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The Comparison of Characters, Setting and Characterization Analysis Between Novel and Film of Paper Towns (A Study of Comparative Literature)

Aniek Rizka, R. Myrna Nur Sakinah, Arief Luqman English

Department, Faculty of Letter, Al-Ghifari University

Pojokhati12juni@gmail.com

ABSTRAK

Artikel ini mengkaji perbandingan antara film dan novel *Paper Towns* karya John Green. Baik dalam novel maupun film memiliki dua unsur yaitu unsur intrinsik dan unsur ekstrinsik. Dalam artikel ini, peneliti memfokuskan pada unsur intrinsik yaitu karakter-karakter, penokohan, dan setting. Perbandingan antara versi novel dan film *Paper Towns*. Metode yang digunakan peneliti adalah metode kualitatif. Peneliti menggunakan novel aslinya dalam bahasa Inggris, serta menonton filmnya di Netflix. Untuk menyertakan tabel-tabel dan gambar-gambar berupa cuplikan adegan dari film *Paper Towns*. Teori yang digunakan adalah buku *Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction* oleh Susan Bassnett. Tokoh-tokoh dalam novel itu bermacam-macam, ketika menjadi film banyak dari karakter-karakter tersebut yang menghilang. Biasanya karakter yang tidak digunakan dalam film adalah karakter yang tidak berdampak pada alur cerita. Setting dalam novel disajikan dengan cara yang lebih kompleks dan detail dibandingkan dengan di film. Penokohan dalam novel juga kompleks, namun bukan berarti setelah menjadi sebuah film penokohan yang sudah ada dalam novel berubah.

Kata kunci: *Comparative Literature*, novel, film, *Paper Towns*

ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the comparison between film and novel of *Paper Towns* by John Green. In both novels and films, has two elements, namely the intrinsic element and the extrinsic element. In this thesis, the researcher focuses on the intrinsic elements, there are in characters, characterization, and setting. The comparison between novel

and the film version of Paper Towns. The method used by researchers is a qualitative method. Researchers used the original novel in English, as well as watched the film on Netflix. To include a table in the form of snippets of scenes from Paper Towns film. The theory used is the book *Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction* by Susan Bassnett. The characters in the novel are diverse, when the novel become a film, many of these characters disappear. Usually the characters that are not used in the film are characters that do not have an impact on the threads of the story. The setting in the novel is presented in a more complex and detailed manner than in the film. The characterization in the novel is also complex, but it does not mean that after being a film the characterization that is already in the novel changes.

Keywords: *comparative literature*, novel, film, *Paper Towns*

Introduction

Matthew Arnold in Inaugural Lecture at Oxford in 1857 said that everywhere there is connection and illustration. No single event, no single literature except in relation to other literatures (Bassnett, 1993: 1).

Therefore, that is possible to discuss literature with various other types of literature, including discussing literature with other different media but still have a literary value, such as film.

According to Sapardi Joko Damono literature is not limited to paper and writing only, but can also be enjoyed in the form of live picture or it called film (2012: 85). It can be

concluded that the film is one form of literature, and can be concluded that the film is one form of literature.

Therefore, a novel comparison analysis with the film adaptation of the novel can be done and not a violation to review the comparison between literary works despite the existence of different media.

From Paper Towns novel there are major and minor characters. The major characters are Quentin Jacobson his nick name is Q, Margo Roth Spiegelman her nick name is Margo, Ben Starling, Marcus his nick name is Radar, Lacey Pemberton. And the minor character are Detective Otis Warren, Quentin's parents,

Spiegelman's family, and classmates also teacher. While in the film, there are some characters that are not raised because not all scenes in the novel appeared in the film then resulted in some scenes that some characters are not raised. Second, There are different settings, it is place, between novel and film adaptation. Third, moreover the characterization, apparently different acts of some characters in the film will have an impact on the different enough to make the characterization of each character becomes very different.

The purpose of this paper is a study of comparative literature; to find out comparison of characters, setting, and characterization analysis between novel and film of Paper Towns.

Theoretical Foundation

The researcher writes some theories related to object from main data source, that is Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction by Susan Bassnett research related to become the theoretical basis of the issues to be raised is about the comparative

literature. Which is about the comparison between novels with the film based on the novel. There is something interesting for the first time Bassnett talks about Comparative Literature. We can read about this in Bassnett's book, Comparative Literature: A Critical Introduction.

There are sentences from the book.

“Bassnett said for the first time, terms of Comparative Literature appeared from France in 1816 taken from a series of anthologies for teaching literature entitled Cours de litterature comparee. In Germany, the term paired with the emerging vergleichende Literaturgeschichte in 1854. Meanwhile, the term emerged in England in 1848. In the beginning, the term refers to the effort to track the "influence" of a writer from a country or culture to other writers in other countries or cultures (Bassnett, 1993: 12).”

According it comparative literature is the science of new branches, by combining a science with another science. Two hundred years more, since the beginning of comparative literature has elapsed, the shifting scope of the meaning of comparative literature is widespread. Nowadays it not only refers to the difference between literature and translation, but

also different fields of science and media. One of which is comparative literature between novel and film.

As a supporter in explaining the problem to be discussed by the researcher using the second data is the theory from Kathleen Kuiper, the title is *Prose Literary Terms and Concepts*. It is to explain about character, setting, and characterization who researcher concern. According to Kathleen Kuiper without character it was once accepted that there could be no fiction (2012: 6). Without a character then a story will never exist. Each writer has a different idea to bring his or her character to life. The main character is usually highlighted by its unique or even ordinary, but the point of uniqueness is in the story about main character.

The setting of a novel is not always drawn from a real-life locale. The literary artist sometimes prides himself on his ability to create the totality of his fiction—the setting as well as the characters and their actions (Kathleen Kuiper, 2012: 9). However it all depends on the author. Many novels that have a place as a setting that is in

real life, but there are also used fictional places too.

Kathleen Kuiper in *Prose Literary Terms and Concept* said if the makeup and behaviour of fictional characters depend on their environment quite as much as on the personal dynamic with which their author endows them (2012: 8). In line with the definition, and then the author usually also uses the place setting to correlate with the required characterization. It also can be used to develop and strengthen each characterization will be. There are many characterization of each character could be born. The development of a character of person is closely related to his environment, with this the author develops the characteristics of each character that is raised.

Robert and Jacobs from *Literature: An Introduction To Reading And Writing* said there are five kinds of character in fiction), there are flat character, static character, dynamic character, stereotype character and round character (1989: 23). The theory from

Robert and Jacobs about intrinsic elements of novel will be very helpful for reseacher to explain what the reasearchers focused on.

This research about comparative literature between novel and film and its discussion on intrinsic content. The difference with this research is that

intrinsic content discussed only includes characters, setting, and characterization. And then, novel or film used for this research has never been studied. But to support this research the researcher needs some previous research in the same field. Here are some previously used scientific papers:

Table 2.3.1

No	Name of Resourcers	Title of Thesis	Discussion
1.	Muh. Kayyas (Makassar State University, in 2016)	Comparison Between Novel And Film "Divergent" (Ecranisation Theory)	Some of the things discussed are intrinsic elements between novel and film. There are theme, plot, 30 characters, setting, point of view. style and tone.
2.	Monica Harfiyani (State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, in 2014)	Comparative Analysis On Five Cerpen Works Dewi 'Dee' Lestari And Rectoverso Films And Implications In Learning Language And Sastra Indonesia In SMA	Some of the things discussed are theme, character and characterization, beginning and ending of plot between novel and film. Researchers discuss the importance of the literary analysis process by using two different media at once, which can develop students' language skills.

3.	Devi Shyviana Arry Yanti (Yogyakarta state university, 2016)	Ekranisasi Novel Ke Bentuk Film 99 Cahaya Di Langit Eropa Karya Hanum Salsabiela Dan Rangga Almahendra	Initially the researchers discussed comparative literature. Then the adaptation that occurs from a novel to a film. Such as shrinking, adding, varying changes that occur in the plot, characters, and settings that occur in the adaptation of a novel into a film.
4	Aniek Rizka, (Alghifari university, in 2020)	The Comparison Of Characters, Setting, And Characterization Analysis Between Novel And Film Of Paper Towns (A Study Of Comparative Literature)	Researchers discuss 23 characters, setting, and characterization of the novel. Then the discussion is followed by 23 characters, characterizations, and setting in films and comparing between novels and films.

What makes this research important is the importance of understanding what happens when a novel gets an adaptation from the novel, what has changed and why it has become something normal. Because usually the story in the film is another alternative to the story in the novel but with the

same character and story outline. So this is where the comparative literature is worth researching.

Methodology

The main of data resource is Paper Town. An English novel book version wrote by John Green released

in 2008. Researcher also used *Paper Town* film adaptation that was released in 2015 to compare the novel. John Green is teenager novels writer.

This research used qualitative method. Qualitative method is procedure that is used to describe data in the form of words written or spoken of the people or actors in the novel that can be observed (Glass & Hopkins, 1984:160). Based on the definition we can observe the literature using descriptive qualitative method. Moreover there are another theories state that qualitative methods also support for phenomenon in social and culture that has many correlations with literary research.

Analysis

The researcher paraphrased analysis 23 characters and characterizations from novel and film of Paper Towns. In the analysis section of the thesis explained the scenes in the novel and film, form of pages or screen capture in what minutes they occur.

The characters and characterizations analyzed are Quentin Jacobsen, Margo Roth Spiegelman, Benjamin Starling, Marcus, Angela, Lacey Pamberton, Jason Worthington, Becca Arrington, Chuck Parson, Q's Mother, Q's Father, Margo's Mother, Margo's Father, Ruthie Spiegelman, Detective Otis Warren, Robert Joyner, Gus, Mrs. Feldman, Cassie Hiney, Taddy Mac, Karin, Suzie Chung, and Craig.

The settings in the Paper Towns novel are vary. From the setting of place, time, and atmosphere.

Therefore, to analyze it has three types of settings. There are:

1. According to time: o'clock, day and date, time
2. According to place: convenience store, school, the characters' houses, name of several places
3. According to atmosphere: madness, fed up, sadness, regretness, hesitation

Conclusion

Based on the analysis there was found uses various types of characters, settings, and characterizations in the novel *Paper Towns*. Researchers also found a variety of similarities and

differences in the characters, settings, and characterizations in the film out of the novel; so that they can be compared between novels as original stories and films with different medium.

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