

COMPARISON OF PETER PEVENSIE'S PERSONALITY IN THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE MOVIE WITH PRINCE CASPIAN MOVIE IN THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini menganalisis perkembangan karakter Peter Pevensie secara komparatif dalam film *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* dan *Prince Caspian*. Sebagai anak tertua dari keluarga Pevensie, Peter mengalami perkembangan yang signifikan, menampilkan tema kepemimpinan, tanggung jawab, dan kedewasaan. Pada tahap awal di *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Peter mengambil peran sebagai pemimpin, menjunjung tinggi nilai keberanian dan keadilan. Namun, dalam *Prince Caspian*, karakternya berkembang lebih jauh saat ia menghadapi tantangan dalam kepemimpinan, penurunan otoritas, serta konflik internal. Perkembangan ini menunjukkan peralihannya dari seorang pemimpin muda yang mulai berkembang menjadi sosok yang lebih dewasa, meskipun penuh dengan konflik batin. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mempelajari faktor internal dan eksternal memengaruhi pertumbuhan Peter. Penelitian ini memberikan penekanan khusus pada perubahan yang terjadi pada pendekatan kepemimpinannya, proses pengambilan keputusan, dan hubungan antarpribadinya di Narnia yang terus berubah. Penelitian ini menganalisis film kualitatif dan kerangka teori kepribadian evolusioner untuk menjelaskan elemen yang membentuk karakter Peter dan bagaimana mempengaruhi tindakan dan hubungannya dengan orang lain. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa cara Peter menangani tantangan moral dan otoritas berubah, menunjukkan pergeseran dari gaya kepemimpinan idealistis ke gaya yang lebih pragmatis dan kadang bertentangan.

Kata Kunci: Peter Pevensie, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, Karakteristik, Teori Kepribadian Evolusioner

Abstarct

This study examines the comparative development of Peter Pevensie's character across the *Chronicles of Narnia* films. *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and *Prince Caspian*. As the eldest Pevensie sibling, Peter undergoes a notable growth spurt, exemplifying themes of leadership, responsibility, and maturity. In the initial stages of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Peter assumes a leadership role, espousing values of courage and justice. However, in *Prince Caspian*, his character develops further as he encounters challenges associated with leadership, a reduction in authority, and internal conflict. This evolution illuminates his transition from an emerging leader to a more mature, albeit conflicted, figure. This study aims to examine the ways in which internal and external factors influence Peter's development, with particular attention to changes in his leadership approach, decision-making processes, and interpersonal relationships within the evolving context of Narnia. This study employs qualitative film analysis and an evolutionary personality framework to illuminate the factors that shape Peter's character and their impact on his actions and interpersonal relationships. The findings indicate a notable evolution in Peter's approach to moral and authority-related challenges, signifying a transition from an idealistic to a pragmatic and occasionally contentious style of leadership.

Keywords: Peter Pevensie, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, Characteristics, Evolutionary Personality Theory

1. INTRODUCTION

Literature is defined as a human work conveyed through language, encompassing both fiction and non-fiction. It is a valuable resource for navigating life. Ghosh Nirmal K. (2022) posits that literature serves as a representation of social and cultural reality. He elucidates that literary works not only portray the nuances of everyday life but also elucidate the social, political, and economic issues that confront society. Literature is capable of reflecting the human condition and providing insight into the collective experience. Gajdusek, Linda (2023) posits that literature is an efficacious instrument for articulating one's sentiments and ideas, and it is similarly capable of addressing a multitude of social and humanitarian concerns. The conveyance of moral and philosophical messages embedded in a narrative is significantly shaped by the characterization employed in literary and cinematic works. The Chronicles of Narnia, a book written by C. S. Lewis and adapted into several films, offers an intriguing account of the character development of its protagonists. Peter Pevensie, the eldest child of the Pevensie family, bears the significant responsibility of safeguarding his siblings and guiding them into the fantastical realm of Narnia. In the initial film, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, Peter is initially depicted as a young leader who gradually learns to command the Narnian army against the White Witch. The second instalment of the series, *Prince Caspian*, depicted a notable shift in Peter's characterization. He was confronted with more intricate challenges, including the loss of authority and the advent of a new leader, Prince Caspian. This transformation had a significant impact on his personality and leadership style. The objective of this research is to examine the changes that occur in Peter Pevensie's character and to identify the factors that influence his personality, employing an evolutionary personality theory approach.

2. METHOD

The type of research taken is qualitative data, is a research effort using several methods whose purpose involves observation (Mc Call, et al., 1969:3). As Creswell (2013) asserts, qualitative research represents the optimal methodology for investigating intricate phenomena such as character transformation. This approach enables researchers to discern subtleties that are not amenable to quantification. The aims to systematically describe facts or characteristics of certain fields factually and accurately (Isaac, et al., 1981:18). This study employs the descriptive-analytical qualitative method to examine the evolution of Peter Pevensie's personality as depicted in the two films *The Chronicles of Narnia*. The films under consideration are *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and *Prince Caspian*. The objective of this study is to ascertain the manner in which Peter's character evolves in both narratives and to determine the extent to which these transformations reflect personality dynamics and the impact of internal and external factors. Furthermore, this method is concerned with the analysis of interactions, dialogues, and behaviours

exhibited by the characters in the films. This study employs an evolutionary personality theory, which posits that social experiences, environmental influences, and genetic predispositions shape human personality. Accordingly, this study examined the manner in which Peter's conduct underwent a transformation, including the loss of his role as Supreme King and the ascension of Caspian as the newly appointed leader of Narnia.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Result

The subject of this study was Peter Pevensie, a character from *Prince Caspian and The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. Some words in the book indicate that Peter Pevensie's attitude has deteriorated. This can be seen by looking closely at the text. The three problem statements from the previous chapter serve as a framework for this chapter. In order to accomplish the goals of the study, the researcher transcribed and examined the material after watching the movie. To determine the signs of Peter Pevensie's character fall in *The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and his first encounter with Prince Caspian, the researcher meticulously and thoroughly examined the data.

1. Peter's Personality Development in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*

In the first movie, *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*, Peter Pevensie undergoes a transformation from an ordinary boy to a commander of the Narnian army. At the beginning of the story, Peter seems hesitant and insecure, especially when facing dangerous and challenging situations. However, as time goes by, he is educated to become a brave and wise leader.

a) Leadership Development

The During his confrontation with the White Witch's guardian wolf, Maugrim, Peter initially demonstrated courage. This event prompted him to recognize his role as a leader and subsequently protected his brothers and the people of Narnia. His ascension to the position of "High King" of Narnia was reinforced by this act of leadership.

b) In terms of decision

Peter displays an increased capacity for intelligence, particularly in situations that necessitate the resolution of conflicts with the White Witch's military forces. This illustrates the transformation of his character from one characterised by hesitancy to one that exhibits decisiveness and a readiness to assume considerable risks. The modifications Peter makes in the initial instalments of the series exemplify his growth from an unprepared youngster thrust into a prominent position to a revered leader among the inhabitants of Narnia.

2. Personality Transformation in Prince Caspian

In the second movie: Prince Caspian, Peter returns to Narnia and finds that the kingdom has changed so much that his position as High King is no longer relevant. The ascendance of Prince Caspian as the new leader of Narnia presents Peter with a formidable challenge, resulting not only in a loss of authority but also in feelings of marginalization.

Due to the changing circumstances in Narnia, Peter often shows signs of frustration in Prince Caspian. One example is when he goes against his brother's recommendation and attacks the Telmarines' army without thinking through the strategy properly. This is very different from the way Peter made decisions in the first movie. Peter frequently exhibits an arrogant attitude, particularly when he believes that his role as Supreme King bestows upon him the authority to make decisions without considering the opinions of others, including Caspian. This overconfidence is evident in his repeated dismissal of the advice of his allies and his inclination to act independently. Peter is confronted with an internal conflict between the transformation of his role and his aspiration to retain his position as a leader. He believed that his previous experiences had made him a suitable candidate for the role of leader, but Caspian is now assuming that position. This conflict gives rise to tension between Peter and Caspian, which frequently results in discord and disagreement in their relationship.

3. Impact of Personality Change on Leadership

Peter's transformation in Prince Caspian had a significant impact on his leadership approach. In *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*, Peter demonstrated a capacity for thoughtful decision-making and a willingness to seek counsel. However, in *Prince Caspian*, he exhibited a shift towards a more reactive and impulsive style of leadership, which ultimately led to unsuccessful outcomes.

- a) Peter is prone to acting on his emotions, particularly when he perceives a threat to his position posed by Caspian. One such example was his decision to attack the Telmarines without first considering the risks, which resulted in a decisive defeat for his army.
- b) Peter's transformation in personality results in a loss of authority among his fellow characters. Caspian and his allies begin to question Peter's decisions, which ultimately impairs his ability to function effectively as a leader. This illustrates that an inability to adapt and heed the input of others can erode leadership abilities, a trait that was exemplified in the initial film.

3.2 Discussion

Frustration has been demonstrated to precipitate the onset of negative emotional states, including anger, anxiety, and depression. These emotional responses have been shown to exert a deleterious effect on one's mental equilibrium and personality traits over time. The research conducted by Lazarus

and Folkman (1984) indicates that frustration has the potential to disrupt cognitive processes, increase impulsivity, and ultimately result in alterations in behavior and personality. Upon returning to Narnia, Peter Pevensie experiences a loss of authority and identity, as the kingdom is now ruled by Telmarines. His frustration and sense of marginalization have an adverse effect on his confidence, leading to egocentric behavior.

In his interactions, Peter experiences difficulty in accepting the reduction in the scope of his leadership role. His overconfidence precludes him from acknowledging errors, as evidenced by his disdainful responses to recommendations from others, such as Susan and Trumpkin. His overconfidence is consistent with the findings of Moore and Healy (2008) regarding the effects of overconfidence, which can result in suboptimal decision-making and interpersonal conflict.

Peter experiences an internal struggle between the use of force and the maintenance of moral principles, creating a dichotomy between his aspiration for justice and his need for peace. In contrast to his earlier self in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, where he felt empowered and clear about his role, his experience in *Prince Caspian* demonstrates confusion and distress. His dialogues reflect his efforts to reconcile his leadership responsibilities with the evolving dynamics in Narnia. This pressure serves to exacerbate his impulsivity and frustration, thereby illustrating how internal conflict can shape personality and behavior over time.

4. CLOSING

This study examines the character development of Peter Pevensie in C. S. Lewis's *Prince Caspian* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*. This research examines the character of Peter Pevensie in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* in great detail, with a particular focus on how these changes affect his capacity for leadership and judgment.

Character Development

In the beginning, Peter is depicted as a responsible elder brother who, in the absence of his parents, assumes the role of guardian for his younger brothers. He displays a dearth of self-assurance in his capacity for leadership in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. However, as the narrative progresses, he undergoes a transformation into the High King of Narnia. By the conclusion of the novel, he has become an exemplar of wisdom and justice, displaying courage, foresight, and a sense of duty to his realm.

However, in *Prince Caspian*, Peter returns to a Narnia that has undergone significant alterations. The formerly vibrant land is now under the rule of the Telmarine empire, which has resulted in feelings of frustration, impatience, and alienation among the populace. The transformation has a

significant effect on his personality, moving him from a composed leader to one marked by impulsivity and reactivity. The difficulties he encounters in adjusting to this novel setting illuminate the intricacies of his character and the emotional burden associated with a sense of marginalization.

Personality Shift

Peter's return to Narnia evoked a profound sense of frustration, a phenomenon that is widely observed in human experience. In stark contrast to his previously calm demeanor, his marginalization in the decision-making process precipitates an increase in his impulsivity. For example, when Peter is confused, he exclaims, "I'm not lost," which demonstrates his frustration and inability to accept the circumstances he finds himself in.

As a consequence of his previous role as Supreme King, Peter became overconfident, which served to further complicate his character. His excessive confidence leads him to misjudge others, such as Prince Caspian, and disregard crucial counsel. He is of the opinion that his previous position affords him the liberty to act without regard for the prevailing political circumstances. His impulsive decision to attack Telmarine without due consideration is illustrative of his overconfidence and deviation from the wise leadership he had previously demonstrated in the series. Additionally, Peter experienced internal conflict between his declining self-esteem and his reduced role, which constituted an essential element of his transformation. His decision-making process was disrupted by the emotional burden he endured due to the challenge of accepting a more passive leadership role. This was particularly evident in his relationship with Caspian, where his aspiration to assume authority frequently resulted in disputes that impeded collaboration.

Impact on Leadership and Decision-Making

Peter's leadership effectiveness was significantly influenced by his fluctuating personality. His frustration and impatience impeded his capacity to make well-considered decisions, leading to impulsive and poorly conceived actions. For instance, his hasty assault on Miraz's palace was driven by a desire for spectacle rather than a carefully strategized plan, which ultimately resulted in failure and exacerbated his internal challenges. Furthermore, Peter displays a notable degree of overconfidence, which leads him to disregard the counsel of others, particularly Caspian. This hinders the effectiveness of his collaborative leadership style, which is crucial for navigating the dynamic political landscape of Narnia. His reluctance to accept that he is no longer the primary leader exemplifies his adaptability, a quality that is essential for effective leadership in evolving circumstances.

This analysis employs the theoretical approach proposed by Hall and Lindzey, who define personality as an ever-changing construct formed by a combination of social, psychological, and biological factors. This framework enables an in-depth examination of Peter's character transformation, demonstrating how external changes and internal emotional processes shape personality. Peter's journey illustrates that personality is not an innate trait; rather, it is shaped by experiences and interactions with one's environment. The profound impact that alterations in character and conduct resulting from external influences can exert is particularly evident in his transition from a self-assured leader to a despondent and impetuous one.

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