

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

The fairy tale Snow White is a story that is very attached to children and young people in the world, especially for children as a bedtime story. The Snow White fairy tale itself is a fairy tale originating from Germany which was written in the early 19th century by two brothers, namely Jacob Grimm and Wilhelm Grimm, with the original title *Schneewittchen* and was published for the first time in 1812 as the first edition and became the famous collection "Grimms' Fairy Tales" or "Grimm's Household Tales".

This story was later made into a musical animated movie by Disney. Disney itself is the largest entertainment media company that was founded on October 16th, 1923, in Los Angeles, California, United States of America, and was founded by Walt Disney, and Roy Oliver Disney, with the name Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* released by Disney is an animated musical fantasy movie that premiered on December 21st, 1937 at the Carthay Circle Theater in Los Angeles, California and was directed by Perce Pearce, William Cottrell, Larry Morey, Wilfred Jackson, and Ben Sharpsteen. Although, at the beginning of the movie's release, Disney had doubts because it would release an animated movie with a long duration and used of new techniques, namely the use of color in Disney animated movie.

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs was chosen by Disney because of the universal appeal of the story, such as involving elements of conflict between good and evil and also characters that can be identified by various audiences. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* held the record for the highest-grossing animated musical movie at that time, which meant that this movie had to be released several times in cinemas. *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was finally released in 1990 on home video. This animated movie became one of the ten best box office movies with the highest grossing in North America and took first place. Meanwhile, at the Academy Awards the animated movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* was nominated for Best Musical Score in 1938 and the following year the producer of this animated movie received an honorary Oscar. The United States Library of Congress recognizes *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* as historically, culturally and aesthetically important and was selected as one of twenty-five movies held in the National Movie Registry. The American Institute also named it the best animated movie of all time in 2008 and one of the greatest American movies. The success of the *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* animation paved the way for other animated movies and became a pioneer for long-term animated movies.

In 2012 the fairy tale *Snow White* by Brother's Grimm was made a box office hit by Universal Pictures, directed by Rupert Sanders with the title *Snow White and the Huntsman*. This movie is acted by humans directly. Even though it was transformed from animation to box office, this movie still does not change the essence of the Snow White story. *Snow White and the*

Huntsman still tells the story of a girl who suffered. In a palace with her stepmother who is a witch, a poisoned apple, a magic mirror, Snow White who falls asleep after eating the apple and also involves the dwarves. However, there are parts that were removed or added to this movie.

At first glance, *Snow White and the Huntsman* is not much different from *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, but there are several very prominent differences in this movie. In this study, the researcher will only explain in outline. This story begins when a girl named Snow White suffers in a palace along with her stepmother. Snow White's stepmother herself was a queen and witch who was very powerful and very obsessed with beauty.

Every day her stepmother always asks who the most beautiful woman in the world is in her magic mirror. The magic mirror always answered that she was the prettiest, but when Snow White grew up the answer the magic mirror said was that Snow White was the most beautiful in the world. This answer made the witch angry and asked a huntsman from her kingdom to kill Snow White. It turned out that when he was about to kill Snow White, the huntsman didn't have the heart and told Snow White to run away into the forest. In this forest Snow White met the seven dwarfs. Snow White, who is very kind and gentle, makes the dwarves happy, because Snow White always cleans the house and cooks food for the dwarves.

Knowing that Snow White was not dead, the witch made a potion in the form of a poisoned apple to give to Snow White. The queen who discovered

Snow White's whereabouts in the forest finally turned into a grandmother and gave the apple to Snow White. When she bit the apple, Snow White immediately fell and became unconscious. However, not long after she made Snow White unconscious, the witch immediately got the reward she deserved. Snow White who never woke up made the dwarves sad. It was during the sadness of the dwarves that the prince came to give a kiss and woke Snow White from her long sleep.

In general, these two movies are the same, but there are differences in *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937)* and *Snow White and the Huntsman (2012)*. Researchers will examine these differences by comparing two movies to find differences and similarities in these two movies. This research will also highlight differences in character development, especially in the two animated movies *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs (1937)* and *Snow White and the Huntsman (2012)*.

This research uses a comparative literature or comparative study approach, which compares two or more literary works. According to Francois Jost's opinion in 1974, comparative literature focuses on the differences and similarities between two or more literary works. Comparative literature allows comparisons between two or more works, with the aim of drawing conclusions that these works may have influenced each other even in writing style. This research will review the differences and similarities between the two movies, so that a comparison of these two movies will be obtained.

Referring to the explanation above, the researcher is interested in examining the comparison of the storyline and depiction of the main characters in these two movies using comparative theory with the title ***“THE COMPARISON OF MAIN CHARACTER AND PLOT IN THE SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS (1937) AND SNOW WHITE AND THE HUNTSMAN (2012) MOVIE (COMPARATIVE LITERATURE APPROACH)”***

B. RESEARCH QUESTION

Based on the background described above, the research questions obtained are:

1. What are the differences and similarities of plot and main character in *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs 1937's* and *Snow White And The Huntsman 2012's*?
2. How is main character represented in two movies ?

C. RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

The specific objectives of this research are:

1. To analyze the differences and similarities of plot and main character in *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs 1937's* and *Snow White And The Huntsman 2012's*.
2. To analyze the main character representation in two movies.

D. RESEARCH SIGNIFICANCE

This research has several beneficial objectives, including:

a. Theoretical Benefit

Researchers hope that through this comparative literature research, it will enable students, especially English Literature, to compare literary works from various cross-cultural areas, so that they can open new insights and appreciate views of life and cultural differences, and also increase their self-confidence to learn more deeply about global culture.

b. Practical Benefit

a. Benefits for researchers

Based on this research, the researcher hopes to provide experiences and views in researching literary works, especially comparative literature. It is also hoped that this research can help other researchers to understand universal themes and ideas found in concepts in various literary contexts.

b. Benefits for readers

Research on literary works between the movies *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs (1937)* and *Snow White And The Huntsman (2012)* can be used as a reference along with previous research.

c. Benefits for other researchers

The results of this research not only provide understanding but also motivate other researchers to carry out the same research, namely by using comparative literary works.