ESCAPING FROM DEATH REFLECTED IN DAVID R. ELLIS’S

FINAL DESTINATION 4 (2009) MOVIE:

A PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH

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RESEARCH PAPER

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ABSTRACT

The major problem of this study is how anxiety is reflected in the major character’s personality. The aim of this study is to analyze David Richard Ellis’s Final Destination 4 based on the structural elements and the development of personality of the major character based on Psychoanalytic Approach. This study focuses on the major character, namely Nick Obanon.

This research is qualitative research. The data of the study are text and image taken from two data sources: primary and secondary. The primary data source is the Final Destination movie directed by David Richard Ellis released in 2009. While the secondary data sources are other materials taken from books, journals, and internet related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analysis.

The study comes to the following conclusions. First, based on the structural analysis of each elements, it shows that the character and characterization, casting, plot, setting, point of view, theme, mise-en scene, cinematography, sound, and editing are related to each other and form a unity. Second, based on the psychoanalytic perspective that the problems of the major character cause the conflict of his mental condition. It happens when there is contradiction between Id, Ego, and Superego and it brings him into anxiety.
1. **INTRODUCTION**

Human is the unique creature in the world, with the different destiny and problem. Some of the people have problems and different experiences in their daily lives. Some of the problems exist and could make them uncomfortable, and also feel anxious. Their experience in daily lives can be happiness, sadness, normal, hesitation, or even anxiety. Commonly, people are capable to solve their problem rationally, but in such cases, they can not. The people have capability to create feeling and thought. The composition of their feeling and thought are not static but dynamic or changeable. One of the problems is angry. It is sensitive problem to the people, because it makes them feel unhappy and anxious. One of the felling is frightening. Most of human have frightening feeling of death. They struggle to escaping from death

Anxiety is indeed a psychological problem, for many people. According to Hall (1985:41) anxiety is “a key variable in almost all theories of personality. The result of conflict, which is an inevitable part of life, anxiety is often seen as a major component of personality dynamics”. In the concept of psychoanalysis theory, anxiety is the most important. In defining anxiety, Freud emphasized that is ‘a felt affective, unpleasant state, accompanied by a physical sensation that warns the person against impending danger. The unpleasantness is often vague and hard to pinpoint, but the anxiety itself is always felt” (Freud, 1933/1964 : 81-85).

Movie has the same position as another literary work like novel, drama and poetry. Nowadays, film has become part of daily life of the people around the world. Even, film becomes popular at this time. Movie is on of the literary work that give us inspiration. Through the films we can find the interesting fact, such as plot of story, characters and characterization, theme setting, etc. Sometimes film gives the moral messages for us. It depends on the story of the film, a film usually has normal sense of real-life experience

There are four aspect that make the movie is attracting to study. So the movie is interesting to do research.

First reason is because the movie is enjoys to do research. It shows the destiny of
life, so that watching the movie will give a more lesson that is represent of life. Most of the inspiration will be gotten from watching movie. The movie show the reality of human destiny. It was about the death, in the Final Destination 4 shows the way of human defense of their life. It can make a researcher appreciate of life in the real world.

The second, the movie show the ambiguity, its like human that have ability like an angel. He have six sense that can show the human death. even its like incredible but its real. In the world there are some people have the ability like it. Nick Obanon uses the ability to help his friends. The intuition is accumulated in his mind to know everything that would be happened. The movie is unacceptable to a religious man because its cross line to their belief. Final destination is a supernatural movie and something that is not exist can be presented in the following stories.

The third aspect that make movie interesting is the personality of major character. It show the good relationship among the teenagers. The movie show the harm relationship to defeat the problem. Event the conflict always happen in the movie but the major character is always to protect their friend, but in one hand his friend doesn’t care about their life. Most of the friend doesn’t believe to the intuition of death.

The last Final destination is unfamiliar story but its still convey about the universal themes like friendship, love, compassion, treachery, suffering and redemption. Though the story is just simple, but it has empowered in the deeply meaning and the truth messages. One of the massage is about the destiny of death.

Stimulated by all of fact clarified above, the writer proposes a psychoanalytic approach to study about the major characters anxiety using Sigmund Frauds psychoanalytic theory and entitled this research paper: ESCAPING FROM DEATH REFLECTD IN DAVID R. ELLIS FINAL DESTINATION 4 (2009) MOVIE: PSYCHOANALITIC APPROACH
**Problem Statement**

Based on the research background above, the writer purposes the problem of the study “How is escaping from the death reflected in film *Final Destination 4* directed by David R. Ellis?”

**Limitation of the Study**

In this study, the writer only analyzes the escaping of the death of the main character, which appears using psychoanalytic approach.

**Objective of the Study**

The objectives of this study are: 1. To analyze the structural elements of film *Final Destination 4*. 2. To analyze the escaping from death of the main character using psychoanalytic approach.

**Literature Review**

As long as the writer knows, *Final Destination 4* movie has not been analyzed in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and all around of Surakarta or Yogyakarta region. But in other.

There are one literary review about the movie, the review conducted by Patric, he analyzes about how the *survivors from death*. The premise of these films is that someone has a premonition of an impending disaster and, when the catastrophe occurs, his warning saves several lives. Unfortunately, the survivors are fated to perish in the order in which their deaths were foreseen in the vision. In this case, a sequence of accidents at a motor-racing track results in a grandstand collapsing, a horrendous explosion, a fire and numerous ghastly casualties. The young seer then feels obliged to review his prophesy and attempt to save his four close friends (his live-in lover among them) and various strangers. He uses qualitative methods to analysis.
2. RESEARCH METHOD

Types of the Study, This type study is qualitative in which the researcher does not need statistic to collect, to analyze, and interpreted data. Types of the Data and the Data Source, The Type of data is text, while the data sources are divided into two kinds: a Primary Data Source, The primary data sources of data are the literary work itself that consist of word, phrase, and sentence. b Secondary Data Sources, The secondary sources of data are books of literary criticism, and articles on internet. Object of the Study, The object of the study uses the film Final destination 4. This film is directed by David R. Ellis and published by The New Line Cinema. Technique of the Data collection, In this research, the technique of data collection in this study is library research. It consists of some steps, as follows: a. Observation, This step is used to make the analysis by watching the movie repeatedly to understanding about the movie. b. Library Research , Finding out the important data and identifying the relevant element. Technique of Data Analysis, The data are analyzed by using descriptive qualitative analysis and analyzing the structural elements of the movie.

3 UNDERLYING THEORY

A. Notion of Psychoanalysis

Psychoanalysis is the part of psychological study that focuses on the personality of human being; it is a method of therapy for personality disturbances and technique for investigating an individuals unconscious thoughts and feelings (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 86).

B. Structure of Personality

Freud divided threes aspect of personality, they are; id, ego, and superego (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:36). Although there aspects have each function, component, principle work and self dynamic, but they are having relationship each other. Id, ego, superego are the unity and human being behavior is the result of these aspect.
1. **The Id**

   According to Freud (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:33) the *id* is the original system of personality. From the *id*, the other system of personality grows. The *id* as the oldest basic component of personality. *Id* is not rational. It has no knowledge of the objective reality it only represent the inner world.

2. **The Ego**

   The *ego* is system of personality that develops out of *id* to deal with external world (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:36). the *ego* follows the reality principle and operates by secondary process (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:36). The secondary process is the process of realistic thinking.

3. **The Superego**

   *Superego* is representation of moral arm in personality. It represents internalized parental value (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:34). The main function of *superego* decides whether something is rights or wrong in the society’s standard.

   The *superego* is divided into two systems; they are conscience and *ego* ideal (Hall and Lindzey, 1985:36). The conscience punishes as the result of wrong behaviors. While the *ego* ideal is the reward of right behaviors. For example when the child always given reward for the good attitude, he will consider that what he has done as *ego* ideal. Meanwhile, when the child given punishment for the bad behavior so he will consider that bad behavior as a bad thing.

C. **Notion of Anxiety**

   Theory of psychology discussed the personality of human being comprehensively. This theory covers discussion about anxiety. This theory is very useful to dig the anxiety under gender either by a real human being or by character in a literary work. If is with assistance of this theory, the researcher tries to explore why and how the anxiety occurs.
1. **Realistic Anxiety**

   The basic type of reality anxiety is the fear dangers in a real world, for example fears to dangerous animal (Hjelle & Ziegler 1992: 103) reality anxiety is unpleasant feeling about a danger, coming from the environment (Hall & Lindzey, 1970: 44).

   A person who is unable to control this reality anxiety has possibility to experiences to the other anxiety, whether neurotic or moral anxiety because he/she something is unable to release himself or herself from bad past experience.

2. **Neurotic Anxiety**

   Neurotic anxiety is the fear that the instincts will get out of control and cause the person to do something for which he or she will be punished (Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 103). Neurotic anxiety occurs because ego cannot control the instinct coming from id. It can be call the fear of punishment from an imaginary external source. Neurotic anxiety is initially experience as realistic anxiety because punishment is delivered from external source.

3. **Moral Anxiety**

   According to Freud in Hall and Lindzey, moral anxiety is “the fear of selfpunishment or of one’s conscience. (Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 64). It raises when the individual violates his incorporated parental standards. When it happens, he is afraid of being punished by the superego or by the conscience, to be exact (Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 41).

   Anxiety also motivates people to do something in order to avoid the external danger or obey the voice of conscience and when the ego cannot cope with anxiety by rational methods, it must use unrealistic defensive measures (Hall and Lindzey, 1985: 42)
4 RESEARCH FINDING

The film that *Final destination 4* is the film that reflects anxieties of the major character name is Nick O’Banon. After analyzing the major character’s personality elements such as *id*, *ego*, and *superego*, the writer considers that each element is important and interacts so closely with one another to build the mental condition of major character. In David R. Ellis’s *Final Destination 4*, there are many conflicts faced by Nick O’Banon as the major character in this film such as internal and external conflict. The film director, David R. Ellis describes Nick O’Banon as the major character that faced the anxiety in his life. The attack of anxiety is caused by the contradiction of his *Id, Ego* and *Superego* which cause the disharmony of hopes and fact in his life.

5 CONCLUSIONS

David Richard Ellis’s *Final Destination 4* is an interesting movie to be studied. It contains thriller story and interest on psychology, which is manifested in his psychological analysis of its character. Final Destination tells about the destiny of death. Firstly, based on the structural analysis, it is evident that in this movie, David Richard Ellis conveys a message that we do not fight against God’s destiny. He wants to show that the death will come to us, wherever and whenever. So we cannot avoid God’s destiny. In his movie, David R. Ellis does by showing the death trip. The setting of place in Florida, USA, combining with the time period 21st century support the character to prove how hard their struggle.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


