STRUGGLE FOR LIFE OF ERICA BAIN IN NEIL JORDAN’S
THE BRAVE ONE MOVIE:
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH

Research Paper
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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Literature is connected with fiction, plays, poetry, novel or prose that is classified into on art. Literature is one of the arts which uses language as a medium. Literature is every one’s inner expression through language as a description or imagination. The description or imagination is the reality of life or point of view from individual concerning with the reality of life.

Literary work creates its own world that can find an atmosphere of life in the real world. As the matter of fact a literary truth, sadness, happiness, love also struggle of real life as well as in human experiences, human life is one of the most interesting topic to discuss because life experience develops as fast as the time goes on. People need many ways to express their impressions about human’s experiences and the life itself. One of these is a form of literary works.

Literary works has the same significance in meaning as understanding human’s existence with mental and inner-self problem. Since literary is the exposition of human mental life, it can be said that literary work has relationship to psychology. Literary work and psychology have the same object of the research that is human being. 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 relationship between literature and real life because literature is describing about life. Literature records the
spirit of life concerning with the character’s behavior. In literary work the researcher uses an Individual Psychological approach. The researcher thinks that it is very interesting to analyze about Erica Bain’s struggle in *The Brave One* movie by Neil Jordan.

*The Brave One* movie is a movie which tells about a Radio show host (Erica Bain) and her fiancé (David) walking with their dog at stranger’s gate in New York. They are attacked by three bandits inbound, Erica survives from that offense, but David dies in his injuries. Unhappy with the police response and trauma caused by the offense, she attempts to purchase a gun. Unwilling to wait for a month of *required obtaining a notice of approval*; she acquires a gun illegally, and she is down into criminal’s world, killing random, attempting to track down the bandits who killed David.

Erica Bain makes a relationship with a detective (Detective Mercer) that handles murder case, including the murder case done by Erica Bain her self. But Mercer does not know that Erica did the murder. At the climax of the film, she finds and confronts the thugs responsible for the murder of David. She is success killing two of three murderer of David, and then Mercer comes when she will kill the third murderer. Mercer tries to prevent Erica to kill that murderer, convincing Erica to lower her gun, but Erica does not want to release that murderer offhand. Finally, Mercer asks Erica to use His gun to kill the last murderer, so he can make a story that the murderer is a criminal whom he looks for. And than Erica leaves that place and reconvene with her dog.

In her action, she has not intention to kill as a purpose, but to defend her self. So Erica protects her self because she wants to survive.
The researcher chooses this movie because, it is interesting to study. It offers various dimensions of interpreting. The interpretation can be through whatever point of view the reader likes to choose. The researcher wants to analyze about the personality of Erica Bain as the main character of the movie. The researcher wants to analyze Erica’s struggle is for reflected in her behavior.

B. Literary Review

As long as the researcher knows, there is no research in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta that has been conducted to study the struggle for life in Neil Jordan’s movie by using an Individual Psychological approach

C. Problem Statement

In analyzing a literary work, the researcher uses an Individual Psychological approach. In this case, the researcher has formulated the problems of the study as follow: How is Erica Bain’s struggle for life reflected in *The Brave One* 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 a psychological approach
E. Benefit of the Study

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

The practical benefit from this research is to give deeper understanding in literary field as the reference to other researchers in analyzing this movie into different perspective.

F. Research Method

1. Object of the Study

The Object of this study is Erica Bain, the major character of Brave one movie, especially in her struggle to live.

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 can be divided into primary and secondary data source:

a. Primary data:

Primary data source is *The Brave one* movie by Neil Jordan published by Warner Bros Pictures on September 2007.
b. Secondary data:

Secondary data are taken from some books and references supporting the data.

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 The Brave One movie repeatedly.
b. Reading manuscript The Brave One 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 uses 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.
G. Research Organization

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 Organization. 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.