

THE CHARACTERIZATION CHANGES OF HUMBERT'S CHARACTER IN THE LOLITA 1997 MOVIE

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ABSTRACT

Character or story refers to the unification of the interests, emotions and moral principles that make up the character or in other words describe the behavior or nature of the story. The purpose of this study is to analyze the characterization change in Humbert from the film Lolita 1997. The film that raises the theme of a pedophile. The film is about a professor's special relationship with a girl named Lolita. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative and research data collection uses Robert Stanton's character theory by the words, behavior, conversation and action from film Lolita 1997. The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. The object of this study is the character of the main character namely Humbert. The study found that changes in the case take place in three stages. The first stage is the initial character when the character has not been exposed to the triggers that become part of the story's conflict. The second stage is the transition that is generally described as an emotional change based on triggers that have occurred throughout the film. The third stage is a final character change that generally has significant change from the initial character. Through this study, people could see the importance of character in a story in both movies and other literature.

Keywords : Lolita 1997 movie, characterization, Humbert

INTRODUCTION

Literature is a personal human expression of experiences, thoughts, feelings, ideas, passions, conviction in some form of life, resurrected with charm through language instruments and portrayed in written form. Besides novels, poems, short stories and dramas, there are also films. Film is one of the literary works that depict life and it is reflected in social life. Speaking of movies, it is sure that the main character is the most well - told and much attended in every incident.

The story of the film cannot be told without a character as the storyteller, and the character plays the role of the main character as one of the points that a viewer notices. So that a character needs strong character to leave an impression on the viewer, to form strong and memorable character that is necessary character and clear purpose.

The characters of the figure can be divided into two kinds, that is the static and developing character. Character development is shaped through the character development which is on a film, the character development makes physiologically and sociology characters reflect the development of human character. So that the audience can feel the real impression of the film. The characters can be seen from the use of character names, the appearance of characters, the dialogue, and the actions of individuals. The characters of the figures in the movies is the story starter, so to speak. The character traits and styles may be shaped according to the theme presented in a movie story. The main characters delivered the story on the Lolita 1997 movie are Humbert and Lolita.

In this study the writer will analyze the main character changes of Humbert on the Lolita 1997 movie. The Lolita 1997 movie is one that has adopted the theme of a pedophile. Judging by the synopsis, the movie is about a professor's special relationship with a girl named Lolita. The characterization of the characters portrayed in the Lolita 1997 movie was portrayed by a mischievous child. It also reflects a character changes in the narration of the film to form a complex and ambiguous film in the rapture of the narrative because it is so subjective.

Furthermore, in the Lolita 1997 movie, the writer also hopes to find the character's dependency on the Humbert figure. When this is discovered, the change in character between Humbert and Lolita becomes one of the aspects that evoke reactions in the narrative of an exciting film to be considered further. Thus, it is important for the writer to analyze the main character changes of Humbert, which is of interest to consider further. Therefore, the study has also been established with a view to discovering the character changes that take place in the Lolita 1997 movie.

Previous relevant research was conducted by Tesa Helly Rondonuwu (2020) who researched "Characterization Analysis of the Main Character in the Film Barbie of Swan Lake (2023)", then Yolenta Oktovia Mahuze (2021) who researched "Character Analysis of the Main Character in the Film A Street Cat Named Bob by Rogers Spottiswoode" and Sri Mulyati (2020) who researched "Character analysis of Andrea Hirata in the film The Devil Wears Prada based on a Humanistic approach.

The three previous researchers and the research carried out by the current researcher have something in common, namely that they both examined the character of the main character in a film, meanwhile what differentiates previous research is the source of the data. In previous research, research examined the character of the main character, while research conducted by researchers at this time examined the character of the main character by focusing on changes in the character of the main character due to several factors such as emotionality caused by pressure and encouragement from the environment.

DATA SOURCE

The study used a Lolita 1997 film as a data source, a drama film directed by Adrian Lyne and written by Stephen Schiff on a streaming platform called netflix. The data source is based on conversation or dialogue on the film through the subtitled featured and behavior done by the main character Lolita in the film.

RESEARCH METHODS

In this study, the method to be used is a qualitative descriptive study method. The data used in the study is based on a film entitled Lolita 1997 whose object of research is a main character named Humbert.

Studies are conducted by analyzing data on film, analyzing, selecting and noting how character roles in a narrative can be seen from the character changes in the main character. This data presentation is from a Lolita 1997 movie cut to a few scenes that have been reduced to a character. Data that has been analyzed combined, to which conclusion is obtained.

The data-gathering technique in this study uses the character development theory of Robert Stanton that is according to the words of characters, characters' behavior, character conversations, and character actions. Researchers watch, take notes, and process research materials. As for the data collection step in this study:

1. The writer watches Lolita 1997 to gain insight and knowledge about the character characterization of the main character, to read research, and to the e-journal that addresses character analysis.
2. Collecting data by identifying the parts of the movie in the part of the scene that portray the character of the main character by carefully watching the scenes in the movie collect data by identifying the parts of the movie as part of the scene by carefully watching the events in the movie and understanding the meaning of the event.
3. The listen and note method are done by listening and watching the Lolita 1997 movie. Next, a notepad is carried out using a notepad technique. A note-writing technique is used to record the duration and dialogue in the movie that shows Humbert characters
4. The documentary uses a soft copy of Lolita's movie, which was downloaded from the web site, and then researchers determine scenes that show Humbert character and make screen captures that are the focus of research.

THEORETICAL REVIEW

Character terms according to Roberts Stanton in his book an introduction to fiction (1965:17) can refer to individuals in a story or in other words character or story also refer to the union of interests, emotions and moral principles that make up character or in other words describe the behavior or nature of the story. In analyzing the character, Stanton says the most important are dialogue and behavior. In good fiction, every word, action not only sets the grooves but also a manifestation of character (1965:18)

According to Roberts Stanton in his book an introduction to fiction (1965:17) character terms can refer to individuals in a story or in other words character or story also refer to the union of interests, emotions and moral principles that make up character or in other words describe the behavior or nature of the story. Analyzing the main character of Stanton's research categorizes several ways:

1. The writer's words open up insight into character to the reader through the words of the character. The writer presents several clues about character when character speaks, or character in words with others as well as whenever character expresses his or her opinion.
2. The conduct of the character writer may portray the behavior of a person such as traits, habits, or peculiarities that may also inform the reader of something from the main character
3. Conversations between character writers can give some indication of a person's character by speaking to others and things they say also when people talk about others, things they often say about a person's character when speaking.
4. The writer's actions give clues to the reader about one's character by describing to the reader how one reacts to certain situations and conditions. Based on understanding of character according to some experts above, it can be deduced that character is the real trait between the values and the thoughts that become the person's mental attitude.

Wellek and Warren (1977) give insight that the developing characterization is having permanent changes in a variety of areas, such as personal and emotional action. This gets really strengthened by Lajos Egri (1946). He says that character changes through conflict, conflict starts with a decision. The character decision will move other decisions, from the opponent of the character. These decisions, which result from one to the other, push into proof premise.

Edgar V. Roberts (1983) suggests that character in literature is a vast oral representation of humans, especially in determining themselves thought, speech, and behavior. The theory clearly states that dialogue, action, and comment represent a verbal representation of a human or have the most important literary dominance to create some interaction of the characters around them. By definition of character, the writer attempts to analyze the character of the individual-the character in the study by using the theory of Edgar V. Roberts in the same book that says there are four ways to analyze the character, that is, through what the character says about himself, what the character does, what the characters say-others about the character they analyze and what the author says about the character.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The transition in the case takes place through three stages. The first stage is an early characterization when the character has not been exposed to the triggers that are part of the story's conflict. The second stage is the transition that is generally described as an emotional change based on triggers that have occurred throughout the film. The third stage is a final character change that generally has a significant change of early characteristics.

Based on analysis done in this study, there are four early characterization of Humbert in the Lolita 1997 movie and analyzed using Stanton's theory of analytics. The early character Humbert when the character has not been exposed to conflict the story has 4 characterization: Patient, Imaginative, Quiet and Shrewd.

The Humbert characterization analysis from the beginning to end scene shows there are several characterization differences in each scene. The difference in this characterization reflected changes in characterization and this proved that the Humbert character had a characterization change in motion pictures. Here are characterization of Humbert before being exposed to the triggers that are part of the story's conflict:

1. Shrewd

Shrewd is an adjective, which means that it describes nouns. The word shrewd has interesting origins, revealing how the meaning of words can change dramatically over time. A shrewd person is able to understand and judge a situation quickly and to use this understanding to their own advantage



Figure 1.

Humbert: "What price did you say earlier?"

Humbert always had a way of getting what he wanted.. When Humbert wanted to rent Charlotte Haze's house, at first Humbert didn't want to rent the house because it was very expensive and the house seemed neglected. But after Charlotte Haze shows him the backyard and knows Dolores (Lolita) to Humbert, Humbert instantly said yes.

It's because Humbert fell in love with Lolita since he first saw her and he wants to be near Lolita. Humbert did various things to always be with Lolita, including marrying Charlotte Haze. When Humbert met Charlotte's daughter Dolores Haze. Humbert then calls Dolores Lolita.

2. Imaginative

Imagination is a speculative mental state that allows us to consider situations apart from the here and now. Historically, imagination played an important role in the works of many of the major philosophical figures in the Western tradition – from Aristotle to Descartes to Hume to Kant.



Figure 2

Humbert was a native of Europe who moved to America. He was an intelligent, clever, highly educated professor of English literature. He is a great literary and artistic lover. His artistic sensibilities shaped the entire way he viewed the world around him. He can also be very charming and very desirable by women.

Humbert is someone who has a vivid imagination. During his amorous journeys, he invariably had very wild imaginations, always pouring his imagination into his book. He is a poet of great skill and talent, a poem written in a film that makes us fall for the whole picture.

3. Calm

Calm person is the mental state of peace of mind, being free from agitation, excitement, or disturbance. It also refers being in a state of serenity, tranquillity, or peace. Calmness can most easily occur for the average person during a state of relaxation, but it can also be found during much more alert and aware states.

Humbert's composure is reflected in the way he behaves in every scene at the beginning of a movie when he is around Lolita. Even though he is very obsessed with Lolita, he keeps quiet. He was able to control his emotions over everything around him. Seen in pictures 3 and 3.1 below.



Figure 3 and Figure 3.1

Even though he often finds himself in difficult situations, he tries to keep his attitude calm. In picture 3 above shows the scene when Lolita is drying clothes in the back garden, then Humbert sits quietly reading the newspaper so as not to be discovered. His initial aim was to pay attention to Lolita's activities. Then when Lolita walked past Humbert, Humbert just smiled calmly.

In picture 3.1, there is a scene where Charlotte Haze (Lolita's mother) finds a note in Humbert's book which contains Humbert's wild fantasies about Lolita and the reason Humbert married Charlotte was because he wanted to be near Lolita, making Charlotte angry. As luck always favors Humbert, when Charlotte wants to go to the mailbox opposite her house to send a letter about Humbert's behavior, she is hit by a car and dies. Humbert seemed to maintain his attitude in front of the police when he found Charlotte dead.

4. Patient

Patience is the ability to stay calm in the face of adversity, waiting, frustration, or suffering, according to Sarah Schnitker, PhD, an associate professor of psychology and neuroscience at Baylor University in Waco, Texas, who studies patience, along with other character strengths like gratitude and forgiveness.

Likewise with picture 4 where he lived for years in Annabell's memories of her first love in her childhood. He always carries memories of Anabell wherever he goes.



Figure 4 and Figure 4.1

Humbert is very loving and patient. This really happens, especially in the scene with Lolita, such as in Figure 4.1, where Lolita approaches Humbert who is writing, then she sits on Humbert's lap and sticks gum into Humbert's notebook. Almost every time there is an opportunity, Lolita is always mischievous towards Humbert, but Humbert is always patient with Lolita's behavior and there are many scenes of Humbert's behavior, which is very patient with Lolita and loves Lolita very much.

Character Change

Character changes in a Figure can be seen from how the character moves along the story. The Humbert character went through a transition phase that shapes him into possessive, manipulative, obsessive and vengeful personality. After Lolita's mother's death, Humbert and Lolita often traveled to various places, stayed in hotels and had illicit relations. Found in different scenes Humbert is described as a different characterization anyway.

Factors affecting the character of the Humbert lead character during the trip with Lolita led to a transition phase and a different character change from the Humbert character before her. Here's his characterization change.

a. Humbert became Possessive

Being possessive means you're being a little selfish about people or things in your life: you're clinging to them tightly and saying "Mine!" Being possessive isn't a good thing — possessive people are usually insecure and controlling.

Humbert and Lolita then go around the country and live together. They then settled on a college in Beardsley. There Humbert became a teacher and Lolita became a student of a Catholic school. During his life with Lolita, he was so strict about forbidding Lolita to hang out with her peers at school. He also strongly forbade her to have extracurricular activities at the school in school dramas and got them into a big fight.

b. Humbert is overly anxious

Anxiety refers to anticipation of a future concern and is more associated with muscle tension and avoidance behavior.

Humbert lied to Lolita about the death of her mother who died from being so sick, he wanted to make Lolita have no one else besides him as her stepfather. The changes Lolita has experienced seem very obvious to Humbert gradually, to say that Lolita is bored with her relationship with Humbert. She wanted to break free like other girls her age. Fearing that Humbert would lose Lolita made him an obsession and become excessively anxious and turned into an aggressive too.

c. Humbert became a sadistic personality disorder

Sadistic personality disorder was defined by a pervasive pattern egosyntonic sadistic behavior. Individuals possessing sadistic personalities tend to display recurrent aggression and cruel behavior. People with this disorder will use violence and aggression in an attempt to control and dominate others.

When Humbert wanted to take Lolita away because he felt that someone was following him, Humbert always experienced anxiety over his relationship with Lolita, even more he realized that Lolita has been uncomfortable and has looked at Humbert as a living nuisance.

The unsteady Lolita often invites arguments with Humbert. Sometimes Lolita is tired and depressed at the thought of being controlled by Humbert. She then went with a man named Clare Quilty who had ill intentions. Clare's a pedophile and a child predator who's far worse than Humbert. Clare likes Lolita and targets the girl. He kept trying to get close to her and took her away from Humbert.

When Lolita got tired of Humbert and wanted to feel free, she finally went with Quilty and separated from her stepfather. But it turned out that Quilty wanted to use Lolita and force her to become involved in making a pornographic film. When Lolita refused, Quilty threw her away and didn't care about her anymore.

The scene where Humbert lost Lolita, it moved Humbert to look for Lolita everywhere, when Lolita sent a letter to Humbert to help her financially, so quickly helped and met Lolita. After meeting Lolita and seeing her pregnant, he invited Lolita to come back with him but Lolita refused and chose to live with her small family. At this point Humbert is desperate and he's leaving Lolita. Humbert was so angry at Clare Quilty, after he heard Lolita's story, Humbert held a very heavy grudge and blamed Clare for everything that happened to Lolita and him.

At this stage, it forms Humbert to character of vengeance and fury and jealousy when he kills Quilty as a Humbert attempt to bring to justice his revenge which assumes it's all because of Clare

CONCLUSION

There is a considerable change in character of the Humbert character throughout the film narrative. The change in character in the Humbert character results from such factors as emotional pressure and encouragement from the environment, situations and conditions that occurred and the events that occurred to Humbert from the actions of another character especially in the conflicts that began when Lolita met with another man named Clare Quilty a drama writer. Lolita went with Quilty and made Humbert miserable to find her.

The transition in the case takes place through three stages. The first stage is the initial character when the character has not been exposed to the triggers that become part of the story's conflict. The second stage is the transition that is generally described as an emotional change based on triggers that have occurred throughout the film. The third stage is a final character change that generally has significant change from the initial character.

The early Humbert character who walks at the scene has characters that are patient, imaginative quiet and shrewd as its time goes. Humbert experiences a transition phase that shapes him into a possessive, erratic and overanxious personality, as a result of the conflict that results from the disturbed Humbert's fear of losing Lolita, sparked by the trauma past the Humbert that his girlfriend lost when he was a teenager, it is what influences the change in character of the Humbert lead character. The Humbert phase of change character that became tarnished when he learned of Lolita, that Lolita escaped with Clare and he tried to sell Lolita.

The development of Humbert is seen developing from good to bad. Thus, the Humbert takes on a variety of character changes influenced by the pressures and impulses of the environment

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