

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Previous Study

In conducting research, previous studies are needed to help the writer do the research. Thus, some previous studies with the same object or topic are chosen as guidance for the researcher. The purposes are to have more insights about the research and to inform that the study is the newest or updated one. Meanwhile, relevant theories help writer to analyze the story in order to answer the formulated researcher question.

2.1.1 The Historical Epic Film: Visualizing Reality through Crowds, Culture, and Counter History

Lachs (2006) in this study focused on the types of epic film. The following this thesis investigates the circumstances of the historical film epic with regard to history and the masses. Modernism, historicism, and cultural theory provide the theoretical foundation with which the essay navigates epic ideology and visual aesthetic. The historical epic, therefore must be the point of departure for analyses contingent on visual representations of history via the multitudes. This analysis compels focus towards several critical theories. First, historicism, a rationalist approach to creating and modifying popular history, will clarify filmic conceptions of historical deception. This research contributes to give more of epic film on the same approach and theories applies, especially Popular literature and Epic study theory.

2.1.2 Popular Fiction: Some Theoretical Perspectives

M.T Maheboob (2018) in this thesis focused of popular fiction as popular literature. Popular fiction as Popular literature has always been the integral part of human life. The researcher will use popular literature theory because, this thesis includes those writings intended for the aspects of human culture. Popular literature is the literature which is written for a wide range of people. This thesis also includes of any form of literature, such as, poetry, novel, and written with the

sense of popularity. Thus, fiction is a very important aspect of popular literature. This study really helps the writer find popular literature theory in the Avenger: Infinity War and Avenger: Endgame which are related to the historical film affected by the epic study and popular literature in the research.

2.1.3 Paradise Lost and the Epic Genre

Wilson (2007) in this research focuses on the meaning of epic genre in film and poem. Paradise lost is great protestant epic poem in English. The beginning with the romantics, tradition from was constructed as somehow limiting the freedom of the poet to express their inner truth. This thesis applies Genre study theory. The findings show that Wilson has explained the epic film of difference in poem. This research contributes to give more of epic genre on the same approach and theories applies, especially Epic genre theory.

2.1.4 The Epic of Gilgamesh: Thoughts on genres and meaning

George (2007) in his research focuses of thoughts on genre and meaning. The epic of Gilgamesh is a case in point. This research discuss about the study of genre, is well established as a literary-critical tool, even to the extent of having its usefulness and validity questioned, a sure sign of maturity. This research contributes assyriologists are ware that the academic study of literature has steadily developed an array of other critical methods, many of which have not been much utilized in discussing the literature of ancient Mesopotamia. This research contributes to give more of epic film on the same approach and theories applies, especially Epic study theory.

2.1.5 Popular Culture, Public Pedagogy and Perspective Transformation: The Avengers and Adult Learning in Living Rooms

Robin, Jeniffer (2009) the purpose of this research was to investigate the impact of popular culture, especially prime-time television, on women viewer's identity development. More specially, this thesis explores one television, as a form of public pedagogy, it can help facilitate the formation of critical or feminist identity among adult learner viewers. This research

collected over a half year period and consisted of interview with contemporaneous viewers of the Cathy Gale Avengers episodes; interviews with scriptwriter and with Honor Blackman. This study shows the power of learning experience found in the space between viewers and their television set. This research contributes to give more of popular literature on film on the same approach and theories applies, especially Popular literature.

2.2. Popular Literature

Popular literature includes those writings intended for the masses and those that find favor with large audiences. It can be distinguished from artistic literature in that is designed primarily to entertain. Literature it does the right things that are intensive for the masses for the people a large number of people and achieved by their demands of the readers. The idea of popular literature derives from its root *popular*, belonging to the “people,” and according to Williams, popular literature as opposed to high canonical literature. Definition of popular according to Radway (1984), it “does not seek a high degree of formal beauty or refinement or subtlety and thus its disapproved by the highbrows or the scholars as something with low literary merit and they categorize popular literature as the opposite of literary”. The notion of popular literature according to Cawelty (1976) is correlated with the tern formula. He stated “*All cultural products contain a mixture of two types of elements: conventions and inventions*” (Cawelty, 1976, p. 384). He adds that formulas in popular literature are meant as plots and conventions related to culture. Formula as a plot in popular literature has a uniform or the same form. The popular literature then also produces different types of fictions or films based on their convention and invention. They are, for example, romance film, science film, detective film, fantasy film, horror film, western film, and many others.

Genre study is a structuralist method of studying genre and genre theory in literary theory, film theory and other cultural theories. To study a genre is the way is to examine the structural theories. To study a genre is the way is to examine the structural elements that come tighter when telling story, and to find patterns in the collection of stories. (Villarejo, 2006) noted that “*Genre serves both as a category of production (whereby individuals or production companies*

embark upon the self-conscious making of a romantic comedy or an historical epic) and as a description of practices of reception according to generic conventions and expectations”.

Genre study in literature is structuralist method of studying genre and genre theory in literary theory, film theory, and other cultural theories. To study a genre in this way is to examine the structural elements that come together when telling a story, and to find patterns in the collect of the stories. Genre have some categories such as: literary genre criticism, movie genres, images, narrative, formats, characters, and actors.

2.1 Film Genre

Film genre is movie style or subject categories based on similarities in narrative elements, aesthetic methods, or emotional responses to movie. A lot of literary genre criticism theories are borrowed. Film genres are usually described of conventions, images, scenes, narrative, characters, and actors. (Altman, 1987) stated that that film genre has been understood to cover multiple aspects of film production, texts and reception. It will be used based on tone, theme or topic, mood, format, and target audience or budget. Altman also adds These characteristics are most obvious in genre films. This film is commercial feature films that tell familiar stories with familiar characters and familiar scenes trough repetition and change. The type of film affects will use of film production style and technology, such as the use of flashback and low-key lighting in noir films; tight framing in horror films; or rough log fonts that look like Western film titles. In addition, the genre is related to movie soundtrack conventions, such as the lush string orchestra of romantic melodramas or the electronic music of science fiction of films. Film genre is not fixed, they change and evolve over time, and certain genres may disappear to large extent for example: melodrama. Genre not only refers to the type of film or its categories, but the audience’s expectations of the movie and the institutional discourse to create a common structure also play a key role. Altman (199, p. 33) also noted that “*genre, a term designating films of a common type, provides an easy inroad to costuming: we can think easily of a cowboy’s look as he rides into town in a western, or of a spaceship officer’s garb as she sits before a flashing control board in a science fiction film*”.

The type of film will use for film production styles and techniques, such as the use of flashback and low-key lighting in film horror Western film (1995). Meanwhile, genres also have related for film scoring conventions, such as lush string orchestras in romantic melodramas or electronic music in science fiction movies. This genre also affects how movies are played on TV, how they are advertised, and how they organized in video rental stores. The characteristic of a particular genre is most obvious in genre film. It is a commercial features film that tells familiar stories with the characters and scenes through repetition and change.

Film genre can also be classified to have the characteristics in setting, theme, target audience, budget, felling, and type of mood and production of marketing.

- Setting is the environment include of time and locat ion of film to present the story and action to take a video or some of photos.
- Theme, or topic refers to the concept of the film revolves around; for example, the science-fiction film, sport film, and crime film.
- Target audience is the type of characteristic to make genre film, so target audience are children film, teen film, and women's film.
- Production by the type of characteristic, include of the blockbuster, independent film and low budget film such as commercial film and noncommercial film.

Genre study in film will also gather from the synopsis of film. Synopsis is a summary of a story or a shortened form of a script that still pays attention to its intrinsic elements such as characters and characterization, plot, message, style of language, etc. In the synopsis, the beauty of figurative language, illustration, and explanations is removed but still retains the content and general idea of the author.

A movie synopsis or film synopsis is usually around one page long. Along with providing all the relevant plot and story information, it's really intended to be a document that "sells" the project. A movie synopsis will often be seen or heads by studio executive, talent of actors, managers, or actors who considering if they should go in on making the

film. Synopsis is generally used as a prologue in a script, either a short or long script for drama, film, and stage theater performance (William, 2020).

2.2 Epic Film Genre

This study focuses on finding the convention and invention in epic film genre. Skerry (1986) stated that “*epic film is style of filmmaking with large-scale sweeping scope and spectacle the usage of the term has shifted over time*”. There some consideration will be formulated as convention for epic film genre. Sometimes designating a film genre and at other times simply synonymous was big-budget filmmaking like epics in the classical literary sense. It is often focused on heroic character and epics ambitious nature helps to set it apart from other type of film such as: the period peace or adventure film epic historical films would usually take a historical or mythic event and add an extravagant setting and lavish costumes accompanied by an expansive musical score with an ensemble cast which would make them among.

Other findings (Grant, 1995) that can be considered as convention in epic film genre are stated as follows. In classical literature epics are considered works focused on deeds or journey of heroes upon which the fate of a large number of people depend similarly films described as epic typically take a historical character or mythic Eroica.

The figure common subjects of epics are royalty to great military leaders or leading personalities from various periods in world history however, there are some films described as epic almost solely on the basis of their enormous scope and the sweeping panorama of their settings such as how the West was won or East of Eden that do not have the typical substance of classical epics but are directed in an epic style when described as epic because of content an epic movie.

2.3 Film Theory

This study uses film theory, film theory is a way of breaking down movies and television. According to The Routledge Encyclopedia of film theory, film theory is “... a set of scholarly approaches within the academic discipline of cinema studies that question the essentialism of

cinema and provides conceptual frameworks for understanding film's relationship to reality, to other arts, individual viewers, and society at large."

In this study of films, the analysis will use the Stuart Hall theory, namely the representation theory.

2.6.1 Representation

Representation is a form of words, pictures, sequences, stories and images so on that represent ideas, emotions, facts and so on. Representation has a dependence on signs as well as exiting images and culturally understood. According to Stuart Hall (1997:15) representation is a production the concept of meaning in the mind trough language. This is the relationship between concepts and language that describe objects, people, or even the events reality into fictional objects, people, or events. Representation can explain as we use language in using or convey something meaningful to others. According to Stuart Hall (1997:15), meaning is constructed by the system representations and their meanings are produced through a language system that the phenomenon does not only occur through verbal expressions, but also visually. Representation systems are not only structured rather that individual concepts, but also entered through the concept of organization, infiltration and complex relationship.

There are three approaches to explaining how to present meaning through language, namely reflection, intentional, and constructive (Hall, 1997:13). Reflection approach that explains about meaning that to understood and that meaning can be used to deceive objects, people, ideas, or events in real life. In this view can also be understood as a mirror.

Mirror that can reflect the meaning of everything from a simple reflection So, this approach explain that language works as a simple reflection about the truth that exists in normal life according to life normative (Hall, 1997:13).

2.6.2 Constructive Approach

Constructive Approach is almost that individuals build meaning through concepts and sings- we deliver our claim implications to objects through our claim dialect. Constructive approach believes that representation is an actual thing of what is being represented, the values of the people that construct the representation, reaction of the reader of viewer, and the social context in the society where the representation takes place. This study uses the theory of construction

representation that is based on images to emphasize the process of constructing meaning through spoken language used. In this approach, language and used of language cannot be give meaning to each, but must be faced with things others to give rise to an interpretation. Social construction is built through social actors who use the concept system of language and culture combined with other representation systems (Hall, 1997:35). In this construction there are two approaches according to Stuart Hall, such as the discursive approach and the semiotic approach.

From these two things, this study will use the meaning of pictures in the film and then arrange the meanings. The meaning is then associated with the theory of epic genre films. The results of the study are to see whether the meaning found is the same or there is a new meaning.

