

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

The definition of literature in the Collins English Dictionary is written material such as poetry, novels, essays, etc., especially works of the imagination, characterized by a predominance of style and expression and by themes of general or enduring interest. In particular, literature is an imaginative work distinguished by excellence in style, term, and the subject standard or maintaining interest. It shapes poetry, novels, essays, and other written works. On the other hand, (Moody, 1962) says literature springs from a human's born love of telling a story and arranging words in a pleasing pattern to express some special aspect of human experience in terms. It is usually set down in printed characters for the reader to read, although some forms are performed on certain social occasions.

From time to time, literature is growing. We can see how many modern literary works have just developed in this century, such as those appearing in digital forms, such as films. Film, also known as a motion picture or movie, is a collection of still photos on film that are rapidly projected onto a screen using light in order to create the optical effect of continuous, seamless movement. (Andrew, Britannica.com:2022). Meanwhile novel is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended works of fiction written in prose (Abrams, 1999:190).

Now, watching films is a hobby for some people, and films are very popular with everyone. There are so many different genres of films available today. People from all over the world can also watch films from all famous parts of the world. Films are easily

accessible and affordable. The general public can watch it at the nearest cinema, buy or borrow it online through Netflix or other media streaming services, or both. Films are not just for entertaining the audience. It depends on what kind of genre they watch. The audience can laugh while watching comedy. Dramatic films have the power to make audiences cry. For audiences, film can also function as a marketing and educational tool. Films can be classified as either fantasy or non-fiction. (Britannica.com:2022) Although based on a true story or circumstance, fiction is a product of the author's mind and is not meant to be taken seriously. As for nonfiction, see Theodore A. Rees Cheney (2001). Non fiction uses facts to tell stories that are engaging and emotionally vibrant.

Many films were adapted from novels as they became more widely known, which helped the popularity of the novels that were allowed to be made into films. Linda Seger writes in *The Art of Adaptation: Turning Fact and Fiction into Film* that adaptation is a process of transition, change, or conversion from one medium to another (Seger 1992: 2). She no longer questioned the difference between the two mediums, text and film because, from the start, the two had different characters. So that when they are united or linked, it is sure that it will produce a change. However, although in the end, a new form or character will appear as a result of adaptation, it is hoped that the spirit of the original text will still be present in work.

Most people prefer to view a film adaptation more than a novel because they want to know the story quickly. Additionally, some think the novel and the movie are similar. Few individuals have vivid imaginations as a natural talent. It can be difficult for some readers to visualize the ideas the author attempts to convey in their work. As a result, some

people find that watching visuals and film interpretations of literature helps them understand.

George Bluestone, a pioneer of the study of adaptation, through his book "Novels into Film" (1957) said "The two ways of seeing" namely questioning the basic similarities and differences in seeing a film by reading a literary work, as well as the search for relations between the two media. (Bluestone, 1957: 1). And Bluestone also said "I have assumed, and attempted to demonstrate, that the two media are marked by such essentially different traits that they belong to separate artistic genera. Although novels and films of a certain kind do reveal a number of similarities... one finds the differentia more startling. More importantly, one fine difference is infinitely more problematic for the film-maker. These distinguishing traits follow primarily from the fact that novel is a linguistic medium, the film is essentially visual (Bluestone. 1957: vi)." Bluestone assumes and tries to show the basic characteristics that genetically distinguish novels from films. Novel is a linguistic medium, while film is a medium with a visual approach. Although there are some similarities between the two, in reality, the differences are much more striking. It is this difference that becomes a challenge for filmmakers to resolve.

In the process of *ekranisasi*, of course, it cannot be separated from how famous a novel is to be made into a film. Successful novels are often the starting point for the birth of hopes for successful films. Some famous films adapted from novels are Percy Jackson & the Olympian: The Sea of Monsters by Rick Riordan, The Fault in our Star by John Green, Twilight by Stephenie Meyer, Harry Potter by J.K Rowling, and The Mortal

Instruments City of Bones by Cassandra Clare. They are well-known films that have been successfully adapted from famous novels.

For instance, some film adaptations receive negative reviews from critics or a portion of their original source's fan group. Let's talk about The Davinci Code Novel by Dan Brown, this mystery thriller genre, has been controversial since its circulation in 2003 because it was considered against Christian values. But, even so, quite a lot of fans, as of 2009 alone, this book has sold up to 80 million copies worldwide. while the Ron Howard version (The Da Vinci Code film) was released in 2006, and became one of the highest-grossing films in 2006. Unfortunately, the film was considered bad by fans, because it was called not in accordance with the contents of the novel.

Where the Crawdads Sing is a bildungsroman novel wrapped in mystery by Delia Owens, which was first published in 2018 and was adapted from the novel into a film with the same title, filmed in 2022 and directed by Olivia Newman, Delia Owens wrote the novel Spanning 368 pages after the novel was adapted into a film with a duration of 125 minutes, where The Crawdads Sing tells the story of the journey and struggles of a young woman who tries to prove her innocence in the case of the death of a well-known young man in her city.

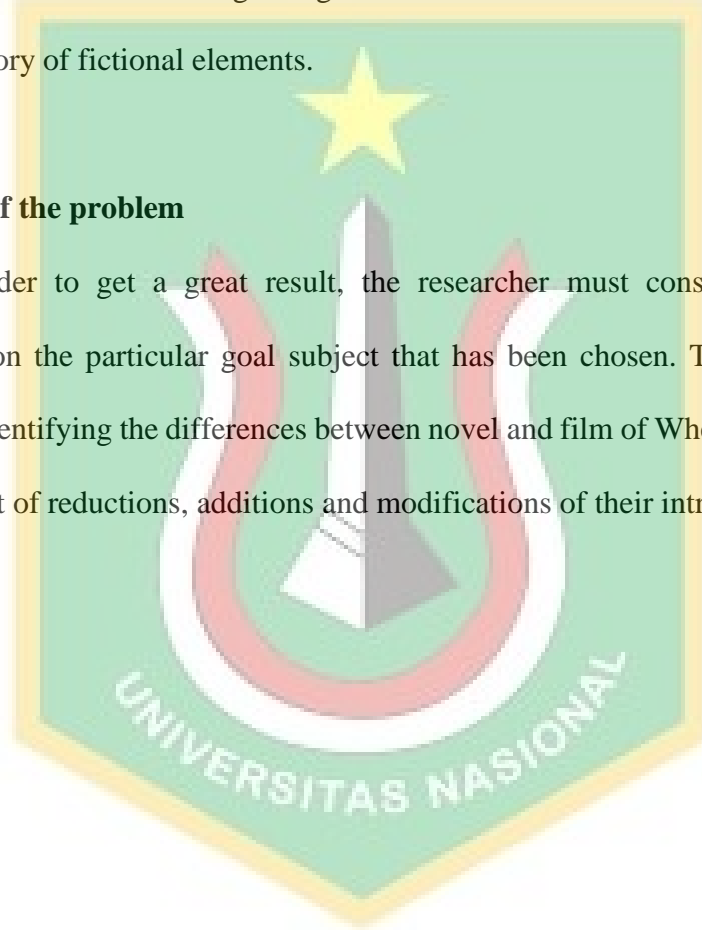
The story begins in August 1952 when six-year-old Kya sees her mother leaving her house. She never thought it would be the last time she would see her mother forever. Since childhood, Kya has often seen her father's violence against her mother and siblings. Little Kya, who was innocent, often received reprimands from his father when she defended her mother. Kya's brothers follow one by one, leaving her with her father in their house. One day, Kya manages to get her father to be lovely to her before finding a letter

sent by Kya's mother, then gets drunk again and leaves Kya alone. Running out of money to buy food, little Kya started collecting shells, then selling them to survive. Kya grows up to be a sensitive and brilliant girl, taking lessons from swamp life, moving away from civilization, and befriending seagulls.

The researcher wants to analyze the changing conditions between the novel and the film *Where the Crawdads Sing* using Pamusuk's *Eneste ekranisasi* theory and Robert Stanton's theory of fictional elements.

1.2 Limitation of the problem

In order to get a great result, the researcher must constrain the analysis to concentrate on the particular goal subject that has been chosen. The main goal of this research is identifying the differences between novel and film of *Where the crawdads sing*, which consist of reductions, additions and modifications of their intrinsic elements.



1.3 Research Question

1. How is the process of adapting the novel *Where the Crawdads Sing* into a film, in terms of plot, background, style and tone, and characters?
2. What is the difference between the novel and the film *Where the Crawdads Sing* in terms of plot, background, style and tone, and character?

1.4 Objective of the research

1. Describing how is the process of adaptation in the novel and the film of *Where the Crawdads Sing* in terms of plot, background, style and tone, and character.
2. Describing the differences between the novel and the film of *Where the Crawdads Sing* in terms of plot, background, style and tone, and character.

