



The Value of Being of The Supporting Characters in The Movie “Luca”

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Abstract

This study attempts to reveal the moral value based on the classification of Linda and Eyre (1993) in the movie Luca. This study aimed to find out the value of being of the supporting characters in the movie Luca. It utilized a descriptive qualitative method. This study used the theory of moral values proposed by Linda and Eyre (1993) in their book entitled Teaching Your Children Values. The findings showed there were three types of moral values found in the supporting characters in the movie Luca. They are honesty, peaceability, and courage. The moral value of honesty and peaceability dominantly appeared in this movie. It related to their inner sincere and self-control which contributes building the movie as a whole. These data mainly revealed through the process that each characters engaged, along with its related situation in the movie.

Keywords: *moral values, literary study, movie*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini mencoba mengungkap nilai moral berdasarkan klasifikasi Linda dan Eyre (1993) dalam film Luca. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui *the Value of Being* karakter pendukung dalam film Luca. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori nilai moral yang dikemukakan oleh Linda dan Eyre (1993) dalam bukunya yang berjudul Teaching Your Children Values. Temuan menunjukkan ada tiga jenis nilai moral yang ditemukan dalam karakter pendukung dalam film Luca. Mereka adalah *honesty*, *peaceability*, dan *courage*. Nilai moral *Peaceability* sangat dominan muncul dalam film ini. Ini terkait dengan kemampuan kejujuran dan pengendalian dalam diri mereka yang berkontribusi membangun film secara keseluruhan. Data-data ini terutama terungkap melalui proses keterlibatan masing-masing karakter, bersama dengan situasi yang terkait di dalam film.

Kata kunci: *nilai moral, penelitian sastra, movie*

Introduction

According to Jacobs (1993:1- 3), literature provides the comparative basic from which we can see worthiness in the aims of all people, and it helps us to see the beauty of the world around us. It is the human ideas being portrayed in the form of content through the textual or non-textual form. Literature is what a given society at

given time considers it to be (Carter, 2006:17). This then becomes the method of expression that represent their personal perspective upon certain issues. It also becomes the method of communication as literature sending their ideas to each consumers of the content. In here, literature represents “life” and “life” itself in large measure comes from a social reality, even though the natural world and the inner or subjective world of the individual has also been the object of the literary imitation (Wellek and Werren, 1963:94).

The form of literature various and consist of different traits. There are three forms of literature, such as Poetry, Prose, and Drama. It instigates the process of imagining leads into the experience of interpretation while consuming literature as part of entertainment or educational reason including learning certain issue related to the story. Roberts (1993:68) stated that literature can help us to grow both personally and intellectually. People consume literary works with different reason, including as part of escape from daily life and enhancing their particular knowledge about certain ideas. One of the most influential form of literature is movie.

According to Sapp (1986), a movie is a motion picture which is considered as a source of entertainment or as an art form. In addition, Hornby (2005) explained that a movie refers to the series of moving pictures recorded with sounds that tells a story shown on television or at the cinema or theater. As a modern form of literature, movies become effective tools of communication since movies become the most precise picturization of messages that utilized written text, audio, and image features. William (1963:35) stated that people themselves make movies become the popular culture and even though it displaces folk culture, it is important since it is modern emphasis. Especially in facilitating the educational process, movies become great tools to help the learning process effectively. As a learning medium, a movie can help educators deliver their teaching material easily as a movie provides a high level of enthusiasm to a student on the teaching material (Handayani, 2006). One of the important messages to be delivered is the idea of Moral Values

The term of moral values related to the idea of being good and bad, or right and wrong. According to Johnson (1991:15), moral refers to the Good as a matter of reason, good intention, and resignation to be in a given situation, what is right or wrong about the handing of it, or what is good or bad about the actions of the people involved in it. As people are social creature, lives together is an inevitable interaction as people depends reciprocally. It is necessary to make sure whether people are able to produce goodness rather than badness. According to Linda and Eyre (1993:15), good values, of course, shape better people, better lives, and better treatment of others (Linda and Eyre, 1993:15). It manifested as the guidance to have a better social life

This study focused to find out the moral values based on the characters in the movie Luca. It applied the theory of Linda and Eyre in their book entitled Teaching

Your Children Values (1993). The study expected to explained the fundamental values which construct the characters in the story, so the audiences can increase their comprehension regarding to the story as a whole, and its values to be learnt and implement in the real life.

Methods

In order to conduct the analysis, the study applied a descriptive qualitative method. Qualitative research is a type of research in which the researcher is highly dependent on information about the objects or participants, then explains and analyzes, and conducts the research subjectively (Creswell, 2008). The movie was then deconstructed to find the moral values based on the characters in the movie Luca. It is obtained from the interaction of the characters, including their personal thoughts, expressions, conversations, and gestures.

To collect the data, the study applied the observation method. According to Jorgensen (2015), observation is a technique for selecting the decisions and conclusions of other people observed. The approach focused to extract a data source into more focused sub-data. The observation method helps to gain a deep qualified data that has been through the examination process, starting from identifying the core information of the data source into finding the final data to be analysed.

The movie consists of context that required a deep examination in order to find the moral values through the interaction of the characters. Becker et. al (2002) define observation as an accurate method of collecting data.

Result and Discussion

In this section, the researcher discussed the analysis of moral values based on the characters in the movie Luca. According to Linda and Eyre (1993), moral values consist of two types, which are the value of being and the value of giving. Each of them consist six types of moral values, which in total there are 12 moral values. In this study, the moral values of the value of being found in this study are Honesty, Peaceability, and Courage.

Honesty

Data 1

Luca : “I was just curious—“

Daniela : “And the curious fish gets caught! **We do not talk, think, discuss, contemplate, or go ANYWHERE near the surface. Got it?**”

Luca : “(cowed) Yes, Mom.”

The data 1 indicated the moral value of **honesty** owned by Daniela. She believed that the surface world is dangerous and should be avoided, even in a small matter of curiosity. Therefore, the data above indicated her sincere attempt to separate Luca from getting near any that related to the surface world, as she believed that human will hunt sea monster. Here, Daniela solely wanted to protect Luca.

Data 2

Luca : “I... Well, I was just wondering... where do boats come from?”

“Lorenzo SPIT-TAKES.”

Grandma : “**The land monster town. Just above the surface. I beat a guy at cards there once**”

Daniela : “Mom! What are you doing?!”

Grandma : “**(shrugs) He’s old enough to hear about it**”

The data 2 revealed the moral value of Honesty by Grandma. When Luca asks about the origin of the boats, both of his parents are shocked. Especially for Daniela as she tries to keep Luca away from the surface world by prohibiting him from getting near the surface world and always reminding him to pay attention whenever suspicious activities the above. However, Grandma Paguro doesn’t bother with it. She understands and even justified his question. From the conversation above, Grandma Paguro is free of deceit from the condition that Luca doesn’t familiar with. Grandma understands that Luca is curious about the surface world. But instead of lying, she prefers to tell the real situation about the surface world. Furthermore, it is not her intention to ignore Daniela’s concern for Luca’s safety, but it’s about her truthfulness towards Luca as his grandson that he deserved to be treated in the right way. Instead of deceiving him, therefore, Grandma willingly answers the question.

Data 3

“They return to Giulia’s home to find Massimo preparing pasta for them”

Massimo : “There you are! I made your favorite --
trenette al pesto”

“Massimo stops, seeing it’s just the two of them”

Massimo : “Where’s Alberto?”

“Luca tries to cover”

Luca : “Ah... he left, Signor Marcovaldo”

“Beat”

“Massimo puts down the bowl and puts on his coat”

Massimo : **“Do you know where he went?”**

Luca : “(nervous) No--but I don’t think he wants
anyone looking for him”

Massimo : **“Maybe not. But just in case”**

“Massimo exits”

In the data 3, the moral value of honesty is presented by Massimo Marcovaldo. Luca, Giulia, and Alberto had a big fight and caused Alberto’s true identity exposed. This made Alberto cannot stay longer in the town. At home, Massimo has already prepared dinner food for them. When Luca and Giulia arrived, Massimo found out that Alberto is leaving them. He instantly wants to find Alberto. From the conversation above, Massimo showed the moral value of Honesty through his integrity as a father. Massimo easily recognized that there are huge problems that cause their relationship to split over. Especially as he’s already spending time together with Luca and Alberto, made them begin to bond as a close relative – no longer as an adult to foreign kids. Therefore, Luca’s attempts to cover Alberto’s left do not work, and Massimo initiatively wants to find Alberto as he perceives himself are responsible morally

Peaceability

Data 4

Daniela : “Luca?”

Luca : “I...Uhh...”

- Daniela : “Gonna tell us where you were?”
- Grandma : **“It’s my fault. I sent him to look for sea cucumbers.”**
- Luca : “(catching on quick) RIGHT. Sorry, Grandma. Couldn’t find em!”
- Daniela : “Mom. His life is maybe a little more important than your snacks?”

In the data 4, the moral value of **Peaceability** acted by the Grandma. It was quite suspicious since Luca began too late when he went back home and unlike usual. Daniela worried and asked for it. However, Grandma confirmed that Luca went due to her request for snacks. This is untrue since Luca was returned from the surface world. Here, the decision to tell a different situation came from the consideration of whether Daniela would doubt and complain, which would lead to a conflict. Therefore, to avoid the dispute, Grandma decided to help Luca.

Data 5

“Luca sits guiltily at the table, holding his tail nervously. His alarm clock and playing cards are on the table.”

“Both parents hover over him. Daniela maintains a stony silence. Lorenzo, ever conflict-averse, hems and haws”

- Lorenzo : “Daniela, do we really need to go through with this?”
- Luca : “(very worried) With... what?”
- Lorenzo : **“(struggling to take the lead) Son, you’re in big trouble. You need to promise us that you’ll never sneak off to the surface again”**

The moral value of Peaceability is projected by Lorenzo Paguro. As Lorenzo and Daniela discover that Luca sneak into the surface world, they managed to catch him when Luca is getting home late. At the table, they interrogate and decide to send Luca away to the deep sea, so he wouldn’t get near to the surface world. Although Lorenzo hesitantly agrees with Daniela, it’s already their final decision. In here, Lorenzo Paguro doesn’t like the tension of the plan to send Luca away to the deep sea.

Lorenzo understands Luca's mistake is intolerable as it is against Daniela's caution to stay away from the surface world. However, the plan to send Luca away is something difficult for Lorenzo as it causes a dilemma. As a husband, he should support the concern for Daniela as a mother, while as a father, to agree with the plan which eventually makes his son unhappy is though. Especially when the plan is absolute will cause tension in their relationship as a family. With this in mind, the moral value Peaceability become the fundamental value of Lorenzo Paguro in facing his complicated situation.

Data 6

Daniela : “(quiet, reverent) What he did today was amazing. But... We can't let him stay in this world”

Daniela : “Can we?”

Grandma : “(seeming to agree) **Some people will never accept him. (here's the turn) But some will. And he seems to know how to find the good ones.**”

From the scene above, Grandma Paguro projected the moral value of Peaceability. The situation between the surface world and the below sea creature is changing. Both human and sea monsters begin to accept their existence and remove the bad stigma of predators to one another. This revolution causes happiness for Luca so he can explore many things without being fear of humans. However, Daniela still difficult to process the situation as she is still aware of some people who might hunt him down. Daniela loves Luca so bad, as much she wouldn't take a risk for anything when it comes to her son. This leads to anxiety and hesitancy. Grandma realized it and then comforts Daniela by telling her the reality that not everyone might accept Luca easily, but it doesn't necessarily mean not a single one will accept and become friends with him. Especially when Luca is even able to find the person that can accept him. Through this conversation, Grandma Paguro completely overcomes her inner doubt and secures inner peace for herself. It's obvious that Grandma Paguro loves Luca so much and would seek the best for him. Although the concept of the best between Grandma and Daniela might be different, Daniela believed Luca's life would be better if she can monitor him constantly, while Grandma prefers to let Luca decide what kind

of life by himself. Therefore, the moral value of peaceability from Grandma Paguro helps to calm herself.

Courage

Data 7

Ercole : “Everyone is horrified and disgusted by you. You’re monsters”

Giulia : “STOP! They’re NOT monsters!”

Ercole : “Oh yeah? Who are they, then?”

“Massimo SILENCES EVERYONE”

Massimo : “I know who they are”

“Massimo stands FIRMLY in front of the kids. HARPOON IN HAND”

Massimo : **“They are... Luca and Alberto”**

“He DROPS his harpoon”

“Then LIFTS ALBERTO’S SEA MONSTER HAND into the air”

Massimo : **“And they won”**

The conversation above revealed the moral value of courage by Massimo Marcovaldo. The townsfolk found out that Luca and Alberto are sea monsters while competing in the Portorosso cup. When Ercole, the antagonist planned to catch them up, Massimo protects them and even announced that they are not sea monsters as they thought, and they win the competition. From the scene, the brave recognized Luca and Alberto as they deserved to be treated reflecting the inner Courage of Massimo Marcovaldo. It is a myth that a sea monster hunts humans in the sea. Especially when the majority of townsfolk works as a fisherman, the myth increases their fear. Luca and Alberto’s life at stake when their true identity is exposed. Massimo prevents the violent reaction from the townsfolk by emphasizing that they have already been recognized as harmless. Moreover, doing an unpopular act isn’t easy for anyone. In the condition where Luca and Alberto are being cornered, supporting them is not popular as it may impact him as well. Regardless, Massimo doesn’t care about it and

still stands up for them. Therefore, the ability uniquely sources from the inner values of Massimo Marcovaldo.

Conclusion

According to Linda and Eyre (1993), the moral values has two types; the value of being and the value of giving. In this study, there were three types of the value of being found which consisted in 7 data. The moral values reflected from the characters such as Daniela Paguro, Lorenzo Paguro, Grandma Paguro, and Massimo Marcovaldo. It revealed that the moral values of the supporting characters predominantly contributes to assist the process of building each events in the movie. Especially in terms of characters relationship, it showed that the moral values of the supporting characters establish significant support towards each interaction in the movie.

While the study only limited to the analysis of moral values, the study unable to cover the others aspect such as the analysis of the plot, characterization, setting, and other element of fiction. Moreover, this study focused on the contribution which been given by the supporting characters. Within this gap, the further studies is expected to cover the gap and may create a clear nuance for the betterment of literature analysis, especially in conducting moral values analysis.

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