

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY**

Thriller is “a work of fiction or drama designed to hold the interest by the use of a high degree of intrigue, adventure, or suspense” (“Thriller”). Thriller has many subgenres such as psychological thriller and crime thriller. In the late 1980’s, a new subgenre in thriller emerged and it was called the techno-thriller. Techno-thriller means “a thriller whose plot relies on modern technology” (“Techno Thriller”). Techno-thriller novels usually contain military technology “as the ‘techno-thriller’ label makes clear, these were thrillers in which the ‘techno’ was central, in particular high-technology military weapons systems that were either very new, or believed likely to be available in the near term” (Elhefnawy) within the story.

Techno-thriller genre is sometimes associated with an author named Tom Clancy; some people call him “the wizard inventor of the techno-thriller” (Ryan). Tom Clancy himself refuses to be called the inventor of techno-thriller. He says,

“if anybody invented the techno-thriller, what about Crichton?” (Ryan)

Tom Clancy is a popular novelist in the United States of America. His novels are mainly about political and military worlds. His popularity is growing larger because he “has written fifteen #1 *New York Times* bestselling novels” (“Tom Clancy”) and his works are popular not only in the world of the reader but also “in the US military and intelligence agencies” (“Tom Clancy”). His “military plotting and scenarios are considered so plausible” (“Tom Clancy”) that he becomes known as one of the best authors in “thriller” genre, especially “techno-thriller”.

*Rainbow Six* is one of the most popular works of Tom Clancy. I have chosen to analyse this novel because it is a good example of techno-thriller novel and “this novel has everything that techno thriller readers love” (Roby), and I am also curious about some reviews which mention that “some sections were real page turners” (Louis). The strength of thriller genre lies in the fact that the story makes the readers continue to flip over the pages, and that is why I am interested to find out about the elements of plot in this novel which is significant in this kind of genre.

Elements of plot consist of suspense, surprise, and artistic unity; Suspense is one of the elements of plot that gives us a sense of curiosity when we read a novel. “Suspense is the quality in a story that makes the reader ask ‘What’s going to happen next?’ or ‘How will this turn out?’ and impels him to read on to find the answers to these questions. Suspense is greatest when the reader’s curiosity is combined with anxiety about the fate of some sympathetic character” (Perrine 45). Another element is Surprise. It is the answer to the suspense and it “is

proportional to the unexpectedness of what happens” (47), while the last element, Artistic Unity, is a “condition of a successful literary work whereby all its elements work together for the achievement of its central purpose” (“Artistic Unity”). All of the events that happen in the story can build a great plot if they are logical and likely to happen in real life and have an Artistic Unity.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM**

The problems analysed in this thesis are:

1. What is the suspense in the novel?
2. What is the surprise in the novel?
3. How is the artistic unity presented in the novel?

### **PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

Based on the statement of the problem, the purposes of the study are:

1. To show what the suspense is in the novel.
2. To show what the surprise is in the novel.
3. To show how the artistic unity is presented in the novel.

### **METHOD OF RESEARCH**

I use library research in writing the analysis of the novel. After reading Tom Clancy's *Rainbow Six* as a primary text, I collected data from various Internet sites and other sources from the library. Then I analyse the elements of plot in the novel. In the end, I draw conclusion from what I have analysed in the novel.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE THESIS**

This thesis consists of three chapters preceded by the Table of Contents and the Abstract. Chapter One is the Introduction, which consists of the Background of the Study, the Statement of the Problem, the Purpose of the Study, the Method of Research and the Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two is the analysis of suspense, surprise and artistic unity in Tom Clancy's *Rainbow Six*. Chapter Three is the Conclusion. The thesis ends with the Bibliography and the Appendices, which consist of the Synopsis of the Novel and the Biography of the Author.