

**STRIVING FOR SUPERIORITY OF SOPHIE FISHER
IN MARC LAWRENCE'S *MUSIC AND LYRICS* MOVIE:
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



Research Paper

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by

**KRISTIANTO BAKHTIAR
A.320.040.399**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION
MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA**

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every single man has a goal to reach and becomes successful in all aspects of life. Success in mastering the development task set by the social group will bring the person happiness, social recognition, and new tasks pushing to be successful, which is impeller to developing potency. Adult people have many experiences that come from life task, which they could or could not handle and sometimes it become complex and harder and gives contribution to create the personality of human being. Mostly humans are created by external factors such as environment and experience or internal factor such as intelligence felling. By this feeling human beings are forced to compensate in order to repair their lack and become better, complete or perfect like in social life but do not everybody can develop their excellence, sometimes there are some problems which they pass by to get what they expect.

“A problem exists when there is a discrepancy between your present state and your perceived goal state and there is no readily apparent way to get from one to the other. In situations where the path to goal attainment is not clear or obvious, a problem exists, and you will have to engage in problem-solving behaviors” (Gerow, 1989: 27).

Different people have a different point of view to see a problem. Some people see problems as a challenge in their lives and drive them to solve the problems. Beside that, people can find some persons who give

different reaction; they may see problems as a burden and have no clues to solve the problems. The people sometimes takes the problem as the spirit of future. In the other hand, they regard it as the resistance. People have to do something as reaction of the problem.

The problem of life can or may motivate some people to be superior. In some cases some individuals are forced to be superior, powerful and regarded. This is the response of feeling of inferiority, by inferiority feeling; person will make some efforts to cover it. Person will strive to cover his or her weakness to be perfect, superior and regarded. The one dynamic for behind the person's activity is the striving for success or superior (Feist, 1985: 68).

Adler (in Fredenburgh, 1971: 219) stated as follows:

I should like to emphasize first of all that striving for perfection is innate, this is not meaning in a concrete way as there were a drive, which would later in life be capable of bringing everything to completion and which only needed to develop it. The striving for perfection is innate in the sense that it is a part of life as striving an urge, a something without which life would be unthinkable.

Striving for superiority is one of fundamental motive toward normal or abnormal people that will manifest it in different ways. So, the goal of superiority will be a negative (destructive) and a positive (constructive) direction. A negative direction is a case of poorly adjusted people who strive for superior through selfishness and concern for personal glory at the expense of others. In contrast, well-adjusted people express their striving in a positive direction (Hjelle, 1992:144).

People is inspired from nature, behavior or attitude of other human living or non living to create the work. They have influenced the human's feeling and psychological a side in everything. The work is the way out of process of expression.

People's psychological condition influence the way to express the work. Two people have different out put when they make the work together with different psychological condition. According to Wellek and Warren (1956:81), for some conscious artists, psychology is very beneficial to tighten their views about reality, sharpen their powers of observation, and to give an opportunity to explore the undiscovered patterns. Hardjana (1985:65) adds that beside analyze an individual psychological of the author through his works, the followers of psychology of literature also make use of their knowledge about the psychological problems and environment to interpret a literary work without connecting the literary work it self with the biography of the author.

The psychological aspect is very interesting to create the literary works. They depict the psychic condition of human being through their literary works. Here, superiority of the woman's as a part of psychological studies gets special attention from Marc Lawrence's, one of famous director. The ways that are done by one of major character to fulfill his desire are clearly portrayed in one of his movie.

The movie starts off with a faux music video by an 80s band called Pop, that was obviously supposed to be on some VH1 special, with the little

pop-up boxes appearing all over the video. The group is an obvious play on the group Wham! That was featured by George Michael, who went on to be famous, and some other guy whose name has and will forever escape him. In the Pop band, Alex Fletcher was the guy whose name escapes everyone and who gets shafted from fame while his former partner becomes rich and famous.

Alex, meanwhile, resorts to playing high school reunions, state fairs and carnivals, anything that will get him a buck for his long spent 15 minutes of fame. Then one silly day his manager Chris finds out that the biggest star in the world, Cora Corman was a huge fan of Pop and wants Alex to write a song for her, a duet that will heal her aching heart from a two month relationship that just ended. So, Alex is a melodic master, words are not his forte. Although, as a member of PoP, Alex produced several hits in the '80s, he has never written lyrics, he also faces a tight turnaround time to write the song, and knows that he is going to be competing against other artists for the one available spot on Cora's album.

Alex has only days to come up with a hit and reclaim his career. So, Sophie Fisher is the girl who has been watering his plants. Sophie and Alex only meet by chance when the directionless Sophie comes to Alex's apartment to water his plants, a job she's doing temporarily to help a friend. Alex wasn't unhappy with his life when she meets Sophie. He had to downsize and he's no longer a big star but he's comfortable and he's thinks he's figured out who he is, but then he opens his door one day and this

exotic bird flies in and flaps around and flies out and he has this very strong reaction. And Alex says, 'What was that?' meeting Sophie gradually begins to change his life.

When Sophie meets Alex they are both sort of running on a treadmill and not moving forward at all. Both have lost the belief that they can create something beautiful and meaningful. But before they realize that they can make a great music together Alex tries to work with another lyricist and the collaboration fails miserably. Sophie, who happens to be tending to Alex's plants at the time suggest a lyric or two, and Alex seizes on it, asking her to come up with more phrases.

Sophie is reluctant but Alex realizes that he must drag the song out of her or put the final nail in the coffin of his career. Suddenly, these two people who don't know each other at all are thrust into a situation where they have to work together, intensely, for entire days at a time. Then Sophie just happens to spout out some lyrics randomly and, in an odd set of events, ends up working on this song for Cora Corman... that, by the way, needs to be done in a few days. What follows is quirky tale of love and sorrow, fame and tragedy and the murky line that crosses them all.

Music and Lyrics is a romantic comedy film released by Warner Bros and directed by Marc Lawrence. on February 9, 2007 in the United Kingdom. The films stars is Hugh Grant as Alex Fletcher, a washed-up 1980s pop star and Drew Barrymore as Sophie Fisher, a former English

literature major. It tells the story of their efforts to write a song for singer Cora Corman (Haley Bennett), and their subsequent romance.

Based on the explanation above, the writer is interested in observing Sophie Fisher superiority when her problem appears and she has to solve her problems. That is why writers is interested in understanding the relation based on the individual psychological approach for his research paper entitle: **“Striving for Superiority of Sophie Fisher in Marc Lawrence’s *Music and Lyrics*: An Individual Psychological Approach.”**

B. Literature Review

Music and Lyrics is one of Marc Lawrence movie. But as long as the researcher knows, there is no other researchers that have been conducted to study *Music and Lyrics* movie before at least in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and Sebelas Maret University. So, this study is the first study. Further, in this study, the writer studies Marc Lawrence’s *Music and Lyrics* based on the individual psychological approach.

C. Problem Statement

Having watch music and lyrics movie, the main problem of this research will be, “How is Sophie Fisher’s striving for superiority reflected in *Music and Lyrics* movie?”

D. Limitation of the Study

To carry out the study, the researcher will limit the study, the researcher tries to focus on the problems of Sophie Fisher's.

E. Object of the Study

Based on the above problem statement, the objectives of the study will be:

1. To analyze the structural elements of the movie
2. To discuss superiority of Sophie Fisher viewed from individual psychology perspective

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of this study are as follows:

1. Theoretical benefit

To give information and knowledge to the reader, especially the literary study on music and lyrics movie by Marc Lawrence.

2. Practical Benefit

To get better understanding of the movie, in literary field as references to other researchers in analyzing the movie especially based on the individual psychological approach.

G. Research Method

In analyzing the study, the writer will apply qualitative method:

1. Object of the Study

Object of the study will be Sophie Fisher's Music and Lyrics.

2. Type of the Data and the Data source

The data will be classified into two categories, primary data and secondary data. The primary data will be taken from movie itself, while the secondary data are taken from the other data, which have relation with the research, the underlying theory and other materials concern, to the analysis.

3. Type of the Study

This study will belong to qualitative research, which refers to research based on qualitative data taken from the movie Music and Lyrics directed by Marc Lawrence.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The method will be used by the researcher for collecting the data is library research, the techniques are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie several times, until the writer gets an adequate information or data to be analyzed
- b. Reading some other resources related to the movie
- c. Giving marks to the particular parts, which are considered important for the analysis
- d. Taking notes for the important parts both in primary and secondary sources in data cards

- e. Classifying the data into categories and develop them into a good unit.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

In this thesis the technique that will be used to analyze the data is descriptive analysis technique. The writer will describe the structural elements of the movie with individual psychology of literature. The collected data will be interpreted and analyzed in detail through individual psychology of literature in this case by showing the influence of Sophie fisher's Intelligence in music and lyrics: individual psychological Perspective. Then drawing conclusion based on the analysis.

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction, covering background of the study, literature review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory, covering nation of individual psychology theory, basic principles of individual psychology. Chapter III is structural analysis, which includes the character and characterization, plot, setting, point of view, theme and style. Chapter IV is individual psychological analysis of the movie, it present the application of underlying theory in analyzing the problem. Chapter V is present conclusion and suggestion for this research paper also the synopsis of the story.