

THE PORTRAYAL LOVE AND SAD OF CHARACTER'S EMOTIONAL IN REVOLUTIONARY ROAD MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

The choice of research object in the film Revolutionary Road is because the narrative contained in the film Revolutionary Road discusses matters that are very closely related to the phenomenon of mental readiness in households as is often the case in Indonesian society today. In this thesis there is a formulation of the problem, namely how the writer tries to discuss the emotions reflected in the character of April Wheeler in the film entitled Revolutionary Road, as well as explaining the factors that cause emotions to arise in this character. The type of research used in this study is a qualitative descriptive approach method obtained through library research. The conclusion of this thesis is that the author explains what emotions are reflected in the character April in the film Revolutionary Road by associating several types of emotions namely Happiness, Love, Sadness, Anger, Fear, Surprise response, Hate, Mood, and Tempramen. Regarding the emotional disturbance experienced by the character April. In addition, explaining the internal factors according to Hurlock and Cole (as quoted by Rismalinda, 2017, p.248) regarding the emotional disturbance experienced by the character April.

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INTRODUCTION

Literature is an integral part of human culture and has been present in human life experiences since ancient times. It can be divided into oral, written, and electronic literature, with the latter being created through the digital world. The writer chose a film script as material for this thesis, as it presents a

fictional story form in different dimensions. Characters play a crucial role in literary works, both oral and written, and can be analyzed from various perspectives, including psychological and sociological approaches.

According to (Siswo Harsono, 2000) the relationship between literature and

psychology is very close, with both fields having a broad field of study. Films are easier to understand in terms of content and narrative perspective, as they allow researchers to express the meaning conveyed by the story through audio media. The film *Revolutionary Road*, published in 2008, is a romantic drama film that tells the story of a couple living in their household with various problems. Kate Winslet plays April Wheeler, the wife of Frank Wheeler, who has ambition to achieve better goals in his married life.

Grasha and Kirschenbaum in Rismawati (1992) explain that emotion is a form of feeling (affect) that is used to determine the response to stimuli, both from within and from outside the individual. Emotional maturity is essential for self-maturity, as mature emotions can help individuals critically assess situations before acting. Mature emotions can make individuals more able to place themselves according to circumstances and achieve self-maturity. In this thesis, the writer aims to discuss the emotions reflected in April Wheeler's character in the film, as she is the ideal partner for Frank, who hates boring office jobs.

Achievement can be interpreted as a person's encouragement or motivation to achieve a goal that has been aspired to. The film visually visualizes the conditions of family life in general and offers several lessons to be learned, especially in terms of emotional maturity in marriage. The authors are interested in taking the title "The Portrayal Love and Sad of Character's Emotional in *Revolutionary Road* Movie".

Relevant research is essential for writers to reference in their thesis, as it contains other people's research that can serve as a source or material. Some relevant studies include those conducted by previous researchers, such as those on differences in character and emotional status in married life. These studies can be used as a basis for the current research, providing a comprehensive understanding of the topic and its implications.

The first Yosephina, (2021) about "Psychological Analysis of Nicole Barber in Dealing with Conflict in *Marriage Story* Movie." The topic of this study is to analyze Nicole Barber's psychology in dealing with

conflict in *Marriage Story* Movie and the results of the analysis from this study show that how a person falls in love, survives with his choices, controls his emotions, and remembers the kindness of his partner. The film depicts that guiding aspects of Nicole Barber are aspects of human motivation; namely tastes, desires, emotions, feelings and attitudes, and social motives. This relates to the author's discussion of emotion which in this case is one of the aspects that has an important role in influencing how the characters in the story raise conflict and handle a conflict.

The second Melzer, et. al, (2019) with "How do we recognize emotion from movement? Specific motor components contribute to the recognition of each emotion" investigate about movements composed from those sets would be recognized as expressing those emotions, regardless of any instruction to the mover to portray emotion.

In the third Egretta Melistantri Dewi, etc. (2018) about "The Effect of Social Capital and Husband-Wife Interaction on Marital Quality Among Families in Early Years and Middle Years Marriage." The topic of this research is to analyze the effect of social capital and husband-wife interaction on the quality of marriage in families based on the age of early and middle marriage. The results showed that social capital and husband-wife interaction had a positive effect on the quality of marriage. In accordance with the discussion of the author who analyzes the differences in character to emotional status in the film *Revolutionary Road* by exploring the husband-wife interactions of the characters April Wheeler and Frank Wheeler.

The fourth Yasmin Nindiyasari, Tin Herawati (2018) about "The Relation of Emotional Maturity, Family Interaction and Marital Satisfaction of Early Age Married Couples." The topic of this research is to analyze the relationship and influence between emotional maturity and family interaction on marital satisfaction in families who marry early. The results of this study indicate that when entering the marriage stage, a person tends to be emotionally immature. This is related to the author's discussion, namely the differences in emotions between the characters

in the film *Revolutionary Road* and how the emotions are reflected in the characters and what are the factors that cause these emotions. In the four Debra Trampe, etc (2015) on "Emotions in Everyday Life." The topic of this research is to analyze a person's emotions in everyday life. The results of this study indicate that people's daily lives seem to be very emotional, a person experiences at least 90% of emotions at one time. The most frequent emotion was joy, followed by love and anxiety. People experience positive emotions 2.5 times more frequently than negative emotions, but also experience both positive and negative emotions relatively frequently. This is related to the author's discussion, namely negative emotions that come from each character which are emotions that arise in individuals, among others, because individuals cannot achieve their goals (the conditions they want), or if their goals are threatened or will be threatened, or there is conflict. between two goals. Negative emotions are associated with feelings of threat and danger such as anger, fear, anxiety, guilt, shame, sadness and jealousy.

In scientific writing, it is necessary to limit the problem with the intention of focusing the discussion, so that the issues raised can be reviewed in more detail and avoid long descriptions that are not related to the object to be studied. Limitation of the problem also needs to be done to clarify the identity of a study. The limitations of the problem in this study include aspects of the emotional status of April Wheeler's character.

In this study, researchers adhered to the following: (1) How emotions are reflected in the characters of the *Revolutionary Road* movies? (2) What are the causes of emotions in the characters of the *Revolutionary Road* movies?

Atkinson's Emotion Theory

The following is an explanation of several types of emotions that arise from the emotional part of the brain according to Atkinson, et al (1995) in Hamzah B. Uno: (1) Emotions classified as happy and unhappy have long periods of time in intensity. For example, happy because they are satisfied with ecstasy,

sad because they don't like it, afraid because they are threatened and so on. (2) Happiness is a pride and a quick response related to achieving goals and meeting needs. This pleasure always reduces the tension that accompanies the driving force of a stimulus. (3) Sad the opposite of happy, weak response, this is due to not getting what you want, and is usually followed by a feeling of loss or being out of control. (4) Angry annoyance when the direction of action is prohibited or disappointed, and is usually very susceptible to cumulative influence (revenge). (5) Fear is a common reaction to the unexpected, the unknown, and stimuli that are powerful enough to disrupt an ordinary situation. (6) The startle response is a particularly fearful reaction to sudden internal events. People who are surprised have various reactions at the same time, such as widening their eyes, opening their mouths, pulling their necks and so on. (7) Love involves the role of another person which will usually increase if the other person returns the love. In some cases, the feeling of love is usually followed by inner activity, such as increased heart rate, blood pressure and respiration (evaporation/sweating). (8) Hate is associated with attacking someone who hates it, usually actively inclined to attack the object of hatred. Hate, jealousy and bigotry are other forms of anger. (9) Moods are emotional states that last longer than the emotions themselves and are usually less intense than emotions. Temperament is a steady (persistent) emotional reaction that is a characteristic of a person (Uno, 2012: 119-120).

RESEARCH METHODE

At the data collection stage the author started by watching the movie multiple times then transcribes the dialogue to understand a deeper meaning of the conversation. After that, the data collected by capturing scenes from the movies after applying the theory. Another source are gathered from books and journals related to the theory. Thus the data collection method that used in the research is observation of the object to be analyzed.

In addition, the approach used in writing this thesis is a qualitative descriptive approach. According to Sugiyono (2018) descriptive research is research conducted to determine the value of an independent variable, either one variable or more (independent) without making comparisons, or connecting with other variables. Qualitative descriptive is a research method that utilizes qualitative data and is described descriptively. This type of qualitative descriptive research is used to analyze events, phenomena, or situations socially and displays the results of the data as it is without any manipulation or other treatment.

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

Revolutionary Road is a 2008 romantic drama film directed by Sam Mendes, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate Winslet. The story begins in 1948 when Frank Wheeler (Leonardo DiCaprio) meets April (Kate Winslet) at a party. They marry and move to 115 Revolutionary Road in suburban Connecticut, where April becomes pregnant. They are close friends with their realtor, Helen Givings (Kathy Bates), her husband, Howard Givings (Richard Easton), and their neighbors, Milly Campbell (Kathryn Hahn) and husband, Shep Campbell (David Harbour).

On Frank's 30th birthday, he has an affair with a female assistant at his office, and April and her two children surprise Frank. Frank feels guilty towards his wife and two children for the affair. The next day, April becomes pregnant again, and Frank is enraged when April considers having an abortion. Frank and April argue and fight, and Shep confesses his love to April a long time ago.

Frank feels immense guilt and now spends his time with his children, while Milly tells the Braces about the Wheeler family story. Shep stops his story and asks Milly never to speak about the Wheeler family again.

Atkinson, et al (1995) identified several types of emotions, such as happiness, love, sadness, anger, fear, surprise response, hate, mood, and temperamen, in April's character in Revolutionary Road.

Leonardo DiCaprio Kate Winslet

Revolutionary Road



Figure 1. Movie Poster.

Here are the finding Emotion of main character in the movie "Revolutionary Road" movie include the category of emotional felt love and sad:

A. Love

(1) At minute 00:30:31 April declares her love for Frank after agreeing to April's plans to move to Paris to start a life they like. In some cases, the feeling of love is usually followed by inner activity, such as increased heart rate, blood pressure and respiration (evaporation/sweating). (2) At minute 00:42:41 April confesses her love for Frank after telling Milly and Shep that they plan to move to Paris to start a life they like. April frequently expresses her love for Frank, a sentiment that is influenced by gender stereotypes and literature. Emotional expression of love is crucial for relationship development and strengthening the emotion itself. Gender stereotypes suggest that women are more expressive than men, which aligns with April's character. In developing intimate relationships, love is a decisive emotion, particularly in heterosexual love between adults, leading to marriage. In developed countries, romantic love is valued as a significant reason for marriage, as young people value it as a significant factor in securing a marriage.

B. Sad

(1) While they were at a music venue, Frank took Milly who was sick. April, who was alone with Shep, then told her failed plan to cry. This made April feel very sad. Sadness is the opposite of happy, weak in response, and is usually caused by not achieving what one wants, and is usually followed by a feeling of loss or being out of control. (2) April crying after a fight minute 01:31:42 April's feeling of being sad. April ran into the woods after having a big fight with Frank after expressing her feelings that she no longer loves Frank.

CONCLUSSION

Based on the research that has been conducted on the "Revolutionary Road" movie as the object of research and the application of Atkinson's theory in the research, the conclusions obtained from this research are that the emotional feelings of love and sadness can be found in every data point. From this research, it is clear that the emotional feelings of love and sadness can be found in every piece of data analyzed. (1) In the "Revolutionary Road" movie, there are two points that are love-emotional, namely at minutes 00:30:31 and 00:42:41, describing the expression of love from April's character. (2) In "Revolutionary Road," there are two points found: at minute 01:31:42 and the part of April who was alone with Shep, describing the sad expression of April's character. This research reveals that for academics who are interested in further exploring aspects related to emotional feeling, it is necessary to deepen their understanding by using theories that are appropriate or are a development of the theory used in this study. Thus, this effort will open the door for similar research in the future that can enrich our understanding of the use of emotions in the context of academic life.

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