

Prose Elements in the Film the Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis.

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ABSTRAK

Film The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe yang diadaptasi dari novel karya C.S. Lewis, menghadirkan unsur-unsur prosa naratif ke dalam media visualnya. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis penggunaan unsur-unsur prosa, seperti karakter, plot, setting, tema, dan simbolisme, dalam menyampaikan pesan moral dan spiritual kepada penonton. Metode kualitatif deskriptif dengan pendekatan analisis naratif digunakan untuk mengeksplorasi unsur-unsur tersebut. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa film ini memanfaatkan unsur-unsur prosa untuk menciptakan narasi yang tidak hanya mendalam secara emosional, tetapi juga penuh dengan pesan-pesan pendidikan tentang pengorbanan, keberanian, dan harapan.

Keyword: C.S Lewis; Film; Pesan Moral; Narnia; Prosa

ABSTRACT

The film The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe adapts the novel by C.S. Lewis, brought prose narrative elements into the visual medium. This research aims to analyze the use of prose elements, such as character, plot, setting, theme and symbolism, in conveying moral and spiritual messages to the audience. A descriptive qualitative method with a narrative analysis approach was used to explore these elements. The research results show that this film utilizes prose elements to create a narrative that is not only emotionally deep, but also full of educational messages about sacrifice, courage and hope.

Keyword: C.S Lewis; Film; Moral Message; Narnia; Prose

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1. INTRODUCTION

Understanding the parts of a film is important because they are the basic components that shape the story and help us understand and react emotionally to the film. Parts such as characters, plot, setting, theme, and narrative style directly affect the viewer's experience of the film. By exploring these parts, we can evaluate and appreciate the quality of the film and gain deeper insight into the messages and themes the director or filmmaker is trying to convey. Character development, for example, is crucial in building a bond between the viewer and the characters on screen. A well-developed character with an interesting journey can elicit empathy, sympathy, or even dislike from the viewer, creating a more engaging viewing experience. The plot, or series of events that occur in the film, is another important part that shapes the story and keeps the viewer interested and engaged. Meanwhile, the setting and theme provide a deeper background and meaning to the film. The setting, whether a physical place or a specific time, can shape the mood and tone (Steven et al. 2023) of the film, influencing how the story unfolds and how the characters interact with their surroundings. A theme is the central message or idea that the film communicates, such as love, power, friendship, or redemption. Understanding these themes can enhance the viewing experience and spark discussion on a variety of social, cultural, or philosophical topics. Finally, a film's narrative style, including the use of camera angles, editing methods, sound design, and pacing, plays a significant role in telling a story and eliciting an emotional response from the viewer. By understanding and examining these elements, viewers can gain a better appreciation for the skill and creativity involved in creating a compelling film. Understanding the elements of the filmmaking

process is essential to enhancing our enjoyment and engagement with films. It helps us decipher and appreciate the skill behind storytelling, provides insight into the filmmaker's intent, and encourages a deeper examination of the themes and messages found in the film. Ultimately, a better understanding of these elements can enhance our cinematic experience and foster a lasting passion for the art of filmmaking.

The Chronicles of Narnia: The Kings of Narnia is a novel by C.S. Lewis made into a film in 2005 one of the most famous adaptations of C.S. Lewis's classic novel, first published in 1950 (Antropologi 1967). It has become a staple of children's and fantasy literature, captivating readers for generations. The story follows the adventures of four children, Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy pevensie, who discover the world of Narnia through a wardrobe. In the context of the film, the use of prose elements is very important to convey deep moral messages and themes. This article aims to analyze how prose elements work in the film (Beno, Silen, and Yanti 2022). Adapting a book for film is a detailed process that transforms the written form of a story into a visual format that includes cinematographic features. The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe is one of the most successful adaptations because it captures the essence of the original story for the big screen while maintaining the moral lessons contained in the book. Lessons such as sacrifice, goodness, and the struggle against evil are fundamental to the narrative, conveyed through a strong process structure. This study aims to examine how process elements are used in the film to communicate these lessons to the audience. Patrick Faubert in an article entitled 'Perfect Picture Material': Anthony Adverse and the Future of Adaptation Theory, states that adaptation is a cultural dialogue that continuously improves its quality. Therefore, it is not right to only see it as a repetition, or simply a result of the success of previous media. Some experts who agree with Faubert's view include; Julie Sanders, Robert B. Ray, and Linda Hutcheon. They argue that adaptation will gain a better position if viewed as a cultural project rather than being exploited like previous works (Dinar and Waluyo 2016).

Prose in literature is often referred to as fiction. The word 182prose is taken from English, namely prose. Prose or fiction means a narrative work that tells something that is imaginative, not based on reality or can also mean a reality that arises from imagination. In general, prose or fiction refers to a created story, which includes elements such as characters, plot, theme, and narrative focus, all produced through the author's imagination. (Hairuddin and Radmila 2018) states that fiction or prose is "one type of literary genre, along with other genres. Other genres in question are poetry and drama. Prose includes literary works called short stories, serials, and novels.

Elements of prose:

The following are the internal elements that form the fictional narrative contained in the work.

- a) Theme, which is the general main idea that underlies a literary work and is reflected in its text.
- b) Characters, which are individuals who play a role in a literary work. In terms of role, literary works are divided into 2, namely main characters and supporting characters.
- c) Plot, which is a series of stories containing a sequence of events, where each event is connected through cause and effect, one event causes or is caused by another event.
- d) Conflict, which is an important event that is a crucial element in developing the storyline.
- e) Climax, which is the moment when a conflict reaches its peak intensity, and at that time it becomes something unavoidable.
- f) Setting, which is the location, time, and social context in which the events told take place.
- g) Message, which is the solution given by the author to the problems in a literary work.
- h) Point of view, namely the author's perspective as a tool to present characters, actions, settings, and various events that form the story in a work of fiction to the reader.(Hairuddin and Radmila 2018)
- i) Characterization, namely the way or technique in describing

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses a qualitative approach to analyze the prose elements in the film "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." The choice of a qualitative approach was made because it provides an opportunity for researchers to explore and understand the meaning contained in the narrative elements, as well as how these elements play a role in conveying moral and philosophical messages in the film. With this approach, researchers can conduct a more in-depth investigation of the characters, plot, themes, and settings, as well as the interactions between these elements. The main source of data in this study is the film "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" which was released in 2005. In addition, researchers also refer to the original novel by C. S. Lewis to gain a deeper understanding of the context and nuances of the story. Additional data were collected from related literature, including articles, books, and critical analyses that discuss themes, characters, and narrative elements in Lewis's work. Data collection techniques used in this study include: Movie Watching: Researchers watched the film repeatedly to identify and analyze relevant prose elements. Each screening focuses on a specific element, such as character, plot, theme, and setting. Text Analysis: The researcher conducted an analysis of the dialogues, monologues, and

narratives contained in the film and novel. The purpose of this analysis is to identify how language and narrative structures are used to convey messages. The research method applied in this study allows the researcher to deeply explore and analyze the prose elements in the film "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe." With a qualitative approach and narrative analysis techniques, this study successfully reveals how narrative elements contribute to the delivery of profound moral and philosophical messages in the work of C. S. Lewis.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. *Characters*

The characters in this film play an important role in conveying the moral message.

- 1) Aslan: As a symbol of goodness and sacrifice, Aslan is at the center of the narrative. He not only serves as a leader, but also as a representation of deeper spiritual values. In this context, Aslan's sacrifice to save Edmund from punishment is a key moment that illustrates the theme of Aslan's redemption, who is depicted as a strong and wise being, reflecting the ideal traits expected of a leader.
- 2) Edmund: Edmund's character, who was initially a traitor, shows a complex character journey. He experiences internal conflict and eventually finds a path to redemption. Edmund's character changes reflect the theme that every individual has the capacity to change and correct their mistakes. The interaction between these characters creates a strong dynamic, which reinforces the message that good can defeat evil (Aritonang and Heriyati, 2022).
- 3) Peter and Susan: As the eldest siblings, Peter and Susan serve as pillars of support for their younger siblings. Peter, who takes on the role of leader in the battle against the White Witch, demonstrates courage and responsibility. Susan, on the other hand, represents wisdom and protection, emphasizing the importance of working together in the face of challenges (Hidayaty & Nurhidayat 2024).
- 4) Lucy: A character who represents innocence and hope. Her belief in Aslan and the world of Narnia inspires her siblings (Yanti, Putu, and Bidari, 2021).
- 5) White Witch: As the antagonist, the White Witch represents temptation, evil, and manipulation. The curse of eternal winter symbolizes the condition of the world without good (Servín 2021).

B. *Plot*

The plot follows a classic structure with introduction, conflict, and resolution.

- 1) Introduction: The film begins with an introduction of the characters and setting, where we are introduced to the background of the Pevensie family and the war situation that has engulfed England. This introduction provides important emotional context for the audience.
- 2) Conflict: After discovering Narnia, the main conflict arises between good led by Aslan and evil represented by the White Witch. Key moments, such as Edmund's betrayal and Aslan's capture, create deep tension. This conflict is not only physical but also emotional and moral, creating layers of complexity within the narrative.
- 3) Resolution: The resolution of the story, where good ultimately triumphs, provides hope and reinforces the message that faith and sacrifice will pay off. The final battle with the White Witch is not only the climax of the story but also a symbol of the universal struggle between good and evil.

C. *Theme*

The central themes of the film are sacrifice, faith, and hope.

- 1) Sacrifice: Aslan's sacrifice is not only a heroic act but also reflects deep spiritual values. In this context, Aslan's sacrifice to save Edmund from punishment is representative of the larger theme of redemption. It shows that sacrifice is often necessary to achieve the greater good.
- 2) Trust: The trust between the characters, especially between the Pevensie siblings and Aslan, is a crucial element in the development of the story. This trust allows them to come together and face the challenges that lie ahead. When Edmund betrays them, the lost trust becomes an obstacle that must be overcome in order to achieve a common goal.
- 3) Hope: Hope is a theme that runs throughout the film. Although there are dark and challenging moments, hope is always present, both through the characters and through the narrative. The ultimate victory over the White Witch conveys the message that hope and good will ultimately triumph over evil.

D. *Setting*

- 1) The world of Narnia, with its fantasy elements, provides a powerful context for the moral narrative:
- 2) Eternal winter: Symbolizes the despair and evil that reigns under the White Witch.
- 3) Spring: Aslan's arrival and return of spring represent hope, renewal, and resurrection.
- 4) The Stone Table: Aslan's place of sacrifice, symbolizing the values of forgiveness and atonement (Barnes 2014).

4. CONCLUSION

The adaptation of C.S. Lewis' novel *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* effectively utilizes various elements of prose to convey profound spiritual and moral messages. This study highlights the film's achievement in combining character, plot, setting, theme, and symbolism to create an emotionally engaging narrative while conveying valuable lessons about sacrifice, courage, and hope. The characters in the film, especially Aslan and the Pevensie children, embody values such as courage and altruism, which are central to the story. Aslan, who represents Christ-like sacrifice, serves as a powerful symbol of redemption and hope, while the children's journeys demonstrate personal growth through challenges. The complex plot weaves the characters' journeys into a story that emphasizes the importance of loyalty and family bonds amidst battle. Additionally, the Narnian setting a world inhabited by fantastical creatures and a stark divide between good and evil adds depth to the story's themes. The relentless winter under the White Witch's control symbolizes despair and oppression, while Aslan's return signifies renewal and hope. This change is visualized through the changing landscape, which reinforces the film's main themes. In closing, this analysis shows that *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* not only transforms Lewis' story into a visual form, but also adds to it a moral lesson that can be accepted by different generations. By mastering the elements of prose, the film invites the audience to examine deeper spiritual truths while enjoying an engaging cinematic experience.

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