



CHARACTERIZATION OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE DICTATOR MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study is to find the types of characterization of the main character found in The Dictator movie. This study used the theory proposed by (Kennedy 1996; 28) in analyzing the types of characterization of main character Wellek and Warren (1956) which was used in analyzing the characterization of the main character. The data were qualitatively analyzed and presented descriptively based on theories adopted in this research. The result of this research shows that there are two types of the character namely antagonist and protagonist character. In showing the types of character and characterization of the main character the writer used some dialogue from the movie. There are three aspects of the characterization of the main character found in The Dictator movie. There are physiological dimensions, psychological dimensions, and sociological dimensions.

INTRODUCTION

Literature is the art of human life, talking about the art of how humans look by imagination, the beauty as well as badness through creative fiction such as narrative, movies, poetry, etc. That indicates that humans cannot be separated from literature that presents beauty and badness. McFadden has stated "literature is cannon which consist of those works in language by which a community defines itself through the course of its history" (McFadden 1978:58)

Literature can be divided into two types of fiction and nonfiction as well as into the visual of fictions such as the drama, movie, etc, all having

no factual data. For nonfiction, talking about facts of human life and presenting factual data can be included such as writing a biography, autobiography journal, etc. Broadly speaking, "literature" is used to describe anything from creative writing to more technical or scientific works, but the term is most commonly used to refer to works of the creative imagination, including works of poetry, drama, fiction, and nonfiction (Pradopo, 1994: 26-27).

The first review is entitled "An Analysis of the Main Character in *Split* Movie by M. Night Shyamalan" written by Antara (2017). The aim of this study is to analyze the characterization of the main character and to describe the type of the main character in the movie *Split* by M. Night Syamalan. In his thesis Antara concerned with analyzing action fiction especially in the movie, with two objectives of the study. The first one is the types of characters of the main character of the movie *Split*? The second is how the main character is characterized the movie "Split" by M. Night Syamalan? He uses the theory of Kenney (1996) in his book *How to Analyze Fiction* particularly about the characterization methods that he used to analyzed the characterization is the discursive method, dramatic method, contextual method, and mixing method. After doing his analyzes, he found that the analysis of the main character depicted in the movie *Split* by M. Night Shyamalan involves many aspects related to this main character which are described in this fictional story namely Characterization and types of the character. There Some similarities and differences between Shyamalan's paper and this study. The similarities are both of paper is analyzing is analyzing characterization of the main character, while the differences are he took theory of Kenney (1996) this study use theory of Wellek and Warren.

The second review related study is that of "Conflict Analyses of the Main Characters in *The Return of the Native* Novel by Thomas Hardy", written by Mahottama (2018). This paper aimed to find the types of conflict faced by the main character and personality structure of the main character in the novel of *The Return of the Native*, by Thomas Hardy. Her thesis concerns the concept of fiction especially in the novel with two problems of the study. She describes what types of the conflict are faced by the main character in *The Return of the Native* novel? Second, how is the personality structure of main characters related to conflict in *The Return of Native* novel? In her study he uses the theory of Myers (1992), who states that conflict is a struggle against opposing forces that occurs when the protagonist struggles against the antagonist, or opposing force. Conflict happens because of some differences. She found some interesting conflicts that show a variety of love expressions, such as symbols, acts, and falling in love. The conflict stories were presented to make the readers curious of the unique characterization, antagonist, protagonist, in relation to the main character. There are

similarities and differences between Mahottama's paper and this paper. The similarities are that both papers analyze the characterization of the main character, while the differences are that he took the novel as data source and this study movie as the data source.

Study of the movie as the study of fiction involves implementation of imagination on how to analyze it into the parts such as plot, character, setting, point of view, theme, metaphor, etc. Movies as the visual kind of communication employs the actors who act in that movie. There can be several types of communication and acting, depending on the type of movie. There are several types of movies: action, romantic, horror, comedy, legend, drama, animation, etc. many people in the world want to watch the movie because they want to have fun. And others want to watch the movie to have romantic situations, while others watch movies that make them cry, even make them afraid.

In order to make the research about characterization of the main character more varied, besides discussing the main character, in this present study the research discussed characterization of the main character in movies. The writer formulates two research studies while performing the study. Question, in the following way.

METHODS

Based on the background it is interesting to conduct a study on the character in the movie *The Dictator* based on the two problems formulated as follow:

1. What kinds of characters are the main characters of the movie *The Dictator* by Larry Charles?
2. How is the characterization of the main characters created in the movie *The Dictator* by Larry Charles?

The data of this research were taken from the movie entitled *The Dictator*, the movie directed by Larry Charles and written by Sacha Baron Cohen, with a duration of 99 minutes. It was a 2012 American comedy movie, about an authoritarian leader from Wadya named Aladeen. The film tells the story of Republic Wadiya (located in the north of Africa, replacing the real nation of Eritrea) headed by Admiral General Haffaz Aladeen (Sacha Baron Cohen). There is a deliberate choice of character, as a humorist guy as a president. This makes the movie seem even more controversial because the audience tends to annoy Aladdin (Sacha Baron Cohen) while he is making an arbitrary rule and also kill the people that he did not pay for, even the closest ones.

The theories of this study are divided into two parts which are (Kennedy 1996; 28) in analyzing the types of characterization of main character Wellek and Warren (1956) which was used in analyzing the characterization of the main character. In this study, the method that was implemented in analyzing the data was a descriptively informal method.

1. Characterization

According to Kenney (1966), characterization is a method which is used by the author to create the appearance and personality of an imaginary person and reveal their characters. Characterization is the ability to bring the people of his or her imagination to life for the reader. This analysis focuses on the general categories of the characters.

2. Character

Character is the last component of the inner structure of the story. Character is the most important thing in a movie. Character will lead the story and control the plot. All good fiction will start with a character, because the character is the figure who participates in the action of the story. Characters have a role in building a story and make it more attractive. A character obviously relevant to life and experience. Likewise, Kenney states that the simplest way of describing a characteristic is by giving a name. By giving a name for every character means the author gives a soul to individualize the character, (Kenney,1996; 34-37)

According to Kenney and Gioia (2003, 77) a character is presumably an imagined person who inhabits a story. Although the simple definition admits to few exceptions, it can usually be used in recognizing the character of a story. Human personalities become familiar. If the story seems true, it generally means that the character acts in a reasonably consistent manner, and that the author has provided them with motivation and sufficient reason to behave as they do. A character should behave in a sudden and unexpected way, seeming to deny and that sooner or later will discover it.

Type of Character

The character in fiction is divided into two. Simple (flat) and complex (round) character (Kennedy 1996; 28)

1. Simple (flat) Character

The simplest or flat character is less a presentation of human personality than the embodiment of a single attitude or obsession in a character. In the flat character we see only one side of him. Included among simple characters are all the familiar types of characteristics in fiction. The mark of stereotyped character is that it can be summed

up adequately in a formula: the noble savage, the old family retainer, and poor but honest working girl are a few familiar fictional types.

Not all simple characters are stereotypes like those referred above. The essence of stereotype may be expressed in a formula that applies to a large number of fictional characters, drawn from a large number of works of fiction. We must recognize the existence of a second kind of simple character. The simple character can perform many important functions in the work of fiction. Simple characters may appear in minor roles in serious fiction, but with a major part in inferior fiction.

2. Complex (round) Characters

Complex characters are called round characters because we see all aspects of him. The complex character is obviously more than simple because the lives of people are not simply embodiments of attitudes. It would be pointless to list examples of complex characters from fiction. If the mark of simple character can be presented in a formula, the mark of complexity is that it is capable of surprising us. Complex character is in many ways more difficult than simple. The simple character just repeats his basic formula in each business. The fictional character, however complex, is not a real human being. He is himself an artistic creation.

As in the movie, the characters show how the characters act in that movie. Through that action in the movie we come to know where the conflict runs in the movie and the conflict can introduce the characters in the movie. In literature there can be classified characters into three characters, such as; protagonist, antagonist, tritagonist.

1. Protagonist

According to Morner and Rausch (1991: 31) the protagonist is the actor in the movie who shows the major figure with a good personality. We can identify a list of the individual physical, mental, moral, or behavioral traits the character displays that prove the characteristic to be a protagonist.

2. Antagonist

According to Morner and Rousch (1991:31) the antagonist is the actor who acts in contrast with what the protagonist acts as a good personality. An actor who actively opposes or is hostile to someone or something as an adversary tends to show an antagonist character.

Jones (1968; 84) presents the method of characterizations as follows. There are two methods of characterization, the dramatic and analytic. In the dramatic we form our opinions of the characters from what they do and say, from their environment and from what other characters think of them. In the analytic method the author comments upon the characters explaining their motives, their appearances and their thoughts.

The characterization of the characters is based on the aspects as follows.

1. Physical appearance of the main characters

It contains the physical of the appearances, related about their age, performance, these describe how old they are, how they look like, about sex both man or women like having pale skin, handsome or beautiful, long black or brown, etc.

2. Social status of the main characters

This section describes the main character of life like poor or rich and social status. And discusses the background of the character, such as; their educational background, their life in middle, high modern classes.

3. Personality of the characters

It describes the personality of the characters, such as; how to create romantic situations, can see good conditions to play a role, whether or not they are responsible, neat persons or discipline.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

RESULT

In this study we were concerned with the characterization of the main character. Before moving to the discussion section, it is important to find who the main characters in *The Dictator* movie are. The main character was General Aladdin because he played the most important role, and in fact the movie tells about his life and his story when he headed the Wadiya country. In the beginning of the story General Aladdin's characteristics generally are shown as childish in his attitude, anti-west and surrounded by beautiful women's guards. Based on the analysis, the main character in this story belongs to a complex (round) type because the main character did not stand in one characteristic static in one dimension. In this analysis, the complex (round) character was found because the main character changed from the beginning until the end of the story. In the beginning the main character was a nice guy, explicit, powerful, and also known as dictator, but in the middle of the story the main character changed into a good person.

He had a good personality and was opposed to his uncle. The change of the characteristics not only happened by the middle of the story, but when the story is approaching the end, the main character changes his former characteristics again, and finally goes back to the palace being a bad guy. There are three dimensions of characterization found in the main character of The Dictator movie. They are physiological, sociological, and psychological.

The main physiological dimension in this movie about the main character's appearance is described as having an oval face, curly hair and pointed nose. The sociological dimension found in this story about the main character's social activity. He is India's president. The social activity of the main character changes in the middle of the story, he being a vagrant and store clerk. Psychological found in this movie is about the main character's attitude in the movie, mentality, ego and the main character's emotion.

DISCUSSION

1. The Characterization of the Main Character In the Dictator Movie

According to Kennedy (1966:28), there are two types of character, such as simple (flat) character and complex (round) character. In this research, the main character was a (round) character. According to Kenney (1966:28) complex characters are obviously more than simple because the lives of people are not simply embodiments of single attitudes. A flat character is less a presentation of human personality than the embodiment of a single attitude or obsession in a character. In the flat character we see only one side of him. Round characters could be seen from the change of the characteristic. In this movie, the main character was found as antagonist in the beginning and at the end of the story, but a protagonist in the middle of the story.

2. The main character as antagonist character

According to Morner and Rousch (1991:31), the antagonist is the actor who acts in contrast with the protagonist, the latter representing the good or idealized personality. An actor who actively opposes or is hostile to someone or something as adversary is an antagonist. Antagonist characters can be seen from their attitude. Commonly antagonist characters will make the plot much colored by rising conflict and climax. There is some data that shows the main character as an antagonist character in The Dictator movie as can be seen below.

Data: Aladdin in Nuclear weapons lab

Aladdin : Where is the head of nuclear weapons program and procurer

of women?

Staff : You had executed supreme leader

Aladdin : Why I do that

Staff : Don't you remember?

Aladdin : Of course I remember! How dare you question my memory?

I remember everything!

(two years earlier)

Nadal : I would never do that! Never! I'm sorry I didn't mean that.

Aladdin : Don't worry it's fine

Well done my friend.

Nadal : Thank you.

00.08.43

From the conversation it can be seen that Aladdin was executing nuclear weapons staff. In conversation "You had executed the supreme leader" Aladdin shows an antagonist character. In the scene he shows his selfish nature where he wants to compete to show the world that he has a nuclear weapon. He also did not hesitate to execute his staff for not following the instruction.

The characterization found in this data where the physiological dimension is Aladdin wears white clothes and hat when he enters the nuclear weapons lab. Sociological dimension found in this data shows he is the leader of Wadiya country. It can be seen from the conversation, he talks with his staff about the development of the nuclear weapon. Psychological dimension when the main character executing his staff it shows he is a bad guy.

3. The Main Character Change into Protagonist Character

According to Morner and Rausch (1991:31), the protagonist is the actor in the movie who shows the major figure with a good personality. We can identify a list of the individual physical, mental, moral, or behavioral traits the character displays that prove the characteristic to be a protagonist. The example of the protagonist character in the movie is the person who does a good job and likes being a nice person.

Data: Aladdin at the store

Aladdin : Hey buddy, I saw that. This is very disrespectfully to your leader

Hoodlum : Whatever dude. Who are Osama bin Laden's best friends?

Aladdin : No he is not my best friend! Though he has been staying in my guest house ever since they shot his double last year.
Now the the guy won't leave.

00.42.15

At the beginning of the story, Aladdin showed characteristics of a bad guy, controversial, explicit and dictator, but in this part after he coupes he is trying to find a way to take over the power. The scene shows Aladdin changing conversation 4.6 'Hey buddy, I saw that. This is very disrespectful to your leader'' this statement shows that Aladdin is going to be a good guy as protagonist. Aladdin did it because he saw uncle Tamir want to sign the agreement that Wadiya become a democracy.

The main character is shown from his personality, from the previous data, he has a bad personality which he did not care about. He developed nuclear weapons, a childish attitude and was egoistic. In this scene he became a good guy and his personality changed. This data is the beginning of the change of personality of the main character, from antagonist and protagonist to unfriendly become friendly.

The sociological dimension of the main character was changed in previous data. He is president of Wadiya, but in this scene he becomes a vagrant. The psychological dimension can be seen from the data that shows the main character is a good person. He really respects others and the physiological data from the data did not wear the previous cloth and without a beard.

4.3 Main Character Returned to Antagonist Character

This part of analysis shows that Aladdin as the main character of the movie returns into antagonism. There is a reason why the main character changed into an antagonist character. There is some data that shows the main character back to the antagonist character.

Data: Aladdin got married

Staff : I now pronounce you man and wife

Aladdin : Are you okay with my love? What did you step on?

Zoe : No, no. It's my tradition. We always smash a glass at weddings I'm Jews!

Aladdin : What?

Zoe : Are you okay?

Aladdin : That's fine, I don't mind, it's great! Come here my love.

01.28.12

In the conversation when they got married Zoe stepped on the glass as a Jewish tradition when someone is getting married then Aladdin was surprised he asked why he did that, annoyed him and he hugged Zoe and asked his soldiers to execute Zoe. From the data above, Aladdin changes back to his original nature as an antagonist character.

CONCLUSION

After the data were analyzed it can be concluded that. The first conclusion deals with the types of characters that are the main characters of the movie *The Dictator*. The second conclusion deals with how the characterization of the main characters is created in the movie *The Dictator*.

For the first problem, the analysis showed that two types of character according to (Kennedy 1996; 28) were found in *The Dictator* movie. Those Simple (flat) and complex (round) characters. Based on the research result, complex (round) characters were most found. The second problem discussed the characterization of the main character in *The Dictator* movie according to Wellek and Warren (1956). Based on the result of the data analysis there are three dimensions of characterization found in the main character of *The Dictator* movie; they are physiological, sociological, and psychological.

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