

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Movie is one of media that tend to be complex because it contains several elements, such as art and technology; therefore, to make film is not easy work because it should need bright creativity. One of cinema maker that has been acknowledged the creativity is Hollywood (Kindem, 2000). It is the cinema industry that exists in America becoming as a denominator to other cinema in the world, because they know what the audiences want to see from their work while maintaining the artistic side and the quality of the cultivation so there are so many people in the world enjoy it (Adi, 2000: 100). Practically, Hollywood has been able to create the function of a symbol in conveying ideas like the figure of a hero who is depicted with various characteristics both its appearances and traits.

In general, Hero defined as a person who is admired or idealized for courage, outstanding achievements, or noble qualities. However, there is more than one hero archetype. There are many futures that used by film writers as hero such as Hercules, Batman, Superman, Spiderman and etc. All of them are characters that take strong influence to the plot. In addition, most films begin the life journey of the Heroes from zero to hero, which they find first their challenges then finally getting after life in the end of the story. However, there are also some writers create a tragedy to character as Hero. This tragedy is a form of drama, or novel based on human suffering that invokes in its audience an accompanying catharsis or pleasure in the viewing (Bigsby, 1982: 163).

Tragedy of life that depicted to character in story can raise strong emotions from audiences. The idea of tragic hero as introduced by Aristotle is a person who evokes a sense of pity and

fear in the audience (Aristotle, 1974:42). It means that tragic hero is tragic situation which happened to a certain hero who got misjudged by people because of the misfortune or the error that the hero has done while doing their heroic actions. Character that mentioned as Hero in story dominantly comes from royal or aristocratic family but sometimes it can exist first from lower class. Each of them has different experiences in childhood that form them to be a Hero. Heroes do not always make right decision in their life and they also do not always acceptable for others, so they struggle to make people accept them.

Furthermore, Aristotle, who elaborated on his very general ideas about the character, only says that seeing a prosperous person fall is a good source of pathos, and that it's more pathetic to see a not entirely bad person suffer due to a mistake than to see wholly good people suffer for reasons beyond their control (Aristotle, 1974: 67). The falls of Heroes who generally come from great men were to defend their selfishness, resulting in the suffering of the innocent. For example as Aristotle's favorite tragedy, Oedipus the King is a perfect example of tragic hero, as he has hubris such that he is blind to the truth. This hubris is one of his basic ideas as tragic hero meant that a person who has excessive pride and disrespect for natural order of things (Aristotle, 1974, 67).

In this research, the writer was interested to do analysis of tragic hero in film *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, because there is something that highly criticized by people about ideology of Hero from the two main characters that are Batman and Superman proving how world view the real Hero. Batman and Superman as superhero display their differences in ideologies and whose methods are the most humane and effective as heroes. In addition, the strength of character motivation in that story very touchable, which pushing strong emotions from audiences as like giving characters conscious and unconscious motivation. *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* is an American superhero film distributed by Warner Brothers,

directed by Zack Snyder, and written by Chris Terrio and David S. Goyer. This film is the next episode of Man of Steel. It was released March 25, 2016 in the form of 2d, 3d, and IMAX 3D (Rouse, 2017).

The story begins with a retelling of Batman's origin, named Bruce Wayne as the main character of the story. He left the performance with his parents, Martha and Thomas Wayne's pearls drop, and he became an orphan. Then, after the funeral, Bruce fell into a cave nearby his house and encountered bats. Thus, he became Batman. Eighteen months after the destructive battle in Metropolis, Superman who has become a controversial figure. Bruce, who has covertly operated in Gotham city as vigilante Batman for nearly two decades, blamed Superman for casualties that resulted from his fight with General Zod. Superman, in his public identity as Daily Planet Journalist, Clark Kent, saw Batman as dangerous and need to expose him. On the other hand, Lex Luthor who was psychopath saw also Superman as a threat and convinces Senator June Finch to help him recover kryptonite from Zod's failed terraforming attempt from Indian Ocean, which Superman wanted to destroy Luthor's plan in creating his biological weapon. This condition was worsen by a scheme set by Luthor with exploded bomb that kill many people who attend at a congressional hearing, as Finch questions Superman on the validity of his actions. At the end, the clashes between Superman against Batman could not be avoided that cause the death of Superman.

This movie explores what it means to be a hero, which some characters form themselves to be called as a Hero with different ways, like Superman becomes a hero when he chooses to put himself in harm's way to protect the world even though he knows he will die. Superman is one of example character as tragic hero, because he found misery from his life like facing death. As stated by Aristotle (1974: 82) that there are six main characteristic of tragic hero such as Hamartia, Hubris, peripeteia, Anagnorisis, Nemesis, and Catharsis (1974: 76). The concept of

theory proposed by Aristotle is very relevant to analyze the research problem that would be formulated by the writer.

1.2 Research Question

Regarding to background of the study above, the writer formulated research question into:
What are the characteristics of tragic hero depicted in *Batman v Superman of Dawn of Justice*?

1.3 Research Objective

This study purposed to describe the characteristics of tragic hero depicted in the movie of *Batman v Superman of Dawn of Justice*.

1.4 Uses of the study

The results of this research were expected to be beneficial for learners that divided into two major uses, namely theoretically and practically.

1.4.1 Theoretical Uses

Theoretically, this research can be used as the future reference by new researchers who want to conduct similar research and also this study can contribute significant information especially in the field of literature dealing with analyzing characters mentioned as tragic hero that portrayed in film.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

Practically, this research would be useful for other students who also study literature especially in analyzing tragic hero through film then it can help readers to understand the characteristic of tragic hero and in what view a character can be said as hero in any literary works.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The writer narrowed the discussion only to analyze the characteristic of tragic hero depicted in film *Batman v Superman :Dawn of Justice*. The writer focused to the main character of the film that faced tragedy, which is Superman, because the controversial conflict that makes the film evokes a pity of fear comes fully from Superman. The genre of this film is packaged as impressive as possible, like collaboration of action, adventure and Sci-Fi made the plot complicated. This movie is the second film in the DC Extended Universe, following on from 2013'd Man of Steel also directed by Zack Snyder, released in the United States on March 25, 2016.