

**COPING BEHAVIOR OF WILLIAM THACKER  
IN RICHARD CURTIS *NOTTING HILL* MOVIE:  
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



**RESEARCH PAPER**

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by

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

Every people in the world surely has love in his own live, such as love to family, love to friend, or even love to his match. Love is representing a range of emotion and experiences related to the sense of affection and sexual attraction. The word love can refer a variety of different feeling, state, and attitudes, ranging, from generic pleasure to intense interpersonal attraction. As an abstract concept love usually refers to a strong, ineffable feeling towards another person. Even, this has limited conception of love, however, encompasses a wealth of different feeling, from the passionate desire and intimacy of romantic love to the nonsexual. Love in its various form act as a major facilitator of interpersonal relationships and owing to its central psychological importance, is one of the most common themes in the creative's arts. Sometimes love has some problems such as struggle, faith or break up.

When love meets a problem, it can make a people feel sad, disappointed and sometimes almost give up. But, times will prove the great power of love. The main point is being honest and thrush what is in your heart, because love will never lie. The true love story will always be apart in human's life. That's the real fact.

Every people has his own ways to struggle his love, he would do anything, sacrifice everything for love. Try to solve the problem with his characteristic. This influences the human way of thinking to develop their self to survive the life. Meanwhile in the literary work, the author always depicts the human life in the character of the movie. Literary work and reality life have relationship because the literary work displaces the real daily life characters, situation, and problem. The literature gives us knowledge to understand the real life condition.

Based on that explanation, there is relationship between literary work and psychology. The problem based on the movie usually is about the characterization which indicates frustration, sad, and sometimes giving up. By the life experience and environment as the affection of social interaction and his creativity to analyze and solve the problem the author tries to displace the realism of life to literary. One author who involves the situations of human love story and the way how to get it is Richard Curtis in his *Notting Hill* movie.

Richard Curtis was born in New Zealand (1956-), brought up in several continents, and educated at Harrow and Oxford, Richard Curtis began his writing career on TV's *Not the Nine O'clock News* (BBC, 1979-80, 1982), and went on to become the premier comedy screenwriter in 90's Britain.

His sharp eye for middle-class mores, for the simply idiotic in human behavior and for the gratification of romantic comedy have helped to account for some of the most popular British film ever, including *Four Wedding and Funeral* (d. Mike Newell, 1994, Oscar and BAFTA nominations for his screenplay) and

*Notting Hill* (UK/US, d. Roger Michell, 1999), in 80's he directed his first film Love, actually in 2003, and was made a CBE in 2000. His partnership is script editor/broadcaster Emma.

The movie *Notting Hill* was released on May 21, 1999. This movie is telling about Romantic comedy love story set in *Notting Hill* district of London England. The story is about a relaxed, pleasant, informal, the real extra ordinary man (William Thacker) who had a little Travel Book Shop fall in love with a beautiful, famous superstar (Anna Scott). For the first time, he didn't realize, unsure with his felling. He though that this is impossible love story. But he tried to make it to be real, he kept contact with Anna and try to be someone who really cared for her. He knew that Anna had an American boyfriend, till the time when Anna faced a big problem about her nude picture and videos. And a hundred of paparazzi always followed and stood around her. Then William offered his flat for Anna hide and took a rest. Once in a day, a hundred paparazzi found out her new hideaway. And she was absolutely angry; she thought that William flat mate was told to many peoples about her hideaway. Then she was went from William flat, she was so disappointed. William felt so guilty about it. The other day, William tried to saw Anna's making film and he was heard what Anna's told to her friend. She said that William just a man from her past, and now they just a friend.

William moved with a horrible heart breaking. Finally he realized that he should forget her and tried to start the new beginning of his life. He knew that life should go on, and he tried to have a date with many girls, surely deep inside the

heart, he realized no one can not change Anna's feel. So many problems made him disappointed, and he almost gave up struggle his love. Time goes by, and suddenly Anna came to his little Travel Book Store, she said sorry in many mistakes. She didn't mind to hurt William. And she asked William to love her cause she could not hide that she always thought about him. But William regret her, he told that love is something impossible to happen. They had different way from different world, standing beside Anna just made him in danger. Finally he gave up. Anna accepted his reason although her heart really broke. But she could understand, then she walked away leave William alone. After he went back and met together with his family, he had shared to them anything just happen especially about Anna's asked. They gave advices and suggestions such as a reason that Anna's the right choice, and he shouldn't regret her.

Finally they were all running and went to find Anna. William should tell the truth that he was fall in love with her and wouldn't lose her again. After they met again in Anna's press conferment, William told anything the truth about his feeling. And he wanted to give Anna's change and accepted Anna's as his special one. Times were running and they got married and happy ever after.

From illustration above there is a psychological reason in them. This makes the researcher interested in studying this movie deeply. In this research, the researcher analyzes Richard Curtis's movie using an individual psychological approach entitled: **COPING BEHAVIOR OF WILLIAM THACKER IN**

# **RICHARD CURTIS'S *NOTTING HILL* MOVIE: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**

## **B. Literary Review**

As far as researcher is concerned, there is a research done by Sari (1999) on *Notting Hill* movie in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta entitled : A Study on the Use of Hyperbole on *Notting Hill* : Social Linguistic. Different from that case, the writer uses the Alfred's individual psychological approach theory to analyze William Thacker as the major Character in coping his problem of love that influences his personality.

## **C. Problem Statement**

In this research, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The problem of research is how does William Thacker as the main character cope with his problem in *Notting Hill* movie.

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

This study is limited to the struggle of William Thacker to reach his goal of life to get Anna Scoot as his wife and how the struggle influences his physiological development in Richard Curtis's *Notting Hill* movie. This study uses individual psychology perspective. It is as means of analysis with

consideration that William Thacker psychological development is influenced by the struggle to reach a goal of life.

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

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

- a. to analyze the movie based on its structural elements by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot and theme, and
- b. to analyze the movie based on Individual psychological approach

Here, the researcher intends to analyze the movie viewed from the Individual psychological perspective. It focuses the research on major character, William Thacker and tries to analyze his struggle and its influences on his personality

### **F. Benefit of the Study**

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

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

The result of the study is able to give theoretical contributions in literature study, particularly the application of individual psychological analysis in literary study.

## **2. Practical Benefit**

Hopefully this study gives additional knowledge about psychological theory in a literary work, or as the references to the other researcher in analyzing the movie into different perspective.

## **G. Research Method**

### **1. Object of the Study**

The researcher takes Richard Curtis's *Notting Hill* movie published by Universal Studio on 1999 as the object of the study.

### **2. Type of the Study**

This research uses descriptive qualitative method because it does not need a statistic analysis to explore the fact. Is only focuses on the analysis of technical data.

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

The source of data is divided into primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is *Notting Hill* movie by Richard Curtis. The secondary data is taken from some books, articles, references and other matters which support it.

### **4. Technique of the Data Collection**

Technique of data collection is library research done by collecting and selecting the primary and secondary data. The researcher takes the following steps:

- a. Watching *Notting Hill* movie,
- b. Reading manuscript *Notting Hill* movie repeatedly,
- c. Making notes of important part primary and secondary data source,
- d. Identifying the topic of the movie, and
- e. Classifying the data into groups according categories of element of literary study.

## **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

The researcher uses two kinds of techniques in analyzing the movie. The first is descriptive by which that the researcher explores some information stated implicitly with both of primary and secondary data sources. Second, hermeneutics technique, which helps the researcher to interpret the conversation the script from the movie.

## **H. Research Organization**

This research paper is divided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, theoretical approach, research method and research organization. Chapter II is underlying theory involving the theory of individual psychology is be used to analyze the data. Chapter III is structural analyze and discussion of the movie *Notting Hill* directed by Roger Michele. Chapter IV is psychological analysis toward the major character of the movie. Chapter V draws conclusion and suggestion.