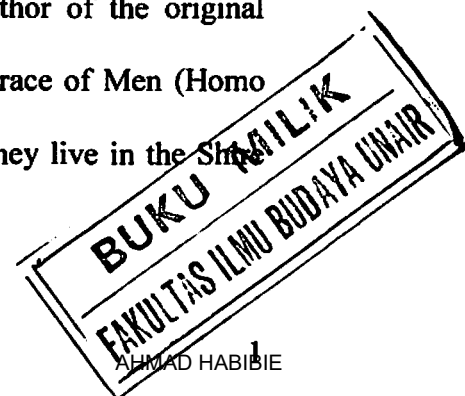


CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

In a war, glory needs powerful troops and huge efforts to be real. The more powerful one side equips, the closer they get the glory. This portrayal is clearly seen when Hitler brought *Wehrmacht*—his famous army—executed their opponents in early twentieth century. However, in other cases, some need wittiness and tactful strategy to beat the powerful enemies. It could be seen in a phenomenal movie “300” where 300 Spartan under Leonidas almost acquire glory from Persian “God-King” Xerxes, but unfortunately Ephialtes betrays them by giving the hidden path of Spartan. The statements above reflect what the writer wants to observe in this study.

The Lord of the Rings movie presents characters from various races such as, Elves, Dwarves, Hobbits, Wizards, and also Humans. The Elves are generally shown as heron, long-legged, and tall. The Dwarves who like to fight and hunt treasure are described as strong but short and they are stronger with their axes. *The Lord of the Rings* merely cast two wizards, Gandalf the Gray (later develops into White) and Saruman. Humans cast as ordinary human but they are hypnotized by the ring’s power as seen in movie which posses 9 controlling rings (the most among the other races). While the Hobbits are those who can be seen as plain one, half-human form, and wise. According to Tolkien, the author of the original novel, “Hobbits are a “variety” or separate “branch” of the race of Men (*Homo sapiens*), but they consider themselves as a separate race. They live in the Shire



and in Bree in northwestern Middle-earth".
(<http://www.answers.com/topic/hobbit-fictional-creature>).

The trilogy movie of *The Lord of the Rings—the Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, and The Return of the King*—, are fictional (fantasy) movies directed by Peter Jackson in around three years 2001-2003. He made these movies based on the similarly titled of John Ronald Reuel (known as J. R. R.) Tolkien's epic literary fantasy novel which had been published since the 1960s.

The first movie—*The Fellowship of the Rings*—was released on December 19, 2001. The movie was highly acclaimed by fans alike, especially as many of the latter judged it to be adequately close to the original story. It was a box office success, earning over \$870 million worldwide, and the second highest grossing movie of 2001 in the U.S. and worldwide (behind only *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*) which made it the 5th highest grossing movie ever at the time. Today it is the 13th highest grossing worldwide movie of all time. It won five BAFTAs (British Academy of Movie and Television Arts), includes Best Movie and Best Director. *The Fellowship of the Ring* is an opening part of *The Lord of the Rings* movie trilogy (there are *The Fellowship of the Ring, the Two Towers, and the Return of the King*). In addition, in 2007, *The Fellowship of the Ring* was voted number 50 on the American Movie Institute's list of 100 greatest American movies. (<http://technorati.com/videos/youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DPki6jbSbXIY>).

The movie tells about The Dark Lord Sauron who is seeking the One Ring, which he can use to conquer Middle-Earth. The Ring has founded its way to the young hobbit Frodo Baggins, who must destroy it in order to defeat Sauron and

his forces. The fate of Middle-Earth hangs in the balance as Frodo and eight companions form the Fellowship of the Ring which has a task to destroy the Ring into Mount Doom. The movie ends with the separation of the fellowship, remaining Frodo and Samwise who still strive to go to Mount Doom.

The second movie—*the Two Towers*—is also directed by Peter Jackson and based on the second volume of J. R. R. Tolkien's book *The Lord of the Rings*. It was released on December 18, 2002, with duration of 179 minutes. The movie was critically acclaimed, although the adaptation was more controversial than the first movie. It was an enormous box-office success, earning over \$900 million worldwide, out grossing its predecessor, and is currently the 7th-highest-grossing movie of all time.

In second edition—*the Two Towers*—the fellowship lost its balance and separates. Gandalf slips off the Bridge of Khazad-dûm and fights the Balrog as they crash down, the three warriors—Aragorn, Gimli, and Legolas—commits to pursue Orcs who run with the two imprisoned hobbits—Pippin and Merry—, and Frodo accompanied by Samwise Gamgee continue escorting the Ring to Mount Doom.

The last of *the Lord of the Rings* trilogy—*the Return of the King*—follows the preceding two movies to be filmed. It is primarily based on the third volume of J. R. R. Tolkien's *The Lord of the Rings*. Because of its canon and grotesque, the movie swept many awards such as; eleven Academy Awards, the Academy Award for Best Picture, and it also became the second highest grossing movie worldwide of all time behind Titanic.

The last edition of the trilogy presents viewers the best stages of the story. Gandalf the Wizard and Theoden King of Rohan double their forces to help defend Minas Tirith, the City of the Kings, from Sauron's massive attack. As Sauron reinforces his troops massively, Minas Tirith was outnumbered. The end of Human and other good races only remained hope and miracle.

Considering the circumstances, Aragorn must finally take up the throne of Gondor and summons an army of ghosts to help him defeat Sauron. Eventually, even with full strength of arms, they find they cannot win; it remains a hope to the Hobbits Frodo and Sam, who themselves face the burden of the Ring and the betrayal of Gollum, to destroy the One Ring in Mordor.

In short, the trilogy tells the viewers that protagonist characters should pass the unpredictable obstacles of antagonist characters in bringing safely (to be destructed) the Ring to Mordor. However, the various characters' classes made by Tolkien are very attractive, such as Elves, Dwarves, Hobbits, and Rangers in protagonist side while Goblins (Orcs) and Wargs in antagonist side.

The cast of characters, in movie, has attended the unusual characteristics if it is compared with other canon movies. Frodo Baggins, a mini-human called hobbit, is an ordinary hobbit to whom the hope of many races burdens on. The short, black hair and handsome guy bestowed to be chosen to escort the powerful ring. He becomes the one who is played as the weakest, honest, and plain one, however, contrary becomes a savior of the entire world. In addition, Frodo is also seen as a small and youth looking which denotes him as a powerless (child).

This 'unusual' depiction has inspired the writer to have a study about this canon movie. However, the writer is interested in the work because there is a

strange phenomenon which rarely happens in other works of literature. The phenomenon is the forming fictional worlds comprises of imaginary characters, cultures, and self-formed residences. The multicultural of the characters form the personality and appearance of each character. Therefore, the writer wants to explore information about how character's culture committing their people in one discourse which is called the society and the grandeur of Frodo Baggins as the interesting subject in movie.

B. The Statement of the Problems

The statement of the problems of this study, as follows:

1. How is the society in *The Lord of the Rings* movie?
2. Why is Frodo Baggins chosen among other races to be the Ring Bearer?

C. The Objective of the Study

The objectives of analyzing the movie are:

1. to fully explore the society in the *Lord of the Rings* movie.
2. to discover why Frodo Baggins is chosen among other races to be the Ring Bearer.

D. Significance of the Study

The writer is doing his analysis to get to know the greatness of movie's imagination and its society besides the introduction of character's culture itself. This study has two significances, first, who need to understand the composition

from the author in movie in portraying the main character—Frodo Baggins—since this study tells much about character's element and, secondly, to the students of Airlangga University, especially for those who are interested in culture of characters of this particular movie.

Moreover, this study could be one of the comparative studies for those who do the similar study but through the other work (the original novel, for instance) to get other nuances, and, lastly, it is expected that the readers would enrich their imagination through movie.

E. Scope and Limitation

The writer decides scope and limitation of the study in order to be still in track in doing analysis. This study concerns on the main protagonist character—Frodo Baggins—in trilogy of *The Lord of the Rings* canon movie. In addition to get to know about character, the writer uses the intrinsic approach. He also traces the cultures of the characters such as, Legolas the Elf, Gimli the Dwarf, Aragorn the Human, two Hobbits—Frodo and Sam—, and Gandalf the Wizard.

F. Theoretical Background

This study uses two theories to deeply analyze what the writer provides information about important characters in *The Lord of the Rings*. The first theory used in this study is an intrinsic approach based on Graham Little *Approach to Literature* to analyze the character of the works. The study of character's culture is the main issue of this study. In *Writing Themes about Literature*, Edgar V. Roberts defines character in literature as “an extended verbal representation of a

human being, the inner self that determines thought, speech, and behavior” (Roberts 65).

As the second theory, in this study, the writer uses society’s theory which is based on the book *Society in the Novel* by Elizabeth Langland in order to focus on the exploring of the society. The theory was also used as a tool to analyze the character’s appearance and their pattern of culture.

G. Method of the Study

The method used in this study is library research, while the primary sources used is *The Lord of the Rings* movie itself based on the movie director, Peter Jackson. The writer collected data from the movie, internet, and book collections by having a closer interpretation and related to the problems which appear in movie. Then, the collected data was also required to make the proportion of the data based on the criteria which contained the identification of the existence of character’s culture.

H. Definition of Key Terms

To get more comprehension to the study, there are terms of guidance:

- fictional world : the world outside reality and hardly to be believed as a real description, world that is formed or conceived by the imagination
- movie : considered as a new genre of literary work which fully consists elements of literature and signs

- one ring** : **the ring excludes the 19 Great Rings made by Lord Sauron to deceive the Great Rings in order to control entire races**
- middle-earth** : **refers to the fictional human lands where some of the stories of author J. R. R. Tolkien take place**
- superiority** : **the outstanding personality and manner which comes from the heart of protagonist characters**

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW