

## THE COMPARISON BETWEEN THE MOVIE OF MULAN 1998 AND ITS REMAKE, MULAN 2020 (COMPARATIVE LITERATURE STUDIES)

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**Abstract:** This paper title is The Comparison between The Movie of Mulan 1998 and Its Remake, Mulan 2020. The objectives of this paper are to find out the similarities and the differences in intrinsic elements of both literary works. This research used comparative theory to analysis the reduction, addition, and modification. This research also used descriptive qualitative, the data collected from the intrinsic elements of both movies. In collecting data, the researcher used description as the instrument to find out the reduction, addition, and modification of Mulan 1998 and Mulan 2020. In this research, the researcher found that there were several differences and similarities in intrinsic and extrinsic elements. In addition, the researcher found that reduction, addition and modification influenced to the change of some intrinsic elements in both movie versions.

**Keywords:** Mulan, comparative, intrinsic, and extrinsic elements

**Abstrak:** Penelitian ini berjudul *The Comparison between The Movie of Mulan 1998 and Its Remake, Mulan 2020*. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mencari tahu persamaan dan perbedaan unsur intrinsic dari kedua karya tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori komparatif untuk menganalisis reduksi, penambahan, dan modifikasi. Penelitian ini menggunakan deskriptif kualitatif, data diambil dari unsur intrinsic kedua film tersebut. Dalam mengumpulkan data, peneliti menggunakan deskripsi sebagai instrument untuk mencari reduksi, penambahan, dan modifikasi dari film Mulan 1998 dan Mulan 2020. Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menemukan ada beberapa perbedaan dan persamaan pada unsur intrinsic dan ekstrinsik. Selain itu, peneliti juga menemukan bahwa reduksi, penambahaan, dan modifikasi berpengaruh terhadap perubahan beberapa unsur intrinsic pada kedua film tersebut.

**Kata kunci:** Mulan, comparative, intrinsic, and extrinsic elements

## RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Literature is a term used to describe written and sometimes spoken material. Derived from the Latin word literature means „writing formed with letters“. Literature most commonly refers to works of the creative imaginations, including poetry, drama, fiction, nonfiction, and in some instances, journalism and song. But nowadays, literature is not only the written ones. A lot of people regarding that movies are also a kind of literature. In literature, there's a lot of works that look similar to each other. That's why there's comparative literature.

Comparative literature is a way for people who want to analyze and study the comparison between literature works. Nowadays, comparative literature is not only compare two literary works on the same medium, but also with another medium. It can also compare two literary works from different country. History of this comparative literature firstly developed in France, this comparative literature divide in two school, they are French school and American school. In France, the comparative literature was spearheaded by Fernand Baldensperger, Jean-Marie Carre, Paul van Tieghem, and Marius-Francois Guyard. French school emphasizes the comparison of literary works from different countries. While in American School, comparative literature focus on comparison of two different literary works and compare the literary works with certain fields of science and arts.

Comparative Literature can be said as new study, At first the comparative literary study was derived from a comparative study of science, and then a comparative study of religion, after that comparative literature. This study still not well known if compared with other research such as literary criticism and literary sociology because Damono (2005:14) said, essentially every study uses comparative steps because with this comparative steps we only can easier to understand about the problem". However as a literature study this comparative literature challenging to use in the research of literary works. Wellek and Warren (1989: 40) states, that comparative literary term is used for the study of oral literature, folklore and its migration, how and when folklore enters into more artistic literary writing. Comparative literary terms in this regard include the study of relationships between two or more literatures. Comparative literature is appeared from the realization that the literature is not single, but the literature is plural.

The object of this research is intrinsic elements in Mulan 1998 movie and it's remake, Mulan 2020 movie. In the remake version there was something new because the movie was a live action movie. This quite reason why do researcher interested to this comparative study to find the similarities and differences in intrinsic element or extrinsic of fictions in both of literary works. Intrinsic element consist of plot, theme, character and characterization, setting, point of view, style and imagery.

## DISCUSSION

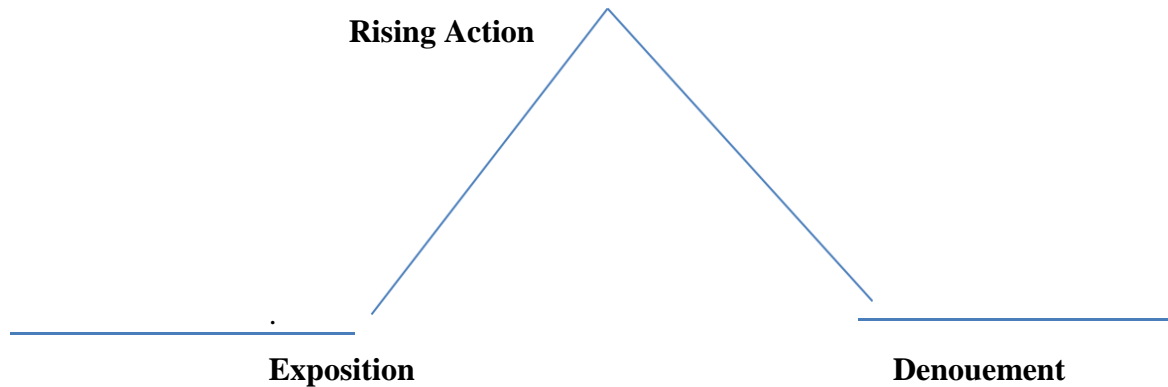
### The Similarities of Mulan 1998 Movie and Mulan 2020 Movie

#### 1. Plot

Plot is a plot or series of events in the story structure in conceived as functional interrelation which also marks the order of whole passage in fiction, that generally consists of fiction storyline.

### Freytag Pyramid

**Climax** Mulan fights against enemy



Mulan had to pretending as a man.

Mulan brings honor to her family

The first one is exposition. The story begins when Mulan had to pretend or disguise as a man to replace her father's position as an imperial warrior. The next one is rising action, when Mulan identity as a woman had revealed. In this scene, both movies have different ways in revealing Mulan's identity, but still hit the same in plot. In the 1998 version, Mulan identity revealed when Mulan got a scar in her stomach because of enemy's sword. She must be treated and then the truth that she is a girl is revealed. In 2020 version, Mulan revealed the truth by herself; it's not an inadvertence situation like what happen in the 1999 version. It's a decision of Mulan that she cannot longer pretend or disguise as a man. Next is climax, Mulan had to fight face to face against the main villain. Then the falling action, when Mulan succeed to beat her enemy along with she saved china. And the last one is the denouement, when mulan back to her home and bring honor to her family and she also succeeds in her love life.

### 2. Point of View (POV)

Point of View is the angle or perspective from which the story is told. And both movie version have similar POV, which is Omniscient POV. This is when the story is told in third person by a narrator who has unlimited knowledge of events and characters

### 3. Setting

The setting of a story is its overall context, where, when and in what circumstances the action occurs.

#### a. Setting as Place

Both movies take place in China.

### **b. Setting as Time**

And both movies takes time setting in T'ang dynasty, around 7th to 9th century. There's a scene of Mulan 2020's scene that also come up in the Mulan 1998 movie. It showed Mulan on the house of Madame Matchmaker with a tradisional make up on her face. It's a traditional female makeup. This female make up highlights the strong colors of the T'ang dynasty on their faces, especially with yellow foreheads, red cheeks and emerald green eyebrows that will not be found in any other dynasty of the period, said Sun Ji, a researcher at the museum of Chinese history.

### **c. Setting as Cultural Context**

The next similarities are the cultural context. Because it's a remake work so of course it has the same cultural background, which is Chinese culture. Actually it's pretty obvious because of the name of the characters is the characteristic of Chinese name, and the red color concept; which is the color of China, clothes; they wear the traditional clothes of China.

### **d. Social Critique**

The next one is social critique. In Mulan movie, the 1998 version or 2020 version, elevated a social critique about feminism. Mulan shows that the function of feminism is only to the strong masculinity construction in the society, if we only take a glance, then it seems that man and woman already have an equal position and role. However, it turns out that the winning of feminist happened because of the masculinity construction. The researcher also not interprets Mulan as a gender-bending feminist, because her acceptance of her identity is core to her story arc.

## **The Differences of Mulan 1998 Movie and Mulan 2020 Movie**

Both movies have some differences that quit obvious. We can know it if we already watched both movie version of Mulan. And we are going to state some of the differences of both movies. And I already state some points, which are the years of production, genre, character / characterization, and symbol.

### **1. Years of Production**

Based on the title, we already know that Mulan 1998 was produced in 1998 by Disney, the production house of America. And Mulan 2020 was produced in 2020 also by Disney.

### **2. Genre**

Next is the genre different. Mulan 1998 was elevated animation and musical genre. We know that this movie is 2Dimation animation movie or we can called it a cartoon. And this movie has some songs that sang by the characters, so we can know that it's a musical movie. For Mulan 2020, it was elevated the different genre from it's original movie, which are action and adventures. This movie was focused on the fight scenes and the war, but still, this movie is produced by Disney, which is a channel for kids, so it doesn't shows brutal act.

### 3. Character

#### a. Fa Mulan and Hua Mulan

The character differences, the first one are the protagonist, which is Mulan. It has different surname. In 1998 version, Mulan's character was depicted as a brave, smart, and skilled human being, but in 2020 version, it was still depicted as a brave, smart and skilled character but, she's not like a human being but like a real warrior with supernatural power.

#### b. Li Shang and Hong Hui

The next one is Li Shang and Hong Hui. Li Shang was depicted as a captain of the group which is the son of the commander. But Hong Hui is an ordinary people that doesn't have any post. But still, both are skilled warrior.

#### c. Shan Yu and Bora Khan

This is the main villain, which are Shan Yu and Bora Khan. It's obvious that the name is different, both have the same characterization, but in 2020 version, it tells a little bit of his past.

#### d. Mushu and Phoenix

The next one is the family guard, which are Mushu and Phoenix. It's pretty obvious that both is different. Mushu is a family guard in the form of a dragon that can talk. But Phoenix is a character that can't talk but just show up to guide Mulan.

#### e. Grandma Fa and Hua Xiu

Next is Mulan family's member. In 1998 version it's her Grandma but in 2020 version, she have a little sister called Hua Xiu.

#### f. New Characters

In Mulan 2020, there is live action version; it shows the new character that didn't exist in the original version, which are Xianning and Commander Tung. Xianning is one of the main villains that really give impact to the whole story. She is a woman that have the same „chi“ as Mulan but she used it to hurt people. She is the one that help Mulan finds her identity of powers. And Commander Tung also gives an impact to the story. He replaces Li Shang in the original version as a leader of the group.

### 4. Symbol

The last difference is the symbols which are a dragon and a phoenix. Both have meaning that really related to Mulan's story and its value. In Mulan 1998 movie version, Dragon in the Orient. It symbolizes supernatural power, wisdom, strength, and hidden knowledge. And in the Mulan 2020 movie version, Phoenix. This mythical bird is a symbol of hope, renewal, rebirth, immortality, resurrection, solitude, and grace.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, both movies are basically similar, because it's a remake movie and we know that the intrinsic elements are mostly similar. It has the same plot, point of view, theme but different character and characterization and it has different detail story but still with the same

storyline. It also has some different character and new character in the new movie but it doesn't change the plot.

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