

# CHAPTER 1

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1. Background of the Study

Literary works are essentially a product of the author's imagination. Literary works include works of fiction and non-fiction. Fictitious literary works are novels, short stories, essays, films and illustrated stories (comics). While non-fiction in the form of poetry and drama. One of the famous literary works is film.

The characters in the film are usually described according to the character or personality of a person in everyday life. This is what makes someone often feel related to the film they are watching. This makes it clear that the characters in the movie have something that builds their psychological character. The psychology of the character is one of the author's freedoms to show how the psychology of the character is so that the psychology of the character and the storyline are in line and harmonious. Because the characters in the film describe the characters that exist in the real world, the psychological theory used to analyze real people can also be applied in analyzing the characters contained in the film. One of the theories of psychological analysis is the theory of the Id, Ego, and Superego invented by Freud. In this research, the writer utilize psychological approach to analyze this Film. Psychological approach could be a writing inquire about approach which focuses on brain research perspectives that contain in a writing work. It is verifiable that the movies uncover a part of the mental side, in this way giving birth to a consider of scholarly works about the brain research of the most character. One of them could be a film with the title Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings.

The film Shang Chi & the Legend of Ten Rings is the work of Destin Daniel Cretton, Andrew Lanham, and David Callaham as Script Writer and Tony Leung as the actor of character Wen Wu. This film was published in 2021 with the duration of 2 hours and 12 minutes. In this film, the main character is

Shang Chi, but the author is only interested in the character Wen Wu because in this film the author reveals more about the personality dynamics and defence mechanisms applied by the character, Wen Wu.

This film tell about a fictional Legend. The topic of the film is conflicting identity, so it would make sense that Shang-Chi's control is established in his recently discovered acceptance of his Chinese roots, his association to convention and nature, and a dismissal of his father's brutality. Thousands of a long time ago, Xu Wen Wu found Ten Rings, ten mysterious weapons that grant users interminability and extraordinary control. Wen Wu accumulates an armed force of warriors called Ten Rings, overcomes numerous kingdoms, and massacres governments all through history.

In 1996, Wen Wu started looking for the village of Ta Lo, which is said to be the home of different legendary monsters, to expand his control. He found the entrance to the village but was unable to enter by the village protect Ying Li. They fall in love and have two children, Shang Chi and Xialing. Wen Wu takes off 10 rings and his organization to leave with his family. However, Ying Li is inevitably killed by Ten Ring's old rival Iron Gang, and Wen Wu reaches out to Ten Rings once more to butcher them and continue criminal action. Shang Chi starts training in martial arts and is dispatched from Wen wu to kill the Iron Gang leader at the age of 14. After completing his mission, the traumatized Shang Chi fled to San Francisco, where he changed his name to "Shaun."

Within the present day, Shang Chi works as a valet with his best companion Katy. While working on the bus Shang Chi and Katie are assaulted by a Ten Rings led by Razor Fist. Shang Chi battles them off but finds that his pendant given to him by his mother has been taken. Fearing that Ten Rings might assault Xialing for the pendant, Shang Chi chooses to chase them and reveals his past to Katy who concurs to assist him.

Shang Chi found Xialing in her own Macau Underground Fight Club. Xialing expresses her resentment towards Shang Chi and her father. Later,

Fight Club was attacked by Ten Rings, and Wen Wu arrived unexpectedly to capture Shang-Chi, Katie, and Xialing.

They are taken to the Ten Ring compound, where Wen Wu reveals that he believes Ying Li is still alive and detained by Ta Lo, and a map to enter the village can be seen with two pendants. Wen Wu plans to annihilate the village after freeing his wife and detains his children and Katy when they protest. They escape from the compound with the assistance of previous performing artist Trevor Slattery, whom the Ten Rings detained for imitating Wen Wu.

Guided by Slattery's hound companion Morris, the group drives to Ta Lo to caution the village of the Ten Rings and meet Ying Li's sister Ying Nan. She uncovers to the bunch the history of Ta Lo. Thousands of a long time prior, it was assaulted by the soul consuming Dweller in Darkness and his flunkies. Be that as it may, the village was spared by a dragon called the Great Protector, who helped seal the Dweller and his flunkies in a mountain. According to Ying Nan, Dweller Darkness tricked Wen Wu into accepting that Li was still lively, so he utilized the ring to break the seal. Villagers, Shang Chi, Xialing and Katy will train and prepare for arrival.

Wen Wu and Ten Rings arrive to destroy the seals and the battle continues. Wen Wu and Shang Chi fight and end with Wen Wu throwing Shang Chi into a nearby lake. Guided by Ying Li's voice, Wen Wu begins to break the seal with a ring unknown to him, escaping many of the inhabitants' minions. Villagers and Ten Rings form a resting place to stop servants. Shang Chi is restored by the Great Protector some time recently getting out of the water to fight the flunkies. Wen Wu and Shang Chi fought once more, with Shang Chi winning. Reinforced by the soul captured by the servant, the darkness of the inhabitants get away. Realizing that his wife is dead, Wen Wu sacrifices himself to spare Shang Chi and gives him Ten Rings. Dweller Darkness is inevitably killed by the joint endeavors of Shang Chi, Great Protector, Xialing, and Katy.

This is what makes the writer feel interested in knowing the personality and soul structure of the character Wen Wu in this film. Therefore, the author

discusses it in a thesis entitled *PSYCHOANALYSIS OF WEN WU IN FILM SHANG CHI & THE LEGEND OF TEN RINGS*.

## **1.2. Statement of the Problem**

Based on the background of the study, the authors formulate the problem in the form of questions as follows:

1. How is the behaviour of the Id, Ego, Superego which is the structure of Wen Wu character who suppresses each other using defence mechanism in the film *Shang Chi & the Legend of Ten Rings*?
2. How is the dynamics of the Wen Wu character's personality in the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings*?

## **1.3. Purpose of the Study**

According to the questions formed above, the purposes of the study are in the following:

1. To describe the behaviour of the Id, Ego, Superego of the Wen Wu's character who suppresses each other using defence mechanism in the film *Shang Chi & the Legend of Ten Rings*.
2. To describe the dynamics of the Wen Wu character's personality in the film *Shang Chi & the Legend of Ten Rings*.

## **1.4. Significance of the Study**

The Significance of this research are:

1. Researchers and the general public can add information and knowledge about psychological literature in works of fiction, especially in the film *Shang Chi & the Legend of Ten Rings* by Destin Daniel Cretton.

2. For readers, it can add reading material and research sources as well as be useful for students of the Department of English Literature, Faculty of Letters and Languages, Universitas Kristen Indonesia as a reference for analyzing film.

### **1.5. Methodology**

The writer uses the descriptive qualitative method. According to Qualitative descriptive research generates data that describes “who, what, and where an event or experience took place” from a subjective perspective (Kim et al., 2017, p. 23). Several steps used by the writer to collect data are as follows: 1) The writer pays attention to the appearance of the Id, Ego and Superego characters with several dialogues and visuals. 2) the author identifies a pattern of change in Wen Wu's character when the needs of one of his Id, Ego and Superego are not met. When analyzing this film, the author only discusses the antagonist character, namely Wen Wu as the focus of the discussion.

### **1.6. Scope and Limitations of the Study**

As In every study, each problem is needed so that the discussion is not too wide so that it makes it easier for the reader to understand the problems discussed. In writing this thesis, the author only focuses on discussing psychology related to personality dynamics and the defence mechanism of the character in the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings* by Destin Daniel Cretton, namely Wen Wu.

The writers analysis this film by taking some snippets from the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings*. Then the author comments on these excerpts, especially those which contain a psychological index of personality dynamics and defence mechanisms of the main character expressed by Destin Daniel Cretton in the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings*. So that the discussion of the problem in this thesis has optimal and clear analytical accuracy and data, the author in chapter II also explains the definition of the

Film, the review of the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings*, Sigmund Freud's psychoanalysis.

### **1.7. Status of the Study**

While analyzing the film *Shang Chi and the Legend of Ten Rings* through Freud's psychoanalytic perspective, which focuses on the character of Wen Wu, the author found several articles that discuss this film, such as Nathania, S (2023) which discusses Direct Speech in this film, Sindi, M (2023) which discusses connotative meaning. The author also found an analysis that discussed Id, Ego, and Superego by Freud which was discussed by Siti, M (2022) but what was different was the analysis discussed by Siti, M discussed the main character of Shang Chi while the author this time discussed an antagonistic role, namely Wen Wu.

### **1.8 Organization of the Study**

1. Chapter 1 introduces the readers to the film *Shang Chi & The Legend of Ten Rings* 2021, especially Wen Wu Character, and give brief explanation regarding the psychoanalysis. There are also Statement of the Problem, Purpose of the Study, Significance of the Study, Research Methodology, Scope and Limitation, Status of the study and Organization of the Study.
2. Chapter 2, Freud's psychoanalysis is reviewed, as well as film theory of cinematography, Angle, and Colour Tone.
3. Chapter 3 of the skripsi gives the analysis and discussion of Wen Wu Character through the lens of Sigmund Freud' psychoanalysis work.
4. Chapter 4 concludes the preceding discussions and analysis.