

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 BASIC CONSIDERATION

In January 2009, the repertory film is lifted from the book with the increasing presence of "*Inkheart*". The film also stars Brendan Fraser's best-selling fantasy novel titled the same name by German author, Cornelia Funke. And as a fantasy film "*Inkheart*" is quite attractive.

As a book, *Inkheart* is the first of a trilogy of books written by Funke. Sequels *Inkspell* and *Inkdeath* is already published four and two years ago. *Inkspell* was published on October 1, 2005, while *Inkdeath* was published on September 28, 2007 in Germany. *Inkheart* itself gets a positive response. Apart from Kirkus Reviews, a journal of book reviews in the U.S., The New York Times Books also praised the book as a book by calling it "full of sparks magical fairydust." With such praise, what about the movie?

This film version begins with "Mortimer Folchart" who read a fairy tale, *The Red Riding Hood*. He does not know the ability that brings out certain things that he mentioned in the book. While continuing to read to his wife and daughter, Resa and Meggie, he does not realize that has issued a red scarf from the book which he read out. That is the ability of the people who called *Silvertongue*. This ability was inviting trouble. After removing Dustfinger, one of the characters from *Inkheart*, he would issue a Capricorn and Basta, two evil characters from the novel of the same. That's when he got a wound in the arm from Basta, as well as the more painful to face facts:

his wife went into Inkworld! Since then he never again read a story to her. Driven by desire to remove his wife from Inkworld, Mortimer Folchart as called Mo hunt all over Europe. It is unclear what happened to the Inkheart which he had before. Several old bookstore Mo entered with Meggie, her daughter. Unfortunately, they never found the book. Finally he arrived in the antiquarische Alpenbuchhandlung bookstore and found the book.

At the same time, Mo meet again with Dustfinger and request to Folchart to resend him back to Inkworld, so he could meet with his wife and children again. However, Mo actually to send Dustfinger back to Inkworld because he worried about dustfinger unable to control his ability.

Dustfinger very disappointed with Mo as consequences, he agree to work together with Capricorn even though he know that Capricorn is not a good person. Through Dustfinger's information Basta and Capricorn finally found Mo and Meggie and catch them in Elinor's house.

Capricorn did not intend to return to Inkworld, so he want Mo to remove various things from the world of fantasy. The reason is simple. Despite having a man named Darius and have the same capabilities, this guy was stuttering. As a result, the face of characters who come out to have written. In other words, what comes out of the books that he read to be not perfect.

Dustfinger refuse to fulfill his promise to bite the fingers. He deceived Capricorn. After getting what he wants, Capricorn also burned books that found by

Mo. It makes he drop to help Resa, his wife, came out from Inkworld and Dustfinger dashed hopes to return to Inkworld.

They intend to seek Fenoglio, the author of Inkheart hope that he still has a copy of these rare books. Assisted by Dustfinger who will regret his decision, he helps Mo, Meggie, Elinor, and Farid to make the character comes out when Mo read *A Thousand and One Nights*, they escaped from the castle. But, of course they know that this story will not end so easily because one of them must replaced the character who comes out.

Although the film was relatively easy simple to understand, the researcher must admit that story was present fairly complicated. Story of Inkheart is quite complex if we try to understand, until we may find it necessary to have some sort of explanation. First, the ability of Mo released figures which he read out and the compensation which resulted in character from the real world into Inkworld and he could not manage it. Maybe that's what made him afraid to repeat the incident three years earlier when he issued Dustfinger, Capricorn and Basta, but enter Resa into Inkworld.

The next problem arises is how to bring out the figures back to Inkworld? Although the film is told how simply by reading it back but which part should be read so that the figures it could really come back? How if people from the real world who actually get into Inkworld? In particular, how can Darius meanwhile came into the Inkworld? And if so, is there a figure from the real world that comes into Inkworld, or

instead of Inkworld figure could even go back to her world because Resa been read out?

We also will find that the ability of Mo was inherited to his daughter, Meggie. She listened to the promptings which we believe to be derived from existing books in the library. It's just like when Mo found the Inkheart in the old bookstore. Later we see her ability improved because of her love of writing stories. This also will save the world from the threat of The Shadow.

Mortimer and Resa had accustom their daughter to read a book since their daughter was still a baby. This action is not merely an effort to instill love of books. Joseph M. Bogges (1986:14) stated "reading to babies is very useful". In addition to teaching communication to him, reading aloud also introduces concepts such as numbers, letters, colors, and shapes. The ability to hear, remember, and vocabulary will also increase, as well as giving knowledge about the world around him.

We are also reminded of the strength of the book. In one dialogue, Mo said to Meggie, as in the following dialogue,

Mo :The written words. It's a powerful thing. You have to be careful with it. "If it is associated with this story, saying it seemed about to remind her not to follow Mo mistakes that actually cause problems: remove the characters in Inkheart, but instead plunges his wife into the Inkworld.

**(act at 00:07:03)**

We see the selfish attitude of one can cause problems both to themselves, as well as to others. Mo and Dustfinger in Inkheart story fight each other, sometimes

they work together to destroy Capricorn, because Capricorn burn the Inkheart book. The values of loyalty is also examined, with a choice Dustfinger help or run away with Mo and others through a tornado that comes from The Wizard of Oz.

Do these things appear as a consequence of adaptation to the big screen? It seemed possible. As an adaptation to the big screen will certainly affect the storyline is used, some deficiencies may emerge and lead to questions that seem unanswered. Therefore, we need to see what version of the novel to ascertain whether the questions above are answered in the novel or not, they also see the extent to which differences widescreen version with the version of the novel.

Nowdays, film animation more growth with modern technology and made the viewer especially the students was challenged to improve many figure in the film. The character in a film sometimes changed in every dramatic constructions. For example in the beginning of dramatic construction, a character figured as overprotective character, but suddenly in the end of the story the character change into different character caused by particular situation into charitable character which cause the confusion of charater determination. Like in “*Inkheart*”, in the beginning “Mo” are closed personality then change into a charitable person in the end of the story, as in the following dialogue.

Meggie : “By the way, how come every bookshop. We go to is a thousand years old?  
Why can't we go to one ? that sells hot chocolate and books that are actually new? What good would a bookbinder like me be in a new bookstore?”

MO : *“I love old books.* The marbled pages. End papers, the leather binding.

**(act at 00:09: 32)**

From the above dialogue we can see that characters MO not telling the truth to his daughter . He did not tell to his daughter that the purpose of his coming to bookstores is just to find the Inkheart book in order to release his wife from Inkworld.

But in the middle of the story, MO eventually change from not telling the truth to his daughter became honest. He telling telling everything to his daughter about the strength that can generate the characters in the book he read, as in the following dialogue.

Mo : “Books. They came out of books.”

Ellinor : “What are you talking about? Mortimer, be quick, be clear, or I swear I'll disinherit you. Came out of books? What do you mean?”

Mo : “Meggie.This is the story, you have been waiting to hear. Elinor, you were away at a book fair, and we were house sitting for you. Me, Meggie, your mum. And that night we were in the library. So I opened a copy of a book we'd just bought *“Inkheart”*.”

**(act at 00:30:22)**

MO tell to his daughter that he was a Silvertongue. He also tells to Elinor that the characters in the book came out simultaneously and it makes one people in the real world came into the Inkworld, as example his wife that came into the Inkworld.

According to Jakob Sumardjo and Saini KM there are five ways to represent the characterization, they are: (1) Through his attitude, action, especially what he does in a critical situation, (2) through his words, (3) through the imaging of the character, (4) through his/her mind, (5) through direct imaging.

Considering this phenomena, the writer then interest to take a research on the students' interpretation on characters of Inkheart ( A Film by Cornelia Funke). This research conducted on the students in sixth semester of English Department of Gorontalo State University. The research is entitled "*Students' Interpretation On Characters of Inkheart (A Film By Cornelia Funke)*".

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

Based on the explanations above, the researcher formulate the problem statement of my research as follow : "How is the students' interpretation on characters of Inkheart (A Film by Cornelia Funke)"

## **1.3 The Objective of Research**

The objective of this research is to describe students' interpretation on characters of Inkheart (A Film by Cornelia Funke).

## **1.4 The Reason for Choosing the Topic**

Watching film is actually on the purpose to appreciate, it is not only for getting the story enjoyable, but also can improve our knowledge. We could not get the meaning of a film unless we analyze its elements.

Furthermore, drama has become one of subject that taught in English Department, Gorontalo State University. It consequently uses film as the media in teaching and learning process. But actually, the students' ability in interpret the

characterization in a film is variety. Maybe they forget the theory of characterization or because of the limitation time when they analyzed the characterization.

### **1.5 The Scope of Research**

Film has broad explanation. Talking about analyzing a film, students surely faced with the structure items of film such as theme, plot, setting, character and conflict. This research just limited in students' interpretation on characters of Inkheart (A film by Cornelia Funke).

### **1.6 The Significance of Research**

Why the characters of Inkheart Movie is important to be analyzed? So, this research will provide something valuable to us, such as :

1. The characterization in Inkheart movie is quite different with other movie or novel, so it is important for the students to know that.
2. In order to overcome the above phenomena, it is important to analyze character in the inkheart movie.