

**THE ACTANTIAL SCHEME OF A.J. GREIMAS IN
PAULA HAWKINS' NOVEL "THE GIRL ON THE
TRAIN": STRUCTURALIST APPROACH**

THESIS



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PUTERA BATAM UNIVERSITY
2021**

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**Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of
Sarjana Sastra (S1)**



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DECLARATION OF THE THESIS ORIGINALITY

With this letter I hereby declare:

1. This thesis is original and has never been used or applied for getting an academic title (bachelor or non-bachelor) in Putera Batam University or other institution;
2. This thesis' ideas, formulas, and research is done purely by myself, without any intervention except from the supervisor;
3. This thesis does not contain the works and opinions which have been written or publicized by another people, except those names and works which have been listed in the reference;
4. This declaration is made with my responsibility and if in the future there are aberrations and untruth in this statement, then I am willing to accept academic sanctions which is the revocation of the achieved academic title, and other sanctions in accordance with the norms in the university.

Batam, 23th July 2021

Declarer,



Harry Yoesoef Pabiona
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The thesis has been approved to be examined on the date as indicated below

Batam, 28th July 2021



**Tomi Arianto, S.S., M.A.
Supervisor**

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengungkap dan menganalisis skema aktansial dan isotopi (makna dalam) dalam novel Paula Hawkins “The Girl on the Train” dengan menggunakan pendekatan Strukturalisme. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori Strukturalisme dari Greimas. Sumber datanya adalah novel “The Girl on the Train” karya Paula Hawkins. Data diambil dari urutan-urutan cerita yang dideskripsikan oleh teks berupa narasi, deskripsi, dan dialog novel. Metode yang digunakan untuk menganalisis novel ini adalah dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Novel ini diteliti dan dianalisis dalam kaitannya dengan unsur-unsur yang dijelaskan dalam teori Greimas. Pertama, peneliti menemukan sekuen cerita novel. Kedua, peneliti membentuk dan menganalisis skema aktansial berdasarkan sekuen. Ketiga, peneliti membentuk dan menganalisis skema fungsional berdasarkan bagaimana peristiwa terjadi dalam sekuen tersebut. Terakhir, peneliti menemukan isotopi (makna dalam) cerita dengan menganalisis skema aktansial dan fungsional dalam novel. Hasil penelitian ini menemukan tiga puluh tiga sekuen, membentuk empat skema aktan utama dan skema fungsionalnya yang terkait dengan plot utama, dan isotopi (makna dalam) cerita mengenai dengan perilaku manusia dalam memenuhi kebutuhan atau keinginannya.

Kata kunci: model aktansial, isotopi, strukturalisme

ABSTRACT

The research aimed to reveal and analyze the actantial scheme and the isotopy (deep-meaning) in Paula Hawkins' novel "The Girl on the Train" by using the approach of Structuralism. The theory used in this research is the Structuralism theory of Greimas. The data source was the novel "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins. The data was taken from the sequences in the story, described by the text in form of narrations, descriptions, and dialogues of the novel. The method used to analyze the novel is by using descriptive qualitative method. The novel was researched and analyzed in relation to the elements described in Greimas' theory. First, the researcher found the sequences of the story novel. Second, the researcher formed and analyzed the actantial scheme based on the sequences. Third, the researcher formed and analyzed the functional scheme based on how the events happen in those sequences. Last, the researcher found the isotopy (deep-meaning) of the story by analyzing the actantial and functional schemes in the novel. The results of this study revealed thirty-three sequences, forming four major actantial scheme and its functional schemes which is related to the main story, and lastly the isotopy (deep-meaning) of the story which was related on human's behavior in fulfilling his desire or needs.

Keywords: *actantial model, isotopy, structuralism,*

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The researcher is aware of the lack of the research as it is still far from perfect, so all suggestion and criticism are welcomed to improve the research. Hopefully, this proposal can be useful in the future, not only for the researcher, but also for other future students.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Research

Literature is a work which is unseparated from human's life. The influence of literary work to the advancement of the world is enormous. History, science, sociology, and many other disciplines were developed mainly because of literary works. Hence, literature is beneficial for human life. Literature developed through the ages. It is not only used for academic purposes, but also for artistic purposes as a media of entertainment, in which people express their opinions, morals, emotions, feelings, and ideas to another people.

Literature, in its essence, is a literary object. However, as history moves on, literature eventually evolved, much like other discipline such as science and even politics. One of the aspects that came to add another dimension to the evolving literature is the concept of art, moving literature to become an object of art itself. According to Prawira (2001), literature is an aesthetic object in which many people express their sense of beauty to a language. Poet seeks to communicate his ideas through literature object to the public. Public who enjoys and judge the literature give values. Thus, literature values are response to the public's aesthetic objects may appear different literature. A lot of writers produce work, but if the public literature never assumes that it's worth the work, then such work would disappear and never have the meaning anything. Therefore, it is not wrong to recognize literature as a human product which contain beauty value. To distinguish them from

other species such as morals, economics, education value, etc., the value associated with everything covered in terms of the word “beauty” is called aesthetic value. In this case the beauty of "considered" synonymous with aesthetic value in general.

As literature grows, many people tried to dissect it by using novelty approach, trying to analyze it from many different perspective. One of such perspectives is by analyzing its structure itself. One particular approach to do that is by using the Structuralism approach. It is interesting that in its earlier history, Structuralism wasn't associated as an approach for literature theory. It was used for linguistics purposes, in particular for the semantic theory. Structuralism as a literary theory in literature begins when literary criticism was considered unscientific and therefore, required the discipline of an objective system. It is because literary criticism was a matter to subjective matter at the time. According to Holub & Eagleton (1985), if literary works were to be examined closely, there were patterns that could be worked with a certain objective laws in which literary criticism could be formulated systematically by following that law. The law itself was based on various archetypes, genres, myths, and modes in which all literary works was built and structured.

Structuralism as a literary theory was considered as a challenge for the mainstream literary criticism approaches at its time. According to Holub & Eagleton (1985), structuralism was created as an attempt to review everything in linguistics terms. While Saussure was considered the founding father of structuralism theory, it was Claude Levi-Strauss who took Saussure's structuralism and using it to analyze narrative texts in a literary work. Greimas' in turn developed

the structuralism and created a new study which is named “structural semiotic”, which is taken by his own work. Structuralism does not concern about contextual matters. It only analyzes literature work based on textual matters, which means everything that is included in a literature work, without caring about the context such as history and events in real life.

In the study regarding to Greimas’ contribution of Structuralism approach, he introduced several main concepts for the theory. Four of them was the actantial scheme, functional scheme, isotopy, and semiotic square (Dowling et al. 1984). Four of them are interrelated to each other in order to analyze a story's structure as a whole. Its objectives is to find a story's meaning or intended message behind a more “objective” system, rather than a subjective one. The system is still used even in the modern days. The Greimas’ structuralism theory was already used to analyze literary works. In general, it can be used to analyze story structures (the narratives, or storylines) or characters by analyzing its actantial scheme, functional scheme, and isotopy (Dowling et al., 1984). Every novel from artistic and popular literature can be analyzed using Greimas’ theory because the theory was flexible. It was flexible because the theory acts as a “structure” rather than a rigid role.

Those theories (Greimas) were used as the foundation to analyze the novel “The Girl on the Train” in this thesis. The Girl on the Train is a psychological thriller novel by British journalist turned author Paula Hawkins. It was her first novel. It was firstly published at 13th January in USA and 15th January in UK. The novel topped the *New York Times* Fiction Best Sellers of 2015 for thirteen consecutive weeks. It has drawn comparison with another famous novel which has

similar theme, “Gone Girl” by Gillian Flynn. The story is told from three different characters in first point of view, which is Rachel, Anna, and Megan.

Set in 2012 London, the three characters have their own conflicts in the story which intertwined as the story progresses. It used an unreliable narrator technique to narrate the story. Rachel is a thirty-three-year-old alcoholic woman who tried to reel his feelings after her divorce from her husband Tom, who seeks another woman. That another woman is Anna, a housewife which is young and beautiful. Megan is another woman that Tom secretly cheated with, something that would not be discovered until the reader progresses deep into the story. The main plot itself concerns about a case where Megan is found missing. The day before, Rachel saw Megan kissed a man who she believe to be Tom. However, in the next day, she found herself awoken in bloody and injured condition after heavy drinking. These facts made herself to be questioned by the police, especially after Anna saw Rachel was drunk at night.

The story was analyzed by using structural narrative of Greimas’ actantial scheme and isotopy from A.J. Greimas (Dowling et al., 1984). Greimas structuralism was used because there are several parts of the story which fits in into Greimas’ actantial scheme, as it has been mentioned in paragraph above. One of the example is the concept of “subject”, which is one of the elements of actant, an important element to Greimas’ actantial scheme. According to Hebert (2011), the “subject” has a desire to obtain the “object”. The subject in the novel are Rachel. Rachel becomes the “subject” in the novel because she has a desire to obtain the

“object”. Here is the proof of Rachel having a desire to obtain it, which is important to the actantial scheme itself:

“The bump on my head is throbbing, and I can’t stop thinking about the argument I saw, or imagined, or dreamed about, on Saturday night. As we pass Megan and Scott’s house, I look up. I can hear the blood pulsing in my head. I feel excited. I feel afraid.” (Hawkins, 2015, p. 54)

In the passage, it has been described that Rachel was interested in Megan’s disappearance in the story. Rachel had several thoughts about theories regarding Megan’s disappearance which was shown several lines before this narrative passage. This desire to know “why Megan disappeared” is what makes Rachel in the story as the “subject”, according to Greimas’ actantial scheme. Likewise, information relating to Megan’s disappearance is one of the “objects” as the story, in which the “subject” desire to obtain or achieve (Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011).

Greimas’ actantial scheme has already been used by several researcher as an approach to create a narrative structure of fictional stories, including novels and short stories. It has been central on many academic journals. One of the studies is done by Dzikriya and Hartono in their article “*Analysis of Actantial Model in Suzanne Collins’ The Hunger Games.*” They analyzed the plot structure in Collins’ novel *The Hunger Games*. Their objective was to identify what the elements (actant) of plot are, how do the elements compose the structure of the story, and what kind of plot was applied in the novel. For the method of research, they used qualitative method. To plot the structure, their study classified the function of each character into six actants, which are sender-receiver, subject-object, and helper-opponent. Finally, they concluded what kind of plot and how the ending of the novel is. The plot of the novel is dramatic or chronological plot because the story through

in chronological order. In addition, the novel is a closed plot story because the problem in the story has been resolved. The difference between this thesis and Dzikriya and Hartono's research was the difference between data source and also the objective, as this research also aimed to find the isotopy of the novel.

Another study is done by Hayati in her article "*Dean's Loyalty to The Earnshaw: Greimas' Structuralist Reading on Bronte's Wuthering Heights.*" The research aimed to explain three main problems namely Mrs. Dean's loyalty toward the Earnshaws by analyzing the relation between actants and the functional scheme in the story. It used Greimas' approach of binary opposition and actantial scheme. She used the qualitative method in analyzing the source data. She found three main findings respectively that Mrs. Dean is a loyal maid in Earnshaw family, Mrs. Dean's loyalty is sufficiently complex, and her loyalty implicates good impacts toward Earnshaw family's members, even toward Edgar Linton family life. The difference between this research and hers is the difference of the focus of research.

Based from the statements and problems that have been shown above, it has been concluded that Greimas' approach was relevant and reliable to use in this research. It focused on two things, namely the actantial scheme which is used to structure the story and the isotopy. Another reason why this particular source of data and approach is chosen was mainly because of the theory's easiness and flexibility to be applied into many literature works. Another reason was because by an interest about a matter related to story building itself, which involves narrative structures. By identifying and dissecting the story into different parts and details, there might be some interesting ideas that can be used to identify, in hope to create

a good story. The novel “The Girl on the Train” was chosen because it is a famous novel and has been praised by critics. The story itself is not simple and it might pose a challenge to the analysis itself. In this perspective, it rises some interest on how old theory fits into contemporary story. Another reason is because the novel is not an ordinary novel in terms of story development because it uses unreliable narrator. It is also a relatively new novel, in hopes that it is not been exposed as much as any other novels in research papers or thesis.

1.2. Identification of the Problem

Based on the background, some problems could be identified. The criteria were based on how a problem can be related to structuralism theory. Those problems are:

1. Storylines that build conflicts in in the novel The Girl on The Train by Paula Hawkins.
2. The actantial scheme revealed in the novel The Girl on The Train by Paula Hawkins.
3. The functional scheme revealed in the novel The Girl on The Train by Paula Hawkins.
4. The isotopy revealed in the novel The Girl on The Train by Paula Hawkins.

1.3. Limitation of the Problem

The analysis of the research focused on the actantial scheme and isotopy by using A. J. Greimas’ theory. The limitation was intended to focus the research so it would not deviate from its objectives and goals. Based on the identification of the research, two problems has been picked as the limitation of the problem:

1. The actantial scheme revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins
2. The isotopy revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins.

1.4. Formulation of the Problem

In conducting the analysis, the problems above were formulated to become the focus of the research. The problems were as follows:

1. How was the actantial scheme revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins?
2. How was the isotopy revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins?

1.5. Objectives of the Research

The objectives are related to the formulation of the research, which is intended as the goal of the research. It is formed as follows:

1. To discover and describe the actantial scheme that was revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins.
2. To identify and describe isotopy that was revealed in the novel *The Girl on The Train* by Paula Hawkins.

1.6. Significance of the Research

The significance of the research is separated between theoretical and practical significance.

1. Theoretical Significance

This research aims to deepen the study of structure in a fiction. There are two important things in particular. First, to expand and deepen the knowledge of story

building, in particular to Greimas' structuralism. It is also related to the actantial scheme and isotopy. Second, to show the relevancy of Greimas' theory to contemporary narrative fiction.

2. Practical Significance

This research is intended to provide a reference for any researcher to analyze literary works, especially related to fiction story structure research. It does not matter which approach or analysis they will use as long as they can relate this research into their own. It also provides a springboard for future researcher who may have the same interest related to the novel "The Girl on the Train" or to Greimas' structuralism approach. By applying the theory successfully into contemporary narrative fiction, it can also prove that Greimas' theory was indeed flexible and can be used to any literature works. It also serves to deepen the knowledge of the researcher itself. Especially, in regards not just for Greimas' structuralism, but the literature as a whole.

1.7. Definition of Key Terms

- Actantial Model** : A concept of narrative structure which is an important scheme in Greimas' structuralism (Dowling et al., 1984).
- Isotopy** : The coherence and homogeneity of texts in structural semantics terms (Dowling, et. al. 1984; Nöth, 1991).
- Structuralism** : Method to analyze language and literature by focusing on elements of structure and how these elements relevant to the whole structure itself (Tarasti, 2017) Holub & Eagleton, 1985).

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1. Structuralism Approach

Structuralism was heavily influenced and pioneered by linguistics, especially by Ferdinand de Saussure, which is also considered as the founding father of the development of modern approaches to language study (Tarasti, 2017). Later, further development came from Claude Levi-Strauss, Vladimir Propp, and many others. According to Barry (2002), structuralism in narratology is first discussed in the works of Claude Levi-Strauss and Roland Barthes. Structuralism, according to Holub & Eagleton (1985), is an attempt to apply this linguistics theory to objects and activities other than language itself. According to Manshur (2019), structuralism at the beginning was closely related to linguistics but in time, shifted into one of the semiotic concept of literature works. Structuralism in literature is considered as anti-humanist which means that structuralism is concerned on the work itself, neither to its author nor the reader. That is the reason why structuralism is considered releasing the literary work from history and social culture as its origin.

Structualism was conceptualized in order to challenge the mainstream study of analyzing literature works. Saussure gave structuralist a way of thinking about the larger structures which were relevant to literature. He used the terms “langue” and “parole” to signify language as a system or structure. Saussure’s ideas laid a foundation for many significant developments in the study of linguistics, including

the work of the structuralist (Al Umma, 2015). After Saussure, the structuralism theory developed into several views, the thinker generation was influenced by his concept are Claude Levi-Strauss, Tzvetan Todorov, Vladimir Propp, and A.J. Greimas (Taghizadeh, 2013).

Structuralism approach to literature focuses on the narrative dimension of literary text because structuralist criticism deals mainly with narrative (Barry, 2002). The structuralist approaches to literature focus on the narrative operations, and the analysis of literary interpretation. The structuralists understand in a systematic way the fundamental structures that contains all of human experience, behavior, and production. Structuralists believe that structures are generated by the human mind, which is thought of as a structuring mechanism (Taghizadeh, 2013). In the context of literary study, structuralism approach is used to analyze the structure of a story. There are many structural theory models that can be used. One of structural theory models is structural narratology. Narratology is also called the theory of discourse narrative. Both the narratology and discourse theories are defined as a set of concept about stories and storytelling.

2.1.1. Greimas Theory of Structuralism

It is widely accepted that Greimas' structuralism was founded and mainly influenced by Russian formalism. According to Tarasti (2017), Greimas' structuralism may have been first influenced by Vasily Sesemann, a Russian and Lithuanian philosopher. According to Tarasti (2017), Sesemann himself also familiar with Russian formalism. However, he criticize the Russian formalism. It is the reason why he disagreed to some of the Russian formalism ideas. Mainly, he

views the structure as an “inner rhythm” which constituted the true aesthetic moment (Tarasti, 2017).

According to Tarasti (2017), the next influence comes from Vladimir Propp’s work “The Morphology of Folktale” in 1928 which is considered to be an innovative and decisive work, in particular to the development of structuralism. Propp’s work was so decisive that when general structuralism is not considered attractive anymore to researchers, the structural narratology which Propp discussed in his work remains to be discussed even until this day. Levi-Strauss even commented that Propp’s work is a big achievement on the field of humanities (Tarasti, 2017). Propp’s work will be the one of the starting points for Greimas’ structuralism when Greimas released his work the *Semantique Structurale* in 1966. One of the concepts of Propp’s work is the introduction of “spheres”. There are seven spheres of action or roles to the thirty-one functions: villain, donor, (provider), helper, princess and her father, dispatcher, hero (seeker or victim), false hero (Propp, 1968). According to Greimas (Dowling et al., 1984), finding Propp’s scheme still empirical. He developed Propp’s role further by creating the concept of an “actant”, which is neither a specific narrative nor a character but a structural unit, in turn simplifying Propp’s work.

The theories from Levi-Strauss and Barthes and those from Saussure were also further developed by A.J. Greimas. Greimas’ work were never intended to focused on literary structure his work has been an effort to analyze all forms of discourse (Tarasti, 2017). However, nowadays, it is used to analyze the narrative structure of a story, as stated by Pratama (2019). According to Greimas in Dowling

et al., (1984), he emphasize the idea that language is a “signification” from the assembly of structures, which basically implies that the language system cannot be “given” in advance but must be articulated in discourse. Meaning is not intentional, but is a process of signification. In order to describe his idea, Greimas created his own concept which is the actant that has been mentioned in the passage before. It is important to note that at the point where Greimas released his work, he has not yet introduced his concept of semiotic square and isotopy.

2.1.2. Greimas Actantial Model

Greimas’ actantial model can be used to analyze any real or imaginary (fiction) actions that has been fitted into an “actantial scheme” in literary texts (Dowling et al., 1984). It is still related to the narrative structure. In particular, the sequence of events where the story unfolds, giving insight to the elements which may be fitted into the concept of actant in which Greimas have created. Greimas described the concept of actantial model into several points. There are four concepts which is related or important to Greimas’ actantial model:

a. Sequence

According to Barthes (1966), a sequence is a succession or order of events which related each other by interdependent relationship. The meaning of interdependent is that a sequence must be observed at the same main focus and must be coherent to each other (the events). Also according to Arianto & Simanjuntak (2020), a sequence can also be defined as a segment of text which also forms the coherency of the story itself. The main focus of the sequences can be varied. Barthes mentioned about an object, an event (plot), or a character. Coherency is important

to the concept of sequence, in particular related to the time and the settings. The time and the settings does not have to be related closely between each events, but they must have relevancy towards each other.

b. Actantial Scheme

The actantial model is a device that can be used to analyze action, but particularly those depicted in literary text or images. In the actantial model, its study gives more attention to the action rather than the subject. Subject is an artificial human which is formed by action called actant (Dowling et al., 1984). Actants are purely formal elements in narrative. Regarding the term “actant,” Greimas argue that actants are elements that participate in processes in any form whatsoever (Dowling et al., 1984). For Greimas, the forwarding of the plot, which is the movement from conflict to resolution, struggle to reconciliation, separation to union, and so forth, involves the transfer of some entity from one actant to another.

At Greimas’ actantial role, an actant can be held by several figures at the same time. For example, one character at certain episode could become a helper, but at the end of episode she could become an opponent. The vice-versa is equally possible and one character can hold multiple of actantial role. Greimas calls it “syncretism” (Dowling et al., 1984; Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011). Greimas introduces narrative progression (opposition and negation) and characteristic function (actants): subject-object, sender-receiver, and helper-opponent. These actants is divided into three axis:

1. The Axis of Desire (subject-object)

The subject is what is directed toward an object. The relationship established between the subject and the object is called a “junction”. Depending on whether the object is conjoined with the subject or disjoined, it is called a conjunction or a disjunction (Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011).

2. The Axis of Power (helper-opponent)

The helper assists in achieving the desired junction between the subject and object; the opponent hinders the same (for example, the sword, the horse, courage, and the wise man help the Prince; the witch, the dragon, the far-off castle, and fear hinder him) (Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011).

3. The Axis of Knowledge (or the axis of transmission; sender-receiver)

The sender is the element requesting the establishment of the junction between subject and object. The receiver is the element for which the quest is being undertaken. Sender elements are often receiver elements as well (Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011).

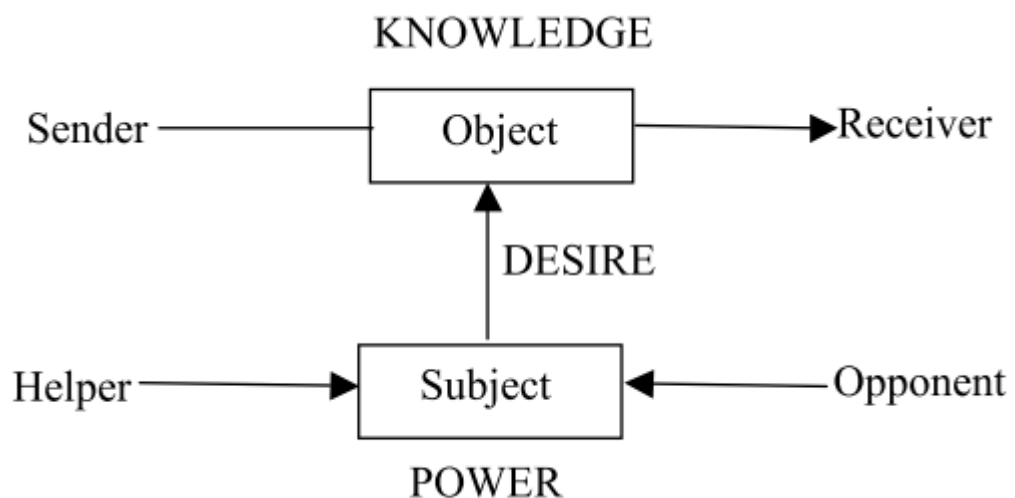


Figure 2.1 Actantial Scheme

c. Functional Scheme

Functional scheme puts the sequence of events in a simplified group called “function” by Greimas (Dowling et al., 1984). It is formed by plot which happens in the story. It is created in order to describe the role of the actants, in particular from the point of view of the “subject” which has been affected by the “sender”. It was divided by three parts: beginning situation, transformation, and ending situation. Transformation itself divided by three: qualifying test, main test, and glorifying test.

Table 2.1 Functional Scheme

I	II			III
Beginning Situation	Transformation			Ending Situation
	Qualifying Test	Main Test	Glorifying Test	

Beginning situation describes where the story is under a controlled condition (Dowling et al., 1984). The situation is not yet at a “disturbing” phase because it is used mainly to describe backgrounds or backstories. The “subject” has not experienced anything in the story, although some “disturbance” probably already hinted in the story at this phase. When the situation begins to transfer into the Transformation phase, the “subject” can be said to put its first step towards the story. At the qualifying test, it is where the “subject” started to be affected by the “sender”. At this point, the “sender” seeks out the “subject” in order to push the “subject” into becoming receiver, thus forwarding the story. After passing the qualifying test, the

story enters the main test. This is where “helper” and “opponent” have their biggest role in affecting the story. The subject will face obstacles and hindrances from the “opponents”, but in turn will gain some support from the “helper.” Glorifying test is the final phase of transformation where the “subject” manages to get the “object”, which is the intention of the “sender”. However, the “subject” will also face its biggest obstacle from the “opponent”. If the “subject” passes the test, then it can be considered that the “subject” is glorious. In the final phase of the functional scheme, ending situation, is where the “receiver” will appear. In this situation, the story comes back into normal. In this phase, a deep-meaning of an event can be analyzed by relating the functional scheme with its actantial scheme.

2.1.3. Isotopy

The isotopy concept was first introduced by Greimas. In general, the term “isotopy” in Greimas’ structuralism related to the coherence and homogeneity of texts in structural semantics terms (Dowling, et. al. 1984; Nöth, 1991). Isotopy is a method to analyze text not only in natural language, but also in any semiotic system (Kourdis, 2012). According to Tarasti (2017), isotopy is a deep level of meaning inherent of texts based on contextual semes and in text recurrence. It is considered one of the basis of an actantial model. It is based on the hypothesis that the basic semantic elements and structures of a culture underlie all the semiotic systems of that culture. According to Greimas in Kourdis (2012), isotopy keeps the semantic coherence of a text through the repetition of similar semantic elements or features. In other words, it ensures homogeneity in a text. This homogeneity is formed without depending the lexical relationship with each semantic elements but

by a “sign” or characteristics which suggest to a particular object formed by the collections of those lexical elements. In broader perspective, it can be said that isotopy contains the “deep-meaning” in the story, in a way to reveal what value a literary work give to its audience by analyzing its structural narratives. It means that the semantic elements can also be analyzed by seeing the homogeneity in the story ideas behind the actantial and the functional scheme of the story in order to get its deep-meaning (isotopy).

2.2. Previous Study

Hébert (2011) discussed the actantial scheme from A.J. Greimas in detail. It described about every element relating to Greimas’ actantial scheme. It described its origin and function, actants, actantial models, and its subclasses. He also applied it to the story New Testament to testify Greimas’ actantial model. The difference between Hebert’s research and this paper was the focus and the data source of the research. Louis Hebert discussed mainly about Greimas’ theory in general and applied it into the Bible’s New Testament. This paper applied Greimas’ theory to Paula Hawkins’ novel “The Girl on The Train.”

Hayati (2013) analyzed the three main problems namely Mrs. Dean’s loyalty toward the Earnshaws by analyzing the relation between actants and the functional scheme in the story. It uses Greimas’ approach of binary opposition and actantial scheme. She used the qualitative method in analyzing the source data. She found three main findings respectively that Mrs. Dean is a loyal maid in Earnshaw family, Mrs. Dean’s loyalty is sufficiently complex, and her loyalty implicates good impacts toward Earnshaw family’s members, even toward Edgar Linton family life.

The difference between this research and hers is the difference of the focus of research. Hayati's research used Bronte's "Wuthering Heights." This research used Paula Hawkins' "The Girl on The Train."

Taghizadeh (2013) discussed the theory about literary structuralism in Henry James novel. It uses descriptive qualitative method. It aims to discuss the application of structuralism theory to the novel and also to testify the theory of structuralism which has been developed by Claude Levi-Strauss, Roland Barthes, Tzvetan Todorov, and Jonathan Culler. The result is that the influence of the said people's work can be seen in Henry James. The difference between Taghizadeh's research and this paper was the difference of research focus and data source. Taghizadeh used Henry James' novels. This paper used "The Girl on The Train" by Paula Hawkins.

Puspitasari et. al. (2013) aimed to measure the development of fiction writing (tale) ability and describe the change of behavior in students of VII B MTs Mu'allimin Malebo after following a learning course in tale fiction writing. The analysis used a qualitative and quantitative method. The results showed a pre-study rating of "poor", cycle 1 of study as "decent" and cycle 2 of study as "good." Based on the results, it can be said that the learning course brings a positive effect on the students to their fiction writing capabilities. The research had a different objective which was to grade the students' fiction writing capabilities. This paper's objective was to analyze actantial scheme and isotopy.

Corso (2014) explained about the semiotic square concept in Greimas' Structuralism. It was not a study research but a critic to the Greimas theory. Here

Corso explained an overview of Greimas' theory while focusing on the semiotic square. His main scope was to explain the role of semiotic square in nowadays study or research. The results were that the role of semiotic square in recent studies is limited or even untouched, rendering it a rare element in a research. This research only tried to explain a little about Greimas' theory, mostly about semiotic square. This paper explained more about Greimas' theory in general and tried to apply it into a story.

al-Umma (2015) discussed about the history of Ferdinand de Saussure who is considered as the founding father of the structuralism theory. It used descriptive qualitative method. The aim of the research was to find the points of proof in which the al-Umma argued as a proof of effect regarding Saussure's influence in modern Linguistics. The biggest influence that Saussure have was his separation of synchronic and historical linguistics. Synchronic linguistics was a system of language study in which all language would be studied from one phase to another, whereas historical linguistics was a system of language that would be studied only once in order to relate it with history. The difference between al-Umma's research and this paper was the focus of the research. Al-Umma's research discussed about linguistics, but this paper discussed about the application of a literature theory into a literature work.

Milawasri (2017) discussed the character analysis of main character in the short story "*Mendiang*." The purpose of this study was to describe the character of a woman who exists in the short story. The methods used in this research is qualitative, descriptive methods. The result was that the main character, Wati,

depicted as the figure of a woman who had such physical man. Whereas by means of dramatic representations of Religious figures, performed with the four ways, mainly showing that Wati was a moral character, but her energetic demeanor strained her relationship with her teacher. The difference between her research and this paper is the objective of the research. The goal of Milawasri's research was to analyze a character, but this paper wanted to analyze actantial scheme and isotopy.

Tarasti (2017) discussed about the history of A.J. Greimas related to his semiotics theory from his point of view as he was Greimas' student. It used qualitative method of observation. The aim of the research was to find the possible source of influence of Greimas' semiotics theory and also to discuss about the development of the theory itself, especially to this day. The result was that modern semiotics theory has been influenced by Greimas theory and Greimas Semiotics Theory ideas was probably influenced and formed by Greimas' fellow colleague at Kaunas University, and also as a product of development and criticism in Russian formalism. Tarasti explained the concept and history of Greimas' Structuralism which becomes the approach used by this paper. The difference between this paper and Tarasti's research was the fact that Tarasti's research was only explaining about Greimas' theory in general. Meanwhile, this paper applied the mentioned theory into use to the novel "The Girl on The Train."

Dzikriya and Hartono (2019) analyzed the plot structure in Collins' novel *The Hunger Games*. Their objective is to identify what the elements (actant) of plot are, how do the elements compose the structure of the story, and what kind of plot is applied in the novel. For the method of research, they used qualitative method. To

plot the structure, their study classifies the function of each character into six actants, which are sender-receiver, subject-object, and helper-opponent. Finally, they concluded what kind of plot and how the ending of the novel is. The plot of the novel is dramatic or chronological plot because the story through in chronological order. In addition, the novel is a closed plot story because the problem in the story has been resolved. The difference between this research and his was the difference between data source and also the objective, as this research also aimed to find the isotopy of the novel.

Manshur (2019) analyzed the theory of formalism and structuralism. His goal is to emphasize that literary research must not neglect its context and should not be textual. He used critical approach in his study. His findings are about proofs that literary work is influenced by the author and also the situation of the society. He also found what separated formalism and structuralism in terms of views. The difference between Manshur's research and this paper is the fact that Manshur only explained Greimas' theory in general. This paper already applied the said theory into a literature work.

Rizal (2019) analyzed a poem to identify its narration scheme. He aimed to find out three models in narration text, namely the function model, action model, and narration model realized in the poem. He used Greimas' structuralism as an approach. The method of data collection in this study is objective literary research using descriptive qualitative method. The results of this study are the discussion of narration schemes, which consist of the functional model, action model, and narration model of the poem "The Owl and The Pussy Cat" by Edward Lear.

Pratama (2019) discussed about the story of the Islamic Prophet Shaleh's speech (da'wa) to Thamud, recorded in the Islamic Holy Book Al-Qur'an in QS. As-Syu'ara: 141-158 in semiotic perspective. The approach of the study uses AJ Greimas' narratology structuralism. The study analyzes the actantial scheme in order to seek the story's deep meaning. The result is that thing, words of the Islamic Holy Prophet Shaleh, mainly in verse 153, lead to the value of environmentalist, the attitude of preserving the environment and also shows that the person who dedicates himself to the goodness is a pious person. Pratama's research mostly done in semiotic perspective, but this paper mostly done in pure structuralism perspective.

Arianto and Simanjuntak (2020) analyzed the narrative structure of Mak Ungkai story and used eco-criticism to connect the folklore to the ecological wisdom. The approach used in the study are Greimas Structuralism and Garrard's eco-criticism. The coastal locals of Tanjung Kertang, Sebulang, Batam, Riau Islands were the source of the data. The results showed that the spirit of the sea 'Mak Ungkai' story was inseparable from the local wisdom. The sea itself as the central life of nature, was inseparable from human's life. The folklore is used in order to maintain the balance of nature. The difference of their research and this paper was the focus of the research. They used Mak Ungkai story, and also used two approaches, which were structuralism and eco-criticism. This paper only used structuralism approach and applied it into a different story.

2.3. Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework provides a quick view for the approach used in this paper. The research used the concept of Greimas' Narrative Structuralism. This theoretical framework includes the outline related to the approach's theory. In this research, it shows a chart of Greimas Structuralism in general. It contains the main concepts of the theory. Its purpose is to give a simple outline about the theory used in the paper.

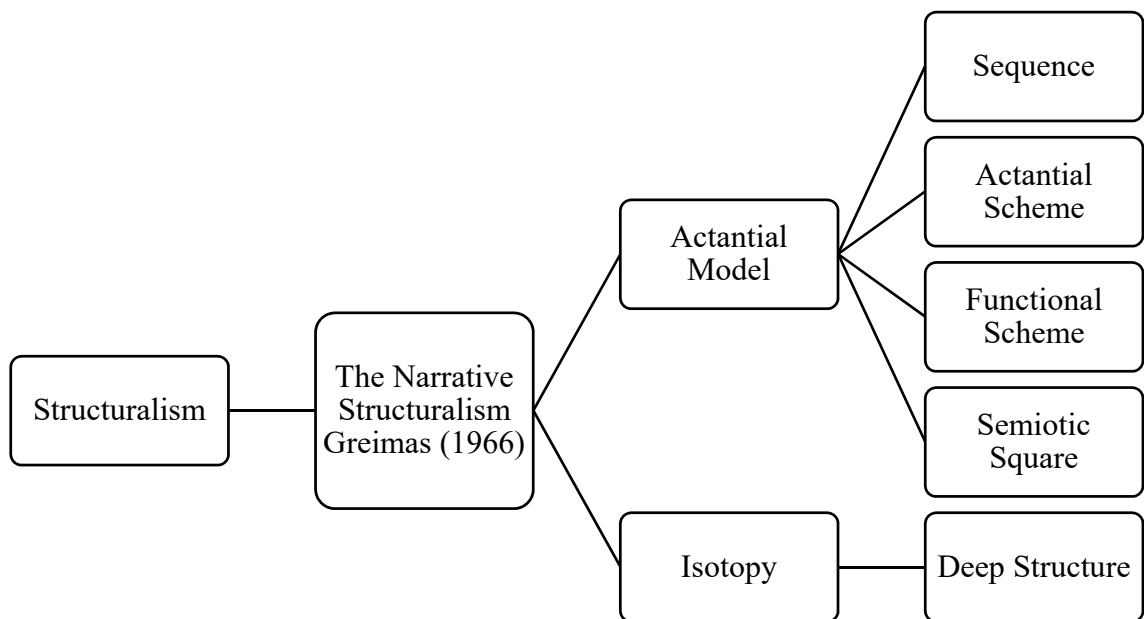


Figure 2.2 Theoretical Framework

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1. Research Design

In this research, descriptive qualitative method was used to analyze the data that would be collected. According to Bogdan and Taylor (2016), qualitative method is a research method that produces descriptive data in form of writing or speech from people or any observable actions. Qualitative method relies on non-numerical data. According to Ratna (2009), the source of data in literature qualitative research is the work or text, while the formal data comes from text, sentences, or speech. As such, it is the reason why this method is chosen in this research to analyze Paula Hawkins' novel "The Girl on the Train." The research searches the data by reading the novel, analyzes the data by relating it to Greimas' theory, in particular the actantial scheme and isotopy, before arranging it together to fit in the theory. As the research focused on textual data of the novel, anything related to extrinsic or contextual matters were not analyzed.

3.2. Object of the Research

The object of the research is the actantial schemes and the isotopy. The approach used in the research is Structuralism theory from Greimas (Dowling et al., 1984; Hebert & Eveaert-Desmedt, 2011). Data source used in the research is novel "The Girl on the Train" by Paula Hawkins. The focus in the object of the research is the story itself. To be exact, the text that forms the story itself.

3.3. Method of Collecting Data

The focus of the method is to collect the text which is related to the objective of the research. As the objective was to reveal and analyze the actantial scheme and the isotopy of the novel “The Girl on the Train,” the data was collected in form of sequences. The sequences were used in order to reveal the actantial scheme, which in turn revealed the functional scheme, which is needed to analyze the deep meaning of the story (isotopy). This is in accordance to Ratna (2009), which said that collecting data from literary works has to be focused on the literary texts in form of narratives, descriptions, and dialogues which has relevance to the research itself. Based on that, this is the steps that the researcher uses in order to collect the data:

1. Reading the novel “The Girl on The Train” by Paula Hawkins.

Reading the novel is the first attempt to understand and analyze the idea that forms the novel itself. In particular, related to plot, structure, and narratives, which are related to the main issue of the research.

2. Watching the film adaptation of “The Girl on the Train”.

Watching the film adaptation of the novel is an attempt to complement the knowledge of understanding the novel, which is very important for the research. There were no data gathered here except to affirm anything that goes similar within the novel.

3. Begin collecting data.

Begin to write plot summary and finally form the sequences as the data in order to structure the story by relating all the data that have been gathered and put

them together in relation to their “actant” role. These are needed to form the actantial scheme, functional scheme, and finally the isotopy.

3.4. Method of Analyzing Data

In order to convert the data into something useful, it is important to have a certain method to analyze it. According to Taylor et al. (2016), data analysis is a process to seek and sort every data that has been collected systematically. The data then were sorted and analyzed using Miles and Huberman’s model (Miles, Huberman, & Saldaña, 2019): data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing & verification.

1. Data Reduction

Data reduction reduces unnecessary and excessive data, by summarizing and choosing the most generalized and important matter in regards to the meaning and pattern inside a text. This is done in order to get a relevant and coherent data. It also eases the researcher into finding some data by seeing the similarities between one data to another that has been gathered. In this research, the data reduction pointed the narratives which gives a clear indication in relation to their “actant” role, and also to find a homogeneity pattern which indicates isotopy in the novel.

2. Data Display

In qualitative research, data display can be done by giving summaries or parts of the research. According to Miles and Huberman (2019), data display in qualitative research is done by using descriptive summary. With the data have been sorted out, the researcher can arrive into a conclusion. In this research, the data display were done by using descriptive summary in form of story sequences, as it

is also a main element in Greimas' theory of Structuralism in order to reveal and analyze the actantial scheme and isotopy.

3. Conclusion Drawing and Verification

In this phase, the researcher drew the conclusion of the research according to the result of analysis. The analysis involves the data that have been collected before. After that, an evaluation was created based on the conclusion itself. It is important to make an evaluation by relating it to the theory, in particular, Greimas' structuralism. The findings of the research were explained by a description about the actantial model and the isotopy of the novel "The Girl on The Train" by Paula Hawkins.

3.5. Method of Presenting Research

The next phase is to present the result of the data analysis. They are presented formally and informally. According to Creswell (2009), the formal presentation of the data is to present the data by using formulas, charts or diagram, tables and images, while the presentation of data on an informal basis only use words of regular expressions. In this research, the method of presenting research result mainly using the informal way, which to be explained by words as it is a qualitative type research. There are figures in order to describe some schemes related to Greimas' structuralism, but they're merely presented as a general view in order to serve the explanation which acts as the method of presenting research in this thesis.