

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

After researching the *Shutter Island* novel and its movie adaptation, it can be concluded that the adapter makes significant alterations by omitting, modifying, and adding elements to the plot while preserving the storyline. Scorsese altered the exposition by omitting the background of Teddy's father and Dr. Sheehan's journal and replaced it with a seasick Teddy, interpreting that the adapter wanted to emphasize the story by focusing more on the main character. Then, he modified the complication to emphasize the main character's psychological conflict. He also modified the climax to be more symbolic, as proven by the change of setting from the doctor's room to the lighthouse. Lastly, he added dialogue that made the ending more ambiguous and open-ended, which gives the audience a wide scope for interpretation. This movie does not merely adapt the story, but presents it in a different way from the original.

This study examines not just what has altered, but also the effects of those alterations. In terms of plot, the novel *Shutter Island* presents a gradual, objective, rational storyline with a closed ending. This creates certainty for readers regarding the revelation of an absolute truth. In contrast, the movie alters the representation of this plot to be subjective, ambiguous, and open-ended. These alterations transition the plot's value from a definitive conclusion to an expansive realm for audience interpretation. These alterations are also known to shift the meaning of the narrative from a rational detective story to a complex and emotional psychological journey. The plot alterations also affect how the themes are represented. Major

themes such as reality and illusion, trauma, and identity are constructed in a deterministic and stable. Meanwhile, the movie reconstructs these themes to be more reflective, emotional, and dramatic. This is evident by the use of flashbacks, symbols, and the dream visualizations. These differences show that the alterations made during the adaptation process are merely part of a narrative transformation in the form of adapting to a new medium and a different target audience.

Overall, this study demonstrates that plot alterations significantly contribute to the development of a story's theme. The movie adaptation of *Shutter Island* proves that adapting a story is not just a matter of copying the original script, but transforming it into something more creative. This aligns with Linda Hutcheon's assertion that adaptation is not merely a replication from one medium to another, but a creative endeavor that transforms the original narrative to generate varied experiences and interpretations. This movie adaptation has proven to remain faithful to the original work. The adapter managed to make *Shutter Island* relevant to the audience and able to respect and reinterpret the source work without completely changing the original elements of the novel, especially the plot and the main themes.

5.2 Suggestion

In this sub-chapter, the writer advises other researchers interested in adaptation studies to explore how plot alterations affect the psychology of the main characters, especially through a psychoanalytic or narrative psychology approach. The writer also advises researchers to examine the audience reception using Hutcheon's theory. Based on Hutcheon's idea of adaptation as a form of repetition without replication, future research could focus on audience reception to determine

how plot alterations in the movie affect the interpretation of readers and movie viewers while using a reader response approach. Lastly, the writer hopes that this study can provide new insights into how adaptation occurs, especially in terms of alterations to important elements in the plot and theme of the story.

