



An Analysis of the Main Character's Conflict in the Movie The Protégé

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Abstract

Literature indicates the appreciation of writing as fine art. Additionally, it alludes to the competition that presents arguments, analyzes, dramatizes, and communicates circumstances and feeling through stories. One example of literary work is a movie. The aim of this study was to find out the main character's conflict in the movie the Protégé by analyzing the dialogues and scenes shown in the film. A qualitative method was used in this research. This study was focusing on describing the internal and external conflict. The data were collected by watching the film, understanding the substance, and correlating it to the subject. The result of this shows that the main character faced two types of conflict; external and internal conflict. The kind of external conflict faced by the main character is Man-against-Man which is Anna between Don Preda and Monsieur. The conflict ends in murder. The Internal conflict faced by the main character is sadness when she found out that Moody was passed away, someone who has been taking care of her since she was a child.

Keywords: *analysis, conflict, the main character, the protege*

Abstrak

Sastra berarti tulisan yang dihargai sebagai karya seni. Ini juga mengacu pada komposisi yang menceritakan kisah, mendramatisasi, situasi, mengekspresikan emosi, menganalisis, dan mendukung. Salah satu contoh karya sastra adalah film. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui konflik karakter utama dalam film The Protégé dengan menganalisis dialog dan adegan yang ditampilkan dalam film tersebut. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Penelitian ini difokuskan untuk mendeskripsikan konflik internal dan eksternal. Data dikumpulkan dengan menonton film, memahami substansi, dan menghubungkannya dengan subjek. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa tokoh utama menghadapi dua jenis konflik; konflik eksternal dan internal. Jenis konflik yang dihadapi oleh tokoh utama adalah manusia dengan manusia yaitu Anna antara Don Preda dan Monsieur. Konflik diakhiri dengan pembunuhan Konflik internal yang dihadapi oleh tokoh utama adalah kesedihan ketika mengetahui bahwa Moody telah meninggal dunia, seseorang yang telah merawatnya sejak kecil.

Kata kunci: *analisis, masalah, karakter utama, the protégé*

Introduction

Literature instruction is really difficult. The difficulty arises from how readers attempt to understand literary works. A reader's position is not merely fixed to the narrative presented in the text when reading a novel. Because of this, the reader's imagination will "go on vacation" to describe the novel's intricate embodiment. Because of this circumstance, each person has a unique style of appreciating literature. Literature is a manifestation of the author's mind. Learning about literature can improve our understanding of life, particularly as it relates to environment, culture, and values because literature depicts possible social realities. Richard Taylor (1981) says like other forms of art, literature is fundamentally a researcher's imaginative process of choosing, arranging, and interpreting life events. Literature comes in a variety of genres and media, including novels, poems, songs, and movies. Diyani (2001) states that the three main genres of world literature are fiction, drama, and poetry. Novels, short stories, and other genres of fiction are also categories of the genre. In order to build a literary work, two factors—*intrinsic* and *extrinsic*—must be present. A few examples of *intrinsic* aspects are theme, character, point of view, and setting.

Conflict occurs when two or more forces are engaged in a struggle that results in tension that needs to be relieved (although in some stories, like in real life, it isn't always). Literature needs conflict because it supplies the fundamental building blocks for the development of the story (Saputra, 2018). Nurgiyantoro (2013) stated that conflict is something dramatic that describes the struggle between two equally strong parties, with actions and defenses implied. Without conflict, a literary work will become uninteresting. All stories and literary works must contain conflict. There are two types of conflicts: *external* and *internal*. *Internal* conflict can be defined as a fight for control between opposing parts of a character's personality. These characteristics could be moral, intellectual, or emotional. When a literary character feels conflict inside of them, that is an *internal* conflict. Meanwhile, *external* conflict is a struggle between man and problems from outside. These two types of conflicts are further classified as man against man, man against the environment, man against oneself, and man against nature (Kenny, 1966; Safitri 2016). Literature demands conflict because it supplies the fundamental building blocks for the development of the story. Nothing would occur if there was no conflict. Additionally, the conflict in a piece could be essential to the author's outlook on life or the argument the author is making.

Movies are a type of fiction literature and a medium for communicating concepts, ideas, feelings, or ways of thinking, which results in a beautiful production that is full of morals and may enthrall its audience. A film or motion picture is another name for a movie. The art of the movie is one that frequently uses

fictional stories and genuine experiences to captivate audiences. Most movies tell stories about violence, politics, love, murder, and other topics (Kurniawati, 2013).

The protégé tells the story of the revenge of a woman who is a hit man. The *Protégé* is sleek and glib, frequently switching between cities and genres. It's also a tragic romance and a mismatched buddy comedy. It is directed by Martin Campbell. Meanwhile, the film's story was written by Richard Wenk, who is known for *The Expendables 2* and *The Mechanic*. The writer choose this movie as a subject to be analyzed was because this movie simply but beautifully shows how a woman could survive being a murder victim and go on to become a hit man who never fails to complete his assignment. Another intriguing aspect is how she can exact revenge on his family and track down the murderer of her friend, who also served as his mentor.

Method

To accomplish this study, qualitative research was used (Creswell, 2014). The Qualitative method is intended to describe everything that is related to the topic of the study, so this research focused on a thorough description of the types of conflicts of the main character of *The Protege* movie. It was an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning of an individual or group ascribed to a social or human problem. Creswell (2002) states that qualitative research is the process of collecting, analyzing, interpreting, and writing the results of a study.

The data of the study were taken from all dialogues, and scenes in the movie *The Protege* which indicates the conflict experienced by the main character, whether it is internal or external conflicts (Dewi, 2018). A documentation study is a method of gathering information from written legacy, primarily in the form of archives and books, regarding opinions and arguments relating to the research subject (Hadari Nawawi, 2005). The procedure involved watching the film, understanding the substance, and correlating it to the subject. Finding out the statement that is related to the intrinsic research, in this case, the fictional aspects, particularly those that focus on the conflicts that were chosen using the note-taking method (Saputra, 2018). The data was analyzed qualitatively. All of the data were categorized into various groups. Data were copied from the film and then sorted into internal and external conflicts in order to determine the information. The source and solution of the conflicts were analyzed by the managing interpersonal communication theory (Deetz & Stevenson, 1986).

Result and Discussion

Types of Conflict

There are two types of conflicts that can be based on their origins or sources: internal conflicts and external conflicts. Internal conflict is more commonly referred to as "man against self." It deals with a character having to overcome and change something about his or her being that they are struggling against what they have in mind. Meanwhile, external conflict is a struggle of the main character the force from outside (Gultom, 2020).

External Conflict

The analysis of external conflict in this movie is only in terms of the conflict between the main character and the supporting character. In this case, Managainst-Man. Man-Against-Man means The main character may come into conflict with another individual or group of characters. This conflict may be overtly violent, as in action movies, or it may be more subtly emotional, as in romantic films.

A. Conflict between Anna and Don Preda

The conflict between Anna and Don Preda began when Anna and Mookidnapped Don's son to meet Don Preda. Don Preda is a mafia boss who is well known for being ruthless. Anna wants to kill him so she kidnaps Don's son and asks for bail. The conflict between Anna and Don Preda takes place in Don's swimming pool. Anna met Don not actually to take bail but to kill him.

The following scene between Anna and Don Preda

Don Prda : *How dare you take my boy? There it is. You wanna count it? Do you know who I am?*

Anna : *Don Preda. Butcher of Bucharest, Killer of Men.*

Don Preda : *Exactly, who are you people?*

Anna : *We're just— We just find people who can't be found.*

Don Preda : *The money. You gonna have it maybe for an hour. Then we come take it back, cut you*

*both into pieces and feed you to my pigs.
That doesn't worry you.*

Anna : *No.*

Don Preda : *Why?*

Anna : ***I didn't come here for the money. I came here for you.** (And then she killed Don Preda easily in front of his bodyguard)*

Based on that quotation *I didn't come here for the money. I came here for you* that means Anna came to Don's house, not for the money but she went there to kill him. She disguised himself as someone who would take the bail money. However, after getting there. She quickly killed Don Prade by stabbing him in the neck, she also killed the two Don Prade guards easily and then walked out of the house casually.

B. Conflict between Anna and Monsieur Duquet

The conflict between Anna and Monsieur began when Anna tried to find out the whereabouts of Lucas Hayes, the son of Edward Hayes who was murdered 30 years ago. Actually, Anna's goal was to meet Boss Monsieur, Jassino Vohl to find out details about Lucas' whereabouts. However, Monsieur who knew about this immediately killed Jassino Vohl so as not to give any information about Lucas and started to interrogate Anna.

Scene 1

Anna : *I'm interested in his son. Lucas Hayes.*

Jassino : *I'm sorry?*

Anna : *Three people are dead because they inquired about him. He had them killed and I'm going to find him. Should I be talking to him?*

Jassino : *I have no connection with Lucas Hayes. And what does any of this got to do with me?*

Monsieur : *I was wondering the same thing. Mr. Vohl's past relationships are no one's concern. And certainly none of yours.*

Anna : *Oh, I've made them my concern*

Monsieur : *I need to know everything. Who are you? Who hired you? Why the interest in Lucas Hayes? We can do this another way if you'd like*

Scene 2

In this scene, Anna was finally arrested after trying to escape from Monsieur

Monsieur : *Let's start with your name. Why was Moody looking for Edward Hayes' son? Who else out there should we know about?*

"I need to know everything. Who are you? Who hired you? Why the interest in Lucas Hayes? We can do this another way if you'd like. Let's start with your name. Why was Moody looking for Edward Hayes' son? Who else out there should we know about?". Following this quotation, Monsieur tries to find out why Anna and Moody looking for Lucas Hayes. But he didn't get any answer from Anna. So they started torturing Anna by splashing her cloth-covered face. They did this with the aim of getting answers from Anna. However, even so, Anna did not answer all of Monsieur's questions at all. So, they planned to kill Anna. However, Anna, who had the opportunity to fight them off, tried to defend herself and instead killed everyone in the room where she was confined and fled.

Internal Conflict

The internal conflict that was found in this movie is sadness. The sadness experienced by Anna is shown in several scenes, such as in the scene when she finds out that the person who has saved her life since childhood has been killed by an unknown person. Anna tells about Moody's kindness to her friend Billy, recalling when Moody took him out of Vietnam and took him abroad and trained him in various martial arts skills to make him a skilled assassin. Another scene that shows Anna's sadness was when She met Michael at the place where She was locked up by terrorists. Anna said that she was tired of what she had been through all this time and wanted peace. Anna felt that she had committed many sins and wanted to stop herself from doing so. He felt that it was time for him to reflect on his actions and move on with his life.

Scene 1

Billy Boy : *Well, I can get you to the border. London may not be safe for you right now. This is Vietnam, Anna, you know what's it like here? You owe it to Moody to stay alive.*

Anna : **I know what I owe him. Moody was beautiful, in his way. He was kind. And not through effort, it was just a part of who he was. He didn't save my life, he gave me a life. He knew who I was, what I'd become. And he protected me**

Billy Boy : *Hayes has been dead for thirty years, Vohl was gone longer. You've got some very bad people looking for you.*

Anna : *Lucas Hayes killed Moody, he knows I'm looking for him. His last known location is St. Quiteria Hospital.*

Billy Boy : *Nobody is as deaf as those who don't wanna listen.*

Following this quotation, Anna explained to Billy while remembering how Moody was the one who protected her when her parents were killed while crying. Anna feels that she owes her life for what Moody did to her and will seek revenge for her death. Therefore, Anna promised herself to avenge Moody's death. Anna feels that Moody's death is her responsibility.

Scene 2

Anna : *What took you?*

Michael : *Just out for a bite.*

Anna : You just gonna stand there?

Michael : For now. It doesn't have to be this way, Anna. Not anymore.

Anna : We all have to pay for our sins eventually.

Michael : Doesn't have to be today.

Anna : **I'm tired. I want peace. And I can't have it while you're out there.**

Michael : What if I told you you could?

Anna : Yeah? Two in the back of the head, and then go have a sandwich.

Michael : You can't buy back your past, Anna, can't change where you came from, but you can change where you're going.

Anna : **Where would that be?**

Based on what Anna said to Michael *I'm tired. I want peace. And I can't have it while you're out there* that means she didn't want any more fights, murders, and disagreements with other people. Right now, she was only thinking about how to live happily and peacefully without having to feel guilty for everything that had happened. Michael explains that she will never be able to change what happened in the past but she can change the purpose of his life now whether she chooses to live happily or continue to be a hit woman. Then, Anna asked Michael again *Where would that be?* before finally killing Michael and leaving.

Every conflict that Anna faces always ends in murder. Anna, who was originally just a poor girl, was later trained by Moody with various martial skills and was able to kill every enemy with ease. Although in some scenes Anna had to

suffer because she was caught red-handed while carrying out her mission, in the end she was still able to escape and again kill everyone who tried to thwart her mission. The film ends when Anna has to kill the person she loves very much but on the other hand is her enemy as well.

Conclusion

Based on the result of data analysis about the main character's conflicts in the movie The Protégé by Martin Campbell, it can be concluded that: There are two type of conflict that was find out in this movie, the external and internal conflict. The internal conflict that happened to Anna Is Sadness. Anna's sadness occurred when she recounted Moody's story to her best friend, Billy. Anna recalled how Moody had treated her so well, training her to become a skilled assassin. The external conflicts that happened to Anna between the other characters such as Monsieur and Don Prade shown as quarrels, and disagreements. Every conflict faced by Annna always ends in murder.

The author hopes that this study will be helpful to literature students and the next researcher will choose The Protege Movie as the subject of additional research that relates to other aspects, such as analyzing the source of conflict, the moral values, the language used, the resolution to the conflict, and so on. As a result, there is still plenty of untapped potential for academics to learn more about doing a study on this movie. The author also hopes that further researchers can use indonesian films or novels as research subjects considering that there are still many works by Indonesian artists that deserve attention, especially those that raise everyday issues related to the realities of life.

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