

ECRANISATION OF PLOT FROM NOVEL TO FILM OF *MAZE RUNNER: THE DEATH CURE*

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ABSTRACT

This research focuses on the form of ecranisation the storyline adaptation from the novel to the film *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*. The purpose of this research is to describe the forms of ecranisation (addition, alteration, and compression) through a comparison of the narrative facts from the novel to the film. This study employs a literature study approach with a qualitative descriptive method. The data consists of words, phrases, and sentences found in the novel and the film script. The data collection techniques in this study include reading, noting, observing, transcribing the film into a script, translating the film script, and classifying the data. The analysis techniques used are data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. This research will utilize comparative literature theory, narrative facts (plot, characters, and setting), and ecranisation (addition, alteration, and compression). The results of this research show that the comparison between the novel *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* and the film has narrative similarities and employs a mixed plot structure. The differences observed are evident in the introduction of new plots and settings in the film. This occurs due to the condensation of the story in the film; not all information from the novel can be fully incorporated into the film. The form of ecranisation (changes) that occurs in adapting the novel *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* into the film tends to include more additions, such as the introduction of new settings and plots. This happens because the past setting is not prominently featured, and there are elements of adult themes within it, indicating that every process of ecranisation inevitably experiences changes.

1. INTRODUCTION

Ecranisation refers to the process of transforming a textual narrative into an audio-visual format. This process involves adapting the novel's characteristics to fit the conventions of film. Eneste (2016) describes ecranisation as the conversion or translation of a novel into a filmic representation. Essentially, it can be understood as the adaptation of a novel into a film. Damono (2005) explained that this adaptation process serves to expand the connoisseur of literary works beyond traditional readers, and also to offer new ways for the

audience to engage with the story. In this case, the process of ecranisation of a novel or other written literary work becomes a film and will produce various changes, which is why ecranisation is also known as the process of change (Rokhmansyah, 2014). Filmmakers strive hard to create good, quality films that are able to preserve each original narrative, whether from short stories, novels or dramas. Historically, an adaptation aims to bridge the mix between literature and more modern entertainment culture, and also to honor the creativity of the authors.

As it stated by Eneste (1991) that the creative process in the adoption of novels into film will experience an increase or decrease in the course of the story. Moreover, the nature of adapting text into film does not have to be similar with the original text adapted (Hutcheon, 2006). Thus, it can be concluded that in translating a textual literary work into audio-visual form, there will definitely be changes in scenes that increase or decrease, scenes that are added or removed. In essence, film adaptation is the same as the transformation of modern literary works in the process of adapting them into contemporary storytelling forms. In adapting a novel into film, the process of action and situation is converted from texts into live action so that both readers and common people (who practically do not like reading) are able to enjoy the modern form of literary work without any effort to imagine the situation just like reading a novel. However, there are some considerations that must be done when making a novel into a film, one of them is to reduce or add some scenes as the process of change. As it mentioned by Eneste (2018) that the addition in the ecranisation process not only aims to revive the storyline in the film so that the message and the meaning in the film is reached, but also to achieve the cinematic value that exists in the film. Meanwhile Eneste (2016) also stated that the reduction can be carried out on literary works such story elements, plot, characters, setting, and atmosphere because of the process of reducing or cutting it is not all that is expressed in the novel will be found in the film so that, there will be cuts or removal of sections in the literature in the process of transformation into a film.

Further, regarding the differences between novel and film version of a literary work, the writer found one of the examples where the form of written literary work is converted into film and created a different plot, namely *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*. In the storyline both in the novel and film version, the writer noticed that there are some similarities and differences. In this case, the writer finds one of the differences in the narrative plot, especially at the end of the story (resolution).

In that case, the writer is interested in describing the differences of narrative plot between the novel and film version of *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* as the result of the process of reconnaissance. Here, the writer is interested in discussing the differences of narrative plot since the writer would like to inform the readers that in the conversion of novel into film, there are always differences that is necessary to be done along with the story line so that it will also change the perception of the common readers that the story of the novel similar with the film version. Moreover, the writer chooses the literary work of *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* because interestingly, this is one of the series of *The Maze Runner* after the first movie and book of *The Maze Runner* and *Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials*. Unfortunately, from all four *Maze Runner* book series, there are only three movies that are adapted from the novel. In other words, *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* is the latest literary

work that is adapted from the novel. Hence, the writer chose it in order to analyze the comparison between the plot of the novel and the film.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous Studies

In order to do the proper analysis, the writer needs to review some previous studies. The previous studies further function to help the writer to give contribution both in theory and how the theory is applied to the object of analysis. The author carried out an analysis by looking at three previous studies which used Eneste's theory of ecranization to analyze the narrative structure in the novel until it became a film. The first analysis carried out by Adjie and Nopriansah (2018) discusses the similarities and differences in intrinsic elements between the novel and the film *Harry Potter: The Deathly Hallows*, which leads to how reductions, additions, and modifications influence the adaptation. . The second analysis conducted by Kayyis (2016) focused on *Divergent*, revealing the same changes in narrative elements while still monitoring several of the same aspects. The third analysis from Subrata and Sayuti (2018) analyzes that *Heaven That Is Not Missed*, focuses on differences in plot, characters, and settings that influence the change from textual to audiovisual media and have an impact on religious themes. All of these studies apply Eneste's theory, providing valuable insights for any current research or writers regarding the film *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*, which aims to describe the differences between the narrative plot in the novel and its film adaptation.

Ecranisation

In doing the analysis, the writer applied Eneste's theory of Ecranisation. Eneste (2016) explained ecranisation as a process of removal or appointment of a novel into a film where in the process of transferring the novel to silver screen, mostly it will also lead to the emergence of a variety of changes. Therefore, ecranisation, also referred to as the process of change, can be reduced, added (extension), and changed to a variety. Eneste (2016) explains that the changes that occur in ecranisation are as follows:

Reduction

The first step that is taken in the process of transformation of a literary work into a film is a reduction. Reduction is the reducing or cutting elements of the story of literary works during the transformation process (Eneste, 2016). He also stated that the reduction can be carried out on literary works such as story elements, plot, characters, setting, and atmosphere. Thus, because of the process of reducing or cutting it, not all that is expressed in the novel will be found in the film, so, there will be cuts or removal of sections in the literature in the process of transformation into a film.

Addition

The addition (extension) is a change in the process of transformation of a literary work into film form (Eneste,1991). As well as a reduction in the creation, this process can also occur in

the realm of story, plot, characterization, setting, and atmosphere (Eneste,1991). Davies (2011) explained that the filmmakers were allowed to change the duration by adding scenes while respecting the original meaning of the work. Further, Eneste (2018: 121) stated that the addition in the ecranisation process not only aims to revive the storyline in the film so that the message and the meaning in the film is reached, but also to achieve the cinematic value that exists in the film.

Modification/Changes Variation

Change variation is the third thing that occurs in the process of transformation of a literary work into a film. Variations in transformation are influenced by several factors, among others, the media used, the question of the audience, the duration of playback time (Eneste, 2016: 16). Eneste (2016: 16) also added that in ecranisation, film makers felt the need to make variations in the film in order to give the impression that the film based on the novel is not originally followed completely from the novel. Therefore, regarding to the explanations, it can be said that modification in the novel to the film is influenced by several factors and the producers of the film also need to make changes variations in order to shows to the audience that although the film is based on the novel's story, the storyline in the film is not completely similar. Moreover, in the ecranisation, variations made in the film in order to eliminate the boredom of the audience in enjoying the story from the beginning to the end (Eneste, 2016: 17) and also, Eneste (2018: 121) mentioned that the aim of variations is to produce more interesting story and give the impression that adaptation is not just moving the story from novel to film completely.

3. METHODOLOGY

In doing this research, the writer employed a qualitative method. Since, the qualitative method is in the form of narrative explanation without numbering or statistical analysis. Creswell (2014) describes qualitative research as an effective way to obtain specific information about the values, opinions, behaviors, and social context of particular populations and the strength of qualitative research is its ability to provide complex textual descriptions of how people experience a given research issue. Based on the definition, qualitative research focuses on the textual description, where it also develops the explanation of social phenomena. Since the writer focused on the text that is related to narrative structure, therefore, this research applied a qualitative method.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This film is adapted from the novel *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*. The novel was written by James Dashner and consists of 436 pages. It is the third book in the *Maze Runner* series, published in 2011. The novel was then adapted into a film with a duration of 2 hours and 22 minutes. Based on the data that has been collected and analyzed, there are several differences in character development and plot between the novel and the film. Character development involves the author's intentionality in portraying the traits and personalities

from the novel into the film. The aim is to build and advance the development of each character within the narrative.

Changes in Film


This film reveals several aspects related to the changes from the novel to the film. These changes are found in various parts of the novel. The film introduces many new characters that serve as supporting roles in the story.

Table 1. Changes of Characters in Film

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
Characters : Thomas, Minho, Newt, Gally, Teresa, Brenda, Aris Jones, Frypan, Ava Paige, Glader, Chuck, Jorge, Janson	Characters : Dylan O'Brien as Thomas, Kaya Scodelario as Teresa, Thomas Brodie-Sangster as Newt, Ki Hong Lee as Minho, Will Poulter as Gally, Rosa Salazar as Brenda, Dexter Darden as Frypan, Walton Goggins as Lawrence, Katherine McNamara as Sonya, David Butler as Doctor, Shai Lun Choo as Little Girl, Giancarlo Esposito as Jorge, Aidan Gillen as Janson, Patricia Clarkson as Ava Paige, Barry Pepper as Vince, Nathalie Emmanuel as Harriet, Jacob Lofland as Aris Jones, Clayton as WICKED Operator, Jacob as Jeff, Bart Fauce as Engineer, Fiona Ramsay as Board Member, Emily Child as Infected Woman, Grek Kriek as Co Conductor, Aidan Gillen as Janson, Zoe Edler as Zart, Aml Ameen as Alby, Black Cooper as Chuck, Gary Hood as Glader, Andrew as Patient Zero, Alexander as Winston, Jeff Wiesent as Glader#5, Drikus as Team Leader, Liza Scholtz as Nurse, Paul du Toit as Pilot Berg, Randall as Clint, Jake as WCKD Lieutenant, Armando as WCKD Guard, Dylan Smith as Jasper, Kazi as Immune Child, Paul as Soldier, Don McManus as Masked Man, Dale as Holding Area Guard, Austin as Lab Tech Student, Paul as Guard, Scot Cooper as Station Chief.	There are changes in the number of characters in the film. In the novel, there are 13 characters, while in the film, there are 42 characters.


The table above shows that there has been an addition of characters. The changes in the film introduce specific variations that remain relevant for understanding the story's content. There are changes in the number of characters in the film. In the novel, there are 13 characters, while in the film, there are 42 characters. In the novel, it is found that only Thomas, Minho, Newt, Gally, Teresa, Brenda, Aris Jones, Frypan, Ava Paige, Glader, Chuck, Jorge, Janson appear in the labyrinth. In the film, there are lots of characters who appear and the film seems interesting. Lots of characters make the film more lively compared to those 13 existing in the novel. In addition, the film shows different conflicts on every character which are not found in the novel.

Table 2. Changes of Plot in Film

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
The leader is named Vince. Gally is by his side. Thomas agrees with their plan to place him in WICKED and the other immune individuals so that they can enter as well. Thomas himself will go there.	<p>Vince announces his plan to go to a place that WICKED will never find. Thomas, wanting to save Minho, ultimately leaves with Brenda, Jorge, Newt, and Frypan.</p> 	There is a plot change where in the previous novel, the characters were to be placed in WICKED, while in the film, they changed it to going to another location to create a more vibrant atmosphere.

Based on the table above, it shows that there is a change in location in the film. There is a plot change. In the previous novel, the characters were to be placed in WICKED, it is an organization in the Maze Runner film that accommodates MAZE fighters like Thomas and his friends. While in the film, they changed it to going to another location to create a more vibrant atmosphere.

Table 3

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
Next, Gally, who is now part of the Right Hand group, reveals something that will eventually become a problem. People can use bliss, making it easy to blend in with others even if they have flair. Then, many immune individuals go missing. WICKED will search for Hans, as there might be a connection to Thomas and his friends, who ultimately try to find Hans.	<p>On the way to WICKED, they are captured by a group of people, and it turns out that one of them is Gally. He offers to help them get into WICKED because he knows the way there. However, before they leave, they must meet their leader, named Lawrence.</p> 	There is a change in the story where the novel features a character named Hans, while the film introduces a character named Lawrence.

Based on the table above, it shows that there is a change in location in the film. Changes that often occur in films, such as changing the plot and setting, are not like the plot in the novel. The changes that occur in the process of converting a novel into a film are things that are


possible. Eneste believes that ecranisation allows certain variations to occur between novels and films. The changes referred to in this research are based on story facts consisting of the plot, characters and setting found in the film. The changes in the film are the emergence of certain variations and are still relevant for understanding the content of the story in it. In the table above there are changes from the novel to the film, namely changes in the plot where in the previous novel it was placed in WICKED while in the film it was changed to another place. This change is possible, the director and screenwriter have certain reasons for making these plot changes.

Addition

Additions are often made by screenwriters after interpreting the novel that is to be adapted into a film. The novel and film share a similar story, but the film includes new plot elements. The emergence of new plots in the film arises because the depiction of the plot in the novel is not clearly illustrated, which is clarified through the introduction of new elements in the film. Eneste states that a director certainly has reasons for making these additions. For example, it can be said that the addition is important from a cinematic perspective (it is dramatized), or that it remains relevant to the overall story for various other reasons.


The additions in the film are possible because the screenwriter and director have sifted through the information deemed suitable for presentation. These additions still hold relevance in the film for understanding its content. One notable addition is in the opening scene, which begins with an intense action sequence of Thomas and his friends pursuing a train carrying Minho and the other Gladers. They manage to get one carriage, but unfortunately, Minho is not inside; only Aris, Harriet, Sonya, and a few Glader girls are there. They head to a harbor. This thrilling car chase is not present in the novel.

Table 4

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
-	<p>The opening scene of the film begins with an intense action sequence where Thomas and his friends chase a train carrying Minho and the other Gladers. They manage to capture one carriage.</p> 	<p>In the novel, the intense action sequence of Thomas and his friends chasing a car is not present, while this scene has been added in the film.</p>


Based on the table above, there are changes that have occurred, namely from the novel to the film. Changes occur for a reason, for example some parts of the novel that are considered not very important or do not affect the story substantially, there is a possibility that they will not be shown. Because the screening time for the film is very short, and so that the audience doesn't get bored and can enjoy the film until the end. The changes referred to in this research are based on story facts consisting of the plot, characters and setting found in the film. The changes in the film are the emergence of certain variations and are still relevant for understanding the content of the story in it. In the table above there is a change, namely the story in the novel has the character Hans, while in the film there is the character Lawrence. This can be said to be a change in character.

Table 5

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
-	<p>Lawrence sets conditions: he has a damaged face and is missing his nose. In the novel, this is mentioned in the second part (Scorch Trials), where a Crank sings and is also missing a nose. In the novel, Lawrence is merely a subordinate of Vince, the Right Arm. Additionally, Lawrence requests that only two people go with Gally.</p> 	<p>In the novel, only Brenda and Thomas go to the berg from their negotiation site. In the film, there is an addition where both Newt and Thomas accompany Gally.</p>

The table above explains an addition to the story from the novel to the film. The addition is done for several reasons, for example the addition is important from a filmic (dramatized) point of view. Or, the addition is still relevant to the story as a whole or for various other reasons. The additions contained in the film are things that are possible because the screenwriter and director have sorted out the information that is suitable to be shown. Additions to films are still relevant in a film to understand the content of the story. As an addition to the story in the novel, Brenda and Thomas went to the berg from their negotiation location. In the film there are additions, namely Newt and Thomas who accompany Gally.

Table 6

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
-	<p>"On the other hand, there is Teresa, who works for WICKED. She injects a drug into a young girl who initially appears to recover, but it turns out to be only temporary, and the effects worsen. Teresa also has a moment with Minho to affirm her stance on working with WICKED."</p> 	<p>In the novel, there is no explanation about Teresa collaborating with WICKED. In contrast, the film includes this addition.</p>

Based on the table above, it is explained that there is an addition. This addition is often made by screenwriters, after interpreting a novel that is about to be produced into a film. Novels and films have almost the same story, only there are new plot additions in the film. The emergence of a new plot in the film, because the depiction of the plot in the novel is not clearly described and is made clear when the new plot appears in the film. Additions to films are still relevant in a film to understand the content of the story. Like the addition to the novel, it is not explained about Teresa collaborating with WICKED. Meanwhile, in the film there are additions.

Reduction

Reduction is the process of condensing or cutting down during the adaptation of a novel into a film. Eneste states that not everything expressed in the novel will be found in the film; some aspects of the plot, characters, and settings, or the novel's atmosphere may not appear in the film. This is because, before making the film, the screenwriter and director first select the information they consider important or sufficient. The reductions in the film are part of the adaptation process. For example, when Teresa works for WICKED and injects a drug into a young girl who appears to recover, but it turns out to be only temporary, with worsening effects. Teresa also meets Minho to affirm her stance on working with WICKED. These reductions occur because the past setting is not prominently featured in the film, and there are elements of mature content. Reduction is a common occurrence after a novel is adapted into a film. There are several reasons for this, such as not all information in the novel being suitable for the film. The director and screenwriter interpret the novel beforehand to ensure that the information presented in the film is worthy of viewing, without diminishing the essence intended for the audience."

Table 7

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
Thomas wakes up and finds himself in a white room. He has been confined there for days, and eventually, Rat Man releases him, informing Thomas that he is immune to the flare virus. Rat Man explains that the reason they were used as test subjects was to study their brains.	-	This aspect is not included in the film.

Based on the table above, there is a reduction in the story from novel to film, which is a reduction or cut made in the process of converting the novel into a film. Eneste said that not everything expressed in the novel will also be found in the film, some of the plot, characters, setting or atmosphere of the novel will not be found in the film. Because, before making a film, the screenwriter and director have first selected the information that is considered important or sufficient. As some examples of shrinking that occur in film scripts, namely, after Thomas is reunited with his friends, the bald mouse gives them the option to get their memories back by lifting a swipe. This swipe seems to be a chip or small device that is implanted in the brain to restore long-term memory. Teresa, Frypan, Aris and other children agree that their memories have returned. Only Thomas, Minho and Newt didn't want to. However, it doesn't appear in the film. This reduction occurred because the past setting was not featured much in the film and there were adult story elements in it. The director and screenwriter have interpreted the novel first so that the information that will be produced into a film is worthy of being shown.

Table 8

Novel	Film	Results of Comparative Analysis
Brenda appears, revealing that she is with WICKED and is supposed to inject Thomas. She whispers that they need to trust her and Chancellor Paige. Brenda then helps the three of them rebel and run through the building. The alarm keeps sounding, and it seems like everyone else has disappeared.	-	It is not stated in the film that it was Brenda who injected Thomas.

The table above explains that there is a reduction from novel to film. Based on the table above, it is known that there is a reduction in the storyline from novel to film. This reduction occurred because the past setting was not featured much in the film and there were adult story elements in it. Downsizing is something that often happens after a novel is adapted into

a film, there are several reasons such as not all the information in the novel can be found in the film, the director and screenwriter have interpreted the novel first so that the information that will be produced into a film is worthy of being shown, and does not reduce the content you want to convey to film lovers or viewers. This shrinking, for example the shrinking found in films, is the process of converting a novel into a film. Like several examples of shrinking that occur in film scripts, for example the story in the novel where Brenda appears and it turns out she is the WICKED person who has to inject Thomas. Brenda whispers that they should trust her and Chancellor Paige. Then Brenda helped the three of them struggle and run along the building. The alarm kept ringing and it seemed as if everyone had disappeared. However, it doesn't appear in the film

Based on the table above, it is known that there is a reduction in the storyline from novel to film. Shrinking is a reduction or cutting made in the process of converting a novel into a film. Eneste said that not everything expressed in the novel will also be found in the film, some of the plot, characters, setting or atmosphere of the novel will not be found in the film. Because, before making a film, the screenwriter and director have first selected the information that is considered important or sufficient. The shrinking found in films is the process of expanding a novel into a film. Like several examples of shrinkage that occur in film scripts, for example, based on the table above, there are stories in novels such as Thomas waking up and finding himself in a white room. For days he was trapped inside and finally the Bald Rat let him out, telling him that Thomas was immune to the flare virus. Bald Rats explained the reason for using them as experimental material was to research their brains. However, it doesn't appear in the film. This reduction occurred because the past setting was not featured much in the film and there were adult story elements in it. Downsizing is something that often happens after a novel is adapted into a film, there are several reasons such as not all the information in the novel can be found in the film, the director and screenwriter have interpreted the novel first so that the information that will be produced into a film is worthy of being shown, and does not reduce the content you want to convey to film lovers or viewers.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion in the research, it was concluded that the comparison between the novel and the film showed striking similarities. Both share the same storyline and also use a mixed plot structure. This difference can be seen from the new plot and setting, as well as the absence of the character Paige in the novel, whereas this character appears in the film. This happens because the film condenses the story so that not all of the information in the novel can be fully adapted into a film. The process of adapting the novel *Maze Runner: The Death Cure* to film involved many additions, such as new settings and plots. This is partly due to the past settings not being prominently featured in the film. Additions, changes, and reductions frequently occur in films, particularly regarding plot and setting. For instance, the novel does not explain why Janson chooses Thomas as the final candidate instead of Minho, as seen in the film. This doesn't need clarification, as it may not guarantee success. In the film, Teresa realizes the value of Thomas's blood because a doctor in the second film requests it

for Brenda's serum injection, which ultimately heals her. This gives the impression that the solution in the film is easily attainable. Basically, they have to find out who has immune blood in the first place; knowing this from the start could save them from the maze trial. And in the end, it is Thomas' blood that becomes irrelevant, while the city is destroyed, and the immune individuals seek safety. In the process of adapting this film, these changes remain relevant and help convey the content of the story, because the director and screenwriter have sorted out the appropriate information to present without losing the intended message to the audience. However, you need to know that every adaptation from a novel to a film will definitely experience changes.

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The writer is a student of the English Literature Study Program in the Faculty of Art and Education, Universitas Teknokrat Indonesia. This paper is the final report of her study.

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