

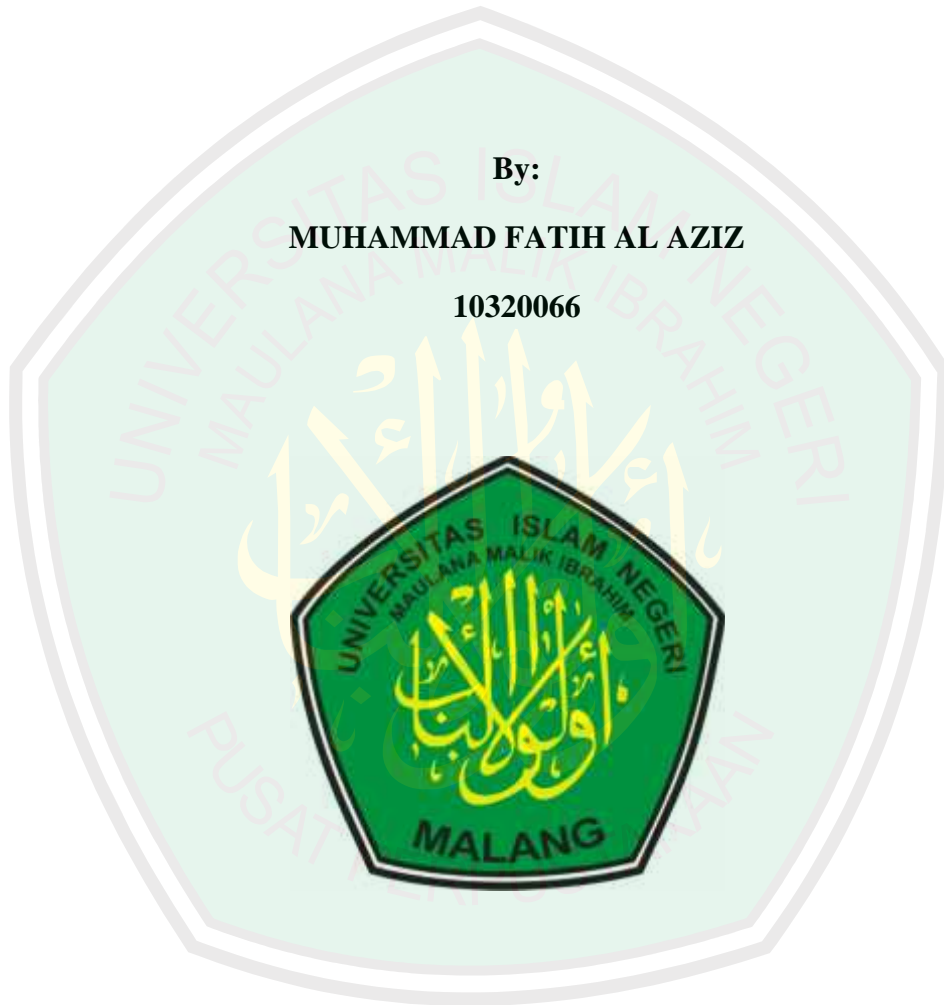
**THE MYTH OF HOLY GRAIL IN DAN BROWN'S *THE DA VINCI CODE***

**THESIS**

**By:**

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**ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LETTER DEPARTMENT**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

**MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY**

**MALANG**

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**Presented to**

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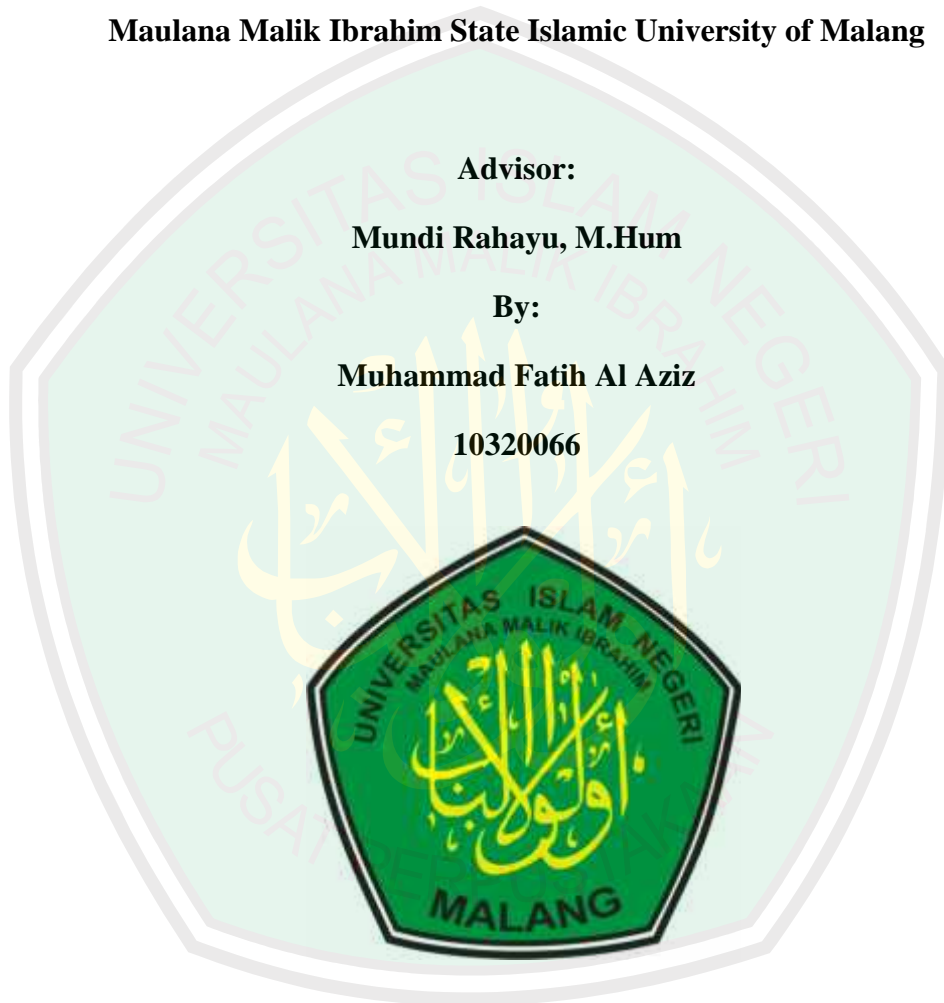
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## APPROVAL SHEET

This is to certify that Muhammad Fatih Al Aziz's thesis entitled **The Myth of Holy Grail in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*** has been approved by the thesis advisor for further approval by the Board of Examiners.

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Here with, I certify that the thesis I wrote to fulfill a requirement for the bachelor degree of *Sarjana Sastra* entitled “**The Myth of Holy Grail in Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code***” is truly my original work. It does not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those indicated in quotation and bibliography. Due to this fact, I am the one who is responsible for the thesis if there is any objection or claims from others.

Malang, June 17, 2015

Muhammad Fatih Al Aziz

# MOTTO

**“Learn How to see.  
Realize that everything connects  
to everything else.”**

**~Leonardo Da Vinci~**

# DEDICATION

*This Thesis Is I Proudly Dedicated To*

*My Beloved Mother, Muhsinah Solikhah Manan*

*Thank you for giving birth to me in this colorful world. Thank you has taught me everything about this world.*

*My Beloved Father, Imam Ghozali Syahid*

*Thank you for keeping, taking care of me over the years and giving a lot of love.*

*Thank you for being the best parent for me.*

*My Beloved Sister, Itsna Naili El Farah*

*thank you for giving me the motivation to be a good brother to you. Hopefully, you can always take any kindness that I can give you and neutralize all the bad things that I have given you.*

*My Beloved Mangetsu*

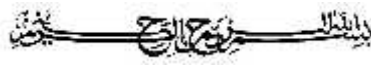
*Thank you for always by my side to face every good and bad things in our life.*

*The best thing may always be with us along with our big family.*

**“This Thesis Owes Your Supports.**

***And, It Is For You, My Lovers”***

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



In the name of Allah, the God who teaches us with pen and teaches human beings of what they do not know. May peace be upon our prophet Muhammad SAW, the noblest human being and the teacher of all people in the world. He is a chosen prophet who has most fluent tongue. All praise and gratitude be to Allah having power upon all people on earth, giving the inspirations, healthy and the power to me, so I can finish my thesis entitled **“The Myth of Holy Grail in Dan Brown’s *The Da Vinci Code*”**.

In writing the thesis, I have had a lot of valuable experiences till I finished this thesis. And it would not have been completed without any contributions, motivations and supports from many people. Therefore, I would like to thanks with my deepest gratitude to:

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Dr.Syamsudin, M.Hum as the Head of the Department of English Language and Literature, Faculty of Humanities Maulana Malik Ibrahim State Islamic University of Malang.

My advisor, Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum that gives me an advice to finish my research.

My beloved family, Mother, Father and Sister that always support me through their prayer everytime.

All of my best friends, Haikal, Fanani, Ryzki, Ichwan, Regar, Angga, Searis, Rizky, Dudin that always accompany me to work my research and encouraged to remain strength to face every difficulty.

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My Laptop that is very useful to finish my research. Without it, perhaps I can't finish my thesis.

Thanks for all your participation that have given to me. Finally, I finish my thesis on time.

Finally, I realize that this thesis needs the constructive criticism and suggestions from the readers in order to make it better. And hopefully it can be useful for the readers, especially for English Letters and Language Department students.

Malang, June 17, 2015

Muhammad Fatih Al Aziz

## ABSTRACT

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The Advisor : Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.

Key Words : Connotative, Denotative, Holy Grail, Mary Magdalene, Myth

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This thesis uses a novel The Da Vinci Code as a data source. Because in this novel tells about the Holy Grail that containing interesting myths about the Priory of Sion, the relationship between Mary Magdalene and Jesus Christ and the descent of Jesus were still alive and protected by a secret organization formed by the Priory of Sion until today. This novel written by famed novelist Dan Brown, it tells about the quest of the true Holy Grail. This novel packed like a detective novel and inside it there are a lot of codes that must be solved to find the Holy Grail.

In this thesis, the researcher uses semiotic theory of Roland Barthes as a tool to analyze the meaning of the Holy Grail in denotative and connotative. After that, the researcher analyzed the myth behind the Holy Grail. Researcher also analyzed the characters perceive of the Holy Grail to determine the response of each character of the Holy Grail. All the data is getting from texts that exist in the novel The Da Vinci Code relating to the statements of the problem that has been determined by the researcher.

After analysis, researcher made conclusions about the denotative and connotative meaning of the Holy Grail, the myth of the Holy Grail and the characters perceive of the Holy Grail that is contained in the novel The Da Vinci Code.

## ABSTRAK

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Pembimbing : Mundi Rahayu, M.Hum.

Kata Kunci : Konotatif, Denotatif, Holy Grail, Maria Magdalena, Mitos

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Penelitian ini menggunakan novel *The Da Vinci Code* sebagai sumber data. Karena dalam novel ini menceritakan tentang mitos Cawan Suci (*Holy Grail*) yang berkaitan dengan misteri tentang mitos Biarawan Sion, hubungan antara Maria Magdalena dan Yesus, dan keturunan Yesus yang masih hidup hingga saat ini yang dijaga oleh organisasi rahasia yang dibentuk para Biarawan Sion. Novel ini di tulis oleh novelis terkenal yang bernama Dan Brown. Novel ini menceritakan tentang perjalanan untuk menemukan rahasia mitos Holy Grail yang sesungguhnya. Dikemas dengan gaya penulisan novel detektif dan didalamnya terdapat banyak misteri tentang kode-kode yang harus dipecahkan untuk menemukan mitos Holy Grail yang sesungguhnya.

Dalam penelitian ini, peneliti menggunakan teori semiotic Roland Barthes untuk menganalisa makna Holy Grail secara denotatif dan konotatif. Setelah itu, peneliti menganalisa mitos dibalik Holy Grail tersebut. Peneliti juga menganalisa persepsi para karakter terhadap Holy Grail untuk menentukan respon mereka terhadap mitos Holy Grail berdasarkan persepsi masing-masing karakter. Seluruh data diperoleh peneliti dari teks-teks yang terdapat pada novel *The Da Vinci Code* yang berhubungan dengan rumusan masalah yang telah ditentukan oleh peneliti.

Setelah menganalisa, peneliti membuat kesimpulan tentang makna Holy Grail secara denotatif dan konotatif, mitos dibalik misteri Holy Grail dan persepsi masing-masing karakter terhadap Holy Grail yang terdapat dalam novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

## ABSTRACT

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Human life cannot be separated from the existence of a work of art, and literature is a work of art which uses language as its media. Literature is one of the most creative and universal ways of communicating the emotion, spirituality, and intellectual concerning humankind.

Literature is a part of arts, which shows values of factual and imaginative beauty. It gives consolidation and spiritual satisfaction to the readers. William Henry Hudson in his *An Introduction to the Study of Literature* (1965: 10) said, “Literature is the vital records of what men have in life and what of they have thought and felt about these aspect of it”.

Actually, there are many different definitions of literature, but there is no definite definition of literature yet, since it is still in a debate up to this period. Culler (1997:41) stated “Literature is a paradoxical institution because to create literature is to write according to existing formulas—to produce something that looks like a sonnet or that follows the conventions of the novel—but it is also to flout those conventions, to go beyond them”. Todorov in Koesnosoebroto (1988:1) viewed literature as a kind of extension and application of certain properties of language. “Literature exists because it pleases us, by imitating life or by displaying its writers’ visions of life as it is or as the researcher thinks it should be” (1988:2).

By understanding the content of literary works, the readers will know some events in a literary work; they will also know some problems of human life and get knowledge about the ways to solve their problems. It can be concluded, then, that literature is human creativity dealing with the researcher's emotional feeling and imagination in expressing the life experience through language. Literature appeals from people's emotion, their imagination, rather than their intelligence. Literature preserves the ideas of people about love, faith, duty, friendship, freedom, reverent, etc. It takes the readers or performers to bring these potential experiences in literature into active expression.

Literature itself has been traditionally classified into three genres; prose, poetry, and drama. Each genre is still divides into subgenres. One of the subgenres of prose is novel. The term of novel is now applied to a great variety of writings that have in common only the attribute of being extended work of prose fiction (Abrams, 1981: 119). Peck and Coyle also stated that novels do not, however, present a documentary picture of life. Alongside the fact that novels look at the people in society, the other major characteristic of the genre is that novels tell a story. Most of novelists focus on the tension between individuals and the society in which they live, so that the novelist tell and describe the social life and society (1984: 102). For many people, a literary work becomes a way to deliver a message about the truth, about what is good and what is bad. There is a clear message delivered delicately in the literary work.

In this research, the researcher wants to explain that novel is one of the effective tools to present certain problems or ideas. Novel can also bring certain messages from the author or certain social situation, just like symbol and myth.

The symbol has close relation with history of social situation. By knowing the meaning of a symbol, we can find out the origins of the history that happened. Symbol is a mark, other forms of visualization, images or even behavior that has a hidden meaning, and when we know its meaning, then we can know the history that happened in a group or community who create these symbols. Etymologically symbol of Greece "symbollo" means "put together" (Dorothy: 1952), It's mean that making an idea and the object has the same meaning, so that the object can interpret the idea that does it mean.

Besides the symbol, something that is able to lead us to show the origin of a history is a myth. The myth of Greece, "mythos" is folklore tells the story set in the past, containing an interpretation of the universe and the existence of creatures in it, as well as considered actually happen by the author of the story and the followers (Kirk: 1984). In general, the myth tells the story of the universe, the world and its inhabitants, being the shape of the topography, the supernatural beings, and so on. Myths can arise as a record of historical events which have been greatly exaggerated, as an allegory or personification of natural phenomena or as a description of the rituals. They deployed to convey a religious experience or ideal for shaping models of certain properties and as a material in a given community. Like the myths of Greece which is very popular with myth of Gods and Goddess, which they have a symbol and a different interpretation (Simpson: 1976). From here we can know that the Greece believe the Gods and held tightly to the trust as a means of worship.

Symbol and myth are closely related to each other. According to Roland Barthes that researching on relation between symbol and myth says that "*A Sign*

can be interpreted as a denotative, the meaning of marking conventions or agreements have a higher and a second layer of meaning (connotative)". From the above quote, Roland Barthes explains that the symbol is the first form a system called the denotation. Symbol is form from an idea or expression that is bound to this aspect of psychology; such as feelings, emotions, beliefs, behaviors, ideology etc. When the symbol has meaning and is believed to be in an environment of trust and even become cultural environment, then the symbol is switched into a myth (connotative).

From the explanation above, the researcher realized that indeed there is myth behind a thing that underlies the creation of it, so up to now there are many mysteries are hidden in a myth. Like the myth of the Holy Grail which is well known around the 12th century. The story of the Holy Grail has been much into literary works such as "*Holy Blood, Holy Grail*", "*The Templar Revelation*", and many works of literature that deals with the Holy Grail with the versions of each.

Because the myth of the Holy Grail is a very mysterious, the researcher interested to research related to the symbols and myths that are much talked about it. Therefore, the researcher decided to examine novel *The Da Vinci Code* that has a lot of mystery about the symbol and a myth that is associated with the Holy Grail. *The Da Vinci Code* is a novel by an American that Dan Brown is a very famous and became a Best Seller novel. No doubt if this novel into a bestseller because of the contents of this novel there are so many mysteries about the symbols, history of the controversial and mysterious cases relating to ancient myth in it. *The Da Vinci Code* was published in 2003; this book became one of the best-selling book in the world because it managed to sell 36 million copies

(until August 2005) and has been translated into 44 languages. Combining style detective, thriller and conspiracy theory, the novel has helped popularize attention to a theory about the legend of the Holy Grail and the role of Mary Magdalene in Christian history, the theories that considered by Christians as heresy and has been criticized as historically inaccurate. Claim storyline saying that the Catholic Church has been involved in a conspiracy to cover up the story of Jesus. This implies that the Vatican consciously aware of being alive in a falsehood, but to do something in order to maintain his power. Fans praised that this book is creative, although critics also attacked by saying inexact and bad writing, and condemned the controversial stance on the role of the Christian Church.

In the novel *The Da Vinci Code*, we will also examine the symbols relating to the conspiracy, but in this research, the researcher will focus on reviewing the symbols associated with the myths that exist in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*. Keep in mind that although many symbols that will be examined in this novel, but the subject of this research will be narrowed to the description of the symbol and myth of the Holy Grail contained in this novel. For researcher, The Holy Grail is a very unique study to be discussed, although the terms would be a debate, but if you can see from the other side maybe it could be used as a reference and a unique reference for the next researchers of The Holy Grail.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problems

Based on the background of the study described above, this thesis is intended to answer the following problems:

1. What is the meaning of the Holy Grail myth in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*?
2. What do the characters perceive of the Holy Grail myth in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*?

## 1.3 Objective of the Study

Generally, the purpose of the analysis is to reveal the meaning of The Holy Grail. In particular, based on statement of the problem mentioned above, the purposes of this research are:

1. To know the meaning of Holy Grail myth in novel *The Da Vinci Code*.
2. To find out the characters perceive of the Holy Grail myth in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

## 1.4 Scope and Limitation

In this research, the subject that used by researcher is a famous symbol of the Holy Grail. Researcher will discuss about the meaning of the Holy Grail from the novel *The Da Vinci Code* point of view. Researcher will use the semiotic theory of Roland Barthes to analyze the myth of the Holy Grail in this novel, that is the denotative and connotative meanings of symbols.

This research focused on the meaning of Holy Grail so it will not discuss about the Christian doctrine of faith or things that can cause debate, because in this novel also discusses the controversy in Christianity, but researcher will focus

only on denotative and connotative meanings of the Holy Grail contain in this novel *The Da Vinci Code*. As for researcher using theories or concepts associated with Christianity, it is only used to complete and support the data that has been studied by researcher.

### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

The result of this research is expected to contribute both theoretical and practical significance for the development of literary study. Theoretically, this research is expected to enrich knowledge and understand a literary work especially for English Letters and Language Department students.

Practically, the researcher hopes that this research would be useful reference for those who have an interest in analyzing literature. It can help other researchers in conducting a study on semiotic aspects of a novel. This research can also be a lesson material and useful information for the teachers who should provide more empirical data in order that the teachers can enrich their teaching.

In addition, the researcher expects that this research can help the students to know and understand the aspects of novel. The students can understand more about the legend of Holy Grail which is reflected in *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, and increase their knowledge and ability about kinds of analysis, like semiotic theory used in this research.

## 1.6 Research Method

### 1.6.1 Research design

In this research, the researcher uses a literary criticism. Peck and Coyle (1984:151) state literary criticism is usually regarded as the analysis, interpretation and evaluation of literary work: it does not mean 'finding fault with'. Criticism as an academic activity expresses the reader's sense of what is happening in a text.

Besides, literary criticism is the only research design that is directly related to the literary work. The critic's general purpose in most cases is to enrich the reader's understanding of the literary work. To be able to conduct a literary criticism, the use of appropriate approach is absolutely needed. To know denotative and connotative meaning, the researcher applies semiotic theory.

In this research, the researcher uses semiotic theory of Roland Barthes, because it analyzes denotative and connotative meaning of Holy Grail in this novel. So, the goal is exactly to find out denotative and connotative meaning of Holy Grail in this novel that is Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*.

### 1.6.2 Data Source

Data needed in this research is taken from a novel entitled *The Da Vinci Code* of the American writer Dan Brown. This novel was published in 2003 by Doubleday Fiction.

### 1.6.3 Data Collection

In the data collection, this research can be categorized as a library research; it is because steps of data collection conducted by researcher associated with written documents.

The Data in this research are selected on the basis of the objectives of the study. The steps of collecting data in this research are as follows:

First of all, the researcher starts getting the book used as the data of this research and read novel *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown over and over until the researcher understands the story well. The researcher also takes notes on text that related with denotative and connotative in the novel indicating the statement of problems.

Then, the researcher identifies the text that related with denotative and connotative in the novel. The researcher also browses the internet to collect the supporting data. Finally, the data are arranged systematically in accordance with statement of problems, so that the researcher can make a conclusion.

#### **1.6.4 Data Analysis**

After collecting texts that related with the meaning of the Holy Grail and characters perceive of the Holy Grail, the researcher analyzed it that had been collected through the following steps:

##### **a. Analyze the denotative meaning of Holy Grail**

On first analysis, researcher will analyze the denotative meaning of the Holy Grail. It used to know the true meaning of the Holy Grail that has been used and believed in general.

##### **b. Analyze the connotative meaning of the Holy Grail**

The next analysis is to analyze the connotative meaning of the Holy Grail that contained in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*. It used to know that there are another meaning that narrated in the novel and will revealed in this analysis.

**c. Identify the characters who find out the Holy Grail in the novel**

To know the response that will be made by the characters of the novel to the Holy Grail, the researcher identifies anyone who is looking for the Holy Grail and analyze them one by one to know the response and what they will do in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

**d. Analyze the characters perceive of the Holy Grail**

After identifying the characters who search of the Holy Grail, the researcher will know how the response and what they will do to the Holy Grail that narrated in the novel. This analysis used to know that what will happen to the Holy Grail as connotative meaning in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

**e. Make a conclusion**

After all the data analyzed, the final step that needs to be done is to make a conclusion that aims to create an out line description so that readers can understand this research clearly enough.

### **1.7 Definition of Key Terms**

It is important to define some terms that used in this research in order to avoid misunderstanding, the terms are:

1. **Holy Grail** : Denotatively, based on dictionary, Holy Grail is platter or cup used by Jesus at the Last Supper. Connotatively, according to novel *The Da Vinci Code*, Holy Grail is the secret of Mary Magdalene as a holy woman and the symbol for noble womb of

Mary Magdalene containing child of Jesus who also had a royal blood. And the last treasure of Holy Grail is the tomb of Mary Magdalene.

2. **Myth** : According to Sri Iswidayati, Myth is a form of a message or speech that must be believed to be true but not provable. Myth is not the concept or idea but a way of giving meaning. Etymologically, the myth is a type of speech, of course, not just any speech. One thing to be aware that the myth is a communication system, which is a message.
3. **Semiology** : According to Irzanti, based on Ferdinand de Saussure, semiology is a science that examines the system of signs in the social life that is part of the social psychology.
4. **Priory of Sion** : The Prieure du Notre Dame du Sion, or Priory of Zion, is said to be the cabal behind many of the events that occurred at Rennes-le-Chateau. According to the Prieure's own documents, its history is long and convoluted. Its earliest roots are in some sort of Hermetic or Gnostic society led by a man named Ormus. This individual is said to have reconciled paganism and Christianity. The story of Sion only comes into focus in the Middle Ages. In 1070, a group of monks from Calabria, Italy, led by one Prince

Ursus, founded the Abbey of Orval in France near Stenay, in the Ardennes.

([http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/sociopolitica/esp\\_sociopol\\_priorsion02.htm](http://www.bibliotecapleyades.net/sociopolitica/esp_sociopol_priorsion02.htm). accessed on June 16<sup>th</sup> 2015)

5. **Opus Dei** :Opus Dei is an organization founded in Spain in 1928 by Josemaria Escriva de Balaguer. The stated aim of Opus Dei is to "spread throughout society a profound awareness of the universal call to holiness and apostolate through one's professional work carried out with freedom and personal responsibility."

([http://www.odan.org/what\\_is\\_opus\\_dei.htm](http://www.odan.org/what_is_opus_dei.htm). accessed on June, 16<sup>th</sup> 2015)

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

To have a basic support in developing the thesis, the aspects of the related literature are reviewed in this chapter.

#### 2.1 Semiotic as a Literary Criticism

Semiotic theory is a theory of postmodern criticism that is important and widely used today. He understands literary works through signs or symbols of that encountered in the text. This theory argues that in a text there are many signs, so the reader or researcher must understand what is meant by these signs.

Ferdinand de Saussure, who played a major role in structuralism, also introduced the concept of semiology (Saussure, 1972:33). Beginning from his opinion about *langue* he creates a system of signs that express ideas. However, he was aware that in addition, there is a system of signs of the alphabet for the deaf and dumb, symbols in rituals, sign in the military, etc. Saussure argued that the system of *langue* is most important thing. Besides, they can be formed a science that studies signs in social life, it becomes a part of social psychology; he named it *sémiologie*. The word *sémiologie* comes from the Greek *semeion* which means "sign". Linguistics is a part of science that covers all the marks. Semiotic rules can be applied to linguistics. In 1956, Roland Barthes who read Saussure: *Cours de linguistique générale* see the possibility of applying semiotics to other areas. He had opposing views with Saussure about linguistic position as part of semiotics. According to him, a part of the linguistic semiotic because the signs in other fields

can be viewed as a language, which expresses the idea (meaningful), an element formed of signify and signifier that contained in a structure.

From the above description, signs convey information that it is communicative; sign capable of replacing something else that can be thought or imagined. To analyze the text and the visual code, semiotic methods are qualitative-interpretative.

Charles Sanders Peirce is one of the famous semiotic figures. Peirce is known with triadic and trichotomy concept. The basic principle of the triadic sign is representative. Based on this principle, a sign of a representative can explain something else: *Peirce called the perceivable part of the sign a representamen (literally "something that does the representing") and the concept that it encodes the object (literally "something cast outside for observation"). He termed the meaning that someone gets from the sign the interpretant.* This formula implies that the meaning of a sign can apply personally, socially or rely on certain specific contexts. *Representamen* serves as a sign (Saussure named signifier). It should be noted that theoretically, Peirce uses the term to refer to the triadic *representamen* overall. But in terminological, he sometimes uses the term sign instead *representamen*. An object is represented by *representamen* related to the reference. Object can be a mental representation (in the mind), it can also be something real beyond the mark.

*Interpretant* is the meaning of the sign. On several occasions, he used the term *significance*, *signification*, or *interpretation*. Sign itself can not be reveal anything but just show. The task of the interpreter to give meaning based on experience (Noth, *Handbook of Semiotics*.1995:42, 43).

All expressions or signs that told of the text, play an important role for the realization of one form of guidance system in the text. Thus, the third principle of the semiotic approach gives an appreciation of the author and what he created. It explains that there are reasons for the use of any expression resulting in the text in which everything has its own sense.

According to Piliang, exploration semiotics as a method to study the various sub of science is possible because there is a tendency to look at a variety of social discourse as a phenomenon of language. In other words, the language used as a model in various social discourses. Based on the semiotic view, if all social practices can be considered as a phenomenon of language, all can be seen as a sign. This is possible because of the wide definition of the sign itself.

## **2.2 Roland Barthes's Semiotic Theory**

Roland Barthes is very well known as a writer who uses semiotic analysis and reasoning of predecessor developer or a father of semiotics, Ferdinand de Saussure. His writings were published in a magazine in France in the first half of last century, contains a variety of messages, and then the messages are called a myth. Barthes discusses myths seriously and put it in his book published by Noondy Press in 1972 titled *Mythologies in the Myth Today* (Roland, 1957).

In the context of the old mythology, myths related to the history and formation of society in his time, but Barthes saw it as a form of a message or speech that must be true, though not provable. For Barthes, the mythological narrative is not only shaped oral speech but can also be in the form of writing, photography, movies, scientific reports, sports, shows, and even advertising and

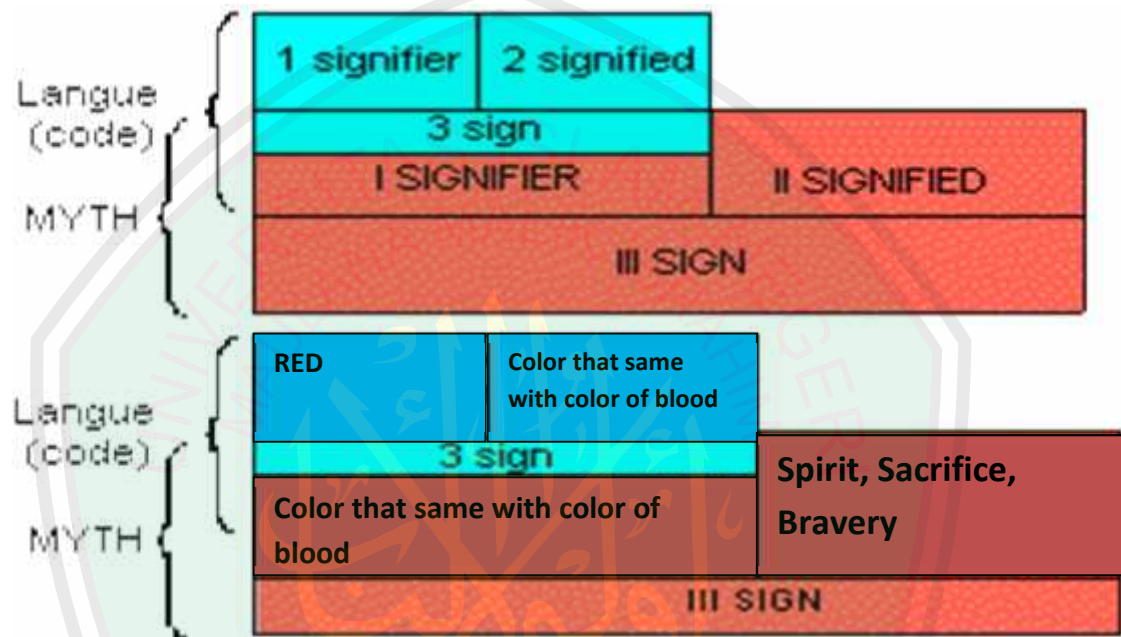
painting. In the hands of Barthes semiotic widely used in many fields as a tool for critical thinking.

Barthes was born in Chevourg (1915) and died in Paris (1980). He studied French literature and classical languages at the University of Paris, and after graduating from university he taught in French at the University of Romania and Egypt then joined the National Scientific Research Centre, steeped sociology and Lexicology. Some creations Barthes which is a legacy of the intellectual world is (1) the concept of semiotic connotations which are key in analyzing the culture, and (2) the concept of myth is the result of the application of connotations in different fields in everyday life (Bertens, 1985).

According to Noth, Barthes formulated the sign as a system consisting of "expression" related to "content". He argues that the expression and content are interrelated is a basic and common system of signs. Mark theory is developed and he produced a theory of denotation and connotation (1995: 39).

Denotation is the objective meaning and fixed; whereas connotation as subjective and varied meanings. Although different, both meanings are determined by the context. The first meaning, denotative, with regard to the figure of reference, for example, the word "Red" means the color that same with the color of blood. Context in this case is to solve the problem of polysemy; while the connotative meaning, the context of supporting the emergence of subjective meaning. Connotation opens the possibility of broad interpretation. For example, "Red" in connotative meaning is Spirit, Sacrifice or Bravery. In language, the connotation is raised through the figure of speech (metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, euphemism, irony, etc.), presupposition, implicature. In general (not

the language), connotations associated with personal experience or public speakers who reacted and gave emotive connotations for example smooth, rough / disrespectful, pejorative, familiar, childhood, fun, scary, danger, calm, and so on. This type is not limited. In the above example: “Red” emotive connotative meaning, connotation aims unload hidden meaning.



One of the major works is the result of the application of structural analysis methods, concepts syntagmatic and paradigmatic is the system of dress. He analogized the dichotomy of Saussure, with fashion as individual actualization. Fashion has determined the mode at certain times. In a country that has four seasons, there is fashion for every season. This system is called a denotation, for example, dark colors (black, gray, blue, dark green) and closed models for winter, bright colors for spring and summer for the open model. In addition to these, the fashion magazine, generally adds information about the time, place clothing can be worn with a particular model, on individual style, about its social effects. This is all included into the system connotation mode (Hoed, 2008).

Theory of myth of Barthes has a different meaning to the concept of myth in the general sense. Instead of the traditional concept of myth, the myth of Barthes explained the facts. Myth is a pure ideographic system. Hoed describes the connotation journey into the myth of Barthes. For Barthes, the myth is language: *le Mythe est une parole*. The concept of parole is extended by Barthes could take the form of verbal (spoken and written) or non-verbal: *peut être n'importe quelle dote arbitrairement matière de signification* "any material can be interpreted arbitrarily". As we know, parole is the realization of langue. Therefore, the myth can be very varied and was born in the sphere of mass culture. Myth is the development of connotation. Connotation settled in a community end up being a myth. Meanings are shaped by the strength of the majority that gave certain connotation to something regularly so that over time became a myth: meaning entrenched. Barthes proves it by doing demolition (*démontage sémiologique*) (2004: 59).

In addition Barthes also taught sociology signs, symbols and collective representation in France. Barthes began his career as a writer and then devoted himself to semiology. The most popular Barthes's Statement is "*La Mort de l'auteur*" or "the death of the author". This statement is he wants to underline that there is no authorization interpretation, and interpretation can continue to run. Book *Mithologie* (mythology), the work of Roland Barthes is a series of books that contains articles which are mostly published in the magazine *Les Nouvelles Leures* between 1954 and 1956. The purpose of the magazine discusses the values and attitudes which implicitly contains the messages that are appropriate the culture like in newspapers, magazines, reports, and photographs, through objects

or materials such as games, drinks, perfume and cars. Barthes called such messages as "myth" (Greek: *muthos*), meaning that the speech which has the meaning of the message.

Barthes book begins with mythology in France (part I: Mythologies). Based on the mythology, Barthes constructs semiotic theory, which is discussed in section II (Myth Today). Barthes's book basically talks about: (1) *critique of ideology* (ideological critique) of the language in the *mass culture* and (2) attempt to analyze by semiological or *the mechanics of this language* (Mythologies, 1972).

The main of the discussion in this book Barthes more emphasis on the relationship between the expression and the context, or the relation between expression and content. Topics in mythology written Barthes ranged in regular opinion. In one article, Barthes discusses the "wrestling", he said that wrestling is a show, but in general, wrestling is a sport (Barthes: 1952; 15). The reason, wrestling is not just a sport that relies on physical strength but more of a battle that dispute between "good" and "evil". In the "wrestling" there are two levels: first message is a message of "sport", and the second is the moral message of "good and evil". Both types of message are part of the audience satisfaction, namely the satisfaction of the conflict of "good and bad" that is packaged in a wrestling show, so the actual message in the show wrestling is not a question of aesthetics but had to the level of "ideological".

Another example is the article *wine* (Barthes 1972: 58). Wine in French culture is a symbol of high social status of French people. The message displayed by the French wine is a "good quality". But this myth should be questioned because French wine is not a commodity like other goods produced by the

capitalist regime. On the other hand, the area of the northern part of Africa serve as the planting of wine (*vineyard*) that actually, the land known for producing a food, those who work in the field of wine is a majority Muslim population. So in this case the French were mythologized as the country's best quality wines has been destructive and alienating environment and culture of the people of North Africa. In the above example, there are two layers of logic "mythology", the first message read as the contents of the message about the attitude and culture and the second, the existence of a desire to conceal the identity of highly exploitative work by revealing the hidden socio-economic structure.

Similar examples presented Barthes is *soap-powder* (Barthes 1972:36) soap advertising owned by giant company "Unilever", that everything that is highlighted by the myth is everything that is natural and common. On the other hand, according to Barthes we should be careful in seeing what is presented to us. In as much as it is unreasonable, common or natural because they are engineered containing full view of the "ideological", for the sake of unilateral, such as drinking wine is an under statement to say that the drinker to know about French culture, they were among the elite and at the same time maintaining capitalist system.

Study of myth is not only concentrated on exposing the ideological position but the analysis of how the message constituted. Barthes in this case more serious discusses myths and poured it on the *Myth Today* in his book *Mythologies*. Myth is a form of a message or speech that should believe true but not provable. Myth is not a concept to ride but away of giving meaning. Etymologically, the myth is a kind of speech, of course, not just any speech. One thing that should be noted is

that the myth is a communication system, namely a message. Myth is not defined by the object but it means of said message. For example, in the myth not only describing the object of tree by naked eye, but the important thing is the way of the tree said. What can be regarded as a myth during phrased in the form of discourse. That is, people said about the tree can be made in various versions. Trees were expressed by environmental groups not only as an object but the tree has abroad meaning, psychology, sacred, preservation and so on. In the sense of trees adapted to a particular type of consumer, with the literature supporting framework and specific images that functioned for social purposes (*socialusage*) were added to the pure object.

Understanding the myth in the context of the old mythologies have the sense of a formation of a community-oriented in the past or the formation history of static, eternal. Myth is in the sense of identical long history and notching society in his time. According to Roland Barthes mythological narrative not only shaped oral speech, but speech that can take the form of writing, photography, movies, scientific reports, sports, shows, advertising, painting. Myth is basically all that has representation mode. Exposure examples above have the meanings that can not be captured directly. For example, to capture the meaning or interpretation of the meaning of a painting required. Mythological narratives created for communication and have a signification process that is unacceptable to think. In this myth can not be said to be only as an object, concept, or idea that is stagnant but as a mode of signification. Thus, the myth belongs in a field of scientific knowledge, the semiology.

In terms of the relationship between myth and semiology, Barthes was indebted to Saussure. For Saussure saw linguistic studies as a sign of life in a community study which later adopted by the name of semiology. Semiology derived from the word *semion* meaning is sign. Semiology not deals with the content, but the form that makes sound, images, motion, and so on function as signs. Mythology consists of semiology and ideology, semiology as *formal science* and ideology as *historical science*. Mythology learns about the ideas in a form.

Myths are dealing with semiology has been linked to two terms, namely signifier (*signifiant*) and signified (*signifie*), then interlocked with the term *sign*. For example, a wreath signifies love. In this case means not only dealing with the signifier and the signified, flowers and love, as in the analysis phase, there are three terms, which signifies love interest is a sign.

### **2.3 Holy Grail in Christianity**

In Christianity, the Holy Grail is a cup used by Jesus to drink wine with his twelve disciples during the last supper before Passover in Jerusalem. The cup is sanctified because of the cup that Jesus said that the wine they are drinking the blood of Jesus, is therefore the very hallowed cup because it has been used by a holy man, namely Jesus. This suggests that the symbol of the Holy Grail in Christianity is portrayed in denotative.

The Bible describes it in the Book of Matthew: 26. 27-28

*“And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; for this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”.*

Also in the book of Luke: 22. 20

*“Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you”.*

And more clearly explained in the book of Corinthians: 11. 25

*“After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me”*

It shows that the cup in the Bible is the object that is used for containers of wine is said to Jesus as the embodiment of his blood, so by drinking wine can be reminded every teaching which He had given to his disciples. The cup is used to hold wine (blood of Jesus), therefore the cup becomes a very sacred objects for the object as a container of blood of Saints or God of the Christians.

In addition, also explained that when drinking wine from the cup, meaning that the disciples of Jesus also became part of Jesus himself because they had been drinking his blood the wine symbolized by the last supper, indirectly, the disciples of Jesus have the essence of Holiness a Jesus. And in the end they sent the Savior became the Deputy in charge of conveying the teachings of Jesus to mankind.

According to tradition of Perceval, Joseph of Arimathea saves the Grail after the last supper and Jesus ' blood to accommodate during the crucifixion. After being brought to the United Kingdom, these objects inherit the hereditary in the family of Joseph.

In Arthurian literature entitled "Perceval, or The Story of The Holy Grail", written by poet Chretien de Troyes France also tells the story of a Knight named Perceval without sin in the course of a search for the Holy Grail. The Grail has the magic to cure all kinds of diseases if the drinking water is from da grail, and who can use it for only those who pure-hearted.

So in conclusion, the symbol of the Holy Grail in Christianity is portrayed in denotative. Because the cup is the Holy Grail is described in accordance with the fact that serves as a container for drink. As for this being a sacred cup because these objects were used by Jesus to pouring the wine that He described as his blood, remember Jesus is himself God in Christianity.

#### **2.4 Previous Study**

Having studied some thesis, the researcher found that students have not discussed the meaning of the Holy Grail in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code* novel. In fact, some of them analyze the same novel but different topic or there are also researching the same topic but different novel with the researcher. Here, I will take four examples analyzes of other researchers as previous studies which described in the follow:

Siti Roihatul Janah (2013) viewed The Da Vinci Code has had an enduring presence as a piece of living literature. In her research, Siti analyzes *The Da Vinci Code* from feminism side of a female main character in the novel, she is Sophie Neveu. In this research, Siti describes many efforts and struggles of Sophie Neveu in the quest of the Holy Grail and finally found his long lost family from him.

Siti uses liberal feminism theory by Rosemarie Tong in her research. This theory is suitable to describe the character of Sophie Neveu and whom

experienced to find the treasure of The Holy Grail and his family in the novel as has been concluded by her those are how the struggle and efforts of Sophie Neveu in solving the mystery of the Holy Grail, to found her lost family and to know the reality of Sophie's sacred blood as a descendant of Jesus and Mary Magdalene.

Her research uses same data source with the researcher, that is *The Da Vinci Code* novel, but the difference is the topic. Siti researching about the character of Sophie Neveu by using the liberal feminism theory to explains her struggle in the novel. While, the researcher explains about the symbol of the Holy Grail by using the semiotic theory of Roland Barthes. It's to reveal the meaning of the Holy Grail in denotative and connotative.

Another researcher, Josh McDowell (2006), analyzes *The Da Vinci Code* novel by comparing with Facts History. In Josh's research using a table to compare between the Claim in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* and the Facts History. Josh uses many sources in his research because it is a historical fact that requires many data sources as supporters of his research. The purpose of the research was found comparison between the Claim of this novel and historical fact, so it can be found the truth of the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

Despite using the same novel, but Josh's research is very different from that examined by researcher. In his research, Josh seeking truth stories by comparing Dan Brown's Claim in his novel and Facts History, while the researcher explain the meaning of the symbol of the Holy Grail in denotative and connotative. Those topics that makes different even though the data source is same.

In addition to different topic, several studies have the same topic but the data source that used is different, as research conducted by Jody C. Balias (2013).

His research is focus on plot, character and content in films that told the story of the Holy Grail. The goal of his research is to explain about the widespread adaptation of the legend of the Holy Grail in literary works. There is a development and value of the Holy Grail in any literary work that tells the story of the Holy Grail.

From his research, Jody concluded that of all the work that tells the story of the Holy Grail, there is similar message that are contained in it, that is, someone who is just looking for the profits for himself, then he will never feel happy. This means that everyone who is searching for the Holy Grail treasure for the sake of satisfying his personal pleasure, then he will never be happy.

Topic used by Jody has similarities with the researcher, but the difference is that aspect of the investigation and the data source is different. If Jody uses films such as *The Natural*, *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* and *The Fisher King* as it tells the story of the Holy Grail, but the researcher only use *The Da Vinci Code* novel as a data source.

The last another researcher is Tereza Marie Lopez (2007). She researched about aspects of femininity of the Holy Grail in the classic literary work entitled *Questedel Saint Graal*, Malory's *Tale of Sankgreal* and Sigune Cundrie of *Wolfram's and Parzival*. All works of literature are sourced from a very famous *Arthurian Legends*. Tereza explain aspects of femininity of any literary work that researched so as to obtain a conclusion that women's role in the construction of the myth of the Holy Grail is strong, in addition the specific role women have in it.

The Holy Grail is the same topic that researched by Tereza and researcher, but the difference of the research is the data source that is used by each researcher.



## CHAPTER III

### ANALYSIS

In this chapter the researcher will discuss about the results that have been obtained from the examined object that is the myth of the Holy Grail. The discussion will be divided into two; the first is the denotative and connotative meaning of the Holy Grail myth, the second is the characters perception of the Holy Grail in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

To explain the meaning of the Holy Grail in this novel, the researcher using semiotic theory developed by Roland Barthes. From this theory, the researcher can interpret symbols of the Holy Grail in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* by using denotative and connotative approach which could ultimately result in a representation of the Holy Grail myth that contained in the novel.

### 3.1 The Meaning of Holy Grail Myth in *The Da Vinci Code* Novel

#### 3.1.1 Denotative Meaning of Holy Grail in *The Da Vinci Code* Novel

In its history, the Holy Grail is known as a special cup that used by Jesus. In the Bible also told that the cup used by Jesus and His disciples in the last supper before one of His disciples betrayed Him. Novel *The Da Vinci Code* also tells the story of the Holy Grail. In denotation meaning, this novel originally also described the Holy Grail as a cup.

*“The true nature of the Grail? Sophie felt even more lost now. The Holy Grail, she had thought, was the cup that Jesus drank from at the Last Supper and with Joseph of Arimathea later caught His blood at the crucifixion. “The Holy Grail is the Cup of Christ,” she said. “How much simpler could it be?”*

**(TDVC: 162)**

In the quote above, it's explained that the Holy Grail is the cup that Jesus used to drink wine at the Last Supper and Joseph of Arimathea used it as a place of Jesus' blood during the crucifixion.

This shows the denotation of the Holy Grail as a cup that is used in accordance with the cup in general function, which is a beverage or liquid places. Because the Holy Grail myth used as a place for Jesus drank wine and also holds His blood in crucifixion.

Until now, the quest of the Holy Grail still remains a mystery to be existence.

*"Sophie turned and looked at him. Langdon could see what she was thinking, and he was thinking it too. The dimensions of the box, the apparent weight of its contents, and a Priory symbol for the Grail all seemed to imply one unfathomable conclusion. The Cup of Christ is in this wooden box. Langdon again told himself it was impossible. "It's a perfect size," Sophie whispered, "to hold... a chalice."*  
(TDVC: 190-191)

In the above explanation, told that main characters in this novel, Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu find a box that suspected as the Holy Grail. From the shape of the treasure chest, it has the right size for a cup that used by Jesus, so it could almost be concluded that they found the Grail because in the chest there is a symbol of Priory of Sion as guardians of the Holy Grail.

According to the above explanation, the Holy Grail is not just a cup that used for drinking, but also has special thing which make the cup into a treasure that is highly sought after by many people and make it an object that is worth mentioning as a sacred object.

*He's kidding, right? Sophie was staring at the most famous fresco of all time—The Last Supper—Da Vinci's legendary painting from the wall of Santa Maria delle Grazie near Milan. The decaying fresco*

*portrayed Jesus and His disciples at the moment that Jesus announced one of them would betray Him. "I know the fresco, yes."*

*"Then perhaps you would indulge me this little game? Close your eyes if you would."*

*Uncertain, Sophie closed her eyes.*

*"Where is Jesus sitting?" Teabing asked.*

*"In the center."*

*"Good. And what food are He and His disciples breaking and eating?"*

*"Bread." Obviously.*

*"Superb. And what drink?"*

*"Wine. They drank wine."*

*"Great. And one final question. How many wineglasses are on the table?"*

*Sophie paused, realizing it was the trick question. And after dinner, Jesus took the cup of wine, sharing it with His disciples. "One cup," she said. "The chalice." "The Cup of Christ. The Holy Grail." Jesus passed a single chalice of wine, just as modern Christians do at communion."*

**(TDVC: 235-236)**

In the quote above, tells the story of Sir Leigh Teabing, an old friend Robert Langdon who give to Sophie Neveu guesses about the fresco of The Last Supper by Leonardo Da Vinci. In the fresco depicted Jesus sitting with His twelve disciples are doing the Last Supper. On the fresco, he sits in the center of His disciples. There they were eating bread and drinking wine by using the cup. The cup is at the beginning of the construction of the Grail, which until now known as the Holy Grail.

The cup is also depicted with shaped like a cup in general, so that it can be said that Leonardo Da Vinci described it as a denotative, the cup used to drink wine. And the reason this cup is referred to as the Holy Grail because it used by Jesus, the savior.

However, The Last Supper fresco is also described as a connotative meaning of Holy Grail and it is described in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* is used as a

researcher's data source. Analysis of the connotative meaning of the Holy Grail will be explained in the next section.

### 3.1.2 Connotative meaning of Holy Grail Myth in *The Da Vinci Code* Novel

In denotation, the Holy Grail is based on the belief of Christians is cup that used of Jesus and the twelve disciples in the last supper. But the connotation is expressed in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* has another meaning. Not just cup that used for drinking, but there are secrets that are hidden inside.

*"Sophie," Langdon whispered, leaning toward her now, "according to the Priory of Sion, the Holy Grail is not a cup at all. They claim the Grail legend—that of a chalice—is actually an ingeniously conceived allegory. That is, that the Grail story uses the chalice as a metaphor for something else, something far more powerful."*  
(TDVC: 162)

From the above statement indicates that the Holy Grail has another meaning than as a cup that used of Jesus and the twelve disciples in the last supper. Priory of Sion said that the legend of the real Holy Grail is not about a cup, it was just a metaphor for something much more powerful than just a cup used for drinking wine. In The novel *The Da Vinci Code*, is told that the real Holy Grail is another connotation of a cup, but has a hidden meaning that when known by everyone, then the Church will be threatened. Therefore, established a society called the Priory of Sion who swore to protect the real Holy Grail in order to not fell to the Church.

Holy Grail in ancient times is a symbol that represents the Holy woman.

*"Exactly." Langdon smiled. "The Grail is literally the ancient symbol for womanhood, and the Holy Grail represents the sacred feminine and the goddess,".*

**(TDVC: 238)**

The statement explains that in ancient times the Grail is a symbol of womanhood, while the Holy Grail symbolized the Holy woman, meaning that the Holy Grail is a symbol for the Holy woman or goddess that honored. It means the Holy Grail has meaning related to the female honored like a goddess.

Women in ancient times honored for his ability.

*"The power of the female and her ability to produce life was once very sacred, but it posed a threat to the rise of the predominantly male Church, and so the sacred feminine was demonized and called unclean."*

**(TDVC: 238)**

In ancient, women are revered because of its ability to give birth to a new life, in a sense gave birth to a baby who will start the new life. However at the time of the Church, it is considered as a threat because they are dominated by men as well as for the basis of their faith that worship a man. Therefore they seek to destroy the Holy Grail represents the concept of womanhood and the Holy Woman also honored in the past.

According to Roland Barthes, connotations meaning can be made based on personal experience or communities which is ideological, emotional, social or cultural. Similarly, the meaning of the Holy Grail is contained in the novel The Da Vinci Code. The Holy Grail has many meanings related to bring a myth.

The Holy Grail has many depictions, one is Rose.

*"The five-petal rose," he whispered, "is a Priory symbol for the Holy Grail."*

**(TDVC: 254)**

From the above quotation explains clearly that the Roses have a meaning that is associated with the Priory of Sion, which is where they are the keepers of

the Holy Grail. That is, the Roses have meaning that is closely related to the Holy Grail itself, because its meaning is representative of a group of guardians of the Holy Grail.

Rose himself has the same meaning as the guiding star of Venus because it has five sides is symmetrical.

*“Rosa rugosa, one of the oldest species of rose, had five petals and pentagonal symmetry, just like the guiding star of Venus, giving the Rose strong iconographic ties to womanhood.”*

**(TDVC: 202)**

On the explanation, the Rose has the same meaning with the guiding star of Venus. The equation is the Rose has five petals which are symmetrical; guiding star of Venus also has five sides symmetrical. So from this similarity makes the Rose and guiding star of Venus has the same meaning that is "womanhood".

If the rose itself has the meaning of womanhood, the Holy Grail that is associated with the Rose could be said to have meaning or characteristic related to womanhood.

*“the Rose was a symbol that spoke of the Grail on many levels—secrecy, womanhood, and guidance—the feminine chalice and guiding star that led to secret truth.”*

**(TDVC: 202)**

The above text explains that if the meaning of the Rose is associated with the Holy Grail. Then the meanings have many level, those are secrecy, womanhood and guidance. If the third meaning is combined, it represents the characteristic of the Holy Grail, which is feminine and guidance to bring on a very great secret.

The natural habits of the women represented by the Rose are as follows.

*"The Rose has always been the premiere symbol of female sexuality. In primitive goddess cults, the five petals represented the five stations*

*of female life—birth, menstruation, motherhood, menopause, and death.”*

**(TDVC: 238)**

From the above statements indicate that the five petals of rose representing the cycles or the natural habits of the woman who does not belong to man, the give birth, menstruation, became mother, menopause and dead. One of the habits in common with the man is dead, and the man does not have the habits and that's what makes women very special in ancient times.

In addition Holy Grail is portrayed as a rose that has the characteristic of womanhood; it's also described as a Chalice.

*"The chalice," he said, "resembles a cup or vessel, and more important, it resembles the shape of a woman's womb. This symbol communicates femininity, womanhood, and fertility."*

**(TDVC: 238)**

Chalice is a symbol of the unperfected triangle that shape similar to a cup or vessel. The Holy Grail is represented as the Chalice because of its shape like a cup or vessel that used to contain water and the most important thing is the shape that similar with women's womb as contain a baby. In addition, the Chalice symbol also attested to have relationships with women, a world of womanhood and fertility, meaning that the symbol has a relationship with symbol Rose representing the characteristic of womanhood, as described on the previous analysis.

From the above analysis of the representation of the Rose and the Chalice as a manifestation of the Holy Grail, the researcher concluded that the real manifestation of the Holy Grail is a woman. The first is the representation of a Rose as a symbol of the Priory of Sion, this indicates that the Priory of Sion has a relationship with symbol of the Rose. As in the previous analysis about the Priory

of Sion, they were the keepers of the Holy Grail. Rose himself has the meaning of womanhood which also represents the Holy Grail. There is a bond between the Priory of Sion, the Rose and the Holy Grail. That is, the Rose is the symbol for the Priory of Sion, the Rose is also the manifestation of the Holy Grail that is guarded by the Priory of Sion. So the Holy Grail is something that is the feminine such as Rose and also guarded by the Priory of Sion, therefore they have a Rose symbol because they are the keepers of the Rose or the Holy Grail itself.

In addition, the Holy Grail is also described as the Chalice because it has the shape of a cup or similar with women's uterus. So, some of the above Holy Grail manifestation can be known that the Holy Grail has strong relationships with women.

An explanation of the real Holy Grail starts with the following quote.

*"Sophie scanned the work eagerly. "Does this fresco tell us what the Grail really is?"  
 "Not what it is," Teabing whispered. "But rather who it is. The Holy Grail is not a thing. It is, in fact... a person"  
 (TDVC: 236)*

From the above quote, clarifies that in paintings of The Last Supper is have a message or code that is disguised to uncover the real Holy Grail. In the quotation mentioned that the right questions for the Holy Grail is not "what", but "who" the Holy Grail is. So be aware that actually the Holy Grail is not an inanimate object, but it is a person. As it clearly said that the Holy Grail is a "person".

The Holy Grail is a person, rather a woman, as in the following quote.

*Sophie stared at Teabing a long moment and then turned to Langdon.  
 "The Holy Grail is a person?"  
 Langdon nodded. "A woman, in fact."  
 (TDVC: 237)*

In above explanation, clarified that the Holy Grail is a person and most importantly she is a woman. That is, the secret of the Holy Grail is neither something that you can use its functions but it is a woman who has great impact until it became a great mystery for those who know.

In this novel also told that Leonardo da Vinci, an famous artist for visible paint the real Holy Grail in one of his legendary, "The Last Supper".

*"In fact, Da Vinci painted the true Grail, which I will show you momentarily,..."*

*"...He's kidding, right? Sophie was staring at the most famous fresco of all time—The Last Supper—Da Vinci's legendary painting from the wall of Santa Maria delle Grazie near Milan. The decaying fresco portrayed Jesus and His disciples at the moment that Jesus announced one of them would betray Him."*

**(TDVC: 235)**

From the above explanation, can be known why this novel written by Dan Brown was given the title "*The Da Vinci Code*". This is due to the search for real meaning of the Holy Grail that the important key is on a painting by legendary artist, Leonardo da Vinci.

The painting, The Last Supper is one of the works of Leonardo da Vinci, which tells the story of Jesus and his disciples at the time of a banquet and he announced that one of his disciples would betray him.

The Last Supper is the key of the secret of the Holy Grail, made clear in the following sentence,

*"You will be shocked to learn what anomalies Da Vinci included here that most scholars either do not see or simply choose to ignore. This fresco, in fact, is the entire key to the Holy Grail mystery. Da Vinci lays it all out in the open in The Last Supper"*

**(TDVC: 236)**

The above sentence makes it clear that the painting The Last Supper which will reveal the essence of the secret of the Holy Grail. With the word "shocked" in the sentence above, indicates that the secret of the Holy Grail is really pretty amazing, and is visible this secret will be revealed in the form of a code and a message, which makes secrets of the Holy Grail is hidden nicely in the painting of The Last Supper.

The Last Supper is the painting that tells the story of thirteen men.

*"Hold on," Sophie said. "You told me the Holy Grail is a woman. The Last Supper is a painting of thirteen men."*

**(TDVC: 243)**

Painting of The Last Supper is actually telling about Jesus and the twelve disciples who are doing the last supper for Jesus, because He will be betrayed by one of His disciples, and they are all men. That is, the Holy Grail is completely disguised its existence in this painting as the painting tells the story of thirteen men, while the Holy Grail itself is the manifestation of a woman.

However, there is the figure of the woman in the painting.

*Sophie could not take her eyes from the woman beside Christ. The Last Supper is supposed to be thirteen men. Who is this woman? Although Sophie had seen this classic image many times, she had not once noticed this glaring discrepancy.*

**(TDVC: 243)**

Be aware that there are woman images in the painting right next to a picture of Jesus. However, if the painting of The Last Supper is about thirteen men, it could be said that image was a picture made with certain tricks so that the existence of such woman is disguised.

And the trick is scotoma.

*"Everyone misses it," Teabing said. "Our preconceived notions of this scene are so powerful that our mind blocks out the incongruity and overrides our eyes."*

*"It's known as scotoma," Langdon added. "The brain does it sometimes with powerful symbols."*

**(TDVC: 243)**

This trick makes a lot of people are not aware of the existence of the woman in the painting of The Last Supper. They only accept in full the opinion says that the painting is about thirteen men, so the eye doesn't realize that there is a something strange which is contained in the paintings.

The woman in the painting is of Mary Magdalene and she is the Holy Grail.

*This is the woman who singlehandedly could crumble the Church?*

*"Who is she?" Sophie asked.*

*"That, my dear," Teabing replied, "is Mary Magdalene."*

*Sophie turned. "The prostitute?"*

**(TDVC: 243-244)**

Mary Magdalene was one of the disciples of Jesus. In Christianity, she is referred as a prostitute who enlightened by Jesus and the accompanying Him. However, in this novel, Mary Magdalene has a more respectable portrayal of a prostitute; she is the Holy Grail itself.

The reason Mary Magdalene tells as a prostitute in Christianity according to this novel in the following quote.

*"Teabing drew a short breath, as if the word had injured him personally. "Magdalene was no such thing. That unfortunate misconception is the legacy of a smear campaign launched by the early Church. The Church needed to defame Mary Magdalene in order to cover up her dangerous secret—her role as the Holy Grail."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

In the early Church, Mary Magdalene is known as prostitutes because they don't want the world to know that she is someone who have role as the Holy Grail.

The role of Mary Magdalene as a Holy Grail is highly impact on the development of Christianity, because the Church had to cover it up to everyone.

According to Da Vinci's in this novel, the role of Holy Grail was the wife of Jesus as a couple.

*"It's a matter of historical record," Teabing said, "and Da Vinci was certainly aware of that fact. The Last Supper practically shouts at the viewer that Jesus and Magdalene were a pair."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

This is the reason why the Church tried to keep secret about Mary Magdalene as the Holy Grail and to make the world believe that she was a prostitute, to cover the relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene as husband and wife.

It is caused because the Church did not want Jesus who has the Godhead has a wife.

*"As I mentioned," Teabing clarified, "the early Church needed to convince the world that the mortal prophet Jesus was a divine being. Therefore, any gospels that described earthly aspects of Jesus' life had to be omitted from the Bible. Unfortunately for the early editors, one particularly troubling earthly theme kept recurring in the gospels. Mary Magdalene." He paused. "More specifically, her marriage to Jesus Christ."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

So in the above quote, explain that the early Church tried to convince the world about Jesus which has the Godhead, therefore the Church attempted to destroy evidence of worldliness to make His Godhead stronger. Unfortunately, not all the evidence could disappear, even in the Bible ever listed about it, its Mary Magdalene.

On the previous analysis, it is said that Leonardo Da Vinci know history about Jesus and Mary Magdalene were married couples. He described it in vague on his painting The Last Supper.

*"Sophie glanced back to the fresco.*

*"Notice that Jesus and Magdalene are clothed as mirror images of one another." Teabing pointed to the two individuals in the center of the fresco."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

The above statement explains that Leonardo Da Vinci as the creator of The Last Supper is know about the relationship of Jesus and Mary Magdalene, and then visualized in the painting, it is hidden in the secret key from the real Holy Grail.

*"Sophie was mesmerized. Sure enough, their clothes were inverse colors. Jesus wore a red robe and blue cloak; Mary Magdalene wore a blue robe and red cloak. Yin and yang."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

To look like pairs, Leonardo Da Vinci depicts Jesus and Mary Magdalene wear clothes that are similar, but opposite each other. Jesus wore a Blue Coat and Red robe, while Mary Magdalene instead, so that the color pattern looks like complement each another.

In addition to the clothes, their position seems to say there is a hidden proximity between them.

*"Venturing into the more bizarre," Teabing said, "note that Jesus and His bride appear to be joined at the hip and are leaning away from one another as if to create this clearly delineated negative space between them."*

**(TDVC: 244)**

In this representation noted that Jesus and Mary Magdalene's hips position is too close each other while the position of their bodies was more distant, as if to hide their proximity in the crowd.

In this painting, there is a symbol of the Chalice that camouflaged among the position of Jesus and Mary Magdalene.

*“the indisputable V shape at the focal point of the painting. It was the same symbol Langdon had drawn earlier for the Grail, the chalice, and the female womb.”*

**(TDVC: 244)**

Chalice symbol is clearly visible at the center of the painting, drawing through Jesus and Mary Magdalene images. It is show that there are figure of the Holy Grail in the paintings for convince and evidence that there is a relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene with Chalice symbol represented there in.

In addition, the position of Jesus and Mary Magdalene resemble the letter "M".

*“The letter was suddenly all Sophie could see. Glaring in the center of the painting was the unquestionable outline of an enormous, flawlessly formed letter M.”*

**(TDVC: 245)**

The letter "M" have meaning Matrimonio or Mary Magdalene. In conspiracy theories, the letter "M" encountered to represent the Grail itself.

*“Teabing shrugged. "Conspiracy theorists will tell you it stands for Matrimonio or Mary Magdalene. To be honest, nobody is certain. The only certainty is that the hidden M is no mistake. Countless Grail-related works contain the hidden letter M”*

**(TDVC: 245)**

The letter “M” is often encountered in the works associated with the Holy Grail because “M” is an abbreviation of Mary Magdalene and of course that letter is not shown clearly but through the hidden messages or certain forms that sometimes unconscious.

In addition to the painting of The Last Supper, evidence of Jesus and Mary Magdalene relationship were found in an ancient document, The Gnostic Gospel.

*"The Gospel of Philip is always a good place to start." Sophie read the passage:*

*And the companion of the Saviour is Mary Magdalene. Christ loved her more than all the disciples and used to kiss her often on her mouth. The rest of the disciples were offended by it and expressed disapproval. They said to him, "Why do you love her more than all of us?"*

**(TDVC: 246)**

The quote above shows that in the Gnostic Gospel of Philip based on this novel reveals that companion of Saviour (Jesus) is Mary Magdalene. This indicates that Mary Magdalene was Jesus' couples to His task as a saviour. Even in the Gospels said about the intimate relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene because in the quotation is described in point "*Christ loved her more than all the disciples and used to kiss her often on her mouth*", its showing clearly that Jesus so loved and very intimate toward her.

The word "companion" also has the meaning of spouse in the language of Aramaic.

*"As any Aramaic scholar will tell you, the word companion, in those days, literally meant spouse."*

**(TDVC: 246)**

It is clearer that the relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene is very close to the companion words represent in Aramaic means. So the proximity of Jesus and Mary Magdalene can be evidenced in the painting The Last Supper and also document The Gnostic Gospel. In the painting The Last Supper shows many signs that Jesus and Mary Magdalene were couples, ranging from the presence of woman who are considered to be Mary Magdalene, harmony between the clothes and their sitting position, the symbol of the Chalice and the letter M indicates that they have a close relationship, a husband and wife. It is also reinforced by the

statement in the Gospel of Philip in The Gnostic Gospel which says that the spouse of the Savior is Mary Magdalene which was very dear to Him.

In the novel also told that Mary Magdalene was a descendent of royal blood.

*"Few people realize that Mary Magdalene, in addition to being Christ's right hand, was a powerful woman already."*

*Sophie could now see the title of the family tree.*

**THE TRIBE OF BENJAMIN**

*"Mary Magdalene is here," Teabing said, pointing near the top of the genealogy.*

*Sophie was surprised. "She was of the House of Benjamin?"*

*"Indeed," Teabing said. "Mary Magdalene was of royal descent."*

*"But I was under the impression Magdalene was poor."*

*Teabing shook his head. "Magdalene was recast as a whore in order to erase evidence of her powerful family ties."*

**(TDVC: 248)**

The quote above tells us that Mary Magdalene was actually a descendant of nobility that is Benjamin's family. This shows why the adoration of Mary Magdalene as Holy Grail. In addition to being the wife of Jesus, Mary Magdalene also has pride as a nobleman. But the nobility is covered by the Church and replace her role as prostitute so that every one does not know that her family actually has a strong power. As in the previous analysis of the conspiracy say that Mary Magdalene was a prostitute who enlightened by Jesus and be His companion.

It turns out Jesus was also a descendant of royal blood.

*As you know, the Book of Matthew tells us that Jesus was of the House of David. A descendant of King Solomon—King of the Jews.*

**(TDVC: 249)**

According to the Bible, as mentioned in the book of Matthew explained that Jesus was a descendant of King David and Abraham who is also the heir to the throne of King Solomon or King of the Jews. From the instructions above about Mary Magdalene has a royal blood and so with Jesus, so if they get married, will

be a powerful nobility bond between Benjamin and Solomon families. This was the one who became one of the threats to the Church.

*"My dear child, it was not Mary Magdalene's royal blood that concerned the Church so much as it was her consorting with Christ, who also had royal blood."*

**(TDVC: 249)**

With the merging of two royal bloodline, will produce a strong political force between noble families and this will bring up the new royal descendant that potentially replace the throne as well as the line of Solomon who also the King of the Jews. Moreover, if Jesus claimed to be God, then it is not impossible if the descendants of Jesus can take the throne of Divinity which belonged to Him.

However, the greatest secret of the Holy Grail is about royal blood itself.

*"The legend of the Holy Grail is a legend about royal blood. When Grail legend speaks of 'the chalice that held the blood of Christ'... it speaks, in fact, of Mary Magdalene—the female womb that carried Jesus' royal bloodline."*

**(TDVC: 249)**

In the quotation above, make it clear that the real Holy Grail is a natural thing that belongs to the women, it very important because it is Mary Magdalene's womb that contain child descended from Jesus. In doing so, it can be drawn the conclusion that the Holy Grail is a symbol for noble womb of Mary Magdalene containing child of Jesus who also had a royal blood, and it is not impossible from the descendants of Jesus will continue the throne of the Godhead of Jesus.

*"My dear, Mary Magdalene was the Holy Vessel. She was the chalice that bore the royal bloodline of Jesus Christ. She was the womb that bore the lineage, and the vine from which the sacred fruit sprang forth!"*

**(TDVC: 249)**

Holy fruit that grows in the womb of Mary Magdalene was the son of Jesus, this is the greatest secret of the Holy Grail itself. Therefore, the Church does not

allow these lines continue to evolve, in order not to undermine the basis of their faith, a believer in the Lord Jesus. If everyone knew that the God has a child, then it is not impossible that the son of God replace his Father's throne as a substitute of the Lord or the Lord son that have equal authority with God in human form.

So, broadly speaking the Holy Grail is the royal blood.

*"Teabing said. 'The word Sangreal derives from San Greal—or Holy Grail. But in its most ancient form, the word Sangreal was divided in a different spot.' Teabing wrote on a piece of scrap paper and handed it to her.*

*She read what he had written.*

*Sang Real*

*Instantly, Sophie recognized the translation. Sang Real literally meant Royal Blood."*

**(TDVC: 250)**

The Holy Grail of *San Greal* which in its ancient written forms *Sang Real* or mean "Royal Blood".

The conclusion from the above statement is as follows.

*"The Holy Grail is Mary Magdalene... the mother of the royal bloodline of Jesus Christ."*

**(TDVC: 253)**

The Holy Grail is Mary Magdalene's role as the mother of Jesus' son, which they are noble from Benjamin and Solomon families, then their descendants also included in the royal family. The Royal Blood.

So, the myth behind Holy Grail is that if Jesus had descendants, the divinity of Jesus will be a big question.

*"Outrage, of course. But that was to be expected. After all, this was a secret the Vatican had tried to bury in the fourth century. That's part of what the Crusades were about. Gathering and destroying information. The threat Mary Magdalene posed to the men of the early Church was potentially ruinous. Not only was she the woman to whom Jesus had assigned the task of founding the Church, but she also had physical proof that the Church's newly proclaimed deity had spawned a mortal bloodline. The Church, in order to defend itself against the*

*Magdalene's power, perpetuated her image as a whore and buried evidence of Christ's marriage to her, thereby defusing any potential claims that Christ had a surviving bloodline and was a mortal prophet."*

**(TDVC: 254)**

With the myth of the Holy Grail of this, the faith of the church can be deterred. The story of the marriage of Jesus and Mary Magdalene, Mary gave birth to Jesus' child, story about Jesus' bloodline that still alive and the death of Jesus in the Crucifixion. The stories would make the perception of many people assume that Jesus was indeed no different from people in general, which requires marriage and have children, so in this case there will be a lot of questions about the status of the divinity of Jesus. Just like a kingdom, Jesus is king for Christians and if he has a descent, the throne passed to Christian could have sons and His Son, which means divine status can be used by the sons of Jesus after he died. It also could be a problem for Christians if the other party questioned the divinity of Jesus was real. Therefore, they tried to cover up the secret of the myth of the Holy Grail.

Based on explanation above, the Priory of Sion today has three important duties.

*"Teabing nodded, heaving a ponderous sigh. "The modern Priory of Sion has a momentous duty. Theirs is a threefold charge. The brotherhood must protect the Sangreal documents. They must protect the tomb of Mary Magdalene. And, of course, they must nurture and protect the bloodline of Christ—those few members of the royal Merovingian bloodline who have survived into modern times."*

**(TDVC: 258)**

From the above explanation, the Priory of Sion has three tasks they need to do for generations. The first is to protect important documents containing the life of Mary Magdalene and proofs that she was the wife of Jesus, the second to

protect the tomb of Mary Magdalene which is hidden and has moved many times and the last is to protect the descendants of Mary Magdalene that Jesus' blood flowing there in.

The duties they do with pride because they adored Mary Magdalene as a goddess.

*"Yes," Teabing said. "And that Mary Magdalene was the womb that carried His royal lineage. The Priory of Sion, to this day, still worships Mary Magdalene as the Goddess, the Holy Grail, the Rose, and the Divine Mother."*

**(TDVC: 255)**

Priory of Sion, protecting the Holy Grail is very important for them, because the secret of the true Holy Grail including protecting the body of Mary Magdalene which they regard as their idol goddess, the Great Mother.

And the search for the Holy Grail treasure is to kneel at the tomb of Mary Magdalene.

*"Like the murmurs of spirits in the darkness, forgotten words echoed. The quest for the Holy Grail is the quest to kneel before the bones of Mary Magdalene. A journey to pray at the feet of the outcast one. With a sudden upwelling of reverence, Robert Langdon fell to his knees."*

**(TDVC: 454)**

### **3.2 Characters perception of Holy Grail in *The Da Vinci Code* novel**

After analyzing the meaning of the Holy Grail in terms of denotative and connotative, in the following discussion, the researcher will analyze the perception of the characters in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* who search for the myth of Holy Grail to reveal the truth.

In this novel there are a lot of characters with their respective roles. Therefore, the researcher identifies five characters on their perception of the Holy Grail.

### 3.2.1 Robert Langdon

Robert Langdon, the main character in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* is described as an expert in semiology. Langdon also a writer that produced many work related symbol, it prove that he is an expert.

*"Ladies and gentlemen..." the hostess had announced to a full house at the American University of Paris's Pavilion Dauphine, "Our guest tonight needs no introduction. He is the author of numerous books: The Symbolology of Secret Sects, The An of the Illuminati, The Lost Language of Ideograms, and when I say he wrote the book on Religious Iconology, I mean that quite literally. Many of you use his textbooks in class."*

**(TDVC: 8)**

*The Symbolology of Secret Sects, The An of the Illuminati, The Lost Language of Ideograms and Religious Iconology* are books that he created all related to symbols, signs and religion that shows he is a special in those terms of academics and religious symbols.

But in the story, Langdon accidentally involved into the murder case of Jacques Sauniere, the curator of the Louvre museum that also the grandfather of Sophie Neveu that in the end the woman became his partner in search of the Holy Grail.

*"Bewildered, Langdon looked at the image. The close-up photo revealed the glowing message on the parquet floor. The final line hit Langdon like a kick in the gut."*

*13-3-2-21-1-1-8-5*

*O, Draconian devil!*

*Oh, lame saint!*

*P.S. Find Robert Langdon"*

**(TDVC: 67)**

In the last message of Jacques Sauniere before his death, he wrote a message in order to find Robert Langdon. So he was named as a suspect to the murder.

But he was saved by Sophie Neveu that know the real meaning of a message written by Sauniere, his grandfather.

*"Because of The Vitruvian Man?"*

*"Yes. And the letters P.S."*

*"Post Script?"*

*She shook her head. "P.S. are my initials."*

*"But your name is Sophie Neveu."*

*She looked away. "P.S. is the nickname he called me when I lived with him."*

*She blushed. "It stood for Princesse Sophie"*

**(TDVC: 70)**

The conversation above, shows that in fact Robert Langdon was not involved in the murder case, but the message is for Sophie to search for Langdon. And this is where the start of their meeting to the quest of the Holy Grail.

At first, Langdon did not know why he had to do this quest. But, when he more finds clues of Holy Grail, he was more interested to find it.

*"Langdon suddenly didn't want anything to do with the embassy. All he could think of was the keystone, the inscription, and whether it would all lead to the Grail. He wondered if Teabing was right about Britain. Admittedly most modern legends placed the Grail somewhere in the United Kingdom. Even King Arthur's mythical, Grail-rich Isle of Avalon was now believed to be none other than Glastonbury, England. Wherever the Grail lay, Langdon never imagined he would actually be looking for it. The Sangreal documents. The true history of Jesus Christ. The tomb of Mary Magdalene. He suddenly felt as if he were living in some kind of limbo tonight... a bubble where the real world could not reach him."*

**(TDVC: 286)**

Feel attracted by the mystery of the Holy Grail, he became forget to seek protection in the embassy. In his mind now was just the Holy Grail and documents saved as a treasure he was looking for.

Basically, in this novel Robert Langdon is not too ambitious to get the Holy Grail as the other characters in this novel. Considering his involvement accidentally and unavoidably oblige him to enjoy the quest of the Holy Grail, although very risky.

*"Langdon felt a squeeze on his knee, pulling him back, and Sophie's green eyes were on him. He realized she had been speaking to him. "What do you think we should do with the Sangreal documents if we ever find them?" she whispered.*

*"What I think is immaterial," Langdon said. "Your grandfather gave the cryptex to you, and you should do with it what your instinct tells you he would want done."*

*"I'm asking for your opinion. You obviously wrote something in that manuscript that made my grandfather trust your judgment. He scheduled a private meeting with you. That's rare."*

*"Maybe he wanted to tell me I have it all wrong."*

*"Why would he tell me to find you unless he liked your ideas? In your manuscript, did you support the idea that the Sangreal documents should be revealed or stay buried?"*

**(TDVC: 341)**

Conversation above shows that Robert Langdon prefers to convince Sophie to follow his instincts in search of the Holy Grail.

And when Sophie was asked about choice in the above quotation for the Holy Grail, Langdon chose to be neutral.

*"Neither. I made no judgment either way. The manuscript deals with the symbology of the sacred feminine—tracing her iconography throughout history. I certainly didn't presume to know where the Grail is hidden or whether it should ever be revealed."*

*"And yet you're writing a book about it, so you obviously feel the information should be shared."*

*"There's an enormous difference between hypothetically discussing an alternate history of Christ, and..." He paused.*

*"And what?"*

*"And presenting to the world thousands of ancient documents as scientific evidence that the New Testament is false testimony."*

**(TDVC: 341)**

In the two quotations before, concluded that Langdon perceive that the Holy Grail is something better and let it be a matter of discussion as the legendary history.

But on the way to get the Holy Grail, Langdon tried to protect Sophie who became Jacques Sauniere believes to keep the Holy Grail.

*"Langdon glanced at Sophie, who looked shaken. The Church murdered Sophie's family to silence the Priory? Langdon felt certain the modern Church did not murder people. There had to be some other explanation.*

*"Let Sophie leave," Langdon declared, staring at Leigh. "You and I should discuss this alone."*

*Teabing gave an unnatural laugh. "I'm afraid that is one show of faith I cannot afford. I can, however, offer you this." He propped himself fully on his crutches, gracelessly keeping the gun aimed at Sophie, and removed the keystone from his pocket. He swayed a bit as he held it out for Langdon. "A token of trust, Robert."*

**(TDVC: 409)**

When Sophie mugged pistol by Teabing, they realized that they were betrayed. Langdon tried to negotiate with Teabing to want to let go of Sophie. This shows that Langdon believes that Sophie deserves to be keepers of the Holy Grail as Sauniere entrusted to him. That is, Langdon assume that the Holy Grail ought to be protected existence.

Robert Langdon perceives that the Holy Grail is the Tomb of Mary Magdalene.

*Like the murmurs of spirits in the darkness, forgotten words echoed. The quest for the Holy Grail is the quest to kneel before the bones of Mary Magdalene. A journey to pray at the feet of the outcast one. With a sudden upwelling of reverence, Robert Langdon fell to his knees.*

*For a moment, he thought he heard a woman's voice... the wisdom of the ages... whispering up from the chasms of the earth.*

**(TDVC: 454)**

From the above statement proves that Langdon believes that the real Holy Grail is the tomb of Mary Magdalene that has long been hidden by the Priory of Sion. Therefore Langdon suddenly kneel as a sign of honor to the Grail that has been highly purified by them.

### 3.2.2 Sophie Neveu

Sophie Neveu was a woman DPCJ (Direction Centrale Police Judiciaire) agent which is in the cryptography.

*“Fache was becoming less amused with this call every passing moment.*

*Sophie Neveu was one of DCPJ's biggest mistakes. A young Parisian déchiffreuse who had studied cryptography in England at the Royal Holloway, Sophie Neveu had been foisted on Fache two years ago as part of the ministry's attempt to incorporate more women into the police force...”*

**(TDVC: 49)**

*At thirty-two years old, she had a dogged determination that bordered on obstinate. Her eager espousal of Britain's new cryptologic methodology continually exasperated the veteran French cryptographers above her. And by far the most troubling to Fache was the inescapable universal truth that in an office of middle-aged men, an attractive young woman always drew eyes away from the work at hand.”*

**(TDVC: 50)**

From the quote above, Sophie arguably deserves to be the granddaughter of Jacques Sauniere that also guards the Holy Grail. Cryptography experts who could make his senior in convenience, this means Sophie expertise in decode fairly recognized by seniors.

And Sophie is direct descendants of Mary Magdalene and Jesus Christ.

*“And so Langdon had remained, standing beside Sophie and listening in mute astonishment while Marie told the story of Sophie's late parents. Incredibly, both had been from Merovingian families—direct descendants of Mary Magdalene and Jesus Christ. Sophie's parents and ancestors, for protection, had changed their family names of Plantard and Saint-Clair.*

*Their children represented the most direct surviving royal bloodline and therefore were carefully guarded by the Priory. When Sophie's parents were killed in a car accident whose cause could not be determined, the Priory feared the identity of the royal line had been discovered."*

**(TDVC: 442)**

That is why she was raised by the leader of the Priory of Sion, her grandfather, Jacques Sauniere that protected and educated her as a descendant of Jesus. Because the duties of the Priory of Sion are protect Mary Magdalene and the bloodline of Jesus Christ. Therefore, before her grandfather death, indirectly she was met by Robert Langdon through the codes created by her grandfather. In hope, Robert Langdon can solve the codes that made by Jacques Sauniere and save the life of Sophie, because she is an heir to the bloodline Jesus directly.

In the way to searching the Holy Grail, she got a lot of knowledge about the history of the Grail and the Priory of Sion which the guardian of Holy Grail.

*"The true nature of the Grail? Sophie felt even more lost now. The Holy Grail, she had thought, was the cup that Jesus drank from at the Last Supper and with which Joseph of Arimathea later caught His blood at the crucifixion. "The Holy Grail is the Cup of Christ," she said. "How much simpler could it be?"*

*"Sophie," Langdon whispered, leaning toward her now, "according to the Priory of Sion, the Holy Grail is not a cup at all. They claim the Grail legend—that of a chalice—is actually an ingeniously conceived allegory. That is, that the Grail story uses the chalice as a metaphor for something else, something far more powerful." He paused. "Something that fits perfectly with everything your grandfather has been trying to tell us tonight, including all his symbologic references to the sacred feminine."*

**(TDVC: 162)**

In the quote above, states that Sophie actually does not know the history of the Holy Grail, she only knows that the cup used in the Last Supper as told many Christians in general.

Even from this quest, Sophie eventually learned that his grandfather was one of the Priory of Sion that served as guardians of the Holy Grail itself.

*"Langdon hesitated a moment. "Sophie, you realize that if this is indeed the keystone, your grandfather's access to it implies he was exceptionally powerful within the Priory of Sion. He would have to have been one of the highest four members."*

*Sophie sighed. "He was powerful in a secret society. I'm certain of it. I can only assume it was the Priory."*

**(TDVC: 205-206)**

At first, Sophie did not realize that his grandfather was included in the members of the Priory of Sion, but when he gets *cryptex* Langdon realizes that Sauniere is more than an ordinary member, he could be the leader, because he has access to the *cryptex* or key presence guarded the Holy Grail Priory of Sion.

And in the end, Sophie believes that the key to the Holy Grail was inherited to her.

*"I'm not going anywhere," Sophie declared, her eyes narrowing with rage. "That cryptex was given to me by my grandfather. It is not yours to open."*

**(TDVC: 422)**

Sophie believes that the *cryptex* or the key to the Holy Grail inherited to her. It's mean that Sophie has realized that she is the heir of the key and replace the due of his grandfather as guardian of the Holy Grail.

*"Robert, my grandfather would prefer his secret lost forever than see it in the hands of his murderer." Sophie's eyes looked as if they would well with tears, but they did not. She stared directly back at Teabing. "Shoot me if you have to. I am not leaving my grandfather's legacy in your hands."*

**(TDVC: 422)**

Sophie confirms that the legacy should be completely protected even if it means eliminating the secret location of the Holy Grail hidden. Sophie thought better than the secret was lost forever known to everyone, because that is the task of the guards the Holy Grail.

### 3.2.3 Manuel Aringarosa

Manuel Aringarosa was Managing Director of Opus Dei, he seeks to rebuild a stronger Catholic sects.

*"As president-general of Opus Dei, Bishop Aringarosa had spent the last decade of his life spreading the message of "God's Work"—literally, Opus Dei. The congregation, founded in 1928 by the Spanish priest Josemaría Escrivá, promoted a return to conservative Catholic values and encouraged its members to make sweeping sacrifices in their own lives in order to do the Work of God."*

**(TDVC: 28)**

From the quote above, Aringarosa obsessed to redevelop the more conservative Catholic movement, or arguably a more devout Catholic teaching on God's rule. From here we can know that the search for the Holy Grail done by Aringarosa could be as efforts to rebuild the Catholic powers stronger. Because if it is known that the real Holy Grail is a sacred artifact in the form of the tomb of MaryMagdalene and the documents that could threaten the Christian faith, then it could be Aringarosa efforts would be in vain to run the Work of God.

To launch the business, Aringarosa duty to obtain the Holy Grail is to find funds to conduct a search of the Holy Grail.

*"Aringarosa's eyes traveled the length of the long table to a large black briefcase. "Is that what I requested?"*

*"It is." The secretariat sounded uneasy. "Although, I must admit, we are concerned with the request. It seems quite..."*

*"Dangerous," one of the cardinals finished. "Are you certain we cannot wire it to you somewhere? The sum is exorbitant."*

*Freedom is expensive. "I have no concerns for my own safety. God is with me."*

*The men actually looked doubtful.*

*"The funds are exactly as I requested?"*

*The secretariat nodded. "Large-denomination bearer bonds drawn on the Vatican Bank. Negotiable as cash anywhere in the world."*

**(TDVC: 174)**

From the conversation above, it can be seen that Aringarosa had made a request to the Vatican to prepare a bag containing valuable securities are expensive and can be cashed to achieve a step that could bring the group to freedom. That means, Aringarosa need enough funds to seek the true informations of the Holy Grail in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*.

But, of course Aringarosa not work alone, he was working on the orders of the "Teacher". These Teacher have a lot of information about the Holy Grail.

*“Aringarosa knew he was right. The Teacher seemed an exceptionally careful man. He had not revealed his own identity to Aringarosa, and yet he had proven himself a man well worth obeying. After all, he had somehow obtained very secret information. The names of the brotherhood's four top members! This had been one of the coups that convinced the bishop the Teacher was truly capable of delivering the astonishing prize he claimed he could unearth.”*

**(TDVC: 59)**

From the above statement confirms that the Teacher who has accurate information about the Holy Grail, it's including four guardians that had been killed by Silas. Because the information given to Aringarosa is very powerful, he became very believe to do the orders given by the Teacher.

*“When Aringarosa described the opportunity that had presented itself, Silas knew it could only be the hand of God at work. Miraculous fate! Aringarosa put Silas in contact with the man who had proposed the plan—a man who called himself the Teacher. Although the Teacher and Silas never met face-to-face, each time they spoke by phone, Silas was awed, both by the profundity of the Teacher's faith and by the scope of his power. The Teacher seemed to be a man who knew all, a man with eyes and ears in all places. How the Teacher gathered his information, Silas did not know, but Aringarosa had placed enormous trust in the Teacher, and he had told Silas to do the same. "Do as the Teacher commands you," the bishop told Silas. "And we will be victorious.”*

**(TDVC: 195)**

The quote above shows that the Teacher had been the brains of the whole plan of getting artifacts Holy Grail that has long been hidden and kept secret by

the Priory of Sion. The Master also gives a lot of important information about the Holy Grail and its remit also includes many things that seemed so Aringarosa will trust the Teachers and agreed to conduct a search of the Holy Grail plan and convince Silas also to carry out all the orders of Master although they have never met.

In addition, the trust Aringarosa against by the Teacher also influenced undesirable events Aringarosa to its power in the Catholic Church which built over the years.

*"The enormous man sighed. "Bishop, I am not sure how to say this delicately, so I will state it directly. Two days ago, the Secretariat Council voted unanimously to revoke the Vatican's sanction of Opus Dei."*

**(TDVC: 415)**

Incidence of revocation of the Vatican's support for church is make Aringarosa upset and conduct anyway to get the power back in the eyes of the Vatican.

*"Now, sitting aboard a commercial airliner bound for Rome, Aringarosa gazed out the window at the dark Atlantic. The sun had already set, but Aringarosa knew his own star was on the rise. Tonight the battle will be won, he thought, amazed that only months ago he had felt powerless against the hands that threatened to destroy his empire."*

**(TDVC: 28)**

According Aringarosa in the quote above, the search for the Holy Grail he is doing is a war to maintain Catholic kingdom that he developed during this time and will not let it disintegrate because it does not have the support of the Vatican. This search is very expect to be the revival of the Catholic kingdom he wants until he likens like a star emerging.

In addition, Aringarosa also eyeing an unparalleled power after when obtaining the Holy Grail.

*"If all went as planned tonight in Paris, Aringarosa would soon be in possession of something that would make him the most powerful man in Christendom."*

**(TDVC: 107)**

The above quotation confirms that if Aringarosa could find artifact Holy Grail very secret, then certainly he could be the most powerful man in Christendom. This suggests that the Holy Grail is very influential on Christian life, especially in terms of power.

But all the work done Aringarosa and Silas becomes useless when they realize that they are victims of deceit Teachers who use them for the sake of finding the Holy Grail for his own benefit.

*"No, Silas," Aringarosa replied. "It is I who am sorry. This is my fault." The "Teacher promised me there would be no killing, and I told you to obey him fully. "I was too eager. Too fearful. You and I were deceived." The Teacher was never going to deliver us the Holy Grail."*

**(TDVC: 414)**

Aringarosa realized that he had been deceived, it indicates that the ambition to restore the glory of the church he had built had used someone else to get something not even he knew the truth.

Meaning political happening Master did to Aringarosa and Silas. In this case the meaning is in the politicians is the Holy Grail. As explained in the theory of Roland Barthes in the previous chapter that the myth could be merely ideological engineered to maintain the unilateral interests. In this case Teachers utilize Holy Grail myth to build an expectation to Aringarosa who was let down by the Vatican

and to rebuild his power he did command Master to find the legend of the Holy Grail in the end he was only utilized by the Master.

With the information leaked from the Vatican about the revocation of the Vatican's sanction of Opus Dei, Teachers use to make Aringarosa and Silas as pawns Holy Grail seekers.

*“It was several weeks later that he received the phone call that changed all that. The caller sounded French and identified himself as the Teacher—a title common in the prelature. He said he knew of the Vatican's plans to pull support from Opus Dei.*

*How could he know that? Aringarosa wondered. He had hoped only a handful of Vatican power brokers knew of Opus Dei's impending annulment. Apparently the word was out. When it came to containing gossip, no walls in the world were as porous as those surrounding Vatican City.”*

**(TDVC: 417)**

In the quote above shows that the Master has access to know the information contained in the Vatican. With the ability to successfully utilize the disappointment he finally ordered Aringarosa and Silas as one of its members that very obedient to him to conduct a search of the Holy Grail. But it was all a hoax true if the artifacts were found the Holy Grail Aringarosa and Silas will be removed.

### **3.2.4Silas**

Silas is an albino monk who was raised by Aringarosa. He is also a member of Opus Dei that believes that the actions of mortification or self-physical punishment is a form of devotion to God.

*“One mile away, the hulking albino named Silas limped through the front gate of the luxurious brownstone residence on Rue La Bruyère. The spiked cilice belt that he wore around his thigh cut into his flesh, and yet his soul sang with satisfaction of service to the Lord.”*

**(TDVC: 12)**

Silas was a devout contained what he believed. He believes that using the cilice to hurt himself is able to redeem the sin she had done for the sake of running a truth which he believed. Seen from the quote above, he was willing to hurt himself for showing devotion to God.

To show his loyalty, Silas was assigned to find information about the Holy Grail which is owned by the Priory of Sion guards, one of which is Jacques Sauniere that he had killed.

*"Tonight, at last, Silas felt he had begun to repay his debt. Hurrying to the dresser, he found the cell phone hidden in his bottom drawer and placed a call.*

*"Yes?" a male voice answered.*

*"Teacher, I have returned."*

*"Speak," the voice commanded, sounding pleased to hear from him.*

*"All four are gone. The three sénéchaux... and the Grand Master himself."*

*There was a momentary pause, as if for prayer. "Then I assume you have the information?"*

*"All four concurred. Independently."*

*"And you believed them?"*

*"Their agreement was too great for coincidence."*

*An excited breath. "Excellent. I had feared the brotherhood's reputation for secrecy might prevail."*

*"The prospect of death is strong motivation."*

*"So, my pupil, tell me what I must know."*

**(TDVC: 12)**

From the conversation above, we can know that Silas inform a Teacher that he considers that he has killed four people that keep the secrets of the Holy Grail, in order to obtain information about the secret of the Holy Grail. Silas had to make sacrifices to get what he was looking for. And information was fixed on a keyword of "keystone".

*"Silas knew the information he had gleaned from his victims would come as a shock. "Teacher, all four confirmed the existence of the clef de voûte... the legendary keystone."*

*He heard a quick intake of breath over the phone and could feel the Teacher's excitement. "The keystone. Exactly as we suspected." According to lore, the brotherhood had created a map of stone—a clef de voûte... or keystone—an engraved tablet that revealed the final resting place of the brotherhood's greatest secret... " "information so powerful that its protection was the reason for the brotherhood's very existence."*  
**(TDVC: 12-13)**

From the quote above, it is known that Silas got valuable information about the key to the existence of the Holy Grail called "clef de voute" or "keystone". It is the key that can show where the presence of the Holy Grail and the secret of the Holy Grail itself, and that is the task of the next Silas to obtain the keystone.

And the keystone is present in the church of Saint Sulpice that famous for its beautiful architecture.

*"Silas relayed the earlier events of the evening... how all four of his victims, moments before death, had desperately tried to buy back their godless lives by telling their secret. Each had told Silas the exact same thing—that the keystone was ingeniously hidden at a precise location inside one of Paris's ancient churches—the Eglise de Saint-Sulpice."*  
**(TDVC: 13)**

As explained in the previous analysis that Silas was one of the members of Opus Dei, he was very obedient to the teachings which he believed, Silas considers that the real Holy Grail is the property of the Catholic sect, therefore they intend to get it back.

*"The heathens used a house of God to conceal their keystone. Again the brotherhood had confirmed their legendary reputation for illusion and deceit. Silas was looking forward to finding the keystone and giving it to the Teacher so they could recover what the brotherhood had long ago stolen from the faithful."*  
**(TDVC: 54)**

From the quote above, we can know that Silas sects claim that the real Holy Grail is their properties and Silas ambitions to wrest it back from the hands of fraternity that they consider to be their enemies.

### 3.2.5 Sir Leigh Teabing

Sir Leigh Teabing is a person that is obsessed by the Holy Grail. In fact he spent almost the rest of his lifetime to look for the legend.

*"Teabing's life passion is the Grail. When whisperings of the Priory keystone surfaced about fifteen years ago, he moved to France to search churches in hopes of finding it. He's written some books on the keystone and the Grail. He may be able to help us figure out how to open it and what to do with it."*

**(TDVC: 216)**

The spirit of this man's life is only the Holy Grail. In fact, he was willing to move where there is information about the where about of the Holy Grail. To get something he wants, he would need to fund very expensive. But it was not a problem for him because he is a descendant of nobility that must be very rich.

*"Langdon laughed. "Believe me, money is the last thing this guy needs." Leigh Teabing was wealthy in the way small countries were wealthy. A descendant of Britain's First Duke of Lancaster, Teabing had gotten his money the old-fashioned way—he'd inherited it. His estate outside of Paris was a seventeenth-century palace with two private lakes."*

**(TDVC: 217)**

Leigh Teabing is a descendant of the aristocratic Duke of Lancaster, and he gained a wealth of heritage of his ancestors. Even fortune includes two private lake in a palace. No wonder if he is able to finance its activities to find the where about of the Holy Grail although they had to move where.

*"Langdon paused. "I'll tell you at Teabing's. He and I specialize in different areas of the legend, so between the two of us, you'll get the full story." Langdon smiled. "Besides, the Grail has been Teabing's life, and hearing the story of the Holy Grail from Leigh Teabing will be like hearing the theory of relativity from Einstein himself."*

**(TDVC: 219)**

Because Sir Leigh Teabing very interested in the Holy Grail, he know about to much about the Holy Grail of information, even Robert Langdon says

Teabing's expertise of the Holy Grail is same with the Einstein's expertise in his theory of relativity.

Sir Leigh Teabing quest to find the Holy Grail gave him a lot of knowledge about the documents, that covers the history and all the Holy Grail including the history of Leonardo Da Vinci as guardian and clues about the Holy Grail in his works.

*"Sophie shrugged. "Not at all, really. I was raised by a man who worshipped Leonardo da Vinci."  
Teabing looked both startled and pleased. "An enlightened soul. Superb! Then you must be aware that Leonardo was one of the keepers of the secret of the Holy Grail. And he hid clues in his art."  
(TDVC: 230)*

The quote above shows that Sir Leigh Teabing know much about the Holy Grail, is supported by studies that he can about the Holy Grail, even he knows that Leonardo Da Vinci was one of the keepers of the Holy Grail itself.

In addition, he also has the ancient documents that are not widely known.

*"Teabing located a huge book and pulled it toward him across the table. The leather-bound edition was poster-sized, like a huge atlas. The cover read: The Gnostic Gospels. Teabing heaved it open, and Langdon and Sophie joined him. Sophie could see it contained photographs of what appeared to be magnified passages of ancient documents—tattered papyrus with handwritten text. She did not recognize the ancient language, but the facing pages bore typed translations."  
(TDVC: 245)*

From the quote above we can know that Sir Leigh Teabing save even ancient documents related to the Holy Grail. This shows that he is really obsessed with finding the legendary Holy Grail.

Even he knows about the true Holy Grail quest.

*"Outside, the wind howled in the trees.  
Teabing spoke more quietly now. "The quest for the Holy Grail is literally the quest to kneel before the bones of Mary Magdalene. A*

*journey to pray at the feet of the outcast one, the lost sacred feminine."*

**(TDVC: 257)**

The quote above shows Sir Leigh Teabing knows the true Holy Grail, the quest that requires a lot of information though is sought only a tomb. However, the tomb has a secret that makes it so sought after by some people that know about it.

Even though knowing that Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu involved in the search for the Holy Grail, Sir Leigh Teabing without hesitation go in involved.

*"Sorry to get you involved in this, Leigh."*

*"Oh, please, I've waited my entire life to be involved." Teabing looked past Langdon out the windshield at the shadow of a long hedgerow. He tapped Rémy on the shoulder from behind. "Remember, no brake lights. Use the emergency brake if you need it. I want to get into the woods a bit. No reason to risk them seeing us from the house."*

**(TDVC: 281)**

This showed interest in the Holy Grail is very large, this could even be the biggest ambition in life given that he has a lot to risk his life just for the Holy Grail.

However, the novel is told that the involvement of Sir Leigh Teabing had indeed been planned. Because he was the Master that has utilized Aringarosa and Silas.

*"They were standing in an enormous dead end.*

*The creaking of a heavy door behind them made them turn, just as the door closed with a resounding thud and the latch fell into place.*

*The lone man who had been standing behind the door looked calm as he aimed a small revolver at them. He was portly and was propped on a pair of aluminum crutches.*

*For a moment Langdon thought he must be dreaming.*

*It was Leigh Teabing."*

**(TDVC: 404-405)**

*"Sir Leigh Teabing felt rueful as he gazed out over the barrel of his Medusa revolver at Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu. "My friends," he said, "since the moment you walked into my home last night, I have*

*done everything in my power to keep you out of harm's way. But your persistence has now put me in a difficult position."*

*He could see the expressions of shock and betrayal on Sophie's and Langdon's faces, and yet he was confident that soon they would both understand the chain of events that had guided the three of them to this unlikely crossroads."*

**(TDVC: 406)**

After many puzzles are solved in a search of the Holy Grail, in the end Sir Leigh Teabing shows the true identity that he was the one that had planned the entire scenario experienced by Robert Langdon, Sophie Neveu, Aringarosa and Silas.

Sir Leigh Teabing is very clever in managing strategy.

*"Light begins to dawn, Teabing thought. The Temple Church was the perfect location to steal the keystone from Robert and Sophie, and its apparent relevance to the poem made it a plausible decoy. Rémy's orders had been clear—stay out of sight while Silas recovers the keystone. Unfortunately, Langdon's threat to smash the keystone on the chapel floor had caused Rémy to panic. If only Rémy had not revealed himself, Teabing thought ruefully, recalling his own mock kidnapping. Rémy was the sole link to me, and he showed his face!*

*Fortunately, Silas remained unaware of Teabing's true identity and was easily fooled into taking him from the church and then watching naively as Rémy pretended to tie their hostage in the back of the limousine. With the soundproof divider raised, Teabing was able to phone Silas in the front seat, use the fake French accent of the Teacher, and direct Silas to go straight to Opus Dei. A simple anonymous tip to the police was all it would take to remove Silas from the picture."*

**(TDVC: 411-412)**

Teabing had thought with very ripe to seize the keystone or brought *cryptex* Robert Langdon. Through hands Silas and Remy that become pawns Teabing, he got what he was looking for. But he has not been able to open the *cryptex* contents.

Teabing life spirit was none other than the Holy Grail, until he dared to plan such searches by using some cleverly. And he plans to dismantle the secret of the Holy Grail for all so that everyone knows that during the church lie.

*"Teabing laughed coldly. "My dear, the Church has two thousand years of experience pressuring those who threaten to unveil its lies. Since the days of Constantine, the Church has successfully hidden the truth about Mary Magdalene and Jesus. We should not be surprised that now, once again, they have found a way to keep the world in the dark. The Church may no longer employ crusaders to slaughter non-believers, but their influence is no less persuasive. No less insidious." He paused, as if to punctuate his next point. "Miss Neveu, for some time now your grandfather has wanted to tell you the truth about your family."*

**(TDVC: 407)**

From the quote above, Teabing states that the church hide the truth from Mary Magdalene, by way of slaughtering the people that believe in the truth, the church can suppress these people to shut up and do not disseminate the truth about Mary Magdalene.

Obsession in getting the Holy Grail is to make everyone know about the truth of Mary Magdalene.

*"He spoke to them in a whisper now. "Listen. Can you hear it? The Grail is speaking to us across the centuries. She is begging to be saved from the Priory's folly. I implore you both to recognize this opportunity. There could not possibly be three more capable people assembled at this moment to break the final code and open the cryptex." Teabing paused, his eyes alight. "We need to swear an oath together. A pledge of faith to one another. A knight's allegiance to uncover the truth and make it known."*

**(TDVC: 412-413)**

From the above statement, it is known that the reason Teabing ambition to get the Holy Grail is because it considers need to be rescued by showing its existence to everyone. So that they know that the church has deceived them by

hiding the truth of Mary Magdalene and Jesus as described in the previous analysis.

Because Teabing perceive that the real Holy Grail is Mary Magdalene's tomb along with the documents containing the story of his life with Jesus.

*Sophie felt an unexpected wonder. "The hiding place of the Holy Grail is actually... a tomb?"*

*Teabing's hazel eyes got misty. "It is. A tomb containing the body of Mary Magdalene and the documents that tell the true story of her life. At its heart, the quest for the Holy Grail has always been a quest for the Magdalene—the wronged Queen, entombed with proof of her family's rightful claim to power."*

**(TDVC: 257)**

Teabing convinced that the real Holy Grail is Mary Magdalene's tomb buried somewhere along important documents. So he was very ambitious to get it so that everyone knows the real story about Mary Magdalene and Jesus based on the novel The Da Vinci Code.

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

After presenting an analysis in the previous chapter, the conclusion and the suggestion are taken in this chapter. The conclusion is drawn based on the formulated research questions, while suggestions is intended to give information to the next researchers who are interested in doing further research in this area.

#### 4.1 Conclusion

In line with the preceding chapter, the conclusion of this research can be presented based on the formulated problems. The meaning of the Holy Grail in the discussion in the previous chapter is divided into two. The first is the meaning of the Holy Grail in denotative and the second is connotative. Denotatively, the Holy Grail is the cup of the last supper of Jesus, that it is used by Jesus to do the last supper with His twelve disciples. Moreover, in the novel *The Da Vinci Code* was also told that this object is also used by Joseph of Arimathea to contain the blood of Jesus at the crucifixion.

The connotative meaning of the Holy Grail has a meaning that much more unique and varied but still interconnected, as depicted in the novel *The Da Vinci Code*. In this novel, the Grail has many meanings associated. First, the Holy Grail is a sacred woman in ancient times. Second, a rose with five petals is the symbol of the Priory of Sion which also guards of the Holy Grail. Five petals also represents the five women circle, those are menstrual, childbirth, motherhood, menopause and death. If the meaning of roses combined, it means that the Priory

of Sion is the guardian of the woman who became the representative of the Holy Grail.

The third depiction of the Holy Grail is the Chalice. Chalice is the cup that has meaning to contain something and in the context of the Holy Grail, the Chalice interpreted as the womb. Sacred feminine's womb, the Holy Grail. This novel, the truth of Holy Grail is revealed in Leonardo Da Vinci's masterpiece, The Last Supper. In this fresco, Jesus was doing the last supper with His disciples. In Jesus' right side, there is graceful figure, she looks beautiful and charming, but the story should have been in the last supper there were only men. And the figure of the woman is Mary Magdalene who in the novel is called as the wife of Jesus, holy woman, a pregnant woman's child of Jesus in her womb and the Holy Grail itself.

From the above explanation, it can be concluded that the connotative meaning of Holy Grail is holy woman figure that guarded by the Priory of Sion. The female that was carry blood of Jesus on their child, and then kept it be forever secret. The search for the real Holy Grail is about the search for the tomb of Mary Magdalene and the documents that include a relationship with Jesus.

And the myth of the Holy Grail is the story about relationship between Mary Magdalene and Jesus Christ. This myth may pose a big question about the divinity of Jesus as a god. Because in the myth of the Holy Grail, Jesus has the same nature as human being that want to marriage, which can make the descent and dead. If Jesus was married and had descendants, the son of Jesus has a divine nature that He had also, as well as with subsequent descendant. And when crucifixion, Jesus was in pain and eventually died. This shows that God has a

human nature, and it would undermine the faith of Christians who believe that their God is Jesus.

In the subsequent discussion is explaining about characters perceive of the Holy Grail in the search for it. First, the character that searches the Holy Grail is the main character in this novel, Robert Langdon. He was an expert on symbols that related to religion and history. He perceive that Holy Grail as a good discussion to continue to be studied by everyone. Therefore, he prefers to keep secret the truth about the Holy Grail in order to remain a mystery that can be learned.

Second is Sophie Neveu, a cryptographer who worked under DPCJ. She is also the granddaughter of Jacques Sauniere, he is also the highest members of the Priory of Sion, the guardian of the Holy Grail. He perceive that the Holy Grail is the legacy of his grandfather entrusted to her to be kept confidential. Therefore, she has same thought with Robert Langdon that the secret of the Holy Grail, must be maintained.

Third is Silas, a member of Opus Dei whose ambition is to get the Holy Grail to save the supervisor and what he believed. Because he has a lot of guidance of Aringarosa who is also the head of Opus Dei, he hopes to due his loyalty to Aringarosa to obtain the Holy Grail.

Fourth, Manuel Aringarosa, head of Opus Dei is ambitious to get the Holy Grail to save the Opus Dei that can not support anymore from the Vatican. In order to make his power back, he sent Silas to obtain the Holy Grail on the orders of the Teacher which eventually deceptive Silas and himself.

The last is Sir Leigh Teabing. From all of the characters contained in this novel, he is the most ambitious figures to get the Holy Grail. Even the rest of his life, he spent to find information of the Holy Grail. He did everything possible to get it, including cheating his own friends, Robert Langdon and Sophie Neveu. He is the plan maker that all done by Silas and Aringarosa, in other words he is the Teacher who use Silas and Aringarosa to get the Holy Grail.

Teabing ambition to get the Holy Grail is to disseminate the truth about the secret of the Holy Grail to everyone so that they know that the Church has been deceiving them with stories that they create and ignoring the truth about Mary Magdalene as the Holy Grail.

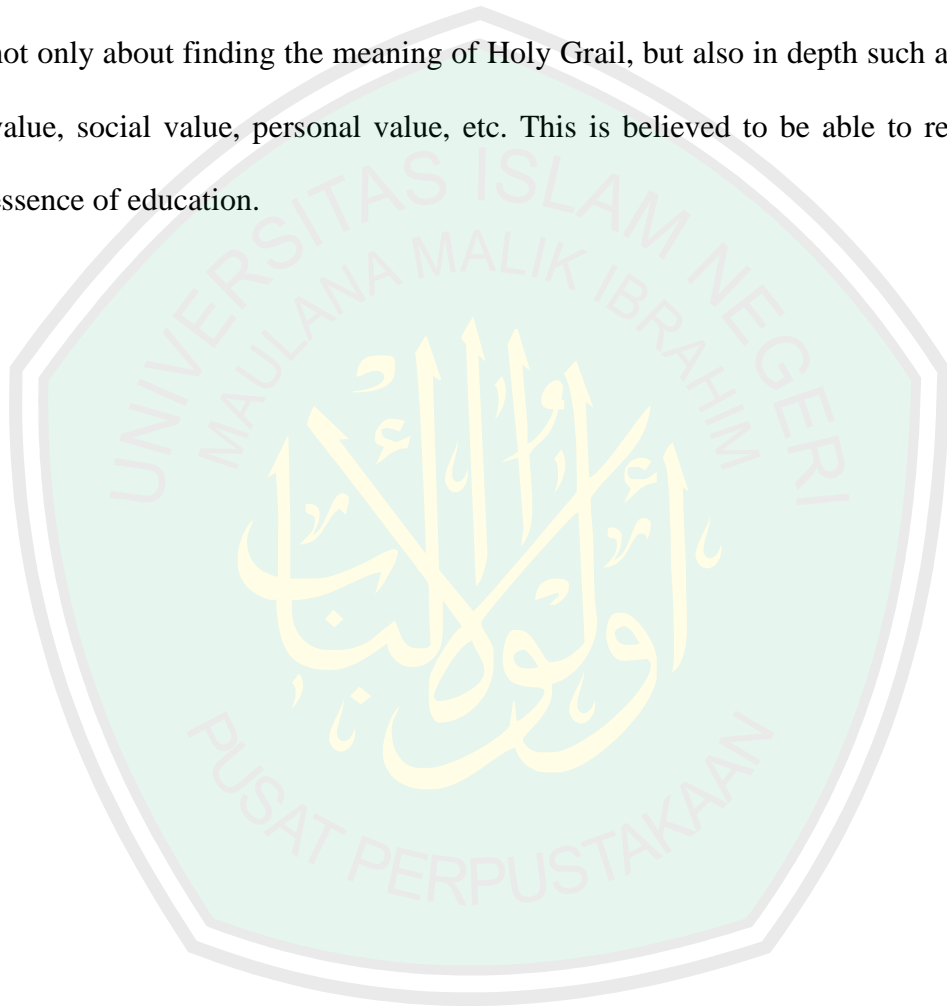
#### **4.2 Suggestion**

For those who are interested in studying literature, this research may contribute to the students in enjoying literary works, especially the novel. However, this research is still far from perfection since it actually discusses only a small part of the whole aspects that a literary study can cover. Therefore, the researcher of this thesis proposes the following suggestion for other researchers who might conduct further research on the same novel.

First, since this has revealed the meaning of Holy Grail and what the characters perceive of it, the researcher suggested to other researchers to investigate novel *The Da Vinci Code* in other aspects, such as researching the psychological aspects of the characters in the search of the Holy Grail, the feminine aspect in the concept of the Holy Grail and other aspects are still a lot can be used as a research tool of this novel.

Second, the writer also suggests others to have further study in comparing this novel with other work of Dan Brown.

Third, related to the contribution of the study to literary criticism, it is suggested that the result of this research can be used, especially to the teaching and learning of prose. Besides, it is expected that the teachers of prose can teach not only about finding the meaning of Holy Grail, but also in depth such as moral value, social value, personal value, etc. This is believed to be able to reach the essence of education.



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2. The Synopsis of *The Da Vinci Code*



## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Based on “[http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/630.Dan\\_Brown](http://www.goodreads.com/author/show/630.Dan_Brown)”

Dan Brown

- Born : in Exeter, New Hampshire, The United States
- Gender : male
- Website : <http://www.danbrown.com>
- Twitter : AuthorDanBrown
- Genre : Mystery & Thrillers, Fiction, Suspense

Dan Brown is the author of numerous #1 bestselling novels, including The Da Vinci Code, which has become one of the best selling novels of all time as well as the subject of intellectual debate among readers and scholars. Brown’s novels are published in 54 languages around the world with 200 million copies in print.

In 2005, Brown was named one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World by TIME Magazine, whose editors credited him with “keeping the publishing industry afloat; renewed interest in Leonardo da Vinci and early Christian history; spiking tourism to Paris and Rome; a growing membership in secret societies; the ire of Cardinals in Rome; eight books denying the claims of the novel and seven guides to read along with it; a flood of historical thrillers; and a major motion picture franchise.”

The son of a mathematics teacher and a church organist, Brown was raised on a prep school campus where he developed a fascination with the paradoxical interplay between science and religion. These themes eventually formed the

backdrop for his books. He is a graduate of Amherst College and Phillips Exeter Academy, where he later returned to teach English before focusing his attention full time to writing.

Brown is currently at work on a new book as well as the Columbia Pictures film version of his most recent novel.



## THE SYNOPSIS OF *THE DA VINCI CODE*

Based on “<http://www.danbrown.com/the-davinci-code/>”

While in Paris on business, Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon receives an urgent late-night phone call: the elderly curator of the Louvre has been murdered inside the museum. Near the body, police have found a baffling cipher. Solving the enigmatic riddle, Langdon is stunned to discover it leads to a trail of clues hidden in the works of da Vinci...clues visible for all to see...and yet ingeniously disguised by the painter.

Langdon joins forces with a gifted French cryptologist, Sophie Neveu, and learns the late curator was involved in the Priory of Sion—an actual secret society whose members included Sir Isaac Newton, Botticelli, Victor Hugo, and da Vinci, among others. The Louvre curator has sacrificed his life to protect the Priory’s most sacred trust: the location of a vastly important religious relic, hidden for centuries.

In a breathless race through Paris, London, and beyond, Langdon and Neveu match wits with a faceless powerbroker who appears to work for Opus Dei—a clandestine, Vatican-sanctioned Catholic sect believed to have long plotted to seize the Priory’s secret. Unless Langdon and Neveu can decipher the labyrinthine puzzle in time, the Priory’s secret—and a stunning historical truth—will be lost forever.

In an exhilarating blend of relentless adventure, scholarly intrigue, and cutting wit, symbologist Robert Langdon (first introduced in Dan Brown’s bestselling *Angels & Demons*) is the most original character to appear in years.

The Da Vinci Code heralds the arrival of a new breed of lightning-paced, intelligent thriller...surprising at every twist, absorbing at every turn, and in the end, utterly unpredictable...right up to its astonishing conclusion.

