

Psychological Aspects of the Main Character in the Movie “If I Stay”

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Abstract

*The paper entitled **Psychological Aspect of the Main Character in The Movie “If I Stay”** aims to describe the psychological aspect of the main character and how this aspect affects the main character’s behavior or personality. The topic is interesting because this movie has some tragedies that happen and affect the main character’s life in terms of view of psychological aspect which made this movie have an agitation to be analyzed. The data of this study were taken from a movie entitled *If I Stay* by using the documentation method. The collected data were analyzed by using a qualitative method based on the theoretical framework. The data were categorized based on the Psychological theory proposed by Bernhardt (1953). The results of the interpretation of the data reveal that the main character has all the psychological aspects in her life and some of them mostly affect her behavior and personality.*

Keywords: main character, psychology analysis, behavior or personality

Abstrak

*Skripsi yang berjudul **Psychological Aspect of The Main Character in The Movie “If I Stay”** bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan aspek psikologi dari karakter utama dan bagaimana aspek tersebut mempengaruhi kepribadian karakter utama. Topik ini menarik karena film ini memiliki beberapa tragedi yang terjadi dan mempengaruhi kehidupan karakter utama dalam pandangan aspek psikologi yang mana membuat film ini memiliki daya tarik untuk di analisis. Data pada pembelajaran ini di ambil dari sebuah film yang berjudul “If I Stay” dengan menggunakan metode dokumentasi. Data yang telah di peroleh di analisis dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif berdasarkan pada landasan teori. Data di kategorikan berdasarkan pada teori psikolog ioleh Bernhardt (1953). Hasil dari interpretasi data tersebut mengungkapkan bahwa karakter utama mempunyai semua aspek psikologi di dalam hidupnya dan ada beberapa di antaranya yang paling mempengaruhi kepribadiannya.*

Kata kunci :karakter utama, psikologianalisis, kebiasaan dan kepribadian.

1. Background of the Study

According to Wellek and Warren (1967:1), literature represents “life” and “life” itself in a large measure comes from a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual have also been object of the literary imitation.

In order to analyze a literary work separate parts that make it up are identified to determine the relationship among the parts, and to discover the relation of the parts to the whole. Character is one important aspect because it carries the author’s message that can bring various values in human life such as morality, education and many others (Kenny, 1966:5). The character

basically can be divided into two kinds, main character and supporting character, depending on the role of the character in the story. The main character has an important role in the story to tell about his or her experience. Some films or novels start the story with description of the main character. The problem in the story always has a connection with the main character and the main character is always appearing as the important character from the beginning to the end of the story.

Movie is interesting because by watching a movie we can see the real visualization of the story.

2. Problems of the Study

- a. What kind of psychological aspects are found in the main character?
- b. What kind of psychological aspects are dominantly affecting the main character's personality along the story?

3. Aims of the Study

- a. To describe the psychological aspects of the main character in the movie *If I Stay*.
- b. To describe psychological aspect affecting the main character's personality.

4. Research Method

In this writing, the research method consists of data source, method and technique of collecting data, method and technique of analyzing data, and method and technique of presenting the analysis.

4.1 Data Source

The data of this research were taken from the movie entitled "*If I Stay*". It was a 2014 American teen romantic drama film directed by R. J. Cutler and based on the novel of the same

name by Gayle Forman. The story was narrated by a 17th years old girl. The story centers on the ultimate decision between life and death of Mia Hall. The movie was released in New York on August 18, 2014.

4.2 Method and Technique of Collecting Data

All data were collected using the documentation method, by watching the film, making sure the conversation, by reading the script of the movie repeatedly, understanding the content of the movie. The next step was taking notes of the part of the movie conversation that gives information about the characters, and analyzing the data in detail based on the theory applied.

4.3 Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

The collected data were analyzed using the qualitative method, in which each datum was presented and analyzed based on the theoretical basis for psychological aspect adopted in this study. The main theory applied in this study was the theory of psychology in *Practical Psychology* by Bernhardt (1953).

5. Analysis

In the following section, the analysis of this study is given.

5.1 Psychological Aspects of the Main Character

5.1.1 Human motivation

According to Bernhardt (1953: 45-48) motivation can be divided into five classes of human motivation, those are; the appetites, the wants, the emotion, feeling and attitudes and social motivation.

a. Appetites

Appetite of Mia was her family. To Mia family was everything. Family is a life for her without family she means nothing to live. She would like all of her survived over because she cannot live without her family.

b. Wants

The want of Mia in this movie was that she wanted to know what happened to her family. She realized and got shock because of an accident about her car which was hit by a truck. Then she woke up with a confused mind. She kept asking and looking for her family. She did not realize that her spirit was out of her body. She asked the people around her but no one knew that she was existing.

c. Emotion

Emotion of Mia was mad. It could be seen in the story where she ignored to talk about Adam to her mom. She would not tell her mom what had happened to her and Adam. Mia survived for a complicated relationship with Adam because Adam did not agree if Mia moved from Portland because of Julliard.

d. Feeling and Attitude

The feeling and attitude of Mia was pleasant experience, when she told her best friend, Kim, about Adam. She just finished her dating with Adam the day before she met Kim. It was a great time for Mia to be able to see a classical music with the one who she loves. It was the first time she went out with a guy and it was being a happy time for her and Adam.

e. Social motives

The social motive of Mia was social disapproval. When social disapproval happened between Mia and Adam, Mia had a big dream to continue her school to Julliard University but she

made a mistake by not telling Adam before she applied the scholarship. Adam felt that Mia was lying to him not to leave him alone as her promise. Mia tried to persuade Adam that it was just temporary until she finished her school and would back to Adam.

5.1.2 Feeling and Emotion

Feeling and emotion meant that feeling can influence the emotion. Every activity or experience is always coloring feeling

a. Characteristic of Feeling

The part of the story that show us the characteristic of feeling when Mia got mad and bored but she did not show her feeling to the people around her. Mia was attending Adam concert and that was the first time to be around the people who liked rock genre. She felt that she was not comfortable with the situation. She did not show the people that she was angry. She showed the people that she did not have any problem with anything. Her expression showed that she was fine even if she was not.

b. Characteristic of Emotion

The part of the story that showed us the characteristic of emotion is when Mia fought with Adam. Adam did not allow Mia to go to Julliard University because Adam did not want Mia to be far from him. Mia showed that she felt Angry with Adam. She attacked all the arguments that Adam said. She showed to Adam that he could not prevent her plan to continue her school. She yelled at Adam and showed up that she was Angry.

5.2 The Most Influential Psychological Aspect in the Main Character Personality

5.2.1 The Main Character's Want

Her want did not change her personality at all to face the reality. She was being optimized again to go back to her life because of her want to be always beside Teddy.

5.2.2 The Main Character's Emotion

In those scenes Mia showed her pessimist personality. Mia had a happy life with her little family and she could not live without them. When she knew that her parent passed away she lost her power to keep struggle in her coma.

6. Conclusions

Mia had a complex psychological aspect in this story. Mia was a nice girl with a good attitude. Mia's appetite was her cello and family she could not live without them, both of those things were her passion. What the main character wanted was mostly about her ambition to be a better person such as she wanted to know what had happened to her family, the second want was that she wanted someone to be able to communicate with her; the third want was that she wanted Adam to give her comment; the fourth was that she wanted Teddy to keep alive; the fifth was that she wanted to continue her school to Julliard University; the sixth want was that she wanted Adam to touch her, and the last want was she wanted to end all of her life. She got mad and sad as her emotion. Mia's feeling and attitude was filled by pleasant and unpleasant experience that all the things were about Adam. The social motives were social disapproval of Adam because she would like to reach her dream by continuing her school to Julliard University and she also did social approval of her family to come with her

family by doing some negotiation with her parents.

Mia wanted that she could change her optimized personality into a pessimistic one; she was optimistic that she could stay alive for her family but it changed after she knew that Teddy passed away. The last aspect that affected her personality was her emotion. She was an enclosed person and she did not like if everyone intervened her relationship with her boyfriend and also she loved her family so much

7. Bibliography

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