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PARALLELISM OF THE PLOT BETWEEN NOVEL AND FILM *LITTLE WOMEN*

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ABSTRAK: Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menganalisis perbandingan plot dalam dua karya sastra yaitu novel dan film *Little Women*. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui perbedaan, persamaan dan parallel antara kedua karya sastra tersebut. Metode yang digunakan penulis dalam penelitian ini adalah deskripsi kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori pertama yaitu teori dari Drs. Meiliana Sylvie yang menjelaskan comparative literature. Teori kedua yaitu dari Shiquan Cao yang menjelaskan tentang parallelism. Penelitian ini dilakukan untuk mengetahui persamaan, perbedaan dan parallel plot dalam kedua karya sastra tersebut. Penelitian difokuskan pada plot dalam cerita. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa diantara novel dan film *Little Women* memiliki persamaan dan perbedaan, yakni eksposisi/ equilibrum, rising action/ distrubtion, climax/ recognition, falling action/repair dan resolution/ equilibrum again, dan juga parallel yakni, parallel dalam perbedaan, naratif dan karakter. Penelitian ini akan mengidentifikasi elemen-elemen penting dalam alur yang dihadirkan dalam kedua karya tersebut, serta membandingkan bagaimana alur tersebut dipaparkan dan diinterpretasikan dalam bentuk novel dan film. Dengan demikian skripsi ini memberikan gambaran yang lebih mendalam tentang cara kedua media menyampaikan cerita yang sama dengan cara yang berbeda.

Kata kunci: *Parallelisme, Plot, Novel Dan Film.*

ABSTRAK: In this study, the writer analyzed the plot comparison in two literary works, namely the novel and the film Little Women. The purpose of this study is to found out the differences, similarities and parallels between the two literary works. The method used by the writer in this study is qualitative research. This study used the first theory from Drs. Meiliana Sylvie explained about comparative literature. Secondly, the writer used Shiquan Cao's theory that explained about the parallel. This study was conducted to found out the similarities, differences and parallel plots in the two literary works. The study focused on the plot in the story.The results of this study show that between the novel and the film Little Women have similarities and differences, namely exposition / equilibrum, rising action / distrubtion, climax / recognition, falling action / repair and resolution / equilibrum again, and also parallel, namely, parallel in differences, narrative and character. This study will identify important elements in the plot present in both works, and compare how the plot is presented and interpreted in the form of novels and films. This undergraduate thesis thus provides a more in-depth look at the way the two media convey the same story in different ways.

Kata kunci: *Parallelisme, Plot, Novel Dan Film.*

INTRODUCTION

Literature brings personal human expressions and feelings through it's literary works. This created literature can be the human's private feelings, and so humans might share although and opinion mistreatment literature. Literature is the expression of life in words of truth and beauty. It is the written record of man's spirit, of his thoughts, emotions, aspirations; it is the history, and the only history, of the human soul (Long, 2015:18). The

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literature could be an image of life, an overflow of emotions, a story of thought and within the human soul, through words that are beautified, so that it is likable by the readers.

Currently, one of the most popular literary works is the novel. Novels are used as a medium of entertainment and knowledge to get information, inspiration, motivation and also safety conveyed by the author to the readers, which is conveyed implicitly or explicitly. **According to Figlerowicz (2016:11),** these novels try to recreate the experience of being a single person amid a mass of others: a person whose life story could not possibly stand in for, or even interest, all the people around her. The story that the author tells in the novel tells about the author's personal experiences or experiences that the author encounters around him, so that the readers feel very touched and feel what the author is saying. Similar to novels, films are also able to provide motivation and inspiration to the audience based on the stories that are shown.The film is predetermined by literary techniques; conversely, the literary practice developed particular features under the impact of the film (Klarer, 2011:54). Usually, the audience would be influenced by the appearance that is displayed in the film such as language style and fashion style.

Other knowledge that we can gain through novels and films is knowledge in increasing vocabulary through the language used, the culture conveyed and education. As a result of the many people who like novel and film, the elevation of novel into film has become a trend that attracts attention. One of the novel filmed is the novel *Little Women*, a literary work by Louisa May Alcott and *Little Women* film by Greta Gerwig.This novel and film is depicted through true stories from the childhood of the novelist and her four siblings. The four of them had very lofty dreams. They want to realize their dreams with the advantages and expertise in their respective fields. Like Meg who wants to be a model, Jo who wants to be a famous writer, Amy who controls the world of painting wants to be a famous painter, and Beth who wants to be a pianist who can entertain. They have strong goals and ambitions to achieve them. This story has a happy ending where all of Jo's family is present. When a novel that had not been accepted in every publishing house was finally accepted and Amy, became a famous painter in France, their father returned from war.

The depiction of the plot in the novel is very different from the one in the film. Comparing the two literary works, the writer used comparative theory to solve the problem.The definition of comparative literature given by Dass (in Meiliana, 2018:4) is very simple vivid and understandable. The simple way to define comparative literature is to say that it is a comparison between the two literatures. Comparative literature analyses the similarities and dissimilarities and parallels between
two literatures. It further studies themes, modes, conventions, and used of folk tales, and myths in two different kinds of literature or even more. Parallelism is one of the theories of comparison in comparative studies. According to Cao (2013:66), the word “analogy” itself means “parallel” as well as “similarity” and “comparison.” Obviously, its original meaning has duality: On the one hand, parallel lines do not overlap, which shows that the compared objects have no factual relationship and they are in different countries and cultural ideology. The meaning is that parallelism is a theory that compares different literary works, but has the same elemental value in it. in this case, the novel and the film Little Women convey the same message content but use different ways and media. so that in this study the focus is on comparing the two literary works.

METHOD

In this study, the writer used descriptive qualitative research as a research design related to the problems found in this study. This descriptive qualitative research is intended to describe an event based on what the writer wants to study through the observation of something to be studied, by collecting data. The methods used in this study are the source of data is *Little Women* novel which consists of 341 pages and 23 chapters with the author's name Louisa May Alcott published in 1869 and *Little Women* film, with the duration two hours fourteen minutes and fifty-four seconds. The film was released in 2019, directed by Greta Gerwig. Data collection is done by several steps such as re-reading, underlining important quotes, phrases, and sentences, watching the film thoroughly and repeatedly, finding out all the information from the characters' utterances, dialogues, and actions,

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and making notes on the characters' utterances, dialogues, and actions in the film, and also data analysis is done by classifying the data, analysing the data, and making conclusions.

DISCUSSION

The Plot Analysis

1. The plot of novel *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

Exposition

This section contains the introduction of characters and the introduction of story scenes. the introduction of the situation begins with the introduction of characters. in this novel, there are four characters who are sisters.

To support this statement, the writer put the quotes below;

Margaret, the eldest of the four, was sixteen, and very pretty, being plump and fair, with large eyes, plenty of soft brown hair, a sweet mouth, and white hands, of which she was rather. Jo was very tall, thin and brown, and reminded one of a colt ; for she never seemed to know what to do with her long limbs, which were very much in her way. Elizabeth, — or Beth, as every one called her, — was a rosy, smooth-haired, bright-eyed girl of thirteen, with a shy manner, a timid voice, and a peaceful

> expression, which was seldom disturbed. Amy, though the youngest, was a most important person, in her own opinion at least. (Alcott, 1869:11).

In the quotations, shows that in the early part of the story, the novel tells the main characters who are known in terms of appearance, character, and affection in a family.

Rising action

This section contains the initial events that cause various problems and difficulties for the characters. Leading to the conflict begins with the March family getting a letter from Washington.

To support this statement, the writer put the quotes below;.

> A sharp ring interrupted her, and a minute after Hannah came in with a letter. "It's one of them horrid telegraph things, mum," she said, handing it as if she was afraid it would ex- plode, and do some damage.
> "Mrs. March: "Your husband is very ill. Come at once.
> "S. Hale,
> "Blank Hospital, Washington."
> (Alcott, 1869:232).

In the quotation, it states a telegram containing the news that Mr. March had fallen ill and was in the hospital. Mr. March fell ill and is in the hospital in Washington.

Climax

This section contains the culmination of the problems that occurred at the beginning of the conflict in the novel. To support this statement, the writer put the quotes below;

> .... " we will have Dr. Bangs, just to take a look at you, dear, and see that we start right ; then we'll send Amy off to Aunt March's, for a spell, to keep her out of harm's way, and one of you girls can stay at home and amuse Beth for a day or two." (Alcott, 1869:259).

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In the quotes, Hanna says that all they have to do is call Doctor Bangs to check on Beth, and then they ask Amy to temporarily stay at Aunt March's house until Beth recovers so that Amy doesn't contract Beth's illness.

Falling Action

This section contains the determination of the change in the fate of several characters whether they succeed in dealing with problems or fail to solve their problems. To support this statement, the writer put the quotes below;

> "I telegraphed to your mother yesterday, and Brooke answered she'd come at once, and she'll be here to-night, and everything will be all right. Aren't you glad I did it?" Laurie spoke very fast,..
> (Alcott, 1869:271).

In the quotes, Laurie told Jo he sent a telegram to Jo's mother, and Mr. Brooke replied that they would be home soon. Her father's health was also getting better.

Resolution

This section contains the end or resolution of all the conflicts that occur to the characters in the story. This section also contains an explanation of the fates experienced by the characters after experiencing the culminating event in their family.

To support this statement, the writer put the quotes below;

> "With a blissful sense of burdens lifted off, Meg and Jo closed their weary eyes, and lay at rest like storm-beaten boats, safe at anchor in a quiet harbor. Mrs. March would not leave Beth's side, but rested in the big chair, waking often to look at, touch, and brood over her child, like a miser over some recovered treasure."
> (Alcott, 1869:290).

In the quotations stated that they were very grateful on that day because their sister Beth had recovered. so their fear and worry disappeared. Meg and Jo were finally able to rest peacefully and comfortably because they felt that their burden had been removed for the past few days.

2. Plot in *Little Women* film by Greta Gerwig

Equilibrum:

The equilibrum part of the film was depicted at the beginning featuring a girl who being stood in front of the printing building, she name is Jo.

Jo : **Excuse me. I was looking for the Weekly Volcano office. I wish to see Mr. Dashwood**.

(*Little Women*,00. 01. 12-00. 01. 45)

The writer finds the utterance In the picture, a woman named Jo walked into a printing office. There she brought some sheets of paper and handed them to an old man. The word **"Excuse me. I was looking for the Weekly Volcano office. I wish to see Mr. Dashwood",** explain that she looking for a man named Mr. Dashwood.

Disrubtion

The distruption part of the film is the beginning of the conflict occurred in the film *Little Women*. This plot explains every conflict that exists before entering the actual conflict. To support the the statement above, it can be seen in the following picture;

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(*Little Women*, 00.24.48)

Recognition

Recognition in this film is when Jo and Beth were at the beach and Beth asked her why she had stopped to write when her story like a lot of people, but why Jo stopped. The conversation when Beth said that she wished she wasn't around made Jo sad and told her sister not to say that.

To support the explanations above, the writers put the utterances as follow;

Jo : I will.
Beth: **When I'm not here.**
Jo : D**on't say that. Don't say it**.
Beth : I have to tell you.

From the utterances, Jo and Beth are sitting together on the beach. They were talking seriously abot their lives. The words, "**When I'm not here",** and "**don't say that. Don't say it.**" Show that when in the middle of their conversation, Beth tells Jo about the day she died. But Jo told her not to talk about it.

(*Little Women*, 01.20.51)

Repair

The repair part of the film is when 7 years ago Beth had recovered from her illness. Although she is still weak, she can laugh and play with her shabby dolls. When Jo woke up from her sleep she didn't find Beth. She had recovered and was sitting with Marmee and Hanna.

To support the explanations above, the writers put the utterances as follow;

Mr. Laurence: **Merry Christmas, Beth.**
Amy : The sides are most important. If you don't have the sides....

From the utterances, Although Beth still weak, she can laugh and play with her shabby dolls. When Jo woke up from her sleep she didn't find Beth. She had recovered and was sitting with Marmee and Hanna. She had thought that Beth was gone and they rejoiced. The words "**Merry Christmas, Beth,"** explain that After Jo found Beth sitting in the dining room between Mrs. March and Hanna she went straight to her and hugged her while saying welcome.

(*Little Women*, 01.28.24)

The Equilibrum Again

The Equilibrum section again is when condition returns to the beginning of the story when the situation went normally, before the conflict that attacked the characters in the film.

After a journey to find her love, Meg finally dropped her heart to a poor teacher named Mr. Brooke. Eventually, they got married and this was the beginning of Meg and John Brooke's love story. It can be seen in the following utterances;

Mr. March: **Always given before is known the cost or the reward. I pronounce you man and wife.**

In the utterances explain that when Meg and John Brooke usually they call Mr. Brooke get married.

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The parallelism of the Plot between novel and film *Little Women*

Similarities between novel and film *Little Women*.

	The Quotitation of the Novel	**The Pictures of the film**
Exposition/Equilibrum:	"Where is mother?" asked Meg, as she and Jo ran down to thank her fof their gifts, half an hour later. " Goodness only knows. Some poor creeter come a-beggin', and your ma went straight off' to see what was needed. (Alcott, 186925).	Jo : Where is Marmee? I'm starving. Hanna: Goodness only knows. Some poor creature came a- begging. Your ma set stright off to see what was needed. (*Little Women*, 00.27.17)
Rising Action/Distrubtion:	....." You wicked, wicked girl ! I never can write it again, and I'll never forgive you as long as I live." (Alcott, 1869:112).	Jo: 'he doesn't deserve my forgiveness. And I will hate her. I will hate her forever (*Little Women*,00.48.59)
Climax/Recognition:	" That is what troubles me," said Meg. " I think we ought to tell her if Beth is really ill, but Hannah says we mustn't, for mother can't leave father, it will only make them anxious. Beth won't be sicklong, and Hannah knows just what to do, and mother said we were to mind her, so I suppose we must, but it don't seem quite right to me." (Alcott, 1869:261).	(*Little Women*, 01.27.12)
Falling Action/Repair	With a blissful sense of burdens lifted off, Meg and Jo closed their weary eyes, and lay at rest like storm-beaten boats, safe at anchor in a quiet harbor. Mrs. March would not leave Beth's side, but rested in the big chair, waking often to look at, touch, and brood over her child, like a miser over some recovered treasure." (Alcott, 1869:290).	Jo : Merry Cristmas, Beth. Amy: the sides are most important if you don;t have the sides. (*Little Women*, 01.28.24)
Resolution/Equilibrum Again:	Mr. March became invisible in the embrace of four pairs of loving arms ; Jo disgraced herself by nearly fainting away, and had to be doctored by Laurie in the china closet ; Mr. Brooke kissed Megentirely by mistake, as he somewhat incoherently explained ; (Alcott, 1869:319).	Mr. March: "*My Little Women. How you've grown."* (*Little Women*,01.28.55*)*

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Different from novel and film *Little Women*

Eksposition/Equilibr :	**The Quotitation of the Novel**	**The Pictures of the film**
	The four young faces on which the firelight shox brightened at the cheerful words, but darkened again as Jo said sadly, — " We haven't got father, and shall not have him for a long time." She didn't say " perhaps never," but each silently added . it, thinking of father far away, where the fighting was. (Alcott, 1869:7).	(*Little Women*, 00.01.12)
Rising Action/Distrubtion:	" Young ladies, you remember what I said to you a week ago. I am sorry this has happened ; but I never allow my rules to be infringed, and I never break my word. Miss March, hold out your hand." (Alcott, 1869:103).	(*Little Women*,00.37.19)
Climax/Recognition:	Hannah came in with a letter. " It's one of them horrid telegraph things, mum," she said, handing it as if she was afraid it would ex-plode, and do some damage. (Alcott, 1869:232).	(*Little Women*,01.11.22)
Falling Action/Repair:	" I'll try not to be vain," said Amy ; " I don't think I like it, only because it's so pretty ; but I want to wear it as the girl in the story wore her bracelet, to remind me of something." " Do you mean Aunt March?" asked her mother, laughing. "No, to remind me not to be selfish." Amy looked so earnest and sincere about it, that her mother stopped laughing, and listened respectfully to the little plan. (Alcott, 1869:292).	(*Little Women*,01.23.02)
Resolution/Equilibr um Again:	" I won't trouble you, I only want to know if you care for me a little, Meg, I love you so much, dear," added Mr. Brooke, tenderly. (Alcott, 1869:330).	(*Little Women*,01.33.25)

Parallel of the Plot between Novel and Film *Little Women*

Parallel in differencess

The first parallel is Amy getting into trouble at school and she was asked by Marmee to study at home with her sister Beth.The description on the novel can be seen from the quotation below:

> "I shall have to tell at home, and they will be so disappointed in me ! ". (Alcott, 1869:104).
> .... I dislike Mr. Davis' manner of teaching, and don't think the girls you associate with are doing you any good, so I shall ask your father's advice before I send you anywhere else."
> (Alcott, 1869:105).

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Amy : Mr. Davis hit me.
Mrs. March : Jo will teach you.
Jo : Me? I already teach Beth.
(*Little Women*,00.39.29)

In this film, when Amy shows her hand to Laurie because she was beaten by Mr. Davis. Laurie who was a good neighbor, she offers Amy to be treated in her house. Then the news is known by Amy's family, they also flock to the Lurence family's house to see Amy's condition.

Parallel in Narative structure

The novel provides an in-depth depiction of their struggles in dealing with the social and personal challenges that come in their lives. Gerwig retains the core plot Despite the differences in storytelling techniques, the film aims to capture the essence of the novel's plot.

In the novel, when Beth was sick because she contracted the illness from the Hummel family. Her illness gets worse whether it's because of her longing for her father or some other factors so she is treated intensely by her two siblings as well as the doctor and Hanna. But after that she recovered and reunited with her family again and they were able to celebrate Christmas together. But in the film, Jo gets a letter from Marmee stating that Beth is sick, then after that it shows where Beth was sick when they were teenagers or 7 years ago. Then, the scene switches to the future where Beth is sick again and then dies.

The description on the novel can be seen from the quotation below:

> ..." The fever's turned ; she's sleepin nat'ral ; her skin's damp, and she breathes easy. Praise be given ! Oh, my goodness me ! " Before the girls could believe the happy truth, the doctor came to confirm 'it." (Alcott, 1869:275).

(*Little Women*,00.24.48)

Parallel in Character

The characters in *Little Women* are an important element in the development of the plot. In the novel, Alcott meticulously describes each character and gives them emotional depth and uniqueness that distinguishes them from one another. Responsible Meg, brave Jo, compassionate Beth, and ambitious Amy all play an important role in driving the plot and presenting the themes of the work.

Margaret, the eldest of the four, was sixteen, and very pretty, being plump and fair, with large eyes, plenty of soft brown hair, a sweet mouth, and white hands, of which

> she was rather. Jo was very tall, thin and brown, and reminded one of a colt ; for she never seemed to know what to do with her long limbs, which were very much in her
> way. Elizabeth, — or Beth, as every one called her, — was a rosy, smooth-haired, bright-eyed girl of thirteen, with a shy manner, a timid voice, and a peaceful expression, which was seldom disturbed. Amy, though the youngest, was a most important person, in her own opinion at least.
> (Alcott, 1869:11).

In character, parallelism can appear in characters who have similar traits, motives, or journeys. In the film, Gerwig develops Jo's character more because Jo March has a strong relevance to today. Jo is a woman who has dreams and ambitions to pursue her writing career amidst conventional social expectations. Gerwig wanted to highlight the desires and struggles of modern women and the pursuit of their dreams, and Jo became the perfect character to represent this story.The description on the film, it can be seen in the Conversation between Jo and Aunt March below;

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Aunt March: Least of all, a woman. You'll need to marry well.
Jo : But I inted to make my own way in the world.
(*Little Women*,00.35.32)

When March's aunt offers to marry Jo. But Jo has her own path in life because she has very big goals that she wants to achieve.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of the writer, there are three kinds of comparative literature namely, differencess, simillarities and parallel. In this study, the writer found that there are several differences, similarities and parallel plots between the two literary works, namely novel and film *Litle Women*.

The result of this study was that the writer found plot similarities, they have the same story content. The director in this film still shows the essence of the story, so there are still similarities between the two works. While the differences between the two literary works, namely, in the novel using linear plot, while in the film using back and forth or mixed plot. So it has many differences in terms of exposition, rising action, climax, falling action and resolution between the two works, namely the novel and the film. In the novel there are several scenes that are not shown in the film, while in the film there are several scenes that are added or not in the novel. Then, the parallel contained in the novel and the film is here the writer sees the analogy of the two literary works by looking at the differences between the two, although the story in the novel and in the novel the way of delivery starting from the action, conversation and conditions are different, but they still have the same purpose.

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