

The Relationship between Theme and Character in Fiction Movie *Inside Out*

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Abstract

Theme is the main idea or thought in writing. Meanwhile character is the actor who experiences events and problems in the story or fiction so that the event become an interesting story. There is a close relationship between theme and character in story. The purpose of this study is to describe: (1) the relationship between theme and character through feelings, (2) the relationship between theme and character through thoughts, and (3) the relationship between theme and character through action. This study used a qualitative approach. The method used is descriptive analysis. Types of data were in the form of sentences, phrases, and paragraphs related to the character's feelings, character's thoughts, and character's actions. Inside Out is an American animated film produced by Disney Pixar about emotional instability of 11 year old girl. Conclusion, in this study, the theme that is influenced by feelings is dominated by the egoic theme. The theme which is influenced by the most dominating thought is the physical theme, and the theme which is influenced by action is dominated by organic theme.

Keywords: *Relationship of Theme, Character, Fiction*

1. INTRODUCTION

It is not surprising that there are still people who do not understand what fiction is. It's even hard to tell the difference between fiction and reality. Therefore, by reading the following article you will know what fiction is like. If you read from the name, we should know what fiction is. Taken from the word fiction which has a similar meaning to fantasy. That way, we also know that fiction is a story that only plays fantasy events. For someone who likes reading, surely the name of fiction is no longer strange. Regarding fiction, basically a lot of people already know. Not even a few fiction stories are made into films. Fiction is derived from the

Latin word *fictum* which means "created". Fiction is a term used to denote anything, mainly stories or accounts that are not real. You can recall the fairy tale or other stories that your mother or grandmother used to tell you about animals, monsters, or even human beings that existed in faraway countries or in the primordial times. These are fictional narratives. Fiction is therefore any form of narrative which deals, in part or in whole, with events that are not factual, but rather, are imaginary and invented by its author. One of the famous fiction movie is "Inside Out". Inside Out is a 2015 American animated comedy film directed and written

by Pete Docter, Meanwhile the story for the film was written based on Pete Docter's experiences with changing the behavior of his 11-year-old daughter, Ellie. The development of the film was assisted by a number of psychological scientists including Dacher Keltner of the University of California, Berkeley.

Apart from the general meaning of fiction as non-factual accounts, it is also used to denote a major branch of literature especially the novel and also drama/ other theatrical presentations in the cinematic and musical mode. The important factor here is that the story or presentation is not factual or real. Because fiction is fantasy, it is not surprising that it is called wishful thinking. The presence of fiction is nothing but entertainment. You could even say this story is only the work of the author. Surely many people ask this kind of imagination, why can it be poured into writing? Especially when you see that there are a lot of them like books. The answer is of course because of the influence of the insight and mindset of the author himself. Not only in terms of insight, even from the existence of fiction stories we also know what a writer's way of thinking is. Included in various types of events, both real events and the result of setting only. In fiction, basically it does not only present the

form of the story. But in the story components there are also various. Elements build a fictional story.

Every fiction must have a basis or theme that is the target goal. The author describes the character of the characters in his work on the base on it. Thus, it is not an exaggeration when it is said that this theme is the most important in the whole story. A story that doesn't have a theme, of course it useless (Tarigan, 2015: 125). The general theme is not stated explicitly. That means the reader should interpret it. Efforts to interpret the theme include: can be done through the details of the incident or prominent conflict. So it is about the experienced conflict or inflicted conflict happened to the main character.

Events in fiction are the same as events in everyday life, actors who experience events in the story fiction is called a character, while the way the author presents the character or actor, it is called characterization. The characters who in a story has different role (Aminuddin, 2011:79).

Fiction offers models of life as experienced by the characters of the story according to the author's point of view of life itself. Therefore, the author deliberately created world in fiction, he has freedom to

display the characters of the story according to his ideals, whoever the person is, whatever the social status, no matter what his character, and any problems that he faced. Simply, author is free to display and treat the characters (Nurgiyantoro, 2013:248). To understand characterization, readers can search through (1) Language the author use. (2) The description given by the author about the environment, even the way someone dresses shows how someone's behavior, (3) To see how the character talk about himself, (4) To understand how his mind, (5) To see how other characters talk about him, (6) To see how other characters talk with him, (7) To see how the other characters react toward him, and (8) To see how the character responds other characters (Aminuddin, 2011: 80).

Theme is one of the intrinsic elements that do not easy to find, because to find the theme we need to understand comprehensively intrinsic elements such as character's feeling, character's action , and character's thoughts. This proves that what makes the movie more interesting is the presentation of the theme and characterization. Theme is the basic essence of a literary work and the theme also become the main basis of the author when making a story. Characters who have characters, make

the story more alive for reader. Through these elements, it can be known how the author describes the characters in the story. Good characterization is a characterization that successfully describes character and develop the character of the character, which represents the typical human. Progress must be reasonable and acceptable based on causality. The reason the researcher chose *Inside Out* movie as the research subject are (1) This movie contains several themes conveyed from thoughts, actions, and the feelings of the characters, (2) This movie is very distinctive and has a life value, elevating the life of an 11 year old girl experiencing unstable emotions, (3) this movie contains a very strong mental value to teach how to survive in facing problems.

Inside Out is a 2015 American 3D computer-animated comedy film produced by Disney Pixar Animation Studios and released by Walt Disney Pictures. *Inside Out* tells the story of a girl named Riley. However, the story is not only centered on Riley, but on the contents of her head that are manifested in the character in the form of emotions. The emotions are depicted in the figure of five characters, namely Joy, Sadness, Anger, Disgust, and Fear. The light and entertaining storyline in *Inside Out* comes from personal experience. When you

watch it, you will realize that everything that is told and conveyed in the film is very much in line with our real life so far. In the *Inside Out*, you will see how our lives are affected by the five emotions. However, here is depicted on the figure of Riley. Unlike other animated children's films, *Inside Out* will also teach the audience to learn to recognize emotions in the body. In this film, five kinds of emotions are introduced to each person. First there is Joy which always describes happiness. Then there is Fear which appears when we feel fear. Furthermore, there is an emotion that often appears when we feel sad, namely Sadness. Disgust and Anger. Disgust describes the feeling when we are disgusted by something. As for Anger, it will appear when we feel irritated or angry. This recognition of various kinds of emotions that makes *Inside Out* a worthy movie to watch.

The story begins when Riley, who is a cheerful girl who experiences a shock when her family has to move to San Francisco. Apparently, his new life is not as beautiful as his old life before he moved. Riley tries to adapt to the new environment, however, there are things that are less pleasant that keep him far from happy. Especially when Sadness suddenly hits the core memory and turns it sad. Instead of saving Riley's core memory to keep her happy, Joy and Sadness

are accidentally sucked into Riley's long-term memory and it takes time to return to Riley's brain, which they call the headquarter. Joy and Sadness attempt to return to headquarters through the maze of Riley's long-term thoughts. Meanwhile, at the headquarter, only Anger, Disgust and Fear control all of Riley's actions. Without Joy and Sadness, Riley could only feel Anger, Disgust and Fear. Gradually, Riley's Island of Personality which was built from joy fell apart.

There are several elements in the story that are connected each other to create a good and interesting storyline. They are intrinsic elements and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic element function to build a story in a fictional story. The solid match in a story occurs because of the intrinsic element. Intrinsic elements are divided into several parts.

A. Theme

Who doesn't know the theme? Theme is the main idea or idea of a story. Theme is a certain view of life or a certain feeling about life or a certain set of values, which builds the basis or main idea of a literary work (Brooks, Pusher and Warren in Tarigan, 2008: 80). According to Hartoko and Rahmanto (in Nurgiyantoro, 1995:68), theme is a general

basic idea that supports a literary work and is contained in the text as a semantic structure and which involves similarities or differences.

Theme in romances or novels can offer more than one theme, namely the main theme and additional theme. This is in line with the existence of the main plot and subplots that show one main conflict and supporting conflicts (additional). In line with the ability of romance or novels that are able to express various life problems conveyed by the author through this type of literary work. Theme in romances or novels are similar to the role of subplots in the main plot, these additional theme are supportive and related to the main theme to achieve coherence.

To determine the theme, we need to have a clear understanding of the meaning of the theme itself. Theme is the central idea that underlies a story (Zulfahnur, et al., 1996:25). According to Aminuddin (2002: 91), the theme is the idea that underlies a story so that it acts as the starting point for the author to describe his fictional work. In line with the opinion above, the theme is the main idea in a story that the author wants to convey through the storyline. So, the story does not only contain a series of events arranged in a chart, but has a specific purpose.

B. Plot

In addition to the theme, in a story there is also what is called as a plot. Plot describes the whole of a story. In fact, each story has a different plot. Whether it wants to get along forward, backward or a mix. Aminuddin (2002:83) states that the plot is a series of stories formed by the stages of events so as to weave a story presented by the actors in a story. According to Nurgiyantoro (2007: 110), plot is an important element of fiction, even not a few people consider it the most important among various other elements of fiction. The plot in narrative prose or drama contains a conflict that forms the basis of action and makes the character continue to move from one event to another until it reaches the climax (Budianta et al, 2008:174).

For the author, the plot can be likened to an essay framework that is used as a guide in developing the overall content of the story, while for the reader understanding the plot also means an understanding of the overall content of the story in a coherent and clear way, that's why in reading novels or other works of fiction we need to understand the plot well.

Most plots contain five basic elements.

1. A plot begins with an exposition, or introduction, which presents the main

characters, describes the story's setting, and usually provides some background information to help readers understand the story that is about to unfold.

2. Either in the exposition or very soon afterward, the author lays out the plot's conflict, or main problem. The conflict usually pits the main characters against themselves, each other, society, nature, or something supernatural.

3. As the story progresses, the main characters, helped or hindered by other characters and by their own qualities and limitations, attempt to solve the conflict through a series of choices and actions that lead to consequences and then to more choices and actions. This part of the plot is usually called rising action, and the story's drama builds higher and higher.

4. Eventually, the story reaches its climax, or turning point. The climax is a crisis moment of high tension and emotion in which the main characters solve the conflict and learn important things about themselves, other people, and the world.

5. Finally, the resolution releases the tension of the climax, wraps up the loose ends of the story, and brings readers to a satisfying conclusion.

C. Characters

There is a character in a story. Characters are also commonly called characters. Now! In a story, characters are not only human. If the story tells the story of an animal, then the character can be an animal.

Characters are actors who bring stories in fiction, so that a story is formed. Meanwhile, characterization can be interpreted as the way the author presents the characters and the story.

Characters in fiction are divided into main and additional characters. Characters in fictional stories have the same character as humans in the real world.

There are two types for the character of fictional characters, namely the protagonist (good character) and the antagonist (evil or bad character).

The author's way of describing appearance and character, includes:

1. Describing the shape of birth
2. Describe the actor's mind
3. Describe how the actor reacts toward events
4. The author directly analyzes the character of the actor
5. The author describes the situation around the character

6. The author describes how other actors in the story view the main character
7. The other actors in the story talk about the main character

D. Setting

In the book *Analysis of Fiction* (2012) by F. Aziez and Abdul Hasim, setting is the set of events in a work of fiction, in the form of place, time, or events that have physical and psychological functions.

The setting in a fiction story is not solely for a physical setting, but carries a certain meaning and is able to create emotions or the reader's psyche.

Connoisseurs of a story must know that a story does not only consist of the 3 elements above. But there is also a background. Setting tells a different atmosphere, time, and place in a story. Based on this explanation, it can be concluded that the setting in the fiction story is:

The physical setting relates to places and objects in the surrounding environment. While the psychological setting in the form of an environment or nuance that is able to arouse the emotions of the reader.

Physical background is limited to something that is physical, while psychological in the form of atmosphere and attitudes and ways of thinking. Physical

background can be understood explicitly, while psychological need appreciation and interpretation.

E. Point of View

The point of view is related to the author's Point of View. The point of view in a story is different from other stories. It can be said, a story uses the first person point of view if it tells about 'me'. If the story tells a second person point of view, then it tells about 'him'. However, there is also a third-person point of view, telling the story of someone's life, where the author seems to only act as an observer.

F. Dialogue

In a story there must be dialogue. Dialogue in fiction is different from dialogue that occurs in the real world. You could say that fiction dialogue tends to only show the important points.

In addition to the intrinsic elements that build a story, there are also extrinsic elements. Extrinsic element is one of the elements that influence the writer of the story. There are several things studied from this extrinsic element. Are as follows.

1. The writer's relationship with the world of literature. Usually includes

the background of the author's life that affects his mental condition, the author's background in public life, and his relationship with the state or politics.

2. The relationship between the author's ideas and literature in the form of ideology, philosophy, knowledge, and technology.

The relationship of all aspects that will affect the story. Be it educational aspects, economic aspects, cultural aspects, politics, and others. The relationship of literature with the spirit of the times and how the author tells it.

Literary works that use the main theme related to psychology is very interesting. With the theme of psychology, the author can describe in fact what exist in human life. According to Pradita (2012:27) through behavior can be known the true meaning of the form of human life in the context. This shows that literary works can use psychological studies as a creative idea in the form of understanding through the actions of the characters who give rise to conflict in the story.

Method

This research method used the descriptive analysis. Descriptive analysis

done by describing the facts then analyzed. This method not only outlining but also provides understanding and explanation. Source of data in this research were from the movie *Inside Out* produced by Disney Pixar. Data were sentences, phrases, paragraphs and dialogues in the *Inside Out* movie. Research instrument used description in the form of interpretation of quotations text quote.

2. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study include a description of the relationship between the theme and the character in the movie *Inside Out*.

The Relation of Theme and Character through Feeling

The relationship between the theme and the feelings of the character including description that has been felt by the character who explored the theme presented by the author. The theme in the *Inside Out* Movie that is influenced by the character's feeling include egoic theme. It emerges the most emotional images that affect her feelings. Theme linkage with feelings indicated by individuality problems in the form of egoism and certain attitudes that generally more spiritual. Based on analysis, the related themes include the following:

Riley's life is lived cheerfully because her thoughts are controlled by Joy. So that the core memory ball was created which became the most precious and unforgettable memory for Riley. Joy became a control freak, trying her best to prevent other emotions from controlling Riley's mind. Conflict arises when Sadness begins to damage the core memory, until in the end he drags Joy out of Riley's mind. They were both stranded in Riley's memory bank, and couldn't find their way back. Another emotional example is on Riley's first day of school, Sadness accidentally touches a memory that makes Riley sad and crying in class. It creates a new core memory but this time it's a sad memory. Joy tries to stop the core memory from being stored, but another memory core falls and destroys the personality island. This makes Riley emotional and ruins everything.

The Relation of Theme and Character through Thought

Relation of the theme with the thought of the character includes stories that show actions or the attitude of the character who explores what theme presented by the author that in the actions or attitudes of the character to create an imaginative thought or prejudice to what has happened to her.

Due to the absence of Joy in the control center, Riley's emotions are so disturbed that he only feels anger, fear and disgust. And because the personality island was extinguished, Riley's personality was also so chaotic that gradually the whole personality island collapsed and was forgotten. In this scene the researcher wants to explain that when the personality island falls, Riley's personality changes as well. Another scene shown situation when Riley argued with her mom in dinner. She plays weird and sarcastic to her mom when mom asking about her school. Riley thought that her parents only saying a chit chat, not sincerely. They're just busy about their works.

The Relation of Theme and Character through Action.

Relation of the theme with the actions of the characters including showing actions or the attitude of the character who explores the theme presented by the author, that in actions or attitudes the character shows a good or bad response to what had happened to her.

During Joy and Sadness's departure, Riley's emotions were only controlled by three feelings, Fear, Disgust, and Anger. As a

result Riley could only feel fear, disgust, and anger, he became increasingly unstable. Until finally Riley chose to run away from home, an action he had never done before. Riley begins planning her escape by stealing her mother's money and ultimately destroys the island of family and honesty.

3. CONCLUSIONS

Based on the findings of the analysis of *Inside Out* movie, researcher conclude as follows.

1. Theme related to the feelings of the characters in the movie *Inside Out* much influenced by the theme of egoic which shown through the character's identity.
2. Theme related to the character's thoughts in the movie *Inside Out* is heavily influenced by a physical theme that is indicated by the involvement of physical activities such as a pounding heart, a brain that thinks hard, and so on.
3. Theme related to the character's actions in the movie *Inside Out* heavily influenced by organic themes describe the morals possessed by the character, about the relationship between parents and children,

friendship or conflicts with the closest people.

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