy normally set in real world rather than imaginary locations. But the general principle still holds that the city of an urban fantasy may be located in a secondary world.

One of the reasons the writer chooses this novel as the object research is because the writer wants to find out about the elements of urban fantasy such as characters, setting and plot. Besides, urban fantasy often interchangeable with other fantasy sub-genre terms such as paranormal fantasy, because both of these sub-genres are set in the real world and involved supernatural elements. Since urban fantasy seems like the result of the hybridity of sub-genre fantasy. The subgenre that UF is most often entangled with (and can often be commercially categorised with casual reciprocity) is paranormal romance (PR). Loosely defined, PR is romantic fiction that features supernatural elements. An extended definition offered by Joseph Crawford (2014) is that PR is any 'work that tells the story of the development and consummation of a positive, loving, romantic relationship between a human and a vampire (or other supernatural creature), but there are several typical elements that only exist in urban fantasy such as cities, female protagonist, secret supernatural underworld, hidden passageways, interference from human institution such as police, modern weaponry. And UF does often

contain elements of PR, yet the focus of the narrative is the hero's journey. Although relationships are a contributing factor, the resolution does not require a romantic ending.

So this is important to discuss this to know that there are several typical elements that only exist in this subgenre so we can distinguish to other sub-genres. Consider as some things interesting to be discussed. That is why the title of this research paper is *An Analysis of Urban Fantasy Fiction in Novel The Mortal Instruments : City of Bones* by Cassandra Clare. To analyze it, the writer uses genre study approach and the theory of narrative structure by Todorov. This research wants to reveal what are the urban fantasy elements inside, because this kind of subgenre is often interchangeable to other fantasy genres.

## **1.2 Research Question**

Based on the background of the study, the writer formulated the research problem as: What are the Urban Fantasy elements seen in novel *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones* by Cassandra Clare ?

## **1.3 Research Objective**

Considering the formulation of the problem above, the objective of the research is to elucidate the result of the Urban Fantasy elements in novel *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones* By Cassandra Clare, so the writer could reveal several elements of this subgenre.

## **1.4 The Use of Study**

To conduct this research, the writer will cover two uses of the study which are theoretical uses and practical uses.

### **1.4.1 Theoretical Uses**

It can give contribution such as the information towards this novel to the readers, society and others about. To help and give the information about genre study of a literary work to the reader who analyzed the same object but different approach or different object but the same approach to analyze literary work.

### **1.4.2 Practical Uses**

The research could be beneficial not only for the writer but also for the reader who interested in genre study and conduct the research. The writer aims to make this research could be considered as other references for another researchers. So other readers will not interchangeable between urban fantasy genre to other fantasy genres.

## **1.5 Scope of the Study**

In this research, the writer focuses on finding out the elements of the Urban Fantasy in the novel written by Cassandra Clare entitles "*The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*", by looking deeper into the structure of the story which are setting, characters and plot. To support this analysis the writer uses the genre study approach and Todorov's narrative structure theory.