

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Life in the world is very diverse and unique. There are hard, happy, sad, worried, scared and also love. Love is deep feeling for another person. Love not only brings them to the happiness, but also love brings them to grief. The concern of human existence comes from an insistence that human life should be a full of life, a complete of life and rich of life.

The meaning of life is a concept that provides an answer to the philosophical question concerning the purpose and significance of life or existence in general. The meaning of life is deeply entrenched in the philosophical and religious conceptions of existence, social ties, consciousness, and happiness, and borders on many other issues, such as symbolic meaning, ontology, value, purpose, ethics, good and evil, free will, conceptions of God, the existence of God, the soul, and the afterlife.

The searching for existence is actually one of human efforts in building their meaning of life. People can find the meaning of life when they think that they manage to actualize their idealism. By actualizing their idealism people can find their identity.

*Leap Year* was released on January 8th, 2010 In Theaters and On DVD May 4, 2010. *Leap Year* is directed by Anand Tucker for Universal Pictures/Spyglass. The script was written by Deborah Kaplan and Harry

Elfont. The stars are Amy Adams, Matthew Goode and Adam Scott. On October 17, 2008, Anand Tucker casted Amy Adams to act as Anna Brady was to star in the film. On November 23, Anand Tucker signed on to direct the film, with Simon Beaufoy, Harry Elfont, and Deborah Kaplan collaborating on the screenplay. Then, on February 12, 2009, Anand Tucker announce that Matthew Goode would be playing as Declan. On March 18, he announce Adam Scott to play in the film as Jeremy, and Kaitlin Olson would play Anna's best friend Libby. The film was shot in County Wicklow, Dublin, County Mayo and County Galway, with filming taking place in and around the Aran Islands, Connemara, Temple Bar, Georgian Dublin, Wicklow National Park and Olaf Street, Waterford. Debuted at number 4 on the American DVD rentals chart, with a first week rental index of 56.63. It placed 5th on the DVD sales chart, selling an estimated 159,843 units, and has sold about 750,000 units in total to date. The film opened at the American box office at number 6 and The film's final gross of \$25,918,920 in the United States meant that it was a minor success, as it was produced on a budget of \$19,000,000. In addition to this, the film made \$6,688,396 in foreign markets, for a final worldwide gross of \$32,607,316.

*Leap Year* is the best movie directed by Anand Tucker. He was born on 24 June 1963, in Bangkok, Thailand. His father is Indian and his mother German. He grew up in Hong Kong and has lived in London since he was 18. He joined the Oxford Film and Television Production in 1992.

Beside directing *Leap Year* movie, he also becomes the director of some movies, such as *Saint-Ex* (1996), *Hilary and Jackie* (1998), *Bridget Jones's Diary* (2001), *Girl with a Pearl Earring* (2001), *Shopgirl* (2005), *November 5* (2005), *When Did You Last See Your Father* (2008), *Incendary* (2009), *Red-Riding: 1983* (2010), and *Leap Year* (2010). Tucker was nominated for a Best Director British Independent Film Award for Tucker, five BAFTA nominations and Oscar nods for both actresses.

This movie tells about Anna Brady plans to travel to Dublin, Ireland to propose to her boyfriend Jeremy on February 29, leap day, because, according to Irish tradition, a man who receives a marriage proposal on a leap day must accept it. The genre of this movie is romance and comedy. The budget of the movie is 19 million USD.

The plot follows Anna Brady plans to travel to Dublin, Ireland, to propose to her boyfriend Jeremy on February 29, leap day, because, according to Irish tradition, a man who receives a marriage proposal on a leap day must accept it. While mid-flight to Dublin, there is a storm and the plane diverts to Cardiff, Wales. Anna hires a boat to take her to Cork, but the severity of the storm forces her to be put ashore on the Dingle Peninsula. She enlists the help of a surly Irish innkeeper, Declan O'Callaghan, to taxi her across the country to Dublin.

At first, Declan refuses to accompany Anna to Dublin, but finally he wants to do it because he needs money. Declan would be accompanied her to the Dublin. Before they leave, Declan gets frustrated at Anna's luggage and

she snaps at him telling him to be careful due to the fact that her boyfriend gave it to her and it is Louis Vuitton. The two set out in Declan's rickety car, but they quickly run into a herd of cows.

The two eventually reach a pub where they discover the men going through Anna's luggage. Declan punches them, and they are both kicked out by the landlord. They eventually reach a railway station by foot. While passing time waiting for the train at a nearby castle, Declan asks Anna what she would save if her apartment caught fire, and she is unable to answer. The train arrives early, and Anna misses it.

The next day they arrive by bus in Dublin. On the way to the hotel, they stop by a park and Declan reveals that he was once engaged but that his ex-fiancée ran off with his best friend and his family ring to Dublin; Anna encourages him to get his ring back. When Anna reaches Jeremy's hotel, he proposes to her, and she accepts after a hesitation as Declan walks away.

Suddenly, Anna pulls the fire alarm and watches as Jeremy grabs all the electronics before fleeing. Anna goes back to the Dingle Peninsula in County Kerry, where Declan is successfully running his in. She proposes that they get together and 'not make plans' but 'married'. Declan proposes to Anna with the ring. Some time later, Anna and Declan are shown driving in Declan's car with a 'Just married' sign in the back window.

The writer is interested to analyze this movie because this movie is really interesting. Firstly, *Leap Year* movie is a romantic and comedy film that the experience Anna to search meaning of life to love, which tells about a

woman was born in leap year and want to proposal her boyfriend on February 29, leap day. In Irish tradition, a man who receives a marriage proposal on a leap day must accept it.

Secondly, *Leap Year* movie is a great movie, it is proved with the budget spent for making this movie about \$ 19 million. The movie also released in some countries in Ireland, for example in County Wicklow and Dublin. The movie is not only directed by one popular director movie, Anand Tucker, but also by a well known artist Amy Adams, Matthew Goode, and Adam Scott.

Thirdly, meaning of life in *Leap Year* movie (2010) becomes an issue chosen by the researcher. All people always will face many choice in life, and to choose based their belief in their experience. Anna searches for meaning of life by a unique, wonderful and unusual experience. The experiences may represent her meaning of life to love.

Fourthly, *Leap Year* movie is an amazing movie. The movie has a good genre that relates to drama, romantic, and comedy. It has emotional responses, sadness, and happiness. The movie tells how Anna searches her existence in her life.

According to the previous reasons, the researcher would like to explore the meaning of life in Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie based on the existentialist perspective, and the title is **MEANING OF LIFE IN ANAND TUCKER'S *LEAP YEAR* MOVIE (2010): AN EXISTENTIALIST APPROACH.**

## **B. Literature Review**

There is one researcher who has conducted the study of *Leap Year* movie. The researcher is Dedy Restu, Kuncoro (2011) entitled “The journey of Anna Brady for Searching the True Love in Anand Tucker’s *Leap Year* (2010) Movie: a Humanistic Approach”. The focus of this research is on humanistic psychological approach, it is evident that there is a relation between the movie production and the social reality. The solution of these difficulties can be related to the relationship between a human and the God. It is caused by human that is different from the animal and human has to choose an option in this life. In the end, After Anna thinks about love deeply, she is able to understand that true love is to love someone more than the materials things.

Based on the description above, the previous researcher above is different from this research because the previous researcher analyzed by using humanistic approach, but this research would be analyzed by using existentialist approach. The similarity of these researcher are the use of *Leap Year* (2010) movie as data source.

## **C. Problem Statement**

Based on the title above, the writer formulates the problem statement as follows “How is the meaning of life reflected in Anand Tucker’s *Leap Year* movie (2010) viewed from Existentialist Approach?”

#### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The researcher focuses this research in analyzing Anna's the meaning of life in Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie (2010) based on Sartre's theory of Existentialism.

#### **E. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study are mentioned below:

1. To analyze Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie based on the structural elements of the movie.
2. To describe the meaning of life in Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie (2010) based on Sartre's theory of Existentialist Approach.

#### **F. Benefits of the Study**

The benefits expected from this study are as follow:

##### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

This study is hoped to give some information and contribution to the larger body of knowledge, particularly literary study in the meaning of life in Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie.

##### **2. Practical Benefit**

This study is expected to give deeper knowledge and experience of the other researcher and the students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another Universities especially about existentialist approach in literature study on the movie. For teacher, it might to be one of the example references in teaching related existentialist theory. For students, it

is expected to give useful information about the movie analyzed by Existentialist perspective.

## **G. Research Method**

In this research, the writer analyzes Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* (2010) movie. There are five elements that should be taken into account in this research, they are:

### **1. Type of the Study**

The type of this research is descriptive qualitative method. The writer does not need statistic to collect, to analyze, and to interpret data but the researcher using methodology of literature as the reference. It aims at analyzing the movie using existentialist approach. Descriptive qualitative is a type of reserach which result the descriptive data in the form of written or oral words from the observed object.

### **2. Object of the Study**

The object of the study is meaning of life in *Leap Year* (2010) movie by Anand Tucker. It is produced by Spy Glass Entertainment in january, 2010 and data it is analyze by existentialist Approach.

### **3. Type of the Data and the Data Source**

#### **a. Type of Data**

The data of this study are image and text in *Leap Year* movie by Anand Tucker. It can be image in each scene of movie and text of manuscript in *Leap Year* movie.

**b. Data Source**

## 1) Primary Data Source

The primary data source in this research is the Anand Tucker's *Leap Year* movie (2010) and produced by Spy Glass Entertainment in January, 2010 and the script of this movie.

## 2) Secondary Data Source

The secondary data source is *Leap Year* movie review.

**4. Technique of the Data Collection**

The techniques of collecting data are capturing the picture and note taking, with the steps are:

- a. Viewing the movie several time
- b. Watching the movie
- c. Reading the movie script
- d. Determining the character that will be analyzed
- e. Taking notes for information part both in primary and secondary sources
- f. Classifying and determining the relevant data
- g. Notes the material that related into the movie and the analysis.

**5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The technique of the data analysis that is used is descriptive qualitative analysis and concerns with the structural elements of the movie.

Also analyze using Existentialist Approach.

## H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper consists of five chapters, they are: chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, benefit of the study, and research paper organization.

Chapter II comprises of the underlying theory, which presents the notion of existentialist, the principle of existentialist, and structural elements of the movie. Chapter III is structural analysis of *Leap Year* movie. It elaborates the structural analysis that consist of narrative elements and technical elements. Narrative elements consist of character and characterization, casting, plot, setting, point of view, and theme and technical elements consists of stage action, cinematography, sound, and editing.

Chapter IV is the discussion of *Leap Year* movie based on existentialist approach. The last is chapter V which contain conclusion and suggestion for another research in the future. The last part is bibliography and appendix.