

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

B.1 Theoretical Framework

In analyzing *CB* by Tim Burton, the writer needs theory which has relationship with the topic. In getting appropriate analysis of the movie and considering the topic, the writer uses sociology theory by Alan Swingewood.

B.1.1 Sociology of Literature

Sociology is the scientific study of society, the study of social institutions and of social processes, it tries to answer the question of how society is possible, how it works and why it persists. Through a careful examination of the social institutions, religious, economic, political and familial, which together constitute the dominant aspects of social structure, can acquire the knowledge of the ways in which man adapts to and is conditioned by particular environment of the mechanism of socialization, of the process of role allocation and performance. This aspect of sociology is in a sense related to the concept of social stability, the ways in which individuals come to accept the major social institutions as both necessary and right. But sociology is also concerned with the processes whereby society changes from one type of society to another. Social processes also refer to small scale internal changes, like the conflict

between groups, between classes or between individuals as regulated and governed by social institutions. Even more, Swingewood (1972: 11) suggests that sociology is essentially the scientific, objective study of man in society, the study of social institutions. It scrutinizes sociology is close related to ideology in society. This includes religion, marriage, education, politics, social change. Swingewood (1972:12) also states, "As with sociology, literature too is pre-eminently concerned with man's social world, his adaption to it, and his desire to change it".

As with sociology, literature too, is primarily concerned with man's social world, his adaptation to it, and his desire to change it. For example, particularly the novel being the major literary genre of industrial society, can be seen as an attempt to recreate the entire social world of man's relation with his family, with economic, political and all other institutions, his conflicts and aspirations, the tension between groups and classes. In other words, the literary works, like sociology, deals with the social, economic and political aspects of the society, but it achieves more than this objective scientific analysis of the external world. It penetrates the innermost recesses of social life and expresses the feeling and experiences of the common man and woman, projecting society as a mass of obvious emotions.

The previous statement means that sociology of literature is a method to analyze the literary work based on sociological perspective to understand social aspect and social phenomenon where a literary work appears. In this case, social phenomenon that exists in Tim Burton's *CB* is how the society in Victorian era measures happiness based on the reflection of the movie.

B.1.2 Basic Principle of Sociology of Literature

Literary works represent the mirror of society. In sociology, there are many concepts that live as a theory for the major principles in sociology theory which is introduced by Alan Swingewood. There are three approaches to handle the sociology of literature:

1. Literary work as a mirror to the age.

This approach deals with the time when the literary works are created and set. Swingewood (1972: 13) states that "literature as the mirror to age. It indicates that the readers can discuss the social phenomenon which happens to the society in a certain period and certain place through the literary work". It means that literary work reflects the situation and condition of social life in the society.

2. Literary work deals with the social situation of the author.

The author is influenced by the situation and condition where the literature is written because the author is also a member of the society.

Swingewood (1972: 17) argues that this approach deals with the social background of the author and how the author himself reacts and response to the system that has been built by the society where he has lived. In the literary work produced, the author is always inspired by the happening in his society. So the author should be more sensitive toward the social phenomena surround them. According to Swingewood (1972: 17), "The second approach to literary sociology moves away from the emphasis on the work of literature itself to the production side and especially to the social situation of the author".

3. Literary work is as the specific historical moment

This approach deals with the condition of society in a certain times in accepting and understanding a literary work. It reflects the essence, abridgment and summary of all history. Swingewood (1972: 21) states that, "The sociology of the readers attempts to trace the ways in which a work of literature is actually received by a particular society at specific historical moments. The work has special issues in the history which make it become an interesting work."

Based on the explanations above, the writer decide to use sociology theory by Alan Swingewood and apply the first perspective, because the subject of the research can be defined as the representation or the mirror of Victorian era. This decision is supported by other related researches with the similar subject and theory that the writer has.

B.1.3 Social Condition of Victorian Era

The British queen, Victoria, has given her name to the era between 1837 and 1901, the years of her reign, the longest of any British ruler. The Victorian era was a period of world as well as British history, for the queen ruled at a time when Britain had a vast global empire, including a quarter of the planet's population. It was a time of massive social change. Railroads were built across America and Europe, where many new industries developed. Britain led the way in manufacturing, earning the nickname the "workshop of the world". The growth of British industries drew vast numbers of people from the countryside to rapidly growing towns and cities. Between 1837 and 1901, the population doubled, from 18.5 to 37 million. By 1901, three quarters of British people lived in towns and cities.

The rapid growth of the industry provided better life to the society at that moment. However, there were social classes that are forcefully divided by the industrialization. There were upper class, middle class and lower class. The class division is based on money, the more money one has, the higher their rank. Since women were not rightful owners of any type of material property, the only way to acquire a respectable status in the society was entering a marriage with a man of high social rank. The upper class was by inheritance a Royal Class, it could be said that it belonged to aristocrat people. Middle class belonged to people who

owned and managed vast business empires. Those are different from lower class, the working class, the worst affected class in the Victorian times because the people worked with small amount of wages.

This difference in social classes could be distinguished by inequalities in wealth, education, working and living conditions. Thus, the basic quality of daily life for people in Victorian England rested on an underlying structure determined by social class and shaped by traditional ways of life in country, town, and city (Chrisp, 2005: 6). In addition, the classes lived in separate areas, Victorians believed that each class has its own standards and people were expected to conform to the roles of their class. Moreover, the industrial revolution marks fundamental transition of human life. It had a great effect and impact on society including; emergence of working class, in which a mass of workers migrated from agricultural regions to industrial towns, where they lived in new urban slums. The workers would do anything to make their living, including to work in the clothing business.

Clothing was transformed by factory production, and by new inventions such as the sewing machine. Cheap clothes could now be mass produced. The period saw the birth of a true fashion industry, with the first department stores, fashion magazines, and mail-order catalogs, allowing people living in other country to follow the latest European styles. Just as people have always done, the Victorians used clothes as a

type of language, sending signals to others about their class, status, and attitudes. In the Victorian age, the language of clothing was understood by everybody, who could instantly place someone's social position by their dress.

This can be implied that how people wear clothes also determine their social status. Even, in the definition above, it can be terminated that the upper class is the most prosperous class of all. Only some people that belong to this social class. Anthony Trollope in Walter L. Arnstein (2001) defined upper class exclusively in that, "any one would know what it meant." It implies that upper class is the most popular social classes. This proved that became upper class or aristocrat was prestige for some people.

In order to make someone became upper class status was complicated. They could not label themselves as upper class, but this labeling came from people around and the line of the family. One of the ways to gain it is by marriage. Unfortunately, women in this era generally did not have many rights, they saw marriage as means of social validation. They had no personal possessions and could acquire them only in rare cases; while they were unmarried everything was their father's property which was to be inherited only by male heirs after his death, and as soon as they got married, the dowry they bring into marriage became their

husband's (Simkin, 2015). Simkin also explains that women were subordinated to men in the nineteenth century.

According to Thompson (1988: 5), the situation of the married woman is the most representative of the middle class Victorian woman's life-style. Most middle class women spent their entire lives in their parental home till about age twenty-five and then in their own home until their death. However, Thompson (1988: 59) notes that the middle class family has been more stereotyped than researched and requires further investigation. Middle-class daughters were brought up to regard marriage and motherhood as their main purpose in life .

Thus, women were often forced to marry not the man they loved but rather a man whom they found to be more "agreeable" in all other aspects. They had few rights, which contributed to the rise of the women's rights and the suffrage movement because of the changes occurred in the nineteenth century when they gained some rights with regard to marriage. Those situation happened because of "the laws in Britain that were based on the idea that women would get married and that their husbands would take care of them" (Simkin, 2015).

Simkin also explains more detail: "Before the passing of the 1887 Married Woman's Property Act, when a woman got married she could not own property, even inherited property, and her wealth was automatically passed to her husband. If a woman worked after marriage,

her earnings also belonged to her husband". If one takes a closer look at the position of women, it is obvious that they were subordinated to men. The only role they were obliged to play was that of a wife and a mother, especially when it comes to women of the upper class. Since they did not have to work, their only duty was to give birth to their children and to obey their husband. This is only a reason more to believe that marriage was a means of social as well as financial security.

Besides for the financial security, the upper class and middle classes operated in highly structured and practical arrangements in their social rituals and codes of etiquette. The effective determination of marrying standards and their enforcement were substantially women's business. Women devised and organized the system of chaperoning, which was intended to channel young women's daughters' social contacts and marrying opportunities into clearly defined acceptable circles (Thompson, 1988: 103). In such controlled situations, factors such as property ownership, birth, common background, shared values and the interests of large and powerful families, as well as love and affection would enter into the marriage bond, because that was the object of the controls (Thompson, 1988: 109).

Those case is almost the same as the object of the research *CB* movie. In contrary, the male main character, Victor, he had to marry Victoria, a woman from upper class. In order to upgrade his social status.

Another example in the movie of the different social class marriage is the corpse bride, Emily, was supposed to marry a man from lower class, but she was murdered by him so that the man could take the dowry for himself. Inter-class marriage was not as easy as the marriage of the same social status. This requires an agreement from two sides of the different families.

B.2 Related Research

In order to make a legitimate research, reviewing previous related studies is necessary so that it can be shown that this research is not imitating another research which already exists. In this research, the writer wants to analyze the happiness concept in Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride* used sociology theory, so another supportive writings that the writer has, have the similar subject, concept, theory or at least it has related topic and issue with her research.

The first research is Dr. Steven Allen (2009) from University of Winchester entitled *Bringing the Dead to Life: Animation and the Horrific*. He had the same research object as the writer, *Corpse Bride*, but he compared it to *Monster House*. He focused on how a nostalgic display of genre conventions produces a surprising complement to the sophisticated animation techniques foregrounded in both films. He also analyzed an uncanny space is generated within which the two films

interrogate the fear of losing a loved one, and the possibility of overcoming that fear. He applied structuralism theory for his research.

The next related research which also has *Corpse Bride* movie as the object of the research is Marina Druzhinina (2009) from *Sigillum Universitatis Islandiae*. The title of the research which is done by her is *Social Criticism Gets Animated: Satire and Humor in Corpse Bride (2005)* by Timothy Burton. Her research discusses in details the issues about human society in general and Victorian culture in particular that are criticized in this movie. Some of these issues, like hierarchies and hierarchical thinking or monarchy surviving at the cost of arranged marriages with the representatives of the new class, are traditionally criticized matters. She revealed those analysis by applying Marxist theory for thus she can easily relate the covert subject matter of Burton's work to central Marxist themes, like, for example, the conflicts of class interest between the rising and the falling classes during the transition from feudalism to industrial capitalism.

Other review is on a thesis entitled *The Reflection of Racial Discrimination in Southern America During 1964* in Sue Monk Kidd's *The Secret Life of Bees*, written by Helsi Indriani (2010). In analyzing this novel, she uses sociological approach and she applies first perspective by Alan Swingewood. This thesis focuses on discrimination which faced by Southern America society in Law and she also discuss about the rights of

human which have unfair between black and white in law. In there she describes that in Southern America the people get unfair treatment in all of aspects especially in law and religion. Black people get discrimination from White people in law because they think that Black people have not the same position and the rights with White people. So Black people always get discrimination in Law and then they also get unfair treatment in religion like in the church. They separated between Black people and White people and the church also separated by them between White people and Black people, where White people have comfortable church and have good facilities than Black people.

Another thesis which uses the same theory is Jefri Pranata's *The Grover's Corner as reflection of Peterborough on early 1900's and as Anti Capitalist Concept in Thornton Wilder's Our Town* (2011). In analyzing this novel he also uses sociological approach and Marxist theory, in sociological approach he applies first perspective by Alan Swingewood. In analyzing this thesis he focus on condition of society at the time and he also addition some of the mind from the society about capitalist and the ways from their still not modernism yet. Where at the time so the all of people try to reject anti capitalist and if capitalist is rejected they find the happiness, where they can be live with helped another people, tolerated, greet, chat and many others. So, they try to rejected capitalist at the time to get happiness.

There is also a thesis which applies the same approach by Alan Swingewood is *The Portrait of Racial Discrimination toward African American People in Northern America Reflected in Toni Morrison's The Bluest Eye*. The research was conducted by Yossi Melta Arini from Andalas University, she compares and shows the correlation between the depiction Morrison made in the novel *The Bluest Eye* and the reality in Northern America in 1940s. The main issue of the novel is the racial discrimination suffered by the black people. Although it happens to all of Black people in general, she focuses on some of characters, Pecola. She focuses her analysis on racial discrimination into three aspects, they are discrimination in social life, in education and in economy.

The next related research about sociological approach is entitled *Social And Moral Responsibility in Eric Till's Luther Movie (2003): A Sociological Approach* by Hanif Setiawan (2011). His analysis tells about how social and moral responsibility is reflected in Eric Till's *Luther* by correlating its structural elements and social historical background of German in sixteenth century. That is why he applied the first perspective of Alan Swingewood's sociology theory. His result of the study are as Eric Till's *Luther* reflects social condition occurred in sixteenth century of German. Then, Eric Till's depicts social and moral responsibility that creates in *Luther*. It is also about *Luther* is Eric Till's satire and criticism

toward unbalance situation and condition that can be found in character's characterization, narration and dialogue.

The following research about sociological approach by Alan Swingwood and his first perspective is Logic Versus Magic In Michael Robert Johnson's Sherlock Holmes Holiday Movie (2009): A Sociological Approach. This research was conducted by Nai Setiawan in 2011. The major problem in this research is to explain how logic versus magic reflected in Michael Robert Johnson's Sherlock Holmes Holiday which also take place in the Victorian Era. He explains how magic was still part of the society at that time, but the magic which is described by Lord Blackwood's magic practice can be argued with the logic as described by Sherlock Holmes explanation. He also concluded that the director shows to the audience from this movie for the people in this world, to think logic.

The next related research is entitled Suffering Behind Luxury In Edward Zwick's *Blood Diamond*: A Sociological Approach by Surya Sandika (2008). His research elaborates the portraits of Suffering Behind Luxury in Edward Zwicks's movie, Blood Diamond, that are analyzed trough sociological approach by Alan Swingewood's first perspective that is mirror of the age. The research explains the relation between movie and the social background of the early twenty-first century American society. His conclusion states that the director of the movie wants to deliver a

moral message that luxury may cause suffering to other people of other country. It also criticizes the luxury lifestyle of upper class in seeing diamond in the United States.

All of the related researches which are already mentioned above are some examples of references that the writer used to help her analyze the happiness concept as reflected in Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride*. Those researches that has been mentioned, some of the problems are about economy, logic, racism and capitalism. While the writer is more specific from social point of view about happiness. Those related research help to pose and strengthen the writer's analysis and make it to be more valid, because the data that are collected by the writer are actually the development of the researches with the same subject which had been conducted before. In other words, those references can make the writer's research to be more objective and detail in giving the best result to her research.