

**COPING BEHAVIOR OF JULIANNE IN P.J. HOGAN'S**

***"MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING" MOVIE :***

**AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



**RESEARCH PAPER**

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**by**

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### **A. Background of the Study**

People in the world surely need a friend. A friend is someone who is always beside us to share everything in good and bad times. Being friends means being there for each other at all times, whether it is good or bad. Everyone needs a friend who can be understood and get excited about them. What is a friendship? We have often answered to the question, yet we have never come up with an adequate answer. This is because the friendship is an amalgamation of beautiful and complex feelings, which may not often be described in the word. Defining a friendship is never easy, because there are a lot of meanings of it. However we do not need a bunch of word to make us realize the deep meaning of a friendship.

According to George Elliot, "Friendship is the inexpressible comfort of feeling safe with a person, having neither to weigh thoughts nor measure words ". The Roman thinker Cicero said "Friendship makes prosperity brighter, while it lightens adversity by sharing it's grief's and anxieties". This heartwarming expression captures the essence of friendship. When two people share a strong bond of mutual understanding, respect and love it lays the foundation stone for an everlasting friendship. This bond just gets stronger with time, the trust between two people grows and so does the attachment.

This is the beauty of the relationship and is the essential meaning of friendship.

Ideally, the meaning of a friendship is sharing unconditional love for each other. However, this is not an ideal word, therefore some form of expectations are allowed, but that has a limit too. The purpose and meaning of a friendship is to make life burdens lighter for our friends and not make them heavier. And a friend also can accept us whatever we are and always give us support to be better, although sometimes we face a problem such as misunderstanding, jealousy, etc. The problem of a friendship can be difficult if somebody who is falling in love with each other or their best friend. So, the meaning of a friendship is not be natural.

When we are facing the problem in our life, we will be on the point of saturation. We have our own ways to solve it. Everyone has his or her own ways to solve his or her problem based on his or her characteristic. Their characteristics also influence someone's way of thinking to develop thirselves to face the life. When people face the problem, they will try to solve the problem by using the method which they have learnt from environment as the affection of social interaction. As the result, there is no two people seem to be exactly alike. The result of problem solving depends from their own character.

Meanwhile, in a literary work there are some of kind, like poetry, novel and movie. And the author always depicts the human life in the character of the movie. The literary work and life have a 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 that supports the behavior of individual interaction with other.

According to the above explanatory, there is a relationship between literary work and psychology. The problem which is usually in the literary is the characterization which indicates frustration, excessive of inferiority feeling his withdrawal from social interaction and his creativity in coping and solving the problems that are caused from situation around him.

One of the literary work reflected the individual is "*My Best Friend's Wedding*". This movie tells about Julianne Potter is a woman who a 27 years old as New York restaurant critic who receives a call from her long-time friend Michael O'Neal. In college, the two made an agreement that if neither of them were married by the time they turned 28, they would marry each other. The weeks before her 28<sup>th</sup> birthday, Michael tells her he has fallen in love with and is about to marry Kimberly Wallace, a 20 years-old University of Chicago student from a wealthy family. This causes Julianne to realize she has always been in love with Michael and cannot stand to see him wed another woman.

Julianne heads to Chicago, intent on sabotaging Michael's wedding. Soon after arriving she meets Kimberly, who puts her on the spot and asks her to be the maid of honor. Julianne reluctantly agrees, where Julianne must pretend to be the dutiful maid of honor while secretly scheming ways to prevent the wedding from happening. She even invites her close gay friend

George to Chicago and pretends she is engaged to him, hoping to make Michael jealous.

Following a series of unsuccessful attempts, George convinces Julianne to do the obvious: tells Michael she is in love with him. On the morning of the wedding's breakfast, Julianne confesses her love to Michael and asks him to marry her instead. Kimberly witnesses this and runs away. Michael chases her, and Julianne chases him. Later, Julianne is forced to go after Kim and fixes the whole situation up. Julianne accepts she lost Michael to Kimberly, and she agrees to keep on with the wedding. In the end, Michael marries Kimberly.

At the wedding's dinner party, Julianne makes a toast and sees the bride and groom leave. After this, she is left sitting alone and ends up dancing with George, who is sitting at another table.

Then, the researcher interested in analyzing the personality of Julianne Potter as the main character of the movie. Thus, this study is entitled "COPING BEHAVIOR OF JULIANNE POTTER IN P.J. HOGAN'S *MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING* MOVIE: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH".

## **B. Literary Review**

As for researcher is concerned, there is no on *My Best Friend's Wedding* movie in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. In this literature, the writer will use the Adler's individual psychological approach to analyze

Julianne Potter as the major character in coping her problem of love that influences her personality.

### **C. Problem Statement**

In this research, the writer proposes a single problem statement. The problem of research is how Julianne Potter as the main character copes with her problem in *My Best Friend's Wedding* movie.

### **D. Objective of the Study**

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

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural element by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, style, plot and theme.
2. To analyze the movie based on an individual psychological approach.

### **E. Benefit of the Study**

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

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

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

## **2. Practical Benefit**

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

## **F. Theoretical Approach**

Based on Adler statement quoted by Ryckman (1985: 95) individual psychology is “science that attempts to understand the experiences and behavior of each person as an organized entity”. In order words, individual psychology studies about how people facing the problem of life with all their skill.

### **1. Basic Concept of Adler’s Individual Psychology:**

#### **a. Fiction Finalism**

Adler’s ideas on fiction finalism originated from Hans Viahinger’s book, that was The Psychology of “as if” and published in 1911. Viahinger states that humans live with many fictional ideas that have no equivalence in reality (Feist, 1985 : 65). These fictional ideas enable humans to face reality more effectively. They are only supporting construct or assumptions and not testable and hypotheses. Viahinger’s thinking has influenced Adler, so he states that humans are motivated more by their expectation of the future by experience of the past. Fictional finalism possibly fictional goals that guide behavior, for example men are superior to women.

**b. Feelings of Inferiority**

Everyone struggles with inferiority, its appears whenever humans have problem in their life! No one can accept having weaknesses for a long time. That is why, humans always try to overcome their weaknesses and become superior. As stated by HJelle, (1992: 142). Inferiority feeling marks the beginning of a lifelong struggle to achieve superiority over their environment as well as perfection and completion. Normal and inevitable feelings of weakness, which result from our helplessness during childhood, are not necessary pathological or undesirable (may work to overcome).

**c. Striving for Superiority**

The one dynamic force behind the person's activity is the striving for success or superiority. It is the solution of life's problem and manifest in the way we meet problem. Striving for superiority probably the greatest source of unhappiness is the failure to meet expectation.

**d. Social Interest**

An innate sense of kinship with all of humanity is the key difference between the way neurotic and normal strives for superiority. Normal is aware of other and has high social interest. Neurotics are basically selfish with low social interest can not live alone. As an individual who lives as a member of society, human should always cooperate with other.

**e. Creative Self**

As stated previously, human is considered as unique individual who has different personality that shows the uniqueness. He will not have the same method of realizing their goal of life. Everyone has his own way of solving his problem of life. He might have various strategies that are different way from other to face their problem of life. This difference is what we call as the creative self of an individual. Creative self also a later concept, refers to the freedom to choose between alternative life styles and fictional goals.

**f. Style of Life**

According to Adler as quoted by Feist (1985: 74) *Style of Life* is the term used to refer the flavor of a person's life. It includes not only the person's goal, but also self-concept; feeling toward other and attitude toward the world are the product of the interaction of heredity, environment, goal of success, social interest and creative power. And also is the unique ("individual") mode of adjustment to life that influences almost everything a person does.

**2. Theoretical Application**

This research is developed by applying the individual psychological theory by Alfred Adler. The writer focuses on analyzing the main character in P.J. Hogan's *My Best Friend's Wedding* movie. By knowing the individual psychology of the character, the writer tries to explore the

character of Julianne Potter as the main character of the movie. The writer thinks that is important to apply some steps in analyzing the story which is going to be observed. The writer also studies the structural elements of the movie to find some, conflicts, and things that deal with individual psychological theory based on characterization of the major character.

## **G. Research Method**

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

The object of this research are behavior of Julianne containing coping which are taken from one P. J. Hogan's movie entitled *My Best Friend's Wedding* published by TriStar Pictures on 1997 as the object of the study.

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

This research will use a descriptive qualitative method because it does not need a statistic analyze to explore the fact. It is only focused on the analysis of technical data.

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

The source of data will divided into primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is the movie *My Best Friend's Wedding* by P. J. Hogan. And the secondary data is taken from some books and references.

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

Technique of data collection is library research by collecting and selecting the primary and secondary data. The researcher will include some steps:

- a. Watching *My Best Friend's Wedding* movie repeatedly.
- b. Reading manuscript *My Best Friend's Wedding* repeatedly.
- c. Taking note of important data both primary and secondary data.
- d. Identifying the topic of the movie.
- e. Classifying the data into groups according categories of element of literary study.
- f. Selecting them by rejecting the irrelevant sources which do not have important information to support the topic of the study.

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

The researcher will use two kinds of techniques in analyzing the movie. The first is descriptive by which the researcher interprets the text and content relating to individual psychological condition. Meanwhile the second is content analysis; the researcher reads some information with in both primary and secondary data.

#### **H. Research Paper**

This research paper will be divided into five chapters. Chapter I is introduction, which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, objective of the study, research method and research

paper. Chapter II is underlying theory involving the theory of individual psychology that will be used to analyze the data. Chapter III is structural analysis. In this chapter, the writer explains the structural analysis Chapter IV is psychological analysis. Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion