



SECRET SOCIETIES SYMBOLISM IN *NATIONAL TREASURE* MOVIE

**A THESIS
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Sarjana Degree Majoring American Studies in English Department
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University**

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SEMARANG
2011**

PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer states truthfully that this thesis is compiled by her without taking the result from other researches in any universities, in S1-S2-S2 degrees and in diploma. In addition, the writer ascertain that she does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except those that has been mentioned in references.

Semarang, 14 September 2011

Ariyantika Wulandari

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

“In the name of God, Most Gracious, Most Merciful”

- *Qur'an* -

“Life is like riding a bicycle - in order to keep your balance, you must keep moving”

-**Albert Einstein**-

“i am doing the best i can. and to me, that is what we all should do”

-**Wangari Maathai**-

Life is learning process.

Faith to fight!

-**Ariyantika Wulandari**-

This thesis is dedicated to:

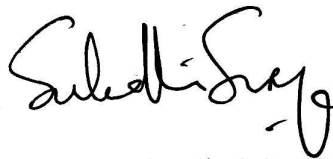
My Beloved Family,

My inspirators, friends, fellows, colleagues, and

All of you who faith in truth; see beyond what is visible!

APPROVAL

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I realizes that this thesis is still far from perfect. I will be glad to receive any constructive criticism and recommendation to make this thesis better.

Finally, the writer expects that this thesis will be usefull to the reader who wishes to learn something about the symbolism and world conspiracy.

Semarang, 14 September 2011

Ariyantika Wulandari

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ABSTRACT

Kebudayaan Amerika, terutama industri hiburan, telah memberi dampak yang sangat besar terhadap kehidupan masyarakat di seluruh dunia. Industri hiburan seperti musik dan film Amerika telah menjadi bagian tak terpisahkan dalam kehidupan kita sehari-hari, yang secara tidak langsung akan mempengaruhi cara berfikir, tindakan, gaya hidup dan kebiasaan kita. Industri film Amerika membawa dampak positif, dengan menampilkan nilai-nilai seperti kepahlawanan, individualisme, cita-cita dan impian. Namun, seringkali juga menampilkan beberapa nilai-nilai negatif seperti hedonisme, kekerasan, seksualitas, dan lain-lain. Tidak jarang film-film garapan Amerika ini juga digunakan untuk memperkenalkan ideologi tertentu dan menyusupkannya ke dalam alam bawah sadar penontonnya, salah satunya adalah penggunaan simbol-simbol di beberapa film Hollywood.

Penulisan skripsi ini bertujuan untuk menunjukkan simbol-simbol dari *Secret Societies* yang seringkali disisipkan di berbagai industri film Hollywood. Dari sekian banyak film-film Hollywood yang menampilkan simbol-simbol *Secret Societies*, penulis memilih *National Treasure* sebagai obyek penelitian karena dianggap paling banyak menampilkan simbol-simbol meski tanpa menunjukkan arti sebenarnya.

Dalam membahas analisis dalam skripsi ini, penulis menggunakan metode penelitian kepustakaan, metode pendekatan eksponensial untuk membahas aspek intrinsik, dan teori mengenai komunikasi dan semiotik untuk membahas aspek ekstrinsik. Penelitian kepustakaan yang digunakan adalah pengambilan sumber dari buku-buku terkait di perpustakaan dan berbagai sumber lainnya melalui internet. Aspek intrinsik yang dianalisis adalah tema, alur, karakter, dan latar. Aspek-aspek tersebut dianalisis untuk mendukung analisis secara keseluruhan sehingga dalam hal ini penulis tidak menggunakan analisis konflik karena dianggap tidak berhubungan dengan pembahasan simbol. Sedangkan teori semiotik dan komunikasi digunakan dalam menganalisis aspek ekstrinsik. Penggunaan pendekatan semiotik berhubungan dengan bagaimana sebuah simbol sebagai bagian dari komunikasi nonverbal bisa menjadi sarana komunikasi yang efektif.

Setelah melakukan analisis dengan beberapa metode dan teori penulis menemukan beberapa simbol di sepanjang penayangan film. Meskipun makna simbol-simbol ini tidak menunjukkan arti yang sebenarnya. Namun, keberadaan simbol-simbol ini menandai berbagai peristiwa-peristiwa penting dalam cerita. Penggunaan simbol juga sangat mendukung tema dan judul dari film *National Treasure* karena perburuan harta karun sebagai inti utama cerita sangat berhubungan (identik) dengan simbol sebagai petunjuk penting menuju harta karun.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

America and its culture bring significant impact in people's life around the world. Some of American products in entertainment like: music, film etc, also bring significant impact. Some of the Western genre like: jazz and pop rock seem to be an integral part in people's life. Music, through its lyric, rhythm and the singer performance indirectly can influence our style, way of thinking and behavior. The influence itself depends on the message delivered through the music and frequency of listening to the music.

As well as music, film also brings some influence in people's life. Since film has wide range, emotional impact, and popularity, sometimes, film is infiltrated by special interests such as politics, image creation, capitalism, consumerism, human right issues, lifestyle, etc.

Film also brings some values both in the positive and negative sides. Hollywood films often present the positive values in the impression of heroism, individualism, dreams, etc. But in the other hand, this industry can also bring negative impact, for example: hedonism (for example: The Confession of Shopaholic), violence exposure (Rambo), free sex (American Pie), belief on myths and predictions (2012), and bad image creation toward certain group of people or religion (United 93).

Film is a form of art appreciation that becomes a phenomenon in modern times. Film industry becomes a part of social life and culture. It becomes a media to convey the information to society or simply to entertain people. In general, film is divided into three classifications: documentary, fiction and experimental (Pratista, 2008:4). Documentary film records the authentic events or events that are really happened. The main characteristic of documentary films is about presenting the facts. In the other hand, the fiction film is film that tells a fictional story and narrative. While experimental film usually tells about anything (anti-narrative), uses the abstract form and it is rather difficult to understand (Pratista, 2008:8).

National Treasure is the fiction film because it consists of characters, conflicts, plots, and clear narrative structure. This film is interesting since it reveals the effort of some people as the treasure hunter to unlock some code and symbol to get the lost symbol. Furthermore, *National Treasure* particularly uses several monumental building in America as its setting. With several conflicts, surprises, action and tension, this film is special to watch.

In this film there are also many symbols used along the film. The symbols, used by some secret societies, often appear in some media, like: music industry, company logo, cartoon, and even Hollywood film. (Khan, YouTube, 2009).

1.2. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The main goal of the study is to present some symbols of secret societies that are often inserted in the Hollywood movies, especially National Treasure movie.

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

In this paper, the writer will make several limits of studies. Those limits are made in order to clear the direction of research. In other words, the writer needs certain borders so that the study will not go beyond its area.

The writer will analyze the intrinsic and extrinsic elements. The intrinsic covers the aspects of narrative and cinematographic. The intrinsic elements covers narrative aspects like the theme, plots, characters, setting, and conflict and cinematography aspects of the film like camera, sound and mise-en-scene. Moreover, for its extrinsic aspect, the writer will focus on several secret societies symbolism used in the National Treasure film.

1.4 METHODS OF THE STUDY

1. Method of Research

The writer uses the *Library Research* in presenting the theories. Library Research means reading some supporting and relevant books, and searching from internet sources and DVD as references. By this method, the writer collects the data and then puts all that into a research document and cites them as references.

2. Method of Approach

The writer uses the exponential approach that focuses on narrative aspects of the film, which consists of intrinsic and extrinsic aspect, and also cinematography elements, especially about camera, sound, and *mise-en-scene*. The intrinsic aspect consists of: theme, plot, character and setting.

Meanwhile, the semiotics theories are applied in analyzing extrinsic aspects of the film. Semiotics approach deals with how the symbol as a part of nonverbal communication can be one of the effective communications.

1.5. THE ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

From the analysis above about methods of study and the scope, this paper will be arranged in chapters and sub-chapters as follows:

CHAPTER I : INTRODUCTION

It contains Background of The Study, Purpose of The Study, Scope of The Study, Methods of The Study, and The Organization of The Study.

CHAPTER II : THE SUMMARY OF THE MOVIE

It contains the synopsis that is reliable to the theme of the thesis. The summary also represents the film in sequence, so that the readers can easily dig out the correlation between the film and content of the thesis.

CHAPTER III : LITERARY REVIEW

It consists of the theoretical review that can support the writing of the thesis. The theories deal with definition and some explanations of theme, plots, characters, setting, value and conflict. It also will explain some theories of cinematography element and extrinsic aspect.

CHAPTER 2

SUMMARY OF THE STORY

National Treasure is an adventure film that tells about treasure hunting. The main character, Benjamin Franklin Gates, is searching for the legendary lost treasure of the Knights of Templar. In this film, it is reported that there is a treasure in very great number and very valuable. This treasure had been fought over for centuries by tyrants, pharaohs, emperors, warlords. Every time it changed hands it grew larger. But suddenly it disappeared. For centuries the treasure was lost and a time found by knights from the First Crusade beneath the Temple of Solomon. And then they brought the treasure back to Europe and took the name "the Knights of Templar". Over the next century they smuggled it out of Europe and they formed a new brotherhood called the Freemasons. By the time of the American Revolution, the treasure had been hidden again because they had to make sure that the treasure would never fall into British hands. So they devised a series of clues and maps to its location.

The story begins with young Benjamin's action to open a secret chest when he was visiting his grandfather's home. His action is known by his grandfather, John Adam Gates, who then tells him about the story of these treasures. His grandfather tells about the event that occurred in 1776, when one of the American Declaration of Independence signers, Charles Carroll, was dying but he still brought one important clue in his hand. Then he woke up his stable boy and ordered to take him to the White House to see Andrew Jackson but he failed to

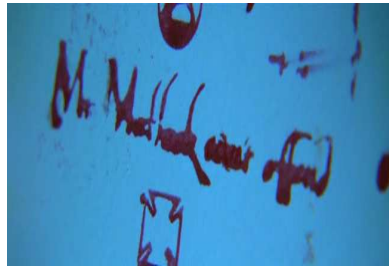
talk to the president about the secret. The president was not there that night. Carroll finally gave that clue to Thomas Gates, ancestor of the Gates Generation. The clue said that *The Secret lies with Charlotte*. Ben's grandpa tells another clue that is left by The Freemasons among their Founding Father that is the unfinished pyramid and all Seeing Eye in the one dollar bill. Young Ben is interested with the story and the clue and was ordained by his grandfather to become a knight. He is encouraged to find a fabled treasure hidden by the Founding Fathers of the United States.



Ben's father, Patrick Gates, tries to discourage Ben from following in the family line, as he had spent over 20 years looking for it and never found anything at all. He said that treasure hunting has been the curse of the Gates family. It is because along six generation of Gates family had been destined as the treasure hunter, but they found nothing in their expedition.

Benjamin Gates is faithful regarding his swear to his grandfather and continue to reveal the clue given by his grandfather. 20 years later, Ben grows and becomes a historian and amateur cryptologist. With an expedition funded and led by Ian Howe, Ben and his friend and Riley Poole, computer expert go to an expedition to Arctic and find a Colonial ship, the *Charlotte*.

In the ship they discover a box containing a meerschaum pipe. After smearing with blood, a meerschaum pipe that is engraved with a riddle, gives some sentences and symbols as the clue. There are several symbols like cross, pyramid, square and compass and some sentences that Ben thinks it has a connection to the Declaration of Independence.



Then Ian wants to steal the Declaration and Ben stands against him. A fight happens in the ship that full of gunpowder. Ian escapes the ship, leaving it to explode before going with his team. Ben and Riley are trapped inside but survive the explosion by hiding in a smugglers hold, and return to the US to stop Ian.

Ben tries to tell several authorities, including FBI and Dr. Abigail Chase at the National Archives. But, they dismiss his statement. They think that the Declaration impossible to steal. Ben and Riley realize that Ian will steal it. The only way to save it is just by steal it first before Ian. Then they prepare their own plan to steal the document during a Gala event, and do their mission before Ian and his own team arrive. With some tricks and Riley's help, Ben succeeds to take the Declaration of Independence after running away from Shaw's shootings at him. Abigail is suspicious about Ben's presence at the Gala. Then she catches Ben and Riley when they try to escape from Ian and the authorities. Ben's identity is tracked by his visa, and they are forced to go to his father's home.

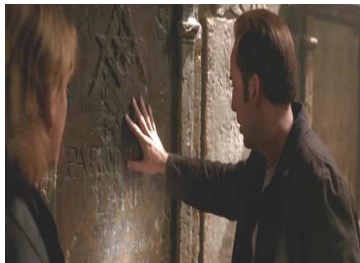
After smearing with lemon and heating it, they find Freemasons symbol in the upper right-hand corner behind the Declaration as mark of secret message. They also find an Ottendorf cipher for the next clue. To recode an Ottendorf cipher, they need a Silence Dogood letters, written by Benjamin Franklin, at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. With the help of a Black Boy, they can get the decoding of the Ottendorf cipher that states “The vision to see the treasured past comes as the timely shadow crosses in front of the house of Pass and Stow”. They interpret that clue as the way to read a map and they also refer Pass and Stow as the Liberty Bell. To complete their analysis they need to interpret the last cause timely shadow as a specific time and they get the time by looking at the clock tower in the hundred dollar bill and finds specific time, 02:22.

After decoding the message, then Ben, Abigail and Riley go to Independence Hall. In the Centennial Bell, that replaces the Liberty Bell in 1876, they find a pair of glasses with multiple colored lenses created by Benjamin Franklin in the brick with Freemasons symbol.

With the help of the glasses they can reveal additional clues on the back on the Declaration. They find some symbols of Freemasons, Pyramid, Trinity and the word “Heere at the wall”. That clue leads them to a specific place, Trinity Church.

Suddenly, Ian and gang are coming. Ben decides to separate clues, The Declaration of Independence and the glass. Ben brings the glass and Abigail and Riley bring the Declaration of Independence. Even though they split up, Riley and Abigail and the Declaration finally are caught by Ian. In the other place, Agent Sadusky captures Ben with the help of Agent Hendricks who finds Ben’s car.

Suddenly, Ian calls him to get the glasses. Ben and Sadusky agree to meet Ian. By the accurate strategy, Ian succeeds to get Ben and the glasses from FBI. Holding Riley, Abigail, and Patrick hostage, Ian forces Ben to use the glasses and find the next clue, which leads the group to Trinity Church in New York City near the Wall Street and Broadway. In the Trinity Church, Ben tries the different way in using the glasses that he gets incidentally when Sadusky holds the glass. The different way to look the invisible map behind the Declaration of Independence makes the different result. They get the next clue, more specific one that states “Beneath Parkington Lane”. It refers to somewhere beneath the church. Then they look for it. Riley finds the word Parkington Lane that refers to the name of third degree Master Mason who is buried there. Parkington Lane’s tomb with the symbol of Freemasons is the entrance to get the treasure room.



Beneath the church they find an enormous shaft with an elevator system. They walk in the wooden stairs until Shaw steps in the wooden snap and falls. Suddenly the wooden stairs break and make them fall. Fortunately, all of them can be saved with the lift. At the bottom of the shaft, they find a room lit only by a lantern. Ben and Patrick trick Ian into thinking that it refers to Paul Revere's ride, and indicates the treasure to be at the Old North Church in Boston. Ian and his partner go to surface and leave Ben, Riley, Abigail, and in the bottom. He not

realizes that Ben and Patrick give the wrong clue to trick them. After giving the fake clue to Ian, Ben and Patrick go to the door marked with The All Seeing Eye.

The All Seeing Eye door actually brings them to an empty room. Ben feels so disappointed and hopeless. He thinks that someone has got there before and the treasure has gone. When Ben starts to give up, his Dad cheers him up and supports him to continue searching. Until he finds some symbols that surround the window. He also finds a strange cavity and when he tries to take the Meerschaum Pipe from the Charlotte, it fit on it and is able to open the secret door.

When another door opens automatically, they are amazed because finally they find the treasure. Ben finally reveals the vast treasure stash he has been searching for. There are so many gold and others valuable thing there. Abigail finds scrolls from the Library at Alexandria. Patrick finds the All Seeing Eye and the unfinished pyramid, which according to James Gates refers to a symbol of the Knight Templar the guardians of the treasure.

They finally get their way to surface. In the surface, they are met by Agent Sadusky. From his ring, it reveals that he is part of the Freemasons. Ben and Sadusky arrange a deal. With the safe return of the Declaration and identifying where Ian and his men can be found, Sadusky will clear all of their names and allow them to sell the treasure to collections across the world. Ian is caught by the FBI. The film ends showing that Ben kept only a small part of the sales, still making his friends quite wealthy. Then, Ben begins a romantic relationship with Abigail.

CHAPTER 3

LITERARY REVIEW

3.1 THE INTRINSIC ASPECTS

Himawan Pratista in his book *Memahami Film* argues that film consists of two elements, narrative and cinematography. These two elements interact each other and continuous with one another to form a film. Each of these elements will not be able to form a film if only stand alone (Pratista, 2008:1). Burhan Nurgiyantoro in his book *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi* stated that here are several narrative elements of story such as:

a. Narrative Elements

1.1 Theme

Theme is meaning contained in a story found by concluding the whole story, not merely some parts of it. The existence of theme is implied in the whole story so that the direct description of theme is less possible. The elements of story, character, setting, and plot become meaningful and coherent if they are tied by theme (Nurgiyantoro, 2005: 168).

1.2 Plot

Plot is an order of events, and each event is connected with cause-effect pattern. The story plot should unite. Each story should be tied each other. The relation should be clearly showed. According to Aristotle, there are three phases, namely *beginning*, *middle*, and *end*. Beginning is the phase

of introduction. Middle is the phase when conflicts occur. While end is a climax of the story.

According to time order, plot can be classified into three categories. First, *Progressive plot* is a chronological plot where the orders are *beginning* (introduction), *middle* (conflict), and *end* (climax). Second is *Flash-Back plot*. It is regressive plot, not chronological, because the beginning of the story can be in early, middle, or end. Third, *Mix plot* is a plot where there is not absolute chronological plot and vis-a-verse. It may be the mix of both plots. Pratista said that plot as the order of events is shown in audio or visual aspect of the film (Pratista, 2008: 34).

1.3 Character

There are two definitions of character. First, the story actors showed and the attitude, interest, willing, emotion, and principled owned by the characters (characters). Second, principled owned by the characters (characteristic). It means that character can be the actors or characteristic. Both of them are united and often, calling such actor figure indicates its characteristic (Nurgiyantoro, 2005: 176).

A character may be revealed to us as he speaks through a steam-of-consciousness narration, moves toward some inevitable doom, lives in a particular house, or uses a special dialect. In some stories, the author uses whatever resources suit his purpose to create believable characters in order to his characters exist to present some ideas, philosophy or theme.

According to the function and frequency of the appearing, character can be divided into two:

a. Major Character

Major Character is a character that becomes the main character and appears at the movie for often.

b. Minor Character

Minor Character is a character beside main character and appears at the movie for rarely (Nurgiyantoro, 2005: 176-177).

1.4 Setting

Setting is one of main supporter of narrative element. Without setting, film story will not be worked. Main functions of setting are as the indication of place and time to give strong information in supporting the film story. Beside has a function as background of the story, setting is also able to build mood of the people based on the story.

a. Setting of Place

They are places where the events happened in the story. Setting of place has to be able to convince the viewer that all the scene of the film really happens in the real location.

b. Setting of Time

It is the time when the events happened. It functions as information source of time, era, or season based on the narrative aspects (Pratista, 2008: 67).

b. The Cinematographic Aspects

Cinematography deals with techniques that filmmakers do to the camera and the film. There are several major things about cinematography that must be understood in analyzing a movie.

Sinematografi mencakup perlakuan sineas terhadap kamera serta stok filmnya. Seorang sineas tidak hanya sekedar merekam sebuah adegan semata namun juga harus mengontrol dan mengatur bagaimana adegan tersebut diambil, seperti jarak, ketinggian sudut, lama pengambilan, dan sebagainya (Pratista Himawan, 2008:89).

Pratista stated that cinematography covered the treatments of a filmmaker to their camera. A film-maker will consider some aspects about how a scene could be taken by control and arrangement. Related with cinematic elements of a movie, there are some essential aspects that build the quality of a scene (Pratista, 2008: 104).

2.1. Visual Aspect

2.1.1. Camera

a. Extreme Long Shot

Extreme long shot is a technique where the distance between the camera and the object reach the farthest position. It is used to depict an object located far from the camera (Pratista, 2008: 105).



(image: mediaknowall.com)

b. Long Shot

Within the long shot technique, the body of the object is could be seen clearly on the background. Thus, a film maker uses this technique to depict an opening shot of a movie (Pratista, 2008: 105).



(image: mediaknowall.com)

c. Medium Long Shot

By using medium long shot technique, the actor could be depicted from his or her beneath of the knee to top of the body. The actor and the background could be depicted as well (Pratista, 2008: 105).



(image: classes.yale.edu)

d. Medium Shot

A scene which is depicted with medium shot shows the hip of an object's body to the top of his/her body. By having this shot, the gesture and face expression seems clearer. The actors begin to be dominant on the frame (Pratista, 2008: 15).



(image:mediaknowall.com)

e. Medium Close-Up

The picture depicted could show the half of part of the whole object. For a human being body's for example, the medium close up used to depict the body from the chest to top. The actor has been dominating the frame and dialogue is mostly acted on this scene (Pratista, 2008: 5).



(image: classes.yale.edu)

f. Close Up

In general, a scene captured using close-up technique will show face, hands, feet or other small object. This distance will show the expression of the face and the detailed gesture (Pratista, 2008: 15).



(image: mediaknowall.com)

g. Extreme Close Up

In the extreme close up distance, the picture depicted will have its some detailed aspects of an object such as, ear, eye, nose, and other small part of an object (Pratista: 2008:106).



(image: mediaknowall.com)

2.1.2. Mise-en-scene

Costume

Costume is everything that is used by the players includes its accessories. The examples of costume and accessories are: dress, hat, shoes, wristwatch, jewelry, uniform, glasses, etc. In film, costume is not only functioned as cover of the body, but also has several functions based on the narrative aspects, such as: to show the setting and time (period), social status (occupation), characteristic of the players, as a symbol, as a motif of story movement, as an image (Pratista, 2008: 71).

2.2. Audio Aspect

Himawan Pratista in his book *Memahami Film* classified sound into three types: dialog, music and sound effect.

2.2.1 Dialog

Dialogue is a form of verbal communication language which is used by all of characters both inside and outside of the story (Pratista, 2008:149).

a. Language of Speak

Language of speak refers to a kind of verbal language of a movie. It depends on the country of it (Pratista: 2008:150).

b. Accent

Accent also has an important part of the movie, because it can ensure the audience that the story is really happened in certain place or country at the certain time (Pratista, 2008:151).

2.2.2 Music

Music is one of the most important elements in strengthening mood and feeling of film. It can be a soul of the film. It is divided into:

a. Music Illustration

Music illustration is a back sound that is conveying the action around the story. It is also called as theme music because it shapes and strengthens the mood, story, also the main theme of the movie. Theme music has various characters depends on its source. Theme music resulted by one full orchestra will give different result with a theme music with several instruments. There are two kinds of instrument such as *zither* and *rocky*. *Zither* is a theme music that consists of just one instrument, for example: James Bond film that is dominated with

electric guitar instrument. In the other hand, *Rocky* is a theme music that consist of several instruments, especially trumpet and piano. One instrument has different character with others instrument. Each of them can build their own mood. For example in theme music of *Rocky*, when we use the different instrument, the different mood will be built. The use of trumpet instrument with the quick tempo will give an energetic mood and non tired spirit. In contrary, the use of piano instrument with slow tempo will give intimate mood and sad feeling. Tempo of music can also influence mood. Quick tempo is used in the physical action scene which has fast character and slow tempo is often used in dramatic character. The use of same theme music but with different tempo will result in different mood (Pratista, 2008:154-155).

b. Song

The song is also used to strengthen the mood. Film also has theme song. Usually every genre has different kind of music, Pop Music for Drama and Romantic Movie, Classical Rock for War Movie, Jazz for Detective Movie, etc (Pratista, 2008:154).

2.2.3 Sound Effect

Sound Effect is all of the sound which are produced by objects inner and outer the story. It can be called as “noise”. It has the main function, which is for filling the back sound so that the audiences are able to hear it as well as the real place (Pratista, 2008:156).

3.2. THE EXTRINSIC ASPECTS

1. Non Verbal and Verbal Communication

Deddy Mulyana in his book *Pengantar Ilmu Komunikasi*, stated that communication is the process of social interaction that is used by people to construct meaning of their image about the world and to exchange images through symbols. Communication involves several elements, such as: first, source that is often called *sender*, renderer (weoder), communicator, speaker (speaker), or the originator, i.e., those who initiate or need to communicate either individuals, groups, organizations, companies or even countries.

Second, is *message*, which is a verbal or non verbal symbol that represents the feelings, values or ideas. Third, the channel or *media*, i.e., a tool or media used by sender to convey the message to the recipient. Fourth, the recipient (*receiver*) is also called the target (destination), decoder, communicate or audience, listener, interpreter, that receive the message. Fifth, the *effect*, which is what, happened at receiver after he/she received the message, for example: understanding, change, change in beliefs, change in attitude, etc.

Based on Deddi Mulyana, there are four function of communication: *first*: social communication, communication is important to build self-concept, self-actualization, to survive, to get the happiness, and to avoid stress and tension and to build a relationship with other people. *Second*: expressive communication, this kind of communication not necessarily aim to influence other, but can be done as long as that communication becomes

an instrument to convey the feeling (emotion). *Third*: ritual communication: to reaffirm the commitment to family tradition, tribe or ethnic group, nation, ideology or religion. *Fourth*: Instrumental communication has several aims such as: to inform, educate, encourage, and change the attitude, belief, behavior or initiate action, and also to entertain.

In general, communication is divided into 2; verbal and non verbal communication. Verbal communication related with oral or spoken language and non verbal communication related with instead of spoken language. Nonverbal communication is communication without language or communication without word. In practice, non verbal communication is more dominant than verbal communication. As Deddy Mulyana said that the influence of non verbal communication is 70% and verbal communication is just 30%. Some examples of nonverbal communication are gestures, finger sins, Morse and semaphore (in scouts), etc. Another example of non verbal communication is symbol.

In *Kamus Umum Bahasa Indonesia* by WJS Poerwadarminta stated that symbol is a kind of sign, painting, speech, badge and so on, stating a case, or contain a specific meaning. Symbol is something that represents something else, based on the collective agreement. Symbol consists of words, nonverbal communication, and object which the meaning is has become collective agreement for example: hanging out a flag in front of house as the symbol of honor and nationalism (Sobur, 2006: 156-157).

2. Denotation and Connotation Meaning in Semiotic Theory

People through the signs can communicate each other. There are two types of semiotics studies such as: semiotics of signification and semiotics of communication. Alex Sobur in his book “Semiotika Komunikasi” stated that semiotics is a science or method of analysis to examine the sign. Semiotics is basically about how humanity signifies things. To signify is different with to communicate. To signify means that the objects not only carry the information, but also constitute structured system of sign (Sobur, 2006: 15).

In semiotics, the same sentences can give the different meaning for the people in the different situation. Roland Barthes emphasizes the interaction between text with personal experiences and cultural users or the interaction between the conventions in the text and the convention that is experienced and expected by users. Barthes's theory is known as the "order of signification", includes denotation (dictionary meaning or actual meaning) and connotation (second meaning or the meaning created from cultural and personal experience).

Denotation is the first order of signification. Denotative meaning of word means primary meaning that usually we find in the dictionary.

Harimurti Kridalaksana (2001:40) mendefinisikan denotasi sebagai “makna kata atau kelompok kata yang didasarkan atas penunjukan yang lugas pada sesuatu di luar bahasa atau yang didasarkan atas konvensi tertentu; sifatnya obyektif.” (Sobur, 2006: 263)

In the other hand, connotation as the second order of signification means denotative meaning added to all images, memories, and feelings posed by that word. Connotation meaning of the word is subjective meaning. It means that there is a shift from general meaning (denotation) because has been added with sense and value. Denotation can be understood by many people but the connotation can only be interpreted by several people. As the example, eagle in the denotative meaning means a bird with keen eyesight, and by several people, eagle is used as the symbol of leadership.

One of the principle in the purpose of communication is that symbol has meaning of “something” else.

Tanda-tanda adalah sesuatu yang berdiri pada sesuatu yang lain atau menambahkan dimensi yang berbeda pada sesuatu, dengan memakai segala apa pun yang dapat dipakai untuk mengartikan sesuatu hal lainnya. C.S. Pierce menyebut tanda “sebagai suatu pegangan seseorang akibat keterkaitan dengan tanggapan atau kapasitasnya (Berger, 2005: 1)

In Semiotics Analysis, Charles Sanders Pierce stated that sign associated with the similar objects which its existence has causality with the signs or because there is a conventional relation with signs. He uses the term of *icon*, *index*, and *symbol*. Pierce assumed that an analysis of the sign essence directs to an authentication that each sign is determined from its object (Berger, 2005:14).

Symbol has significance and resonance of culture. Symbol has the ability to influence and also has a deep meaning. The way to interpret a symbol in different sector needs different method, knowledge and

experience. In his book *A Theory of Semiotics*, Umberto Eco provides a list of several “boundaries of a field” like: semiotics of zoo, signs of an old factory, communication strategy, codes feeling, linguistics, semiotics of treatment, music codes, formal languages, written languages, indigenous languages, visual communication, arrangement of grooves, aesthetic texts, mass communication, oration, etc. Every action to communicate with or between human being must be in accordance with the system as well as the condition needed (Berger, 2005: 99-100).

Arthur Asa Berger in his book *Tanda-tanda dalam kebudayaan kontemporer* divided the meaning of sign between two categories *i.e.*: manifest (general meaning) and latent (hidden meaning). Meaning that appears on a sign will be considered with general meaning and the determined result in accordance with the goal of the sign maker. It can be called absolutely clear and purposeful. On the other hand, hidden meaning of the sign is not in general meaning or has clear purpose; this kind of meaning is buried in that sign and in the unconscious the sign maker itself or people who see that sign. Sign means not only something that represents something else, but also something that represents something else that we do not realize before but affect us deeply (Berger, 2005: 168).

In short, symbol as one example of non verbal communication, is effective to deliver message from sender to receiver. Roland Barthes divided meaning of a symbol into two classifications: denotative and connotative. To get the connotative meaning someone needs personal experience and

cultural knowledge. Later, Arthur Asa Berge also divided the meaning of sign and symbol into manifest (general meaning) and latent (hidden meaning). To examine certain kind of symbol, based on *a Theory of Semiotics* by Umberto Eco, the writer needs a certain study about symbolism in Secret Societies. Since a study of secret societies symbolism will be different with study of health symbolism, we need certain method and knowledge related with the symbolism in secret societies itself.

3. Secret Societies and their symbolism

a) Secret Societies

Secret Societies is the secret brotherhood that consists of very rich people, honorable, in the highest social strata, and impunity. They are the imponderabilia or Inconceivable Power. They set their goals to realize the *New World Order* and move through some groups like: Freemasons, Illuminati, Skull & Bones, Bohemian Groove, Bliderberg Group, Club of Rome, etc (Ridwan, 2010:7).

Texe Marrs describe them with the cleverly disguised grups that present that exist in everywhere, on TV, imbedded in magazines, and lurking in powerful advertising. Sometimes they're subtle or subliminal, other times direct, provocative, and mind-bending in effect. They use strange symbols, signs, charms, talismans, and handshakes that program and control our minds (2005:9).

Here are some of the Secret Societies:

1. Knight of Templar

Harun Yahya in his book "Ancaman Global Freemasonry" stated that masonry (Freemasons) was only officially established and recognized in England in the early eighteenth century, the roots of the organization do reach back to the Crusades in the twelfth century. At the center of this familiar tale is an order of crusaders called the Knights Templar or the Templars (Yahya, 2005:18).

The Templars called themselves "poor soldiers," but within a short time they became very wealthy. Christian pilgrims, coming from Europe to Palestine, were under the complete control of this order, and by whose money they became very rich. In the other hand, there was another aspect of the Templars that also made the clergy ill at ease: the order had gradually apostatized from the Christian faith, and while in Jerusalem, had adopted a number of strange mystical doctrines. There were also rumors that they were organizing strange rites to give form to these doctrines (Yahya, 2005:22-23).

Finally, in 1307, the French king Philippe le Bel decided to arrest the members of the order. The leaders of the Templars, who were called "grand masters," beginning with the most important of them, Jacques de Molay, were executed in 1314 by order of the Church and the King. The majority of them were put into prison, and the order dispersed and officially disappeared (Yahya, 2005:23-24).

2. Freemasons

Based on the history, Freemasons is expert architect who are masters in building science and meticulous in making pattern. Their movement is strictly confidential and *klandestein*. Every member in the low and middle level barely knows each other. They arrange their plans very neatly and organize them perfectly. Today, there are million of people in Freemasons membership that spread around the world and they are very closed (Ridwan, 2010:78).

3. Bohemian Groove

Zaynur Ridwan stated that the Bohemian Groove is the most exclusive club pagans (Secret Societies) in America. Thousands of the members are all male, consist of the President and former President of the developed countries, the CEOs of large companies, the ruling party bigwigs in the U.S. and Europe and the world figures. They are all Jews (2010: 176).

b) Frequently Used Symbol of Some Secret Societies

1. Pyramid

Texe Marrs in his book *Codex Magica*, analyzed that pyramid hearkens back to the Egypto-Babylonia Dynasty of the pharaos and the gods and goddesss of ancient Egypt. The stones which make up the pyramid are also of esoteric significance. In the Masonic philosophy it is taught that unenlightened man is in a rude, natural state. Having little or no "light" and without the spiritual illumination

offered by the Mystery Religions he is likened to an *imperfect or rough ashlar stone*. But once enlightened and illuminated, he is crafted into a man of education, sophistication, discipline, and culture. He reaches upward toward spiritual perfection. He is then a *perfect ashlar stone* (Marrs. 2005:267).

So, pyramid symbolizes the process. Someone in the bottom will move toward by some steps of knowledge and values. Finally someone in the top will be illuminated under the eye of God (all-seeing eye).

2. All-seeing eye

In the Great Seal, the all-seeing eye is designed in the capstone amidst the radiant sun background. Texe Marrs stated that as followers of Egyptianism, it has long been assumed that the eye is that of Osiris, the Egyptian sun god, and/or of his son, Horus (Marrs, 2005:268).

Another analysis from Zaynur Ridwan in his book *Novus Ordo Seclorum* also concludes the same meaning that the all seeing eye refers to God. Symbol of one eye above the pyramid triangle is also called All Seeing Eye or eyes that see everything and it is a symbol of God (Ridwan, 2010:446)

3. Square and Compass

Square and compass is identical with geometry. The letter “G” is often found at the center of the most common of Freemasonry's

symbols, the Masonic square and compass, and that the Mason is told this letter G represents "God" and "Geometry." Then, this is the "geometrical god" that, Yarker observes, "was the emblem of Isis" (Marrs, 2005: 365)

4. Cross of Templar

Cross of Templar symbolizes the Knight of Templar. Templar developed a pagan faith under Christian guise. It is the reason why the symbol is similar with Christian symbol.



5. Statue of Liberty

The statue is replete with Secret Society coded messages and symbols of a particularly blasphemous. Based on Marrs analysis, the woman called "Liberty" in New York City's harbor refers to *Isis* (Marrs, 2005:364).

6. Obelisk

Obelisk that is also called phallus comes from the ancient Egypt. It symbolized masculinity or erected penis. Many Egyptians believe that world power must be given to man. Later, the interpretation of this symbol changes into power, domination, authority, leadership and the last as the worship ritual to Sun God (Ridwan, 2009:55).

CHAPTER 4

ANALYSIS

4.1.1 THE NARRATIVE AND CINEMATOGRAPHIC ELEMENTS

1. Theme

National Treasure is an adventure film that tells about the treasure hunting. It reveals the effort of some people as the treasure hunter to unlock some codes and symbols to get the lost treasure. By unlocking all clues with the help of his friends Abigail and Riley, Ben successfully finds the treasure, the National Heritage. In this movie implicitly, there are two secret societies that can be recognized from its symbols in every clue such as The Knight of Templar and Freemason.

The use of symbol has strong relationship with the theme and the title of the movie because treasure is identical with symbols as clues. Along the story in this film the main characters always associate with symbol and try hard to decode those symbol to get the next clue in finding the treasure. The main symbols usually appears in the important scenes to show the important part of clue or step in this film. So, the presence of the symbols is an important part of film as the amplifier of the title and theme.

In this film is told that in one night in 1832, Charles Carroll, the last surviving signer of The Declaration of Independence and also a member of Masons, was dying but he still had one secret about the clue (picture 4.1). The secret refers to a clue of Templar treasure that referred to knights from

the First Crusade who discovered the secret treasure beneath the Temple of Solomo and took the name :the Knights Templar (Picture 4.2). Then, they smuggled the treasure out of Europe and formed the new brotherhood called Freemasons. Extreme Long Shot was used to show some of Knight Templar ships when it was in the journey out of Europe (Picture 4.3). From the costume that is used by the knights (in picture 4.2) and from the sails of Knights Templar we will find the same symbol called Cross of Templar as the indication that the story is about the Knight Templar's treasure.

The explanation about the theme of treasure hunting also can be concluded from the dialog below:

Dialog 1 (00:03:22 – 00:03:50)

Grandpa: It didn't reappear for more than a thousand years, when knights from the First Crusade discovered secret vaults beneath the Temple of Solomon. You see, the knights who found the vaults believed that the treasure was too great for any one man -not even a king. They brought the treasure back to Europe and took the name "the Knights Templar". Over the next century they smuggled it out of Europe and they formed a new brotherhood called the Freemasons.



Picture 4.1 00:01:59



Picture 4.2 00:03:42



Picture 4.3 00:03:45

The use of some sound effect in these scene, like: horse whinny, thunder, the sounds of rain to support the scene and bring the viewers to the situation experienced by Charles Carroll. To build the viewer emotion and

also strengthen the situation, some musics with patriotic theme, like “Ben
 “and "Declaration of Independence", performed in the sacred moments for
 example when Ben is ordained as Knight by his grandpa and also in the end
 of story when they finally found the treasure.

2. Plot

Progressive Plot is used in this movie. It is the chronological plot
 where the orders are *beginning* (introduction), *middle* (conflict) and *end*
 (climax).

2.2.1. Beginning (Introduction)

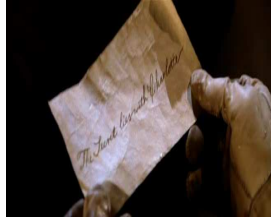
It began with Young Ben’s action to open a secret chest when he was
 visiting his grandfather home (Picture 4.4). Then, his grandfather, John
 Adam Gates agreed to tell Young Ben about the secret of Templar
 Treasure (picture 4.5). He told Ben that Charles Carroll, a Masons and the
 last surviving signer of The Declaration of Independence, gave the last
 clue of the Templar treasure to Thomas Gates. The clue said that “The
 Secret lies with Charlotte” (picture 4.6). Ben’s grandpa tells another clue
 left by The Freemasons among their Founding Father i.e. the unfinished
 pyramid and all Seeing Eye in the one dollar bill (picture 4.7).



Picture 4.4 00:01:13



Picture 4.5 00:01:51



Picture 4.6 00:04:28



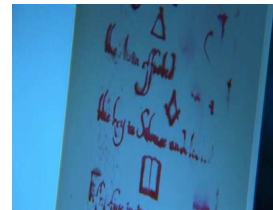
Picture 4.7 00:05:02

1.2.2. Middle (Conflict)

The conflicts began when they finally find the Charlotte. The music with quick rhythm "Finding Charlotte" quick rhythm is used as the sign of tension when finally Ben find the Charlotte under the Arctic. Inside the ship, Ben finds a box in Charlotte containing a meerschaum pipe (picture 4.8). After smearing with blood, it gives some sentences and symbols as the clue that refers to the Declaration of Independence (picture 4.9). The conflict begins when Ben disagrees with Ian's plan to steal the Declaration (picture 4.10). The fight happens when Ian and his gang try to kill Ben and Riley. The shooting of gun is raised as the sound effect to make the story become apparent and also to bring a tension in front of the viewers.



Picture 4.8 00:12:06



Picture 4.9 00:13:20



Picture 4.10 00:17:46



Picture 4.11 00:18:28

1.2.3. End (Climax)

After smearing with lemon and heating it, they find Freemasons symbol in the upper right-hand corner behind the Declaration as mark of secret message (picture 4.12). They find an Ottendorf cipher for the next clue that leads them to the Independence hall. With the glasses found in the Independence Hall, they can find Freemasons and Trinity symbols and also “Heere at the wall” that lead them to Trinity Church (picture 4.13).

In the Trinity Church they find the Parkington Lane’s tomb with the symbol of Freemasons on it as the entrance to get the treasure room (picture 4.14). The Long Shot technique is used in the picture 4.14 to show the actors clearly but the background of Parkington Lane’s tomb more dominant. Then, Ben found Freemasons symbol and other symbols round the door. The Medium Long Shot was used to show that some symbols are clear enough to be identified by the viewer (picture 4.15). After giving the fake clue to Ian, Ben and Patrick went to the door marked with The All Seeing Eye Symbol. The Medium Close Up was used to show the main symbol clearly (picture 4.16).

They finally found the Templar Treasure after revealing several clues and symbols under Trinity Church. But Sadusky said that someone had to be jailed and he decided to catch Ian with some accusations (picture 4.18). In the end of the story Extreme Close Up was used to show Sadusky ring as the information about his membership in Freemasons that can be

inferred from his ring that used square and compass as a symbol of Freemasons (picture 4.19).



Picture 4.12 01:00:50



Picture 4.13 01:14:45



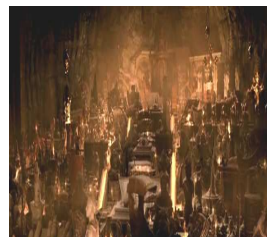
Picture 4.14 01:32:20



Picture 4.15 01:48:46



Picture 4.16 01:45:30



Picture 4.17 01:51:59



Picture 4.18 01:54:50



Picture 4.19 01:53:22

3. Characters

a. Benjamin Franklin Gates (Nicolas Cage)

A historian and amateur cryptologist who is eager to find the treasure hidden by the Founding Fathers of the United States. He has a mechanical engineering degree from MIT and an American History Degree from Georgetown. He was a former Navy man and attended the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center before continuing the six generation family tradition of treasure hunting. He is a smart, tenacious, and risk taker man who has a deep analysis. Ben's ability to make a trick in stealing Abigail fingerprint (picture 4.20) and to reveal and recode some clues, for example his knowledge about the specific time in a hundred dollar bill indicates that he is a treasure hunter.

With the help of Abigail, Riley and his father, Ben can find the treasure.



Picture 4.20 00:38:59



Picture 4.21 00:19:55



Picture 4.22 01:50:06

Here is the dialog in 00:13:08-00:15:47. This dialog shows how Ben recode the clues. His deep analysis and wide knowledge have bring him to find the fact that the next clue is in the Declaration of Independence.

*Ben: It's Templar symbols.
 "The legend writ." "The stain effected." "The key in Silence undetected." "Fifty-five in iron pen." "Mr Matlack can't offend." It's a riddle. I need to think. "The legend writ." "The stain effected."*

Ian: What legend?

Ben: There's the legend of the Templar treasure, and the stain effects the legend.

Riley: How?
"The key in Silence undetected." Wait. The legend and the key... Now there's something. A map. Maps have legends, maps have keys. It's a map, an invisible map. So now...

Ian: Wait a minute. What do you mean, "invisible" - "an invisible map"?

Ben: "The stain effected" could refer to a dye or a reagent used to bring about a certain result. Combined with "The key in Silence undetected", the implication is that the effect is to make what was undetectable detectable. Unless... "The key in Silence" could be...

Shaw: Prison.

Riley: Albuquerque. See, I can do it too. Snorkel.

Shaw: That's where the map is. Like he said, "Fifty-five in iron pen." "Iron pen" is a prison.

Ben: Or it could be, since the primary writing medium of the time was iron gall ink, the "pen" is... just a pen. But then why not say a pen? Why... why say "iron pen"?

Shaw: Cos it's a prison.

Ben: Wait a minute. "Iron pen" - the "iron" does not describe the ink in the pen, it describes what was penned. It was "iron" - it was firm, it was mineral... No, no, no, that's stupid. It was... It was firm, it was adamant, it was resolved. It was resolved. "Mr Matlack can't offend." Timothy Matlack was the official scribe of the Continental Congress. Calligrapher, not writer. And to make sure he could not offend the map, it was put on the back of a resolution that he transcribed, a resolution that men signed. The Declaration of Independence.

b. Abigail Chase (Diane Kruger)

Abigail is a smart women. It can be conclude in several dialog when she help Ben recode the clues. From her costume and place of work we can indicate that Abigail is archivist at the National Archives

(picture 4.23). In the beginning, she refuses to help Ben to check another side of The Declaration of Independence (picture 4.24). But later, she helps Ben and even falls in love to him (picture 4.25).



Picture 4.23 00:22:29



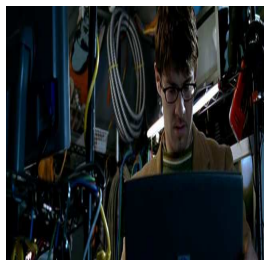
Picture 4.24 00:24:27



Picture 4.25 01:56:12

c. Riley Poole (Justin Bartha)

Riley Poole is Ben Gates' best friend and a computer whiz. He helps Ben on his treasure hunt by assisting him bypass security. From the background of this picture and by identifying Riley's ability with the computer system we can conclude that he is a computer whiz (picture 4.26). He is also smart in history and sometimes helps Ben with his knowledge (picture 4.27).



Picture 4.26 00:31:09



Picture 4.27 00:31:09

His knowledge about history also can be concluded from this dialog (01:10:04-01:10:37):

Abigail: We missed it.

Riley: No, we didn't. We didn't miss it because...You don't know this? I-I know something about history that you don't know.

BenL: I'd be very excited to learn about it, Riley.

Riley: Well, hold on one second, let me just... let me just take in this moment. This is... this is cool. Is this how you feel all the time? Because, you know... Except for now, of course.

Abigail: Riley!

Riley: All right. What I know is that daylight savings wasn't established until World War I. If it's 3 pm now, OK, that means in it would be 2 pm.

Abigail: Let's go.

Ben: Riley, you're a genius.

Riley: Yeah.

d. Ian Howe (Sean Bean)

Ian Howe is a friend of Ben Gates. He is also a treasure hunter, he will do everything to get the treasure, including to steal The Declaration of Independence. He is crafty, brutal but has unlimited resources and very smart. He has tried to kill Ben several times (picure 4.28 and 4.29). Finally, the FBI send him to prison for kidnapping, attempted murder, and trespassing on government property (picture 4.30).

From the dialog below (00:09:20-00:09:33), we can conclude that Ian has funded a trip to Arctic to find Charlotte.

Ben: *Two years ago, if you hadn't shown up, hadn't believed the treasure was real, I don't know if I ever would have found Charlotte.*

Ian: *You would have found it, I have no doubt. That's why I didn't think it was as crazy an investment as everyone said.*



Picture 4.28 00:18:28



Picture 4.29 01:44:10



Picture 4.30 01:54:50

e. Patrick Gates (Jon Voight)

Ben's father who finally gives up in treasure hunting and assumes that the treasure is just a myth (Picture 00:57:00). In the middle of the story he is disappointed after knowing that Ben is still curious about the treasure (Picture 00:57:14). He helps Ben to find the Ottendorf Cipher behind the Declaration of Independence. As the third generation of Gates treasure hunter generation he can help Ben to make a fake clue to Ian. In this dialog (01:44:20-01:44:29), we can find that he has a wide knowledge about the treasure and Freemasons.

Patrick: It's part of freemason teachings. In King Solomon's temple there was a winding staircase. It signified the journey that had to be made to find the light of truth. The lantern is the clue.

Ian: And what does it mean?

Ben: Boston. It's Boston.

Patrick: The Old North Church in Boston, where Thomas Newton hung a lantern in the steeple, to signal Paul Revere that the British were coming. One if by land, two if by sea. One lantern. Under the winding staircase of the steeple, that's where we have to look.



Picture 4.31 00:57:00



Picture 4.32 00:57:14

4. Setting

a. Setting of Place

Mostly all of the scenes take place in U.S.A. There are several popular buildings used in this movie, like:



Picture 4.33 00:22:05
The Franklin Institute



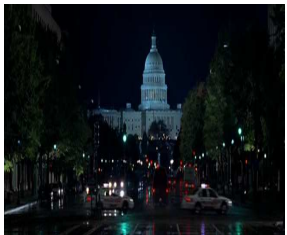
Picture 4.34 00:22:05
National Archives Building



Picture 4.35 00:22:05
Washington Monument



Picture 4.36 00:22:05
Library of Congress



Picture 4.37 00:22:05
Capitol Hill



Picture 4.38 01:24:48
Statue of Liberty

b. Setting of Time

This movie happened in 2000s. It can be proved from the the type of car bought by Riley as the reward of finding the treasure at the end of the story.



Picture 4.39 01:56:00

4.2 THE EXTRINSIC ELEMENTS

Along the process of finding the treasure there are several clues. Some of the symbols of Secret Societies often appear is the important clue or as part of the treasure. Most of those clues used secret society symbol which has connotative meaning. Here are several symbols which mostly appear:

a. All Seeing Eye Symbol and The Unfinished Pyramid

The All Seeing Eye and Unfinished Pyramid symbol appears several times in the film. In dictionary, we can find that eye means one of two organs which you use to see with and pyramid means a solid object with a flat square base and four flat triangular sides which slope toward each other and meet to form a point at the top. In the beginning of the movie, Ben's grandpa said that The All Seeing Eye and Unfinished Pyramid is symbol of the Knight Templar, guardian of the treasure.

The All Seeing Eye, in connotative meaning, can represent God of the Freemasons. It symbolizes God who is able to see in any direction. The light behind the eye can be assumed as the light of God that can illuminate mankind. The unfinished pyramid, especially in the

one dollar bill can be assumed with the unfinished project. In the one dollar bill we can get the word “Annuet Coeptis” (He (God) has favored our undertakings) and “Novus Ordo Seclorum” (New World Order). So, when we conclude those items (Annuet Coeptis, The All Seeing Eye, The Unfinished Pyramid, and Novus Ordo Seclorum, we can get the analysis that if the project to make new world order has finished, God will favor their undertaking and go down to unite his people.

The All Seeing Eye and Unfinished Pyramid appear in several scenes, such as:

1. As a part of Templar Treasure

The All Seeing Eye symbols appear in the beginning, and the end of the film. It signs a treasure itself. From these picture below we can conclude that metal with the symbol of The All Seeing Eye in the picture 4.40, 4.41 and 4.42 is the same metal. In other words, the treasure found by Ben (picture 4.42) is the same treasure in the legendary that had been fought over for centuries by tyrants, pharaohs, emperors, warlords as told by his grandfather in the beginning of the film (picture 4.40) and exactly same as the treasure that smuggled out of Europe by the Freemasons (picture 4.41).



Picture 4.40 00:03:35



Picture 4.41 00:03:52



Picture 4.42 01:50:55

2. In The money one dollar

The one dollar bill in the picture 4.46 is the othe important clue. From the dialog below (00:04:44 – 00:04:59) Mr. Gates emphasize once again about the relation of their Founding Father (Freemasons) with the Templar treasure.

Granpa: Now look here, Ben. The Freemasons among our Founding Fathers left us clues. Like these the unfinished pyramid and the all-seeing eye. Symbols of the Knights Templar, guardians of the treasure.



Picture 4.46 00:05:02

The symbol of the unfinished pyramid and the all-seeing eye, like in the one dollar bill, also appear in the creative scenes transition effect. The combination of Mr. Gates's eye and the unfinished pyramid in the past, as part of the legendary story as if forming the All Seeing Eye and The Unfinished Pyramid (picture4.43-4.45). These picture, strengthen the fact that this film is also about the secret societies symbolism in finding the treasure because these scene appear when Mr. Gates begins to tell about the lost treasure.



Picture 4.43 00:02:53 Picture 4.44 00:02:55 Picture 4.45 00:02:55

b. Square and Compass

In dictionary, we can find that square means a tool for drawing or testing a right angle and compass is a device for finding direction which has a needle which can move easily and that always points to magnetic north.

If we look in several pictures, the square and compass, that is well known as Freemasons symbol, there is letter of “G” between them. In another picture, the letter of “G” can be substitute with “One Eye” or “All Seeing Eye” and also can be substitute with pentagram that has another same meaning as “God”. The letter of “G” can also be interpreted as Geometries because the Freemasons member based on history is expert architect who are masters in building science and meticulous in making pattern. Freemasons is derived from the world Masons (Indonesia: tukang bangunan). In the end of the film we can see how expert they are. Freemasons build kingdom under the church, very big and complex place to hide their treasure. In this film also described how “neat” and “detail” their way to keep their treasure by making a unique clue behind The Declaration of Independence.

Here are several Freemason symbols (Square and Compass) which are often appeared during the film:

1. Backside of The Declaration of Independence after being giving lemons and heated

The most important clue is the Declaration of Independence. The symbol of Square and Compass appear in the right up corner the behind the Declaration marks the important clue (picture 4.47), as it said by Abigail in dialog below (01:00:45). They also find an Ottendorf cipher for the next clue (picture 4.48)

Abigail: Now, if there is a secret message, it'll probably be marked by a symbol in the upper right-hand corner.



Picture 4.47 01:00:50



Picture 4.48 01:01:11

2. As a clue in the Independence Hall

The symbol of Square and Compass appear in one of the brick in the Independence Hall (picture 4.49-4.50). By finding the symbol, Ben knows that the brick contains the next clue.



Picture 4.49 01:12:56

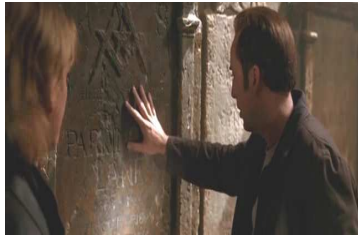


Picture 4.50 01:13:10

3. In front of Parkington Lane tomb as a entrance point of the treasure.

The symbol of Square and Compass appear again in the other clue. Riley finds the word Parkington Lane that refers to the name of

third degree Master Mason who is buried there. Parkington Lane's tomb with the symbol of Freemasons is the entrance to get the treasure room (picture 4.51).



Picture 4.51 01:35:11

4. In the last clue to get the treasure room

When the All Seeing Eye door actually brings them to an empty room, Ben feels so disappointed and hopeless. He thinks that someone has got there before and the treasure has gone. When Ben starts to give up until he finds some symbols, which one of the symbol is square and compass, surround the window (picture 4.52). This door finally brings them finding the treasure. The square and compass becomes the important mark that is highly meritorious as the last clue toward the treasure.



Picture 4.52 01:48:46

5. As a ring of Agent Sadusky

Agent Sadusky ring containing the square and compass indicates him as the Freemasons member (picture 4.53).



Picture 4.59 01:53:22

c. Knight of Templar

The cross in the dictionary means two intersecting lines. In connotative meaning, cross symbol identical with church and Christian. In the beginning of the film, it is told that Knight of Templar is Knights from the first Crusade who discovered the secrets vaults beneath The Temple of Solomon and brought the treasure back to Europe. Over the next century they smuggled it out of Europe and they formed brotherhood called the Freemasons.

Here are some Cross as the symbol of The Knight of Templar:

1. It used as in their uniform

In the beginning the Cross Templar symbol appears in the as the uniform of Knights from the First Crusade (picture 4.54). From this picture and some dialogues we can conclude that this film is about the Templar treasure.



Picture 4.54 00:03:42

2. In their sails

The Cross Templar appears again in the sails when the Templar ships smuggled the treasure out from Europe (picture 4.55). This picture emphasizes about the Knight of Templar.



Picture 4.55 00:03:45

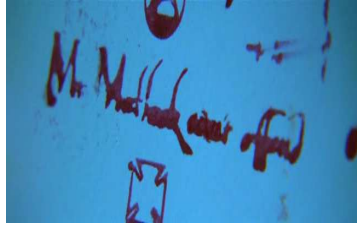
3. In the clue of Meerschaum Pipe

This symbol appeared in the beginning of the film, when Ben found a box of Charlotte containing the Meerschaum Pipe. Evidently, there are some symbols, which one of them is Cross of Templar (Picture 4.56). These symbol, as the sign of the important, clue connect the link between the treasure and the riddle, which is the next clue. With this symbol, Ben knows that the context of the riddle word is about the treasure of Templar.



Picture 4.62 00:13:08

4. In the clue of Meerschaum Pipe



Picture 4.56 00:13:30

d. Other Symbols

There are some of other symbols that appear along the film. Although these symbol not convey the real meaning, their presence are important as the mark of some important clues. Here are they:

1. Eagle sometimes also represent Horus in the Egyptian Myth.



Picture 4.57 00:12:06

2. Washington Monument or obelisk. Obelisks are phallic symbols related to the Egyptian Sun god, Ra. It is also as symbol of fertility and the worship to Sun god.



Picture 4.58 00:21:25



Picture 4.59 00:27:01

3. Trinity in Christian means the union of three persons (Father, Son and Holy Ghost)



Picture 4.60 01:14:54



Picture 4.61 01:30:31

4. Statue of Liberty as the symbol of beauty and freedom



Picture 4.62 01:24:48

5. Lantern symbolizes illumination. In this film, Patrick Gates explained that the lantern in this picture above as “light of truth”



Picture 4.63 01:42:24



Picture 4.64 01:44:31

6. **Octagon** represents eternal life because the number of eights of symbolic of renewal.



Picture 4.65 01:48:41

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

National Treasure is an adventure movie that uses treasure hunting as its theme. It reveals the effort of some people as the treasure hunter to unlock some codes and symbols to get the lost treasure. Implicitly, in this movie there are two secret societies that can be recognized from its symbols in every clue such as The Knight of Templar and Freemason. This film uses progressive plot that begins with the story from Ben's grandfather about Templar treasure. To find the treasure, Ben and his friends have to unlock some clues and decoding some symbols. By decoding hidden message behind The Declaration of Independence, they get another clue that finally bring them to find the treasure. This film takes place in America. It can be identified by some important and popular monument and building. With the strong characteristic of the characters combined with several conflict, surprises and special effects, this film becomes special to watch.

Some scenes in this film show that this film also tells about the oldest *Secret Societies* i.e. *Knight of Templar* and also another *Freemasons*. It can be identified by the dialogues and pictures along the film. Along the process of finding the treasure there are several clues. Most of those clues used *Secret Societies* Symbols which has connotative meaning. Although not presenting the real meaning, most of those symbol always appear in the important clues as a sign of important steps.

In conclusion, the writer succeed to represent *Secret Societies* Symbols in the National Treasure movie. The use of symbol has strong relationship with the theme and the title of the movie because treasure is identical with symbols as clues. Along the story in this film the main characters always associate with symbol and try hard to decode those symbol to get the next clue in finding the treasure. The main symbols usually appears in the important scenes to show the important part of clue or step in this film. So, the presence of the symbols is an important part of film as the amplifier of the title and theme.

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