

**THE ANXIETY OF CHUCK NOLAND IN ROBERT ZEMECKIS'
THE CAST AWAY MOVIE :
A PSYCHOANALITIC APPROACH**



Research Paper

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by

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every person has ever felt anxious in their life even ones. This situation happens as people interacts with other people that sometimes, the stronger power innervate them, finally that pressure results bad feeling or uncomfortable condition into the weaker one. That is why people always rejects that bad feeling then try to get free no matter what they try to effort as long as they can try to overcome.

The human feeling such as fearness, worried, sadness, happiness are interesting to be shown up. As the basic feeling of human these condition can be moved into the movie scenery by director. The cinema always performs the situation that had happen in the certain time in order to reveal the reality in human life. Beside that, film gives us 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 in the film is the characterization which indicates anxious feeling, disappointment and his withdrawal from social interaction. That is why the director displaces the realism of life into film through the screenplay.

One of directors who transfers the reality in the screenplay is Robert Zemeckis. He was born in 14 May 1951, Chicago, Illinois, USA. Robert Zemeckis is from the Spielberg camp of film-making (Steven Spielberg produced

many of his films). Usually he works with writing partner Bob Gale, Robert's earlier films show he has a talent for comedy movie like *Romancing the Stone* (1984), *1941* (1979)) and special effect vehicles *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* (1988) and *Back to the Future* (1985). Although these films are made purely for entertainment, with rarely much character development or a thoughtful plot, they are good fun. His later films, though, have become more serious and thoughtful, with the hugely successful Tom Hanks vehicle *Forrest Gump* (1994) and the Jodie Foster film *Contact* (1997), both critically acclaimed movies. Again, these films incorporate stunning effects. Robert Zemeckis has proved he can work a serious story around great effects, a feat many directors cannot achieve.

Chuck Noland is a top international manager for FedEx, and Kelly, a Ph.D. student, are in love and heading towards marriage. Chuck Noland is a FedEx manager who demands that everything must be on time and travels the world to make sure punctuality is on top of everything else. Chuck Noland's girlfriend, Kelly, with whom he is deeply in love with and family he hardly sees. When work intrudes on Christmas Eve, Chuck has a quick gift exchange in the car and kisses Kelly goodbye. He boards a delivery plane going overseas which gets caught in a awful storm and crashes into the Pacific. After FedEx systems engineer Chuck Noland is ripped out of his hasty life by the clock in a plane crash, he finds himself alone on the shores of a tropical island. Here, Chuck Noland feels frustration on him own and then he realizes how little his chances are to ever get back to civilisation. Four years later, Chuck has learned very well

how to survive on his own: mending his dental health, catching fish with a spear, predicting the weather with a selfmade calendar. A photograph of his girlfriend Kelly has kept his hopes alive all these years.

The sole survivor Chuck washes up on a remote island along with several Fed-Ex packages that he must use for supplies. With limited luxury, he adapts to the island over the course of 1,500 nights. When Chuck finally sees his chance he rafts out on the ocean and fortunately is spotted. After a bittersweet welcome-back reception, Chuck finds Kelly has married another man and has children. But he is missing more than her. For all his life his objective was work. For four years, it was survival. Now Chuck is compelled to live.

Learning from the figure that has stated on that story above, the researcher finds the reason that is to study *Cast Away* movie by using psychoanalytic approach. Here anxiety occurs when the major character Chuck Noland who is the man who really concerns to perfectionism in the civilization but he must be faced on the reality that he will live on his own in the remote island. Further,

Can he survive in this tropical wasteland? And Will he ever return to woman he loves?. It is clear that *The Cast Away* movie has anxiety in main character; the psychoanalytic approach by Sigmund Freud is suitable in analyzing this film through the major character Chuck Noland.

B. Previous Study

In this study, the researcher does not find the other researchers so it is the first time of research paper that conduct *The Cast Away* movie to be analyzed through Psychoanalytic Approach.

C. Limitation of the Study

This study does not cover the personality of all characters, but it only focuses on the one of the major character in *The Cast Away* movie, Chuck Noland.

D. Problem Statement

In this study, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The major problem is how the major character's anxiety is reflected in Robert Zemeckis' *The Cast Away*.

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 Chuck Noland in the *The Cast Away* 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 Robert Zemeckis' *The Cast Away* movie. This study is also expected to contribute to the development of the larger body of knowledge, particularly literary studies on Robert Zemeckis's *The Cast Away* 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 Cast Away* 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 *The Cast Away* 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.