

**ANXIETY OF WILLIAM WALLACE IN MEL GIBSON'S
THE BRAVE HEART MOVIE:
A PSYCHOANALITIC APPROACH**



Research Paper

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every person has ever felt anxious in his life even ones. This situation happens as people interact with other people that sometimes, the stronger power innervates her or him that finally that pressure results unwell feeling or uncomfortable condition into the weaker one. That is why people will fight against that to get free no matter what they do.

The phenomenon above obviously really happens in our daily life, and it is sometimes depicted into film or cinema by director. The cinema always perform situation happened in the certain time in order to depict the reality in human life. Besides, film gives people understanding about the essence of life and contributes to the understanding of the reality of life in order to be sensible. The problem which is usually showed in the film is the characterization which indicates anxious feeling, disappointment and withdrawal from social interaction. That is why there are a lot of director transfers the realism of life into film through the screenplay.

One of directors who transfer the reality in the screenplay is Mel Gibson. He was born in New York. He and his family had emigrated Down Under in 1968 at the height of the Vietnam War. His name became so popular when he became the actors in Mad Max in 1979 in Australia, as he is exactly an Australian who was born in New York. In 1995 he made film included in

the box office in America playing his action as William Wallace living in Scotland in 14th century, and he is the director of *The Brave Heart* movie. Beside that film, he also directed *The Patriot* (2000) telling about the situation surrounding civil war in America. The next film that also won academic award is *The Passion of The Christ* (2004), this film is categorized as Mel Gibson's religion film, telling about the crossing of the Jesus. Beside the films mentioned above, there are *We Were Soldiers*, *Signs*, *Lethal Weapon*, *Apocalypto* etc.

The Brave Heart film takes the setting time in the 14th centuries, and there is a major character named William Wallace. Since he was a child he knew the uncivilization of English that had entered Scotland to enlarge the English Colony. This film is started when William Wallace one day was left by his father and his brother to fight the English Colony in Fall Kirk with their king Edward Longshanks. On the following day William Wallace knew that his father and his brother were killed by the English. As he lived all alone now, his uncle Argyll took him to get school in France. After the certain time, he thought that he got the knowledge and he felt complete, he decided to go back to Scotland, to his home town Fall Kirk.

After he got to his home, he made a relationship with his friends especially Murrone as she had affection to William since they were child. Not long after that, they decided to get merry but no body knew except the shepherd or the chief of the church. One day, one of the English troops annoyed Murrone in the end she was almost raped by the troops. Knowing this,

William tried to help his wife, but unfortunately Murrone failed to run away, for further Murrone was punished as English betrayer according to English side. Murrone finally found her death as her neck was cut off by the knife by the English leader or the duke.

William felt so sad at that time that brought the Murrone's death into taking revenge. William and his friends tried to fight the English colony in Fall Kirk and finally it was revealed. That spirit for further became pioneer of spirit to fight the English colony in the Scotland.

When his mission almost was done, he was betrayed by the Scotland noble, that for the first time William hopes that they would help him to unite all Scottish but unfortunately he was caught by his own Scottish friends from the Brews clan, that in the end William must be punished as he was categorized as betrayer of English. He was Scottish not English. He wanted to be freedom. But his willingness to release Scotland free from English colony brought him to his death.

Learning from the figure that has stated on that story above, the researcher finds the reason that is to study *The Brave Heart* movie by using psychoanalytic approach. Here anxiety occurs when the major character William Wallace fights for freedom from English colony in Scotland that is full of experiences of fear, anger, and anxious. It is clear that *The Brave Heart* movie has anxiety in main character; the psychoanalytic approach by Sigmund Freud is suitable in analyzing this film through the major character William Wallace.

B. Previous Study

In analyzing this film, the writer finds other researchers that discuss the different approach, Indrianto (2007), in his research entitled “The Inferiority Feeling of William Wallace in Mel Gibson’s *Brave Heart: An Individual Psychological Approach.*”, the writer emphasizes the analysis on relating the structure of the work to the large structure of the inferiority feeling by Alfred Adler theory.

C. Problem Statement

In this study, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The major problem is “How is the major character’s anxiety reflected in Mel Gibson’s *The Brave Heart* movie?”.

D. Limitation of the Study

This study will not cover the personality of all characters, but it will only focus on the one of the major character in *The Brave Heart* movie, William Wallace.

E. Objective of the Study

Dealing with the problem statement above, the objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the film based on its structural elements by finding characters and characterizations, setting, point of view, plot and theme.

2. To analyze the film especially the character of William Wallace in *The Brave Heart* movie using Psychoanalytic Approach developed by Sigmund Freud.

F. Benefit of the Study

The study is expected to be able to provide the following benefit:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of the study is expected to broaden the writer's own comprehension about Mel Gibson's *The Brave Heart* movie. This study is also expected to contribute to the development of the larger body of knowledge, particularly literary studies on Mel Gibson's *The Brave Heart* movie.

2. Practical Benefit

The study is dedicated to the development of literary study in Surakarta University, especially in English Department and to give deeper understanding in literary field as the reference to the other researchers in analyzing the film that is analyzed in this research into different perspective

G. Research Method

1. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *The Brave Heart* movie to discuss the anxiety that is reflected in the main character's personality.

2. Type of the Study

The writer uses a library research, which employs qualitative method. The writer also applies psychoanalysis of the main characters as a means of further research.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The primary data are taken from the texts of *The Brave Heart* movie; it consists of dialogue, plot, themes, conflicts, and the whole narration, etc, which are relevant to the object of the study. While the secondary data sources are taken from some books, web sites, other literary and also other matters which support this analysis.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer uses library research in collecting data, which involves several steps:

- a) Searching the script of the film from internet.
- b) Reading the script repeatedly.
- c) Marking the point in the script to make easy in analyzing it.
- d) Taking notes of important in both primary and secondary data.
- e) Classifying the data into groups according categories of elements of literary study.
- f) Selecting them by rejecting the irrelevant sources, this doesn't have important information to support the topic of the study.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer uses psychoanalysis approach and applies it by using the descriptive analysis. In addition, the writer also uses the structural analysis of the work. Firstly, the data are arranged in a list of data. Secondly, the researcher is looking for a selecting the correlation of data by using the chosen approach. Thirdly, all data from the second step are arranged. Finally, a conclusion is drawn.

H. Paper Organization

This research paper is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction, which consists of the background of the study, previous study, problem statement, objectives of the study, benefits of the study, and paper organization. The second chapter deals with review of underlying theory involving the theory of psychoanalysis that will be used to analyze the data. Third chapter is a structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer explains the structural elements of the film. Fourth chapter is psychological analysis. And the last chapter is conclusion and suggestion.