

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Human life is one of the most interesting topics to discuss because life experiences always develop as fast as the time goes on. People need many ways to express their impressions about human's experiences and the life itself, one of these is a form of literary works. Wellek and Warren (1956:90) state that the processes of the author's creation are the objects of the psychologist's investigation. The classification of the reflection of the literary works according to psychological types, they describe the author's mental illness, they may even explore his subconscious mind. The evidence of the psychologist may come from unliterary documents or it is drawn from the work itself. Psychology is also helpful for people to observe the emotion of each character and the behavior. Psychology, individual psychology, humanistic psychology, social psychology or psychoanalysis.

Literature has a tight relationship to psychology since it is the exposition of man's life because literature and psychology have the same object of research that is human being. Literature is a work that expresses and communicates thoughts, feelings, and attitudes toward life and the world (George 1965:16). Meanwhile, psychology is the scientific study of behavior and the mind (Passer and Smith, 2004:3). Hence, it can be concluded that the object of literature and psychology is an individual that includes his personality and view about life and outside world. Furthermore, Jatman (in Endraswara, 2003:97) confirms that there

is a tight correlation between literature and psychology indirectly as well as functionally; in fact, psychology and literature have the same object that is human being. In the other word, psychology studies the real psyche while literature studies the imaginative psyche.

Discussing about conflict means talking the problems faced by someone. When people think of the word conflict, people often think of wars or violence. However, conflict exists at all levels of society in all sorts of situations. It is easy to forget that we experience conflict everyday of our lives. Conflict happens when two or more people or groups have, or think they have, incompatible goals. Good communication is usually used to overcome differences and to reach an agreement before violence breaks out. At a personal level, the reader often do not realise that the reader are overcoming our differences. It is important to remember that conflict can be creative. Conflict is sometimes necessary to bring justice where injustice exists. It can provide an opportunity for new social and can help to shape the future.

From the explanation above, the writer tries to analyze the conflict by using psychological theory, which analyze the conflict by relating it to the external and internal factor, versus two different side in human self. The conflict that will be analyzed represented by two major character of Greg Berlanti's movie entitled *Life As We Know It*.

Alfred Adler is a psychologist who examines personality around the same time as Carl Jung and Sigmund Freud. They work on some theories together until Adler rejected Freud's emphasis on sex, and maintain that personality difficulties

are rooted in a feeling of inferiority deriving from restrictions on the individual's need for self-assertion. From his best-known work are *The Practice and Theory of Individual Psychology* (1923). Adler has a tendency to change his theory on personality throughout his life but he ultimately believes that people focus on maintaining control over their lives. He believes in single "drive" or motivating force behind our behavior, claiming that the desire we have to fulfill our potentials becomes closer and closer to our ideals. Adler calls this theory Individual Psychology because he feels each person is unique and no previous theory applies to all people. Adler's theory includes these four aspects: the development of personality, striving towards superiority, psychological health, and the unity of personality. Many psychologists accept Alfred's popular idea of self-actualization. In studying personality, Alfred comes up with the term inferiority complex. He describes this as feelings of lack of worth. He writes, "We all wish to overcome difficulties. We all strive to reach a goal by the attainment of which we shall feel strong, superior, and complete" (Ansbacher & Ansbacher, 1956). Adler is known to use the word superiority complex. This complex develops when a person tries to conquer his inferiority complex by suppressing his existing feelings. He feels that people are constantly trying to overcome their feelings of inferiority to reach superiority.

Movie is a kind of literature work. Nowadays, movie develops rapidly. It has equal position as the major textual studies, like plays, poetry and novel. We cannot separate it from our life because it becomes such kind part of our daily life. A good movie is a movie, which is produced and directed by good qualified

producer and director, based on interesting story and excellent screenplay for each revealed character.

Life As We Know It is a 2010 comedy-drama film which is written by Ian Deitchman and Kristin Rusk Robinson. *Life As We Know It*, produced by Paul Brooks and directed by Greg Berlanti, starring Katherine Heigl and Josh Duhamel. The film was released on October 8, 2010 by Warner Bros. The duration of this movie takes about 115 minutes.

Greg Berlanti is an American television writer and producer. Berlanti was born in Rye, New York, May 24, 1972. His parents are Barbara Moller Berlanti and Eugene Berlanti. Greg has one sister, Dina and is the uncle of two nieces. Berlanti is openly gay. As a writer, director and producer, Greg Berlanti is the force behind several of the most inventive and acclaimed works on television. Currently, Berlanti serves as an executive producer on the ABC drama *Brothers & Sisters*. He also co-created and produces the ABC television show *No Ordinary Family*. Previously, Berlanti executive produced the ABC series *Dirty Sexy Money*. He also served as an executive producer, co-creator and writer on ABC's *Eli Stone*, for which he was nominated for a WGA Award. Berlanti started in television as a writer and executive producer on *Dawson's Creek* before going on to create and executive produce two of The WB's most critically acclaimed dramas—*Everwood* and *Jack & Bobby*. Berlanti, who grew up in Rye New York and studied screenwriting at Northwestern University, made his film directorial debut in 2000 with *The Broken Hearts Club* (2000), which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. It would be 10 years before he would direct for the big

screen again, this time with *Life As We Know It* (2010), starring Katherine Heigl and Josh Duhamel. He also co-wrote and produced the action film *Green Lantern* (2010), which stars Ryan Reynolds in the title role.

Life As We Know It movie was published in United States. In the romantic comedy *Life as We Know It*, Holly Berenson (Katherine Heigl) is an up-and-coming restaurateur and Eric Messer (Josh Duhamel) is a promising network sports director. After a disastrous blind date, the only thing they have in common is their dislike for each other and their love for their goddaughter, Sophie. But when they suddenly become all Sophie has in the world, Holly and Messer are forced to put their differences aside. Juggling career ambitions and competing social calendars, they'll have to find some common ground while living under one roof.

There are four reasons why the writer chooses *Life As We Know It* Comedy Romantic Movie to be analyzed. The first is the story tells about portray of parent not only to take care of their baby with love but also parent have to do something when their child get fever, give love and affection to their child, and pay attention in the child's grow. Beside that, this story shows to the viewer how to be a good parent for their child.

The second is about technical elements and setting of places viewed in the movie which successfully supports the story and plot of the movie itself. The movie also gives very amazing cinematography, great pictures and editing. The writer is also interested in the set dressing and costume in the movie which support the characterization and the story of the movie.

The third is the story can entertain the viewer. This movie is fulfilled by such drama about romantic, comedy, love, and family. It represents of how two single adults try to take care of the orphan baby and living together as her parent with differences of opinion.

The fourth is *Life As We Know It* has the unusual story: this is a comedy about taking it one step at a time. This story shows about how to guard the psychology of the orphan child. Greg Berlanti makes the audience feel entertained with this movie, even when the movie tells about Holly and Messer have to lull to sleep the baby, replace and put diaper on and make a schedule to guard the baby.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested to observe *Life As We Know It* movie by using individual psychological theory by Alfred Adler. So, the writer construct the title **CONFLICT OF TWO ADULTS BECOMING CAREGIVERS TO A BABY GIRL IN GREG BERLANTI'S *LIFE AS WE KNOW IT* ROMANTIC COMEDY MOVIE (2010): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

As far as the writer knows, there is no such kind of research analyzing this movie, especially using Individual Psychological theory. The writer is quite interested in this movie and wants to observe it using Individual Psychological theory. Therefore, that it will be the first research of this movie. The writer applies Individual Psychological Approach to reveal conflict of two adults becoming caregivers to a baby girl in *Life As We Know It* movie.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is “How is conflict of two adults becoming caregivers to a baby girl reflected in Greg Berlanti’s *Life As We Know It?*”

D. Limitation of Study

The writer focuses on the analysis of the conflict that appear of two adults becoming caregivers to a baby girl in Greg Berlanti’s *Life As We Know It* viewed by Individual Psychological Approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze conflict of two adults becoming caregivers to a ababy girl based on the individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefit expected from the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

This study will beneficial for contributing to the large body of knowledge. Particularly literary studies on *Life As We Know It* movie.

2. Practical Benefit

This study can develop the writer’s ability in applying the psychological approach, especially individual psychological approach in *Life As We Know It* movie.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the study

The research of this study is qualitative research, which takes the sources data from words and other written text.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Life As We Know It* movie directed by Greg Berlanti. It is analyzed by using individual psychological approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

- a. Primary Data Source of the study is the movie itself: *Life As We Know It* movie by Greg Berlanti.
- b. Secondary Data Source is taken from other sources such as internet, article, book, author's biography, essay, comments, criticism, and relevant information.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The data collecting technique used in the study are as follows:

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

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It involves with the structural elements of the movie and individual psychological approach.

H. Research Paper Organization

In order to make the research is easier to follow; the research paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction covering background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and the research paper organization. Chapter II presents Underlying Theory. It deals with notion of individual psychology, basic assumption pf individual psychology, structural elements of the movie, and theoretical application. Then, Chapter III is Structural Analysis of *Life As We Know It* movie; (1) the Structural Elements of *Life As We Know It* movie; It consists of structural elements of of *Life As We Know It* movie including character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and technical elements of the movie; (2) Discussion. Chapter IV presents Individual Psychological Analysis of *Life As We Know It* movie, which deals with the analysis of the problems' movie that is related with the theory. There is also discussion in this chapter. Chapter V includes Conclusion and Suggestion.