# An Analysis of Seven Characters Played by Noomi Rapace in the "What Happened to Monday?" Film

Kadnawi[1]

awiilyas.iaih@gmail.com

Anisatun Sa'diyah[2]

annisauchiha@gmail.com

## Abstract

*Literature is a type of writing that uses language in a special way and can be enjoyed by readers or listeners. There are many types of literary works that can be researched, but this study will only focus on one type of literary work, namely film. Character is an important element in literary works, especially in the world of film. Characters give the important roles to make the story in a film more alive. Studying literature through films will help us learn the characterizations in the story and can learn about the personality, culture and habits of the characters who play in the film. The method of this study is descriptive analytical method. Data and data sources are from the scenes and dialogues in the ‒What happened to Monday‖ film which are collected by using documenting technique. The data for the research is all sentences in dialogues and shown in all the scenes of the film which are related to the characters' characterization and moral messages. The conclusion of this research states that The characterizations of the character that are played by Noomi Rapace are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday who have different characters, and there are two categories of moral messages that the researcher had taken from this film, the relations with oneself and the human relations with other humans in the social sphere..*

***Keywords: Characters, Characterization, Sci-Fi Film***

[1] IAI Hasanuddin, Pare Kediri
[2] IAI Hasanuddin, Pare Kediri

## Introduction

According to Oxford learner's dictionary, literature is broadly a collection of any written work, but it is also used more narrowly for writing that is specifically considered an art form. In its creation, a literary work must have its own concepts and ideas from the author that are made as attractive as possible. The author's ambitious sense can make his work have a higher potential to satisfy the audience of the work.

There are many types of literary works that can be researched, but the researcher will only focus on one type of literary work, namely film. According to Baskin (2003:4) film is a form of mass communication media from various kinds of technology and various elements of art. Film is clearly different from other literary works, painting, or sculpture. The art of film relies heavily on technology as the raw material for producing and exhibiting in front of its audience. Based on the opinion of the expert above, it can be concluded that film is one of the mass communication media that displays a series of moving images with a storyline played by the actors which is produced to convey a message to the audience.

Character is an important element in literary works, especially in the world of film. Characters give the important roles to make the story in a film more alive (Pope, 2005:86). They give the story a purpose, a reason for the audience to care what happens in the film. They have big influence to represent the important thing that a film wants to deliver to the audience. Character and personality have a close relationship. In any drama, personality plays a vital role in character's behaviors and actions to protect personal entity and psyche (Charters, 2011:34). A character must be able to play various roles that are presented by the film director. Sometimes in a film there is a character that has to play more than one personality. Therefore, it really has to be considered in detail by the character so that what is played by him is in accordance with what is written in the script.

After watching and studying this film, the researcher provides some information related to the film's story through the attention of the character and characterization of the story. Not only that, the reader of this research can get more

understanding the role of the main character who plays seven different characters, her struggle and her role appreciation. ―What happened to Monday?‖ is a 2017 dystopian sci-fi thriller action film directed by Tommy Wirkola and written by Max Botkin and Kerry Williamson. This film tells the life of seven identical twins who have to live in hiding because the world is experiencing an overpopulation which forces the world government to limit the number of babies born each year by coercion. Many challenges must be faced until finally one by one of them died horribly because of their own sister. Researcher is interested in analyzing the characterization of the character in this film, played by Noomi Rapace, who plays seven different characters so that researcher conducts this research related to characterization under the title An Analysis of Seven Characters played by Noomi Rapace in the "What *happened to Monday?" film.*

**Research Method**

By using qualitative study, researcher obtains data in the form of qualitative data. Sugiyono (2011:7) explains that qualitative research is called postpositive research because it is based on the philosophy of post-positivism. This research is also called artistic research because the research process is more artistic (less patterned), and is referred to as interpretive research because the research data is more concerned with the interpretation of the  data found in the field.

The method used in this research is descriptive analytical method. The analytical descriptive method according to Sugiyono (2009:29) is a method that functions to describe or provide an overview of the object under study through data or samples that have been collected as they are without analyzing and making general conclusions.

In other words, analytical descriptive research takes problems or focuses attention on problems as they were when the research was carried out, and the results of the research which are then processed  and analyzed will draw conclusions. For the analysis of seven characters played by Noomi Rapace in the ‒What happened to Monday?‖ film and its moral messages, the researcher will use this method because it is suitable for achieving the objectives of this research.

162

The data in this study is the main part provided in the research principle and the goal is to solve the problems. The researcher has chosen the "What Happened to Monday?" film as the data source. Meanwhile, the data for this research are the scenes and dialogues of the main character, Noomi Rapace, playing 7 different characters in the film to find the characterization of the character played by her and the scenes and dialogue of some characters related to the main character to find the moral messages. This film is directed by Tommy Wirkola and written by Max Botkin and Kerry Williamson.

The method of collecting data is documentary technique that proposed by Ary, et al, (2002). It is about collecting data by observing an event or setting: or documents of popular culture, such as books, films, and videos. In addition to that, technique in collecting data allows the writer to thoroughly collect the object of the study. Therefore, since the researcher uses analytical descriptive method for this study, the researcher requires available data that were taken from a film which suited to the method.

The research data are in the form of scene footage and dialogue from the main character, Noomi Rapace, from the film. They were collected based on the study objectives. In short, researcher must carefully select the data needed in the film ‒What Happened to Monday‖.

Referring to the method used to complete the analysis according to Ary, et al, (2002), the researcher uses several steps to collect the research data of how Noomi Rapace played 7 different characters and the moral messages in this film. Those are:

1. Watching the film "What Happened to Monday?"
2. Identifying all the scenes played by Noomi Rapace and the dialogue in the film to get the data
3. Collecting the data that addresses the problem to be studied
4. Analyzing the data that has been collected and make conclusions due to research

The researcher needs to explain the techniques used to verify data. Generally in qualitative research, it is used to check data validity, credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability.

The researcher chooses credibility as data validity checking in the form of increasing persistence. According to Sugiyono (2011), increasing persistence in testing the validity of data means making observations more carefully and continuously. In this way, data certainty will be recorded with certainty and systematic.

In this study, to determine the characterization of the main character, Noomi Rapace, that played 7 different characters and the moral messages in this film, the researcher will watch the scenes played by her and the dialogue repeatedly to find the characterization of the main character, and watch the scenes played by some characters related to the main character and the dialogue repeatedly to find the moral messages in it. This activity assures the reader that the data obtained can be trusted.

Technically, content analysis includes classifying the symbols used in communication, using criteria and classification, using certain analytical

techniques in making predictions. Content Analysis is often used for
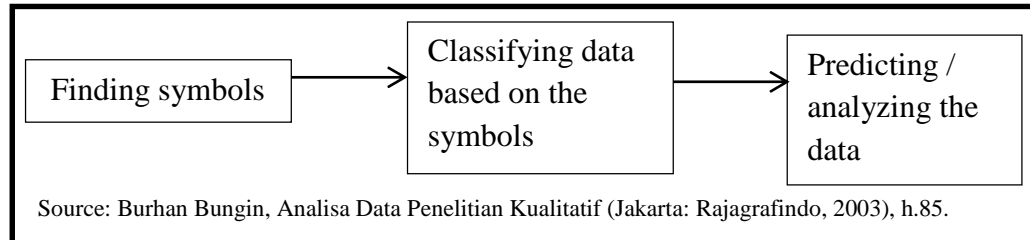
verification analyzes.

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┐
│  ┌──────────────────┐   ┌──────────────────┐   ┌──────────────┐ │
│  │                  │   │ Classifying data │   │ Predicting / │ │
│  │  Finding symbols │──▶│ based on the     │──▶│ analyzing the│ │
│  │                  │   │ symbols          │   │ data         │ │
│  └──────────────────┘   └──────────────────┘   └──────────────┘ │
│  Source: Burhan Bungin, Analisa Data Penelitian Kualitatif (Jakarta: Rajagrafindo, 2003), h.85. │
└─────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

**Chart 3.1: Analysis of qualitative research data**

Based on the chart 3.1 above, analyzing the qualitative data follows some procedures:

1. Watching the scene played by Noomi Rapace and paying attention to the dialogue from the film "What Happened to Monday" repeatedly to find the characterization of the main character until the researcher gets a complete understanding of Noomi Rapace's role in playing the 7 characters well, and watching the scene played by some characters related to the main character and paying attention to the dialogue from the film "What Happened to Monday" repeatedly to find the moral messages in it.

2. Finding out what characterizations are played by Noomi Rapace and the moral messages

3. Selecting and classifying data related to the problems under study

4. Conducting and analyzing the data collected

5. Drawing a conclusion

**Findings and Discussion**

This presents the findings of the study referring to the proposed research problems, covering to the seven characterizations that played by Noomi Rapace and the moral messages of the ‒What happened to Monday‖ film. This research had been conducted for two months since 17 May 2021 to 3 July 2021.

1) Characters

Related to the study of the film, the researcher only takes the main characters that were played by Noomi Rapace. Noomi Rapace played ˗Karen Settman‖ as the cover identity of *Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday,* the seven twin sisters who share one public face, the stoic, uber- professional, and successful career woman. Every day they switch the role as Karen Settman to trick the government officials. Because the setting of the film shows that only one child who can live in the world, they must survive to live together in the situation. They will go out on the day according to their name and share any experience they have on that day.

In the film, there are seven characters played by Noomi Rapace. Those are:

1. Monday (Monday is controlled and always stuck to the rules, cold, ambitious and tough, perfectionist and is always done what is expected, a stasher, and a girl with altruism).



2. Tuesday (Tuesday is a pot-smoking. She smokes a lot of weed to calm herself down, easy going, soft and sensitive, and a caring girl).



3. Wednesday (Wednesday is an athletic who loves training, tomboyish, tough, confident, and confrontational girl).



4. Thursday (Thursday is a rebel, yearns for freedom, and a caring girl).

5.  Friday (Friday is an introvert girl, quite genius girl who is brilliant with technology, math and science, and the brain behind the operation of the seven sisters' cover identity)



6.  Saturday (Saturday is a party-animal girl, funny, a make-up lover, and she sacrifices herself to not fall in love because being emotional makes her vulnerable).



7.  Sunday (Sunday has maternal instincts, gentle and empathetic, religious, sensitive)



2)      Moral Message

Related to the problems studied by researcher, the moral message is one of those. Surely, in every story there is a moral message that the author tries to convey to the audience of his work. There are also many moral messages in this film. Therefore, researchers will find out what are the moral messages contained in the film that is the object of this research.

The moral message that researcher gets from this film through the role played by Noomi Rapace related to human relationships and oneself is about:

▪ The initial problem with the story in this film is the rule of one family one child. Due to conditions at that time, the earth was in a crisis of overpopulation of humans. The existence of seven identical twins surviving in that era was very stressful. Their struggle for 30 years to hide their true identity by wearing the mask "Karen Settman", their mother's name can be imitated. Each of these seven characters has their own role in keeping their identities from being revealed, like Friday who became the brain of their success so far, Thursday who became the leader in the family, and Sunday with her motherly nature who always cared about the others. **Various ways to survive is not an easy thing to do, so do what we can for a better life.**

▪ Of course, the seven characters played by Noomi Rapace are different, especially when it comes to self-confidence. One of them has no self-confidence, Friday, but she can make up for her shortcoming with her genius in technology, mathematics and science. **Everyone certainly has strengths and weaknesses. It would be better if we can cover our weaknesses with the strengths we have.**

▪ The fear of endangering their lives did not escape the character played by Noomi Rapace. They are afraid of being caught by the Bureau, but that fear never seems to arise when they gather together. **When we have something**

**that is feared by ourselves, with someone we care about, we can definitely overcome that fear.**

- Death certainly haunts everyone. It never occurred to them that that day would come so quickly. Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday died because their existence had been opposed by the Bureau from the start, but they could be hidden by their grandfather and could last for 30 years. This incident allowed Tuesday and Thursday.

- to continue living with the belief that their siblings can rest well because after their death, the world returns to normal with no limit on how many children one family should have. **Excessive sadness because of being left behind will have a bad impact on us. Believe that life will continue thanks to those who have gone before us.**

In the previous points, the researcher has discovered and analyzed some data about the character of the main character in the film and moral messages being discussed. In this point, the researcher describes more deeply about the character of the main character.

The researcher has found the seven characters played by Noomi Rapace as Monday from watching the film that she is perfectionist, tough, controlled, and ambitious. She has to cope with the worst day of the week—Monday. She most truly represents the character of Karen Settman. The difference between her and her sisters is that she's always stuck to the rules and she's always done what is expected. For many years she has sacrificed herself. When she meets someone and falls in love, a storm happens inside and she starts to question everything she has learned and the rules she grew up with. She might seem cold but under that she has a big heart and she is a girl dreaming of love and following her own dreams.

Tuesday is a pot-smoking. She is very sensitive and smokes a lot of weed to calm herself down. She cares about her sisters. She is a happy soul who is soft and sensitive. She is also a joke lover. She wears big skirts and lots of jewelry. She will feel happy if she can live out in the world.

Wednesday is an athletic, tomboyish, tough, confident, and confrontational girl and a trained fighter. She loves training and is into martial arts. She's always boxing, training

and working out. The other sisters keep telling her she can't work out too much because she is getting too big and they all need to be the same silhouette to protect their cover. She is practical—a real fighter who puts her fears aside. Wednesday is like a little pit bull.

Thursday is a rebel. She is yearns for freedom but she loves her sisters and becomes the leader. She is wild at heart and feels trapped in the situation she lives in. When she was growing up, she was always breaking the rules and was the opposite of Monday. She wanted to do things her way and it was difficult to accept authority and the rules set by Terrence, her grandfather. During their journey, Thursday really becomes the leader. She takes on more responsibility and becomes an adult.

Friday is an introvert, quiet genius girl who is brilliant with technology, math and science. She is the brain behind the operation of the seven sisters' cover identity. She lives in her own world. She is very smart but probably has ADHD or Asperger's. She has her own system and doesn't like interacting too much with people. She won't look the people in the eye. She's not physical and doesn't like to be touched. She hates going out in the real world, so Friday is her worst day. The other sisters are dying to go out but she doesn't want to. She is insanely good with computers and is the brain of the family. Friday is the one who brings success to Karen Settman but she is not very social person and all her emotions are locked in.

Saturday is a party-animal, and funny girl. She is blonde, sexy, and girlie. She loves pink like Barbie and she loves a drink. She's good humored-

-she makes fun of the other sisters and also of herself. She has a good attitude to everything and underneath she is very romantic. She had to sacrifice her love for her sisters because being emotional makes her vulnerable.

Sunday is gentle, empathetic, religious, and sensitive. She has maternal instincts. She is always thinking of someone else rather than focusing on herself. She just cares about the other sisters and has taken on this role as an anchor.

## Conclusion and Suggestion
### Conclusion

The researcher had found out that the characterizations of the character that are played by Noomi Rapace are *Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday,* and *Sunday* who have different characters, and there are two categories of moral messages

that the researcher had taken from this film, *the relations with oneself* and *the human relations with other humans in the social sphere*.

Two problems have been discussed by the researcher. The first Problem is about the characterizations of the character played by Noomi Rapace. There are seven of them those are Monday who is perfectionist, controlled; ambitious; cold; tough; and dreaming girl, is always stuck to the rules, is always done what is expected, is a stasher, is a girl with altruism, has a big heart, and confidently thinks that she most truly represents Karen Settman, her mother. Tuesday is a pot-smoking, soft and sensitive, caring, and joke lover girl. Wednesday is an athletic, tomboyish; tough; confident; confrontational girl, a trained fighter, and like a little pit bull. Thursday is a rebel, yearns for freedom, a caring girl, and a leader for her other sisters. Friday is an introvert girl, genius, and the brain behind the Karen Settman operations. Saturday is a party-animal and funny girl, make-up lover, and does self-sacrifice. Sunday is a gentle, empathetic, religious and sensitive girl, and has maternal instincts.

The second problem is about moral messages that the researcher had taken from this film. There are two categories referring to moral messages. Those are:

1.    The relations with oneself, including:

- Various ways to survive is not an easy thing to do, so do what we can for a better life.
- Everyone certainly has strengths and weaknesses. It would be better if we can cover our weaknesses with the strengths we have.
- When we have something that is feared by ourselves, with someone we care about, we can definitely overcome that fear.
- Excessive sadness because of being left behind will have a bad impact on us. Believe that life will continue thanks to those who have gone before us.

2.    The human relations with other humans in the social sphere, including:

- Behind every incident in this world, there must be wisdom in it.
- This shows that parental love is never limited to anything.
- We do not know what will happen to us when we meddle in other people's business. Therefore, we should be careful with this.
- When we want to protect something, make sure the method we use will not harm others.
- Behind every plan that we will do, there must be consequences that we must

171

take.

**Suggestion**

In our social life, we are always in contact with many people with their own character. The facts show that these characters have the potential to influence human behavior. Analyzing a literary work will provide great benefits as well, where we can understand human thoughts and feelings from the perspective of characterization. We can also take the moral messages contained in a literary work which we can apply in everyday life. The researcher hopes that this research can also be useful for:

1. Learners

One of the fun ways to learn English is the use of films as a medium of learning. Films also help increase learners' sensitivity in understanding language. This is because the film is very interesting and learners of all ages can watch it. There is a story to follow and observe. This will make the teaching and learning process more interesting and enjoyable for learners. Characters in films can also be a means of learning the character of learners. They can learn to judge the characters in a film and take moral messages that they can apply in their lives.

2. Educators

This can help forming media literacy awareness so that more and more educators realize the importance of teaching media in the classroom. Learners are likely to be exposed to far more of this type of literature than anything else throughout their lives, so it makes sense to teach them how to be critical and active consumers of media. Teaching media literacy is also a great way for educators to help learners become participants in their own culture and other cultures, through lessons in analyzing the literary works.

3. Next researchers

Researcher provides suggestions for next researchers to involve themselves in reading or analyzing literary works. Their linguistic knowledge can be a meaningful tool for studying literary works, so by learning a lot about literature, we can improve our lives. Because this research is using the film by thriller genre and the rate of it is just for adults, hopefully the next researchers can conduct the research using films that can be watched by all ages, and this research can be an inspiration for next researchers who will take up research with the same object.

## REFERENCES

Askurifai, Baskin. 2003. *Membuat Film Indie Itu Gampang*. Bandung: Penerbit Kanisius.

Aston, Elaine; George Savona. 1991. *Theatre as Sign-System: A Semiotics of Text and Performance.* London and New York: Routledge.

Pope, R. 2005. *Creativity: Theory, History, Practice.* New York: Routledge. Baldick. 2006. *Childs and Fowler*

Bannett, Andrew and Nicholas Royle. 2004. *An introduction to literature, criticism and theory, Third Edition.* Great Britain: Pearson Education Limited.

Charters, A. 2011. *The Story and Its Written: An Introduction to Short Fiction.* New York: Bedford.

MasterClass. 2020. *Writing 101: All the Different Types of Characters in Literature.* https://www.masterclass.com/articles/guide-to-all-the- types-of-characters-in-literature#7-character-roles-in-stories (Accessed on 14 April 2021)

Drucker, Haley. 2010. *What are the 5 Main Literature Genres?* https://www.brighthubeducation.com/homework-help-literature/100292- the-five-main-genres-of-literature (Accessed on 14 April 2021)

A.S. Hornby. 2000. *Oxford Advanced Learners of Current English*. New York: Oxford University Press

Fitrah. Zul. *Pengantar Film*. https://www.academia.edu/35389172/Pengantar_Film. (Accessed on 26 December 2020)

Fuji. 2015. *Pengertian Penokohan*. http://www.trigonalmedia.com/2015/08/pengertianpenokohan.html. (Accessed on 6 November 2020)

Hidayat, Medhy Aginta. 2012. *Menggugat Modernisme: Mengenali Rentang Pemikiran Postmodernisme.*

Kennsy, William.1966. *How to analyze fiction*. Monarch Press. New York

Nurgiyantoro, Burhan. 1995. *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*. Yogyakarta :
    Gadjah Mada University Press.

                                  . 2002. *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*. Gadjah Mada
    University Press. Yogyakarta

Oxford Learner's dictionary. 1963. *Literature: Definitions*. Oxford
    University Press

Patrice, Pavis.1998. *Dictionary of the Theatre: Terms, Concepts, and Analysis.*

Trans. Christine Shantz. Toronto and Buffalo: U of Toronto P. Sugiyono.
    2011. *Metode penelitian kuantitatif, kualitatif, dan R&D*. Alfabeta.

Bandung

_____. 2009. *Metode penelitian kuantitatif, kualitatif, dan r&d*. Alfabeta.

Bandung

Putra, Fajri Prima. 2014. *Penokohan Dan Perwatakan Novel Bumi Cinta*
    *Karya Habiburrahman El Shirazy.*

Riadi, Muchlisin. 2012. *Pengertian, Sejarah, dan Unsur-Unsur*
    *Film*. http://www.kajianpustaka.com. (Accessed on 12
    December 2020) Safitri. Farah Dian. *Introduction to*
    *Literature*.

https://www.academia.edu/38996922/INTRODUCTION_TO
    LITERATURE 26 12 2020. (Accessed on 25 December
    2020)

Sanjaya, Ade. 2015. *Pengertian Film Definisi Fungsi, Jenis, Sejarah Menurut*
    *Para Ahli*. http:// www.landasanteori.com. (Accessed on 2 January 2021)

Zakky, Mokhammad. 2014. *Sejarah Film Dunia dari Masa ke*
    *Masa*. http://namafilm.blogspot.co.id. (Accessed on 2
    January 2021)