

***CARL ALLEN'S STRUGGLE FOR SUPERIORITY IN YES MAN MOVIE
BY PEYTON REED (2008): AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH***



RESEARCH PAPER

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By:

DYAH KUSUMANINGRUM

A320060137

SCHOOL OF TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY

MUHAMMADIYAH UNIVERSITY OF SURAKARTA

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

For reaching the happiness and the peace in life, people must make such kind of struggle. Struggle is an energetic attempt to achieve something. Struggle means to exert strenuous effort against opposition. The struggle has many varies, such as, struggle to get achievement, struggle for survive, struggle for justice, struggle to get a job, and also struggle for life. Many ways are used to make necessities come true. They can do everything to struggle something they need

According to Adler (in Feist, 1985:68), however, Adler eventually rejects the concept of masculine protest as a satisfactory explanation for the motivation of normal people. Instead, he develops a more general viewpoint in which people are seen to be struggle for superiority, a condition quite different from the superiority complex. Thus, “there were three distinct stages in his theorizing on the ultimate goal of human life: to be aggressive, to be powerful, and to be superior” (Hjelle, 1992:143; in Lindzey & Hall, 1970:123). *Struggle for superiority* is universal (Feist, 1985:70). Every person, normal as well as neurotic is pulled in the success direction or superiority. Every person is born with the tendency toward completion and perfection. This tendency has a unique character by doing creative power, “the creative power gives direction for striving force by incorporating it into

the final goal” (Feist, 1985:71).

Adler (in Hjelle and Ziegler, 1992: 143) said that that the Struggle superiority is based on the human’s ability to be aware of himself of his ability to remember past experiences and to imagine himself in the future. Later Adler said that the struggle exist first; then feelings of inferiority in first time, and finally, the struggle are given direction by the creative power in response to the feeling of inferiority (Feist, 1985: 70-71).

Stimulated by the case above, the writer intends to conduct a study on psychological aspect of the main character in *Yes Man* movie, directed by Peyton Reed which was first released in 2008, at more than two hours, the film (and audiences) would have been better served by some judicious cutting, but *Yes Man* still manages to crackle along in lively fits and starts of nasty profanity and very bad but all too credible behavior. Shot in HD, the movie makes a great case for that digital format.

Yes Man movie was released at Friday December 19 2008, it is a comedy movie. The duration is 104 minutes and directed by Peyton Reed studio: Warner Bros, with main actor is Carl (Jim Carrey) Pictures producer(s):Richard D. Zanuck, David Heyman screenplay: Nicholas Stroller, Jarrad Paul, Andrew Mogelcast:Jim Carrey, Zoey Deschanel, Bradley Cooper, John Michael Higgins, Rhys Darby, Danny Masterson, Fionnula Flanagan, Terence Stamp

But *Yes Man*, dutifully directed by Peyton Reed (“Bring It On,” “Down With Love”) is too sluggish and slapdash a vehicle for its star’s prodigious

wackiness. The movie's premise is not far from that of "Liar Liar," one of Mr. Carrey's biggest hits of the mid-'90s, in which he played a chronic dissembler suddenly compelled to tell the truth. That film was a philosophical tour de force compared with this one, which arrives at the startling conclusion that while saying no to everything is bad, saying yes to everything is not ideal either.

Peyton Reed (born 3 July 1964 in Raleigh, North Carolina) is an American television and film director. He attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Reed then directed the motion pictures *Bring It On*, *Down with Love*, and *The Break-Up*, all comedy films. He has also acted in small roles in some films including his own and has written a few original songs for his soundtracks. He has also produced a few music videos. Most recently Reed directed *Yes Man*, starring Jim Carrey. *Yes Man* is an adaptation of Danny Wallace's autobiography about his decision to say "yes" to whatever offer, invitation, challenge, and opportunity that is presented to him. Reed is divorced and lives in the Los Angeles area. Feature Films
Television Documentaries / Short Films Commercials.

A native of Raleigh and a graduate of the University of North Carolina, Peyton Reed began his career as an editor at Zaloom-Mayfield Productions. On the strength of his award-winning short "Almost Beat," he began writing and directing for the company as well. He directed numerous behind-the-scenes documentaries, including "The Secrets of Back to the Future Trilogy," "Through the Eyes of Forrest Gump," and CBS's "The Honeymooners

Anniversary Special.” He then went to work for Walt Disney, where he directed two successful television movies, “The Computer Wore Tennis Shoes” and “The Love Bug,” for the studio’s Wonderful World of Disney series on the ABC network before making his feature film directing debut with the critically praised box office success “Bring It On,” starring Kirsten Dunst in a behind-the-scenes look at the world of high school cheerleading championships. He has also directed episodes of Comedy Central’s “Upright Citizens Brigade” and HBO’s “Mr. Show with Bob and David,” as well as music videos for such alternative bands as Super chunk and The Connells.

At the beginning of *Yes Man*, Carl Allen is a grouch, a curmudgeon, a wet blanket. His relentless negativity — his job as a loan officer provides him with plenty of opportunities to say no — is less a matter of temperament than of circumstance: apparently Carl never recovered from the breakup of his marriage. But then a visit to a self-help seminar led by a guru (Terence Stamp) who preaches the power of yes transforms Carl into a wild, unpredictable fellow, a giddy, spontaneous goofball, a gangling, motor mouthed, rubber-faced id. In short, Carl turns into Jim Carrey.

Most of us learned at least a rudimentary version of this lesson around the age of 5, and one of the many problems with *Yes Man* is that it is insufficiently infantile. Mr. Carrey looks too grown up, too tired to plunge into the reckless silliness that the story demands, and the story doesn’t really demand enough of it. Once Carl has banished no from his vocabulary, what does he say yes to? Flying lessons, a class in conversational Korean, Every

loan application that crosses his desk.

That last bit has a somewhat unpleasant, if inadvertent, topical resonance, but never mind that. Some of the things Carl does are a bit wilder than learning to play the guitar. He accepts a sexual proposition from an elderly neighbor, which leads to a gag that was already tired when it popped up in “Soul Men” a few months ago. He wraps his head in cellophane tape. He goes on a Red Bull binge. He provokes a fight in a bar after snorting some Tabasco sauce.

And he falls in love with a pale-eyed, mildly eccentric cutie named Allison, played by Zoey Deschanel, who took on similar waif duties opposite Will Ferrell in “Elf.” The role of Mr. Carrey’s romantic counterpart is never an easy one, given his manic energy and the childish narcissism that is the basis of his shtick. Only Kate Winslet, engaging with a more subdued incarnation of Mr. Carrey in “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind,” has been able to distract him from himself. Ms. Deschanel never really has a chance, and instead functions as a kind of sidekick, breezing through some semi-funny set pieces on the way to an obligatory smiley-teary ending.

First, this film is challenging. This film is challenging because the writer finds there are several aspect and there are still many interesting characters in this film that challenge to be explored.

Second this film has a great message. How the main character that always says no for everything and not want to help anyone around him, but finally he has courage to say yes for something that he refuses.

Third, there is an important message in a life such as for always saying “yes” for every good opportunity that makes life better.

Fourth, the struggle for superiority in this movie inspired the writer to do something better in her life. The research will analyze “**CARL ALLEN’S STRUGGLE FOR SUPERIORITY IN *YES MAN* MOVIE BY PEYTON REED (2008) : AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**”.

B. Literature Review

The writer does find other writer who researches this movie. But the researcher takes an essay to be the literature review. Previous study written by Danny Wallace In *Yes Man book* (2008), Wallace recounts his months-long commitment to complete openness with profound insight and humbling honesty. Saying yes takes Wallace into a new plane of existence: a place where money comes as easily as it goes, nodding a lot can lead to a long weekend overseas with new friends, and romance isn't as complicated as it seems. Yes eventually leads to the biggest question of all: *a literary book entitled yes man* written by Danny Wallace is Chosen by the writer to be the literature review.

The difference with this research is in the approach (the researcher uses individual psychological as the approach) but, it has similarity that is from the object, the researcher also use *Yes Man* movie as the object.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is about struggle for superiority of Carl Allen reflected in *Yes Man* movie.

D. Limitation of the Study

The study only analyzes how Carl Allen's (Carrey) struggle in changing his life in *Yes Man* is viewed from the individual psychological perspective.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements
2. To analyze the main character's (Carl Allen (Carrey)) personality based on the Individual psychological perspective.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits of this study are:

1. Theoretical Benefit

Hopefully, the result of this research will give some additional knowledge and information to the world of literature, beside development; particularly the literary study on Peyton Reed's *Yes Man*.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to give deeper understanding about the movie especially from the aspect of psychoanalytic and gives additional

knowledge to other researchers who are interested in analyzing Peyton Reed's *Yes Man*.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

This study will belong to qualitative research, which refers to research based on qualitative data taken from the movie *Yes Man* by Peyton Reed.

2. Type of the Data and the Data Source

These studies consist of two data sources:

a. Primary Data Source

The primary data source is the movie itself; *Yes Man* by Peyton Reed.

b. Secondary Data Source

The data are taken from the internet and related books.

3. Technique of the Data Collection

In collecting data, the writer watches the movie repeatedly and uses library research by collecting and selecting the appropriate data from many sources.

4. Technique of the Data Analysis

The writer uses descriptive technique in analyzing the data, It is used to describe the elements of the play that make some understanding toward the play.

H. Paper Organization

This study consists of five chapters starting with the introduction that comprises of the background of the study, literature review, problem statement, objective of the study, benefit of the study, research method and paper organization. The second chapter presents the underlying theory and theoretical application. The third chapter presents the structural analysis of the play, which involves the character and characterization, plot, setting, theme, and style. The fourth chapter presents individual psychological analysis and its application in analyzing Peyton Reed's *Yes Man*. The fifth chapter deals with conclusion and suggestion for this study.