

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Pride and Prejudice is a romance movie directed by Joe Wright. Released on September 16, 2005 in the United Kingdom and on November 11, 2005 in the United States, *Pride and Prejudice* is very interesting movie. *Pride and Prejudice* movie is distributed by United International pictures. This movie gets good reaction from the audience. The film received an 88% rating from Rotten Tomatoes. This movie is adapted from Jane Austen novel's *Pride and Prejudice*. This romance movie has two hours and eight minutes duration. Making *Pride and Prejudice* movie spends \$28 million.

Director Joe Wright was born in London, where his father (who was 65 years old when Joe was born) and mother founded The Little Angel Theatre, a puppet theater in the borough of Islington. Wright was always interested in the arts, spending his time painting, making Super 8 films and performing in a drama club. He is dyslexic and left school with no GCSEs (qualification awards for specified subjects) but still managed to be successful. He took improve workshops at the Anna Scher Theatre, and with his portfolio of paintings and Super 8 films, was accepted into Camberwell School of the Arts.

He spent a year there before enrolling in fine art and film at Central St. Martin's College of Art and Design. In his final year, Wright made a short film for the British Broadcasting Corporation before moving on to direct television miniseries such as *Nature Boy*, *Bob and Rose*, *Bodily Harm* and *Charles II: The Power & the Passion*—the last of which won the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) award for Best Drama Serial. During the 1990s, he also worked at Oil Factory, a music video production company. He took on numerous roles on various music videos, including director and casting director.

Wright's feature film debut was *Pride & Prejudice* (2005), for which he won a BAFTA award as Most Promising Newcomer. His next project, *Atonement* (2007), received seven Golden Globe nominations, six Academy Award nominations (and one win for Best Original Score) and BAFTA Awards for Best Production Design and Best Film. He was also the youngest director ever to have a film in the Venice Film Festival. He lists British film director David Lean as an influence, and also occasionally tries to compose shots based on classical paintings. He became engaged to actress Rosamund Pike in September 2007, but the engagement was called off shortly before the wedding date.

The story is based on Jane Austen's novel about five sisters - Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Kitty and Lydia Bennet - in Georgian England. They live in the ordinary and simple house. Someday when Elizabeth back from walk around while reading, she find her sisters-Kitty and Lydia- listen to her parent

at the door. They listen that there is single rich with 5.000 pounds a year man who comes from north named Mr. Bingley and they held a party. All of Bennets come to the party, Elizabeth and Jane sit on the chair and meet Charlotte in that party, Mary just stand on the left side of the dance place with Mr. and Mrs. Bennet, and Lydia and Kitty is dancing with other guesses.

When all of the guesses enjoy the party, the special guesses come. Mr. Bingley, Miss Bingley and their friend Mr. Darcy come to the party. When they come, the entire guesses look at them, all of the guesses give them place to walk. When they walk in, Elizabeth interested with Mr. Darcy, a rich man with 10.000 pounds a year who looks so pride. Soon Mrs. Bennet invites her daughters to be introduced to Mr. Bingley and Mr. Darcy. After that, Jane and Mr. Bingley is a couple in dance, Elizabeth invites Mr. Darcy to join dance but he refuse it.

In the morning when Bennets have breakfast, the attendant gives a letter to Jane from Miss Caroline Bingley. Miss Caroline Bingley invites Jane to have dinner with her and her brother, but they will be dining out so Jane should go to Mr. Bingley's house by horse bag because Mrs. Bennet does not give permission for Jane to bring carriage. Not so long after Jane go to Mr. Bingley's house it begins rain. So Jane should sleep there. Then the next day, Elizabeth accepts a letter from Jane told her that Jane should stay there because she gets fever, sore throat and headache. Elizabeth feels so worry about Jane, so she decides to pick Jane up from Mr. Bingley's house.

Elizabeth walks to get Mr. Bingley's house alone. There Elizabeth meets Miss Bingley and Mr. Darcy has a meals. Elizabeth comes to Jane chamber in upstairs. Not so long Elizabeth there, Mrs. Bennet, Mary, Kitty and Lydia Bennet come to caught them up. Then they go home together. Long trip and hot weather make Mrs. Bennet feels so tired but when she arrives home she cannot take a rest because there is a guess will come to her house, he is Mr. Collin who will inherited all of the wealth of Mr. Bennet. Five Bennets cannot inherit the wealth of her father because they are woman.

In the evening, after they have dinner and read bible Mr. Collin tell to Mrs. Bennet that he interested in Jane. But Mrs. Bennet refuse it because she sure that Mr. Bingley will propose Jane so Mrs. Bennet persuades Mr. Collin to propose Elizabeth and Mr. Collin accept it. Someday Jane and Elizabeth go to town with Kitty and Lydia, they meet Mr. Wickham in front of the ribbon shop. They choose and buy the ribbons together then they go to somewhere to talk. They meet Mr. Darcy and Mr. Bingley there but Mr. Darcy looks so hate with Mr. Wickham because Mr. Darcy go away when he meet Mr. Wickham. Elizabeth feels so curious about it, so she ask Mr. Wickham and he tell that Mr. Darcy jealous because his father give a part of his wealth to Mr. Wickham. So Mr. Darcy takes his right back and it make Mr. Wickham poor.

In Mr. Bingley party Mr. Collin begins to be closer with Elizabeth, he dance with Elizabeth at first dance but after that Mr. Darcy asks Elizabeth to dance with him at second dance. The next morning, Mr. Collin proposes Elizabeth to married with him but she refuses it. Not too long after that, Mr.

Collin proposes Miss Charlotte and then they married. Someday Elizabeth feels so lonely because Jane goes to London, so Elizabeth decides to visit Charlotte in Kent. When she stays there, Lady Catherine invites Mr. and Mrs. Collin to dinner with her and her daughter. Elizabeth comes with them to dinner in Lady Catherine's house.

Elizabeth feels very surprise because she meets Mr. Darcy there, Mr. Darcy is a nephew of Lady Catherine. On the morning they go to Mr. Collin's church together and when Mr. Collin reads bible, Mr. Darcy's friend tells to Elizabeth that before Mr. Darcy arrive at Kent he save Charles Bingley from married with certain girl because he think that the girl is not good for Charles Bingley so Mr. Darcy separated them. Elizabeth feels so surprise, she does not believe that Mr. Darcy did it. She runs away from the church but suddenly Mr. Darcy comes to her. He tells that he falls in love with her very much and he wants to propose her to be married. After Elizabeth knows the reality that he separated Bingley from Jane and makes Jane feels very sad, she refuses him. Even though, she thinks that he is the reasons Mr. Wickham miserable.

In the afternoon Mr. Darcy leave a letter for Elizabeth, in his letter he tells that Mr. Wickham is a bad man. Mr. Wickham uses the money from Mr. Darcy's father to gamble and someday he come back to propose his sister to married because Georgiana has 30.000 pounds. When he knows that he cannot get the money, he leaves her. After Elizabeth reads it, she feels very guilty about what she said to Mr. Darcy. The next morning Elizabeth goes home

because Jane have at home, her uncle and aunt accompany Jane to go home from London. That day Lydia has been invited to Brighton with the Forsters.

When her uncle and aunt want to go home, they invite Elizabeth to come with them. And she accepts it. In the middle of the journey they take a rest a moment not far from Pemberly, house of Mr. Darcy, so they decide to visit Mr. Darcy's house. They meet Mr. Darcy, the next day Elizabeth accepts a letter from Jane. She tells Elizabeth that Lydia has run away with Mr. Wickham. Not too long after Elizabeth arrived, Mr. Bennet gets a letter from their uncle. It tells that Lydia will marry with Mr. Wickham. After Lydia back home with Mr. Wickham, Lydia tells to Elizabeth that Mr. Darcy found them, he paid for the wedding and Mr. Wickham commission.

Not so long after Lydia's wedding, Mr. Darcy and Mr. Bingley come to visit Bennet's house. There, Mr. Bingley proposes Jane to be married. Elizabeth feels guilty because she judge Mr. Darcy before she knows who Mr. Darcy is. At the night when everybody wants to go bed, Lady Catherine comes to Bennet's house to see Elizabeth. She wants to confirm the issue that Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy has to be engaged. She tells Elizabeth to never accept Mr. Darcy's propose. It makes Elizabeth cannot sleep. She walk alone somewhere and see Mr. Darcy. Then Mr. Darcy proposes Elizabeth and she accepts it.

Pride and Prejudice is very interesting movie. The controversy between positive and negative review about *Pride and Prejudice* movie come

from audiences during and after this movie release. The positive reviews are come from Stephanie Zacharek published in The New York Times. She said that this movie is acted by great actress especially Keira Knightly as Elizabeth Bennet. She thinks that Keira Knightley as Elizabeth Bennet can take control of a scene, dominate a movie, project to the last seat, radiate power and personality unto the rafters. It is a great performance. She loves the way Knightley's eyes light with furious intelligence when she cuts the pompous Darcy a new something or other. She thinks Keira Knightley made an excellent and compelling Elizabeth Bennet. Other performers have shared her intelligence and spirit, but it was nice to see someone of the right age in the role giving Elizabeth a touch of youthful naivety that is not so evident in other adaptations.

The second positive critic is Charlotte Bronte. She said that the dialog is generally excellent, although less faithful to the original than the 1980 and 1995 BBC series. There are a few clumsy moments, such as when Charlotte says to Elizabeth 'Don't judge me, Lizzy. Don't you dare judge me!' in a manner more suited to a rerun of the Ricki Lake show than the Regency era. Other passages, such as Darcy's proposal in the now famous rain scene, are written and delivered beautifully.

The negative critic is come from Joel Meares. He said that he disliked this version because there is kiss controversy and over-sexualisation in the end of this movie. He wishes Jane Austen would have put this kind of ending.

He thinks that this is ridiculous. As much as he loved the movie, this is like sugar vomit at the end.

From the responses of the audience, *Pride and Prejudice* become a box office movie at that time that is released in 112 days or 16 weeks in 1335 theaters in several countries in Europe such as Netherland, UK, Germany and United States of America. This movie get 10th rank when limited opening weekend in UK, USA and Netherland and 7th rank when wide opening weekend in the same countries.

It has many awards from many categories, they are *Pride & Prejudice* garnered a number of nominations in the 2005/2006 film awards season, most notably four nominations in the Academy Awards: Best Actress in a Leading Role for Keira Knightley, Achievement in Art Direction, Achievement in Costume Design for Jacqueline Durran, and Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Score) for Dario Marianelli's score. It was nominated for five BAFTAs and won the BAFTA Carl Foreman Award for Most Promising Newcomer (for Joe Wright, director).

The writer choses this film, *Pride and Prejudice*, because of five reasons. *Pride and Prejudice* has unique things in it. The first one is the character of this movie. There are interesting character in this movie like Elizabeth Bennet. Elizabeth is portrayed as an intelligent young woman because she likes to read a book. She often presents it with her attitudes to talk to someone else. Though the circumstances of the time and environment

require her to seek a marriage of convenience for economical security, she wishes to marry for love. The other character is Mr. Darcy. Mr. Darcy is a description of western man at that time, who looks calm, quiet, talks when it needs, and has not good sense of humor.

The second one is setting of this movie. *Pride and Prejudice* presents situation in 18's century in Georgia, England. Not like situation today, in *Pride and Prejudice* shows the village with few house. The distance between one house and other are rather far. Usually, there is a little lake near the house and there are many big trees around the house. They have no electricity yet, so they use candle as a lightning in the evening. They also still use a carriage or horse to go to everywhere. When everyone wants to buy something, they should go to town.

The third one is plot. *Pride and Prejudice* is an interesting romance movie. This movie tells Elizabeth Bennet who falling in love with Mr. Darcy. Mr. Darcy is someone who separate Elizabeth's sister, Jane Bennet, and Mr. Darcy's friend, Mr. Bingley, who falling in love each other. So, when Mr. Darcy tells his love to Elizabeth, she refuses it even though she falling in love with him also. To get Elizabeth's love, Mr. Darcy done everything. Elizabeth tries to ignore her feeling for her sister but it changes when Mr. Darcy helps every problems in Elizabeth's family.

The fourth is mis-en-sense. There are very unique thing show in this movie. *Pride and Prejudice* shows different culture and behavior of people. The differences are about their clothing, their language and their attitude. The

women wear a long dress all the time and the men wear trousers usually black trousers, western-style shirt, and coat with dark coat. When somebody wants to greet somebody else, they are not shaking their hands but they bowed their head. Their language is very formal, when a wife wants to call her husband, she should call his family name for example Mr. Bennet. They have very unique culture to know somebody else, it is Ball. In the Ball, everybody can dance with somebody else without exception. Every couple usually tries to know each other by talking while dancing. It is a great opportunity to see new people.

The fifth is *Pride and Prejudice* gets great responses from audience and market in United Kingdom. It has many awards from many categories, they are *Pride & Prejudice* garnered a number of nominations in the 2005/2006 film awards season, most notably four nominations in the Academy Awards: Best Actress in a Leading Role for Keira Knightley, Achievement in Art Direction, Achievement in Costume Design for Jacqueline Durran, and Achievement in Music Written for Motion Pictures (Original Score) for Dario Marianelli's score. It was nominated for five BAFTAs and won the BAFTA Carl Foreman Award for Most Promising Newcomer (for Joe Wright, director).

Based on the theme of this movie which tells about the making decision of Elizabeth's life, the writer will observe *Pride and Prejudice* by using Existentialism theory, so the writer constructs the title **DILEMMA OF MAKING MORAL CHOICES IN JOE WRIGHT'S *PRIDE AND PREJUDICE* (2005): AN EXISTENTIALIST CRITICISM.**

B. Literature Review

The study of *Pride and Prejudice* has ever been conducted by Sofia Fitrianiingsih (UMS, 2008), entitled "Rebellion Against Conventional Norms in Joe Wright's *Pride and Prejudice* Movie: A Sociological Approach". This research viewed through this movie, Wright wants to criticize the condition of society at that time. People consider that money is everything because it influences the position of the people in society. The upper class will marry only with the same class status, so the lower class cannot moves to the upper class. But in this movie, Joe Wright wants to show that marriage should not be driven thoughts of money.

The other researcher was Axioma Dany Imamasari (UMS, 2008) in her study entitled "A Comparison between Novel and Movie Version of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*: A Structural Approach. This research viewed that the reason why production house uses novel as a source of movie based on the market's demand, it is because people will be more curious and fascinating the product of literary for some reason: they have read the novel and want to know the novel visually by watching the movie version.

The researcher who interest with this film besides above is Dimas Nur Baladi (UMS, 2008) in his study entitled “Material Oriented Marriage in Jane Austen’s *Pride and Prejudice*: A Sociological Approach”. In his research viewed that the correlation between novel and social reality which have the background of making the novel. The social reality includes the social aspect, economic, politic, cultural, religion and science and technology. They are reflected in structural element of the novel such as character and characterization, setting of time and setting of place, plot, style and theme. Beside reflect the social reality, through her work the author also tries to convey opinion and critics toward social reality that has happened.

Based on the previous research, the writer tries to analyze this film again but in different theory. The researcher wants to analyze Elizabeth Bennet’s decision of her life.

C. Problem Statement

Based on the reason on the background of the study, the writer proposes the problem of the study is how the dilemma of making moral choices is reflected in Joe Wright’s *Pride and Prejudice*.

D. Objective of the Study

After formulating the above problem statement, the researcher has the following objectives:

1. To analyze the movie based on the structural element of existentialist perspective.
2. To expose the dilemma of Elizabeth Bennet in making moral choices based on the existentialist perspective.

E. Limitation of the Study

The writer is as apart of Existentialist theory and only deals with the analysis of Elizabeth Bennet's dilemma of making moral choices in *Pride and Prejudice* movie. The writer chooses this study because she wants to enrich the discussion of Elizabeth Bennet's dilemma of her life to make a choice. The writer analyzes Elizabeth Bennet's option and her choice in her life.

F. Benefit of the Study

From this research, the writer hopes that this study has some benefits.

1. Academic Benefit

- a. This research will give contribution in literary study especially in Existentialist theory.
- b. This research finding will enrich the theories in literary study especially in Existentialist theory.

2. Practical Benefit

This research paper has a practical benefit, which is to give deeper understanding about the content of the movie, especially from an existentialist aspect.

G. Research Method

In this research, the writer will be divided into five parts.

1. Type of the Study

The researcher uses descriptive qualitative method. Here the researcher tries to relate the discussion of analysis based on underlying theory.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Pride and Prejudice* movie directed by Joe Wright and publishing in 2005. It is analyzed by using existentialist criticism.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The types of data of this study are the images and the text which forms such like words, phrases, and sentences in a dialogues or monologues.

The writer takes two kinds of data:

a. Primary Data Source

Primary data is the main data obtained from all the worlds, dialogues, phrases, and sentences occurring in the movie related to the topic.

b. Secondary Data Source

Secondary data source is other sources related to the primary data such as information about the director's biography, websites about the film, and other source supporting the analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The methods of data collections are capturing the picture and note taking, the steps of collecting the data are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie for the several times.
- b. Reading the movie script.
- c. Determining the character that will be analyzed.
- d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary data.
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Taking note from the material and some other resources related to the movie and the analysis.

5. Type of the Data Analysis

The method used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It means that the researcher interprets the text and content relating to the psychological condition of the major character.

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper organization of Dilemma of Making Moral Choices in Joe Wright's *Pride and Prejudice* (2005): An Existentialist Criticism is as follows: Chapter I is Introduction; it consists of Background of the Study, Literature Review, Problem Statement, Limitation of the Study, Objectives of the Study, Benefits of the Study, Research Method, and Research Paper Organization. Chapter II is Underlying Theory; it consists of Notion Existentialist theory, Jean-Paul Sartre Point of Existentialist, Structural Elements

of the Movie, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III Structural Analysis of *Pride and Prejudice* movie; (1) The Structural Elements of *Pride and Prejudice* movie; it consists Narrative Elements and Technical Elements; (2) Discussion. Chapter IV is Existentialist Analysis of *Pride and Prejudice* movie. It consists of Being, Existence before Essence, Cogito (Consciousness), Freedom, Anxiety, Transcendence of Ego, and Nothingness. Chapter V is Conclusion and Suggestion.