



اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلٰى
UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA

DIPLOMA IN COMMUNICATION & MEDIA
FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA STUDIES

COM 363:

PROFFESIONAL PROJECT REPORT

TOPIC:

**PERFECT ROMANCE STORYLINE IN NOVEL VERSUS FILM ADAPTATION :
A CASE STUDY OF "LAGENDA BUDAK SETAN"**

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ABSTRACT

Book to film adaptation has been a trend in both local and international film markets nowadays. This act could lead to issues such as lack of originality in the film and only relying on original literature as an inspiration. The trend of producing a film adapted from books in Malaysia have been increasing from year to year. So, the purpose of conducting this research is to identify the rating of readers of novel and viewers of film *Lagenda Budak Setan*. The novel *Lagenda Budak Setan* written by Ahadiat Akashah was published in year 1985 while the film was released in 2010, directed by Sharad Sharan. The data will be collected from four students in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) and the author of the novel itself. The students will be divided into two categories; the readers and viewers of *Lagenda Budak Setan* respectively. The researchers want to find the out whether the original novel or the adapted film is rated higher by the readers and viewers. The researchers used the qualitative method in this research which in-depth interview is conducted involving the respondents.

Keywords: readers, viewers, novel, film, rating

Table of Content

No	Title	Page Number
1.	Chapter One: Introduction 1.1 Background of Study 1.2 Problem Statement 1.3 Research Question 1.4 Research Objective 1.5 Rationale and scope of study 1.6 Limitations of Study 1.6.1 Lack of information from the respondents 1.6.2 Smaller sample size 1.7 Significance of Study 1.7.1 Policy 1.7.2 Practice	1-2 2-3 4 4 5-6 6 6 6 7 7 7
2.	Chapter Two: Literature Review 2.1 Novel 2.1.1 Film Adaptation 2.1.2 Film 2.2 Media Ecology Theory 2.3 Change is Good: A case for books to movie adaptation 2.4 Research Framework	8-9 9-10 10-11 11-12 12-13 14
3.	Chapter Three: Methodology 3.1 Qualitative Method 3.1.1 Subject 3.1.2 Population and Sample 3.1.3 Sampling Technique 3.1.4 Purposive Sampling 3.2 Research Instruments 3.2.1 In-depth Interview 3.3 Pilot Test 3.4 Data Collection 3.4.1 Unit of Analysis 3.4.2 Thematic Analysis	15 15 15 16 16 16 17 17 18 18 18
4.	Chapter Four: Findings 4.1 RQ1 – What are the differences on the storyline in novel than adapted film? 4.1.1 The plot of the romance storyline build in the adapted film is quite different from the novel. 4.1.2 The adapted film has different time setting compared to the novel.	19 19-20 20-21

	4.1.3 With the different storyline between both medium, the messages from the novel still successfully delivered to the film viewers.	21-22
	4.2 RQ2 – How accurate is the adaptation of the film with the novel?	23
	4.2.1 The main and side characters of the novel and the film are same.	23-24
	4.2.2 The important scene that strengthen the romance storyline in the novel is same as in the film.	24-25
	4.2.3 The climax of the storyline in the novel is being used in the film.	25-26
	4.3 RQ3 – Why the film producer more likely to produce a book to film adaptation nowadays?	27
	4.3.1 Film producer do discuss with the author for certain literacy.	27-28
	4.3.2 The film was a common interest and demands between the author, film producer, and novel reader itself.	29-30
	4.3.3 The feedback and rating are the reasons that attract the attention of film producer to produce a film.	30-31
	4.4 Discussion	31
5.	Chapter Five: Conclusion	35-36
	5.1 Implication of Study	36
	5.2 Future Recommendation	36-37
6.	References	38-39

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Our research that is 'Perfect romance storyline in novel versus film adaptation: A case study of *Lagenda Budak Setan*.' explore the never ending debate about the adaptation of novels to screen. According to (Phillippe Aurier,2013), from a producer's point of view, the desire to bring books to the movie theatre is easy to understand given that most box-office successes are movies based on books. An example is *Ombak Rindu* (2011), based on the novel *Ombak Rindu*. It is a love story about the journey of two people with different background status on maintaining their relationship due to the obstacles and challenges that they need to go through and finding their true happiness in relationship. RM 5.5 million approximately were collected within 7 days screening of the film. More recently, in October 2017, *Tombiruo: Penunggu Rimba*, directed by Nasir Jani and Seth Larney and was based on Ramli Awang Murshid's book *Tombiruo: Penunggu Rimba*, successfully collected RM 7 million within 18 days screening.

However, it is indeed that many literary masterpieces and books have been represented through films and these two different media have gained millions of fans throughout Malaysia. But according to (Bao Bo, 2008), quite often people like to compare the novel with the films that tells the same story and many people are inclined to agree with the opinion that films could hardly defeat the novels in telling the same story. Probably, on one hand, this is mainly because of the fact that it is the novel that introduces the story to the readers first. Therefore, whatever the author writes in the story occupies the readers' mind and become the only correct way of telling a certain story. On the other hand, the paper develops that the differences between the novels and films by their own nature decide that these two forms of media will never create the same effects on presenting stories.