



An Analysis of Ecranisation Process of Intrinsic Elements in Novel to Film "*Five Feet Apart*" by Rachael Lippincott

Rizki Tania Putri¹, Fauziah Khairani Lubis², Elisa Betty Manullang³

^{1,2,3} English and Literature Department, Universitas Negeri Medan, Indonesia

Correspondence E-mail: rizkiputri@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This study aims to determine the changes experienced by intrinsic elements found in the novel "*Five Feet Apart*" by Rachael Lippincott which was adapted into a film, along with thereasons. This study uses the descriptive qualitative method and Eneste's theory to analyze the changes that occur and the reasons for changes in the ecranisation study. The research data was taken from the intrinsic elements (plot, characters, and settings) of the *Five Feet Apart* novel published in 2018 and *the Five Feet Apart* film released in 2019. In data collection, the researcher used note-taking as an instrument to determine the reduction, addition, and modification and also the reasons for the after the novel was adapted into a film. In this study, the

researcher found that there were several subtractions, additions, and modifications that occurred as a result of the ecranisation of the characters. While the plot and setting are only subject to reduction and modification, no additions are made to these two intrinsic elements. Also, the researcher found that the changes (reduction, addition, and modification) were caused by several reasons. The reasons that influence the change in the adaptation of a novel into a film are technical limitations, media differences in expressing the work, and the creativity of filmmakers.

Keywords:

Five Feet Apart, Ecranisation, Intrinsic Elements, Novel, Film

INTRODUCTION

In the twentieth century, there are two most dominant ways of presenting fiction to its connoisseurs. The first one is the textual form of a novel and the other one is the audio-visual form of film. These media differ from oneanother and have their fans over the time being. Thesemedia have developed on their own as time goes by but also at the same time have a connection to oneanother. There is a phenomenon that occurs where there are films and novels are found to have the same title and general idea. This happens because the film

is the audio-visual version of the novel. It can be said that the filmmaker adapts the story from a novel and make it into a visual-audio form/film.

Novel is one of the most popular forms of prose. Novel was originated in the early 18th century after the Italian word "novella", which was used for stories in the medieval period. Novel conveys its content through sentences composed by the author. Novel originally comes from the forms of narrative nonfiction, such as history biography, letter, etc. But, as time passes, the author of the novel can change the content of the novel according to the imagination. Novel is written in a certain amount of words. Ana (2009) suggests that novel is a piece of fiction that contains 40.000 words. Novel is loved among people who love to read and manage their imagination through textual stories.

As technology and the digital media industry develop through the era, humans keep expanding it and gain more connoisseurs. Film as one of the parts of digital media also has developed into a better version. Film conveys its story through audio-visual or also motion-picture. Hornby (2005) said the film is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown on television and the theatre or cinema. Movie filming activities have been started since the '90s. In Indonesia, there are more than a hundred films produced in 2019. On average, ten films were released every month from various genres. Some of the films that were produced last year by adapting the story from a novel, are Twivortiare, Bumi Manusia, Dilan Series, Wedding Agreement, etc.

The adapted movies are awaited enthusiastically by the readers of the novels and also expected spectators. This process of adapting the novel into a film is called ecranisation. Ecranisation can be defined as transferring or sifting a textual story into an audio-visual form. This process removes the characteristics of the novel and adjusts it into the film characteristics. Eneste (1991) proposes ecranisation as a white screening or transfer/removal of a novel into a film. This definition is derived from its original word, ecran, which means the screen. So, ecranisation is the process of novel filmization.

In the process of sifting the novel into the film, changes and differences occur, according to Eneste (1991), which is a creative form that can be performed by the director by conducting the addition, subtraction and appearance variations storyline. The miscellany of subtraction, addition, and modification of these variations are due to the different medium between the film results with novel adaptation, technical limitation, and creativity of filmmakers.

Ecranisation process is done frequently in public for decades, but the types of change

and reasons that cause the change are still unknown and unfamiliar for most spectators. This research, in turn, explains the important points to be paid attention to the one are interested in making a film adaptation. The researcher aims to analyze changes and the reasons in the ecranisation process in the novel *Five Feet Apart* (2018) by Rachael Lippincott into the film (2019) by Justin Baldoni.

Reduction

A reduction is one of the steps taken during the process of transforming a literary work into a film. Reduction is the element that reduces or cuts the story of literary works in the process of transformation. Eneste (1991) asserts that the reduction or reduction of the story of the item is due to several factors, (1) this scene was not required or not so important that it is not appropriate to film, because we know that not every scene can be filmed, the unnecessary scene will not be filmed and only the necessary portion or scene will be filmed. (2) Another explanation is, that's disturbing. Some have said if the producer includes some unnecessary scenes, the story in the film will be disturbed. (3) In film production, there are some technical limitations, so that not all the scene or story in the novel can be filmed. (4) The last problem relates to the film's duration. Film duration is a maximum of 3 hours and an average of 2 hours, thus limiting how many scenes can be filmed from the novel.

Addition

The addition (extension) is a change in the transformation process of a literary work into film form. The process can also occur in the realm of story, plot, characterization, setting, and atmosphere as well as a reduction in creation. According to Davies (2011), while respecting the original thing of work, the filmmakers were allowed to change the length by adding scenes. If there is a negative assumption of readers and spectators are because of their concept of a mental image. The concept of mental image is the reader's mind while reading literary works. It encloses all of the reader's mental life experience, character, and ideology to shape an image.

Modification

Modification is the third thing that happens during the process of transforming a literary work into a movie. The modification here could occur in the realm of story ideas, storytelling style and so on. Variations in transformation are influenced by several factors including the media used, the audience question, the duration of playback time. Eneste (1991) states that filmmakers felt the need to make variations in the film during ecranisation, giving the impression that a film based on the novel was not originally as a

novel.

METHOD

This research used descriptive qualitative research. The source of data in this research was *Five Feet Apart* novel by Rachael Lippincott and *Five Feet Apart* film directed by Justin Baldoni. The method used by the researcher in this study is note-taking. The data were collected by reading the novel, watching the film, and jotting down the sentences and scenes. Then, the data were classified into three types of changes. The researcher elaborated the changes and reasons that happened in the novel and the film. Drawing the conclusion of the analysis that had been already done is the last step in conducting this research.

RESULTS

There were 57 changes found in the ecranisation process of *Five Feet Apart* novel and its film adaptation. The changes that occurred in the intrinsic elements are reduction, addition and modification. The intrinsic elements that were analysed in this study included plot, characters and setting in the novel and its film adaptation. The table below was the representation of the whole data found in this study. The representative data represented each intrinsic elements that were analyzed in the novel and the film.

Table 4.1 Types of intrinsic elements in The Ecranisation Study of Novel into Film *Five Feet Apart* by Rachael Lippincott.

Intrinsic Elements	Novel	Film	Alteration		
			R	A	M
Plot	Stella's mom thanks Will for saving her life by telling Stella to take the lungs. Then Mya and Camila visiting the hospital. <moments that happen while Stella is in the operation room> (p. 335-339)	Those scenes are made into slow-motion without any dialogue, some parts are also reduced. (1:39:24-1:40:00)			✓
Characters	Barb -	"Dr. Hamid said that you suddenly wanna be responsible for your own regimen." (25:29)		✓	
Settings	Sun starts catching the horizon on their date.	The sky is still dark on their first date.			✓

	I look over at him as the sun slowly crests the horizon, casting a warm glow onto his face, his eyes bright and filled with something brand new but somehow familiar. (p.254)	They look into each other with a smile full of happiness and love, but there's no warm glow on Will's face because it's still dark outside. (1:08:25)			
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DISCUSSIONS

Referring to Eneste's theory (1991), several things can influence the changes in the film adaptation of this novel. Some of the factors that can influence it are:

Technical Limitations (Space and Time)

Having different media in conveying their stories, novels and films have different techniques. Novels, in general, have no limitations when it comes to storytelling. The author cantell his story to readers in hundreds to thousands of pages using detailed descriptions, certain emotions described in selected words that can build a picture and imagination in the mind of each reader. The author freely conveys things he thinks that may not even exist and is difficultto be realized but becomes real in the story they make.

On the other hand, films usually have technical limitations in conveying story adaptations from novels. The duration of films usually ranges from one and a half to two hours. In such a short amount of time, the director/filmmaker was asked to tell a story from a novelthat has hundreds to thousands of pages. This is one of the big factors that can cause shrinkage that occurs in film adaptations. Filmmakers were forced to remove some events from the storyline to overcome the technical limitations of the film. The loss of several events in the adaptation process will certainly not interfere with the loss of the message to be conveyed from the story.

In intrinsic element setting, it was depicted that Stella looked over at Will as the sun slowly crests the horizon, casting a warm glow onto his face, his eyes bright and filled with something brand new but somehow familiar (p.254). While in the movie, they looked into each other with a smile full of happiness and love, but there's no warm glow on Will's face because it's still dark outside. The technical problems were experienced by not fulfilling the atmosphere and weather according to the story made in the novel. Filming was shot in winter when it was snowing. It was also difficult to find a place with the early morning sunshine in such a winter. So, the filmmaker decided to keep shooting in the same background but without the sun to complement the warm situation.

Media Difference in Telling Stories

When a filmmaker decides to adapt a story from a novel and turn it into a film through an ecranisation process, it means that the filmmaker must turn the ideas that the writer describes in words into tangible objects that can be seen and watched by film enthusiasts. The filmmaker's requirement in realizing the writer's ideas in the story in the novel resulted in changes after the story adaptation was carried out.

The difference that is usually found from this reason is that one of them is the slight disappearance of the sentimental nature and emotionality that can be obtained from the chosen words written by the author in the novel. In the novel, the writer will explain in detail the characteristics of a thing so that it can be imagined as clearly as possible in the mind. When transferred to film, filmmakers usually find it difficult to embody the specifics conveyed in the novel. It is rather difficult to find objects, places, situations, people who are exactly the same as what is described in a novel. So that filmmakers must deal properly with these difficulties by shrinking, deleting, and modifying the story so that the story can still have the same quality as the original story in the novel.

In intrinsic element plot, the filmmaker transformed several scenes from the novel into a time-lapse scene. In the novel, the author describes in detail the events that occurred during Stella's transplant surgery to evoke emotions of emotion and anxiety felt by Stella's relatives and friends. Meanwhile, the filmmaker decided to use time-lapse technology to encapsulate the events in the novel. Expressions shown by the character's faces and mimics already could give delineation of the atmosphere in the scene. The audience can still feel the emotion of emotion and anxiety.

Creativity of Filmmakers

The additions that occur in a film adaptation usually made to complement or enhance the story when the filmmaker feels unsatisfied with the story that the novel author has created. The additions to film adaptations after the ecranisation process usually arise from the creativity of the filmmaker. Filmmakers usually choose the information that is considered important or marked first. So, filmmakers are not wrong in making decisions when they will make changes in the adaptation process, and also the message/theme of the story that has been conveyed in the novel does not disappear when it is adapted into a film. Creativity was made to increase the quality of the story to make it better and more interesting.

In intrinsic element character, the filmmaker added to Barb's nurse dialogue, which

aims to provide information about Will's condition after he had been poorly adherent to the treatment he had to undergo. Barb is depicted as conveying his surprise about Will's changing attitude, previously in novels, Barb's shock emotion was not shown much. This change added the point to the story in explaining the condition of Will as one of the main character in the story. With this dialogue too, the closeness between nurse Barb and the patients she worked with was even clearer.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the result of the data analysis, the researcher draws some conclusion that the plot and setting only experienced two changes of ecranisation, which are reduction and modification. The characters of the story are the only intrinsic elements that experienced all the changes (reduction, addition, and modification) of the ecranisation process. There was no addition that has occurred on the plot and setting of time and place. The reasons that influence the change in the ecranisation process from Five Feet Apart novel to its film adaptation are technical limitations, media differences in expressing the work, and creativity of filmmakers.

The changes that occurred in Five Feet Apart novel and its film adaptation had been considered to be changed or transformed by the filmmakers. These changes were done to add more value/points and informations to the story. Also, the transformation that happened through the ecranisation process were made in order to make the story better and more interesting.

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