

# Psychological Analysis of the Main Character in Romeo and Juliet By William Shakespeare's

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**Abstract**— The aims of this study were to analyze the psychological aspect and to discuss psychological effects of main character. The research design used in this research is descriptive qualitative approach in which the data collected by reading the novel thoroughly, then using the note-taking, after that identify, and then analyzed. The theoretical basis used in this study namely Practical Psychology by Karl S. Benhardt, M.A,Ph.D (1953). The results showed that there were three aspects of psychology that can be influenced by sociological and also there were three aspects of psychology discussed in this study, namely the main character's emotion, wants, and feelings

**Keywords**— Character, Emotion, Psychological, Romeo and Juliet, William Shakespeare's

## 1 Introduction

Literature is one of the branches of art which exists in human life that uses language as its medium. Literature is an imaginative expression that can influence our way of life also give the readers a higher pleasure. It can be stated that literature is the one which represents a social reality, even though the natural word and the inner of subjective world of the individual have also been object of literary imitation <sup>[1]</sup>. Literature works can be divided into three categories which includes drama, poetry, and fiction (novel), in this study only focused on novel. Novel is a part of literary works which is usually known as narrative prose which concerned with length of the story and a complex plot which is the result of human real experience and their imagination. Novel is extended factious prose narrative dealing with human character and actions of period of time. Character is one of the intrinsic elements, which is very interesting to be analyzed because character in novel is as a reflection from the real human being. <sup>[2]</sup> Every object has three dimensions: depth, height, width. Human beings have an additional three dimensions: physiology, sociology, psychology.

In analyzing a novel of film there are two ways, it is intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements include plot, character, setting, theme, technique and style. Extrinsic element comprises the factor of extrinsic elements outside the work of literature. This factors belong to which include historical factor, sociological factor, physiological factor and philosophical factor. Literary works reflects psychological aspect. We can find about psychological character in some literary work such as in a novel. The psychological condition is caused by internal and

external condition. There are many statements about what psychology is, one of them is the statement that Psychology is a science; that is, it studied actual events in a scientific way. Unfortunately the word psychology has been associated in the minds of many people with all kinds of mysterious, occult studies, such as mind reading, hand writing, or the shape of the face or the head. Although psychology is interested in human activity, such methods as those mentioned above cannot be used because they are beyond the pale of scientific methods. Psychology, then, can be defined as the scientific study of the activities of individuals [3].

Hereinafter Psychological would be mentioned as follows. Psychological is part of science which analyzed human behavior, generally it has a certain viewpoint that physical situation, and surrounding situation as a main determiner of behavior and pattern human personality and also it has to do with the body and its systems.

Literary work viewed as psychological phenomena, the psychological aspects will appear through the characters if the text likes drama or prose. Personality is basically owned by human beings, it can choose directly, what we have in reaching the greatest happiness in the world. The environment also influences our personality and decision of our life.

The following section is the previous research that related to this current study. Firstly, [4] it is clear that readers are able to justify the reconstructed relationship in the process of fan fiction writing. It turns out that fan fiction is not as “meaningless” as people might think; it can serve as a tool for fans to heal and educate themselves, and add more color and vitality to the world of literature by providing various interpretations to the source text. Secondly, [5] it is showed that when the ideal of cultivating moral character, managing state affairs and bringing peace to the world was hindered, they tended to seek spiritual sustenance. Painting and garden-making were both important ways for literati to express their inner heart. Then, thirdly, [6] the result showed that Azzam's character has mature personality traits which include: (1) having a warm relationship with others, (2) ensuring emotional security, (3) having skills and tasks, (4) having self-understanding, (5) has a unifying philosophy of life.

Based on the background above, the aim of this current research is to analyze the psychological aspect and to discuss psychological effects of main character in *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare's, a novel that published in 2011.

## 2 Methods

The method used is descriptive qualitative approach which are done by three steps includes data source, data collection, and data analysis. All data source is taken from the novel of William Shakespeare's entitled *Romeo and Juliet*. This novel was chosen because in this novel found about the complex problem psychology of the main character named Romeo. The story in this novel, dominantly tell about the psychology of the main character in *Romeo and Juliet* and the emotions. Data were collected by applying the observation method in order to get more authentic information of meaning and message carried in the novel. Observation method is itself done by reading the novel, finding out the statements that belong to the main character in the novel. After reading the novel, the researcher quoted and classified the data from the main character of the novel. After classifying, the data would be descriptively analyzed them based on the theory and the scope of problems. Descriptive method here is by giving the explanation and example about the data

## 3 Result and Discussion

### 3.1 Psychology of the Main Character

The main character is an important figure in the center of the story's fiction, it controls where and what happen in the story. The problem which would like to be analyzed is about psychological of the main character of Romeo "Romeo and Juliet". In this novel, the main character is Romeo who dominates the whole story. He is considered the main character because the story revolves around them and is the central character in the story of this novel. The author used simple or flat character, it merely shows good or bad side of a person throughout the story and created the main character not to change the psychological of the main character from the beginning till the end of the story.

Briefly, Romeo and Juliet have been narrated as passionate young love. He is only interested in love. At the beginning of the play he is madly in love with a woman named Rosaline, he falls in love with her and forgets Rosaline. Thus, <sup>[7]</sup> gives us every reason to question how real Romeo's new love is, but Romeo goes to extremes to prove the seriousness of his feelings. He secretly marries Juliet, the daughter of his father's worst enemy; he happily takes abuse from Tybalt; and he would rather die than live without his beloved. Romeo is also an affectionate and devoted friend to his relative Benvolio, Mercutio, and Friar Lawrence. Romeo is the son of Montague and Lady Montague. A young man of about sixteen, Romeo is handsome, intelligent, and sensitive. Romeo is a protagonist. Though impulsive and immature, his idealism and passion make him an extremely likable character. He lives in the middle of a violent feud between his family and the Capulets, but he is not at all interested in violence.

Psychological dimension is related to your psychological condition and how you are on the inside. The condition of the character such as their abilities, their temperaments their qualities and their attitude towards life. The description of the characters look like: The psychological of human being in this play tells involves several aspects, among those, psychology emotions, wants and feeling. Further, the analysis of each psychological aspect as the following.

### 3.2 The Main Character Emotions

The emotion influences the psychological of human being, is anything that upsets the event adjustment of the individual or threatens life or disturbs the peace of mind of the individual is an emergency. The emotional aspect of this main character which shown as seen in the following quotation is about Romeo is afraid of relationship with Juliet as follows:

*"What is her mother?" Romeo ask to Nurse. "Marry, bachelor, her mother is the Lady of the house." Nurse said. "Is she a Capulet? O dear account! my life is my foe's debt." Romeo said. "Away, be gone; the sport is at the best." Benvolio said. "Ay, so I fear; the more is my unrest." (Page 73)*

It can be analyzed that the author of this novel describes about Romeo is afraid of his relationship, because Romeo knows that Juliet is the son of Capulet in which he is a big enemy of his family. The effect of this event is Romeo has the idea to change his name or identity. The relationship with Juliet intended not to be Romeo anymore. This is done by stay together forever with her and then he is hateful itself because his love is an enemy of her. At this point, Romeo and Juliet both maintain their relationship. The setting of this event is at Capulet's house. It described by the author in the beginning of story. The second emotion of the main character Romeo is about fear is narrated in the story. It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"I fear, too early; for my mind misgives some consequence, yet hanging in the stars, shall bitterly begin his fearful date. With this night's revels and expire the term of a despised life clos'd in my breast, by some vile forfeit of untimely death." (Page 61)*

It can be analyzed that the author of this novel describes about Romeo's revels may bring about his early death. The effect of Romeo problem is he tries to come to the party and in the party he discovered the first of true love. The setting of this event is at a street. It described by the author in the middle of story. Besides the example above, in this novel, there is another example about Romeo felt afraid with other character. Romeo felt afraid because he thinks cannot meet again with Juliet.

*"I hear some noise within. Dear love, adieu!" Juliet said. "O blessed, blessed night! I am afeard, being in night, all this is but a dream, too flattering-sweet to be substantial." Romeo said. (Page 91-93)*

It can be seen Romeo feel afraid of losing Juliet. They are like saying goodbye, as if they can't see each other again. Romeo wants the love of Juliet, but Juliet will be arranged with someone else. The effect of this event, Romeo can't have Juliet love completely, because Juliet has been mated. And in the conversation above they are saying a farewell to each other. The setting of this event is at Capulet's Orchard, this is when Romeo afraid with Juliet, so he come to her house.

### **3.3 The Main Character Wants**

As describe above, wants are parts of the human motivation. They will try to get satisfaction from the wants and the something is true of the personal wants, on this foundation of universal needs. Once a want has been acquired, it functions like a need, and the individual cannot be happy unless he finds some way to satisfy him. However, wants are modified through experience, and present a changing pattern in the development of the person from infancy to adulthood to old age Further, based on the research, the wants of the main character called Romeo which described in this novel has several wants. The first Romeo is wants to forget the girl (Rosaline). It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"She hath, and in that sparing makes huge waste; she is too fair, too wise, wisely too fair, to merit bliss by making despair. Do I live dead that live to tell it now. Then, be rul'd by me: forget to think of her. O teach me how I should forget to think!" (Page 37)*

It can be analyzed that in this quotation the narrator of this novel describes about the main character wants to forget thinking of her, but he didn't forget about her. It was very difficult because it already loved her. At this point, Romeo said that he is "dead" because he is always thinking over about her. The effect of this event is Romeo is stressed because his lover is rejected by Rosaline. The setting of this event is at Verona. It described by the author when he looks Rosaline.

The second, Romeo wants to kiss Juliet. This want shows that the main character need right now inviting her to take the kiss. It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"If I profane with my unwortheiest hand this holy shrine, the gentle fine is this: My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand. To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss. O, then dear saint; let lips do what hands do! They pray; grant thou, lest faith turn to despair. Then, have my lips the sin that they have took. Sin from my lips? O trespass sweetly urg'd! Give me my sin again. (Page 73)*

It can be analyzed from this quotation, the narrator of this novel describes about the main character want to have a kiss. It is causes he wants to smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss. He felt so happy and have fallen in love with Juliet. The effect of this event is Romeo and Juliet end up their love, but Romeo doesn't know yet who her mother. So, he always comes to

Juliet for meet her. The setting of this event is at the party of Capulet house. It described by the author in the middle of story.

The third, Romeo wants to love of Juliet but they're in big problems. It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"If they do see thee, they will murder thee." Juliet said. Alack, there lies more peril in thine eye. Than twenty of their swords; I would not for the world they saw thee here. Let them find me here. My life were better ended by their hate. Than death prorogued wanting of thy love." (Page 87)*

It can be analyzed that the author describes about the appetite of want to love of the main character Romeo. Romeo and Juliet is already to know that their love is in big trouble, because it is not approved by both parents, but Romeo still insist on waiting for his love Juliet. The effect of this event is Romeo still stays here for wanting of his love, then although his parents disagree, their love will last until they die in a hug. The setting of this event is at Capulet's Orchard. It described by the author in beginning of the story.

### **3.4 The Main Character's Feelings**

Feelings accompany all activity and are not separate experiences; that is, they are never experienced in isolation feelings influence action. The feeling of pleasantness is accompanied by an attitude of withdrawal as in other novels, here the author also depicted about the feeling of the main character. The first feeling of Romeo is unpleasant, It can be seen the quotation below:

*"Tut, I have lost myself; I am not here: This is not Romeo, he's some other where, tell me in sadness who is that you love. What, shall I groan and tell thee? why, no; but sadly tell me who. Bid a sick man in sadness make his will. Ah, word ill urg'd to one that is so ill! In sadness, cousin, I do love a woman. (Page 35)*

It can be analyzed from this quotation, the story of this novel described the main character felt unhappiness. He is stress to think about Rosaline. The effect of this event is he is a sick man in sadness of the loving girl. This is because, he can't forget about it, and he would never forget about that feel. The setting of this event is at the Verona. It described by the author in beginning of the story.

The second feeling of Romeo is feeling unpleasant. It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"By a name, I know not how to tell thee who I am: my name, dear saint is hateful to myself, because it is an enemy to thee; had I it written, I would tear the word." (Page 85-87)*

It can be seen the middle sentence that Romeo is hateful to his self, because their conflict of the families. The effect of this event is he unpleasant with his life. This is because he knows their families has a big problem, but Romeo can't be lie that he loves Juliet. Finally, Romeo changed his name to be able to stay in touch with Juliet. The setting of this event is at the Capulet's orchard. It described by the author in beginning of the story.

The third feeling of the Romeo is pleasant, because he was fallen in love with Juliet. It can be seen in quotation below:

*"What lady's that which doth enrich the hand of yonder knight?. O she doth teach the torches to burn bright! Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear! So shows a snowy dove tropping with crows as yonder lady o'er her fellos shows. The measure done. I'll watch her place of stand and touching hers, make blessed my rude hand. Did my heart love till now? for I ne'er saw true beauty fill this night. (Page 67-69)*

It can be discussed in this quotation, the author depicts about feeling happiness of Romeo in this novel. It can be seen when Romeo fascinated to see Juliet. In the middle sentence Romeo hopes to dance with her or at least touch her hand in greeting. At this point, I can see Romeo,

fallen in love at first sight with Juliet. The effect of this event is he fallen in love with her. Finally, Romeo can forget Rosaline after a long time of depression because of thinking about Rosaline, who never liked Romeo itself. Now, Romeo fell in love with Juliet, which is where Juliet comes from a rich Capulet of Families. But he didn't know anything about the family's problems. The setting of this event is at the Capulet house for the party. It described by the author in the middle of story.

In this novel, there is other example of feeling pleasant of the main character Romeo. He is extremely happy as he has just married and spent the night with his new wife, Juliet. He is extremely happy that he has finally found the love of his life. He tries to be polite to Tybalt because he doesn't want any trouble with him because of their new family ties due to his marriage. It can be seen the quotation below:

*"So smile the heavens upon this holy act. That after hours with sorrow chide us not!"*. Friar Lawrence said. *"But come what sorrow can, it cannot countervail the exchange of joy that one short minute gives roe in her sight."* (Page 131).

It can be seen that Romeo's love for Juliet and his happiness of marrying her have been fulfilled. I imagine that Romeo would enter very cheerful, with a big grin on his face. He would enter jumping about feeling very virgorous, filled with energy that this new love has given him. The effect of this event is they are now to be families but their families are still to be feud families, and Tybalt doesn't receive marriage from both. The setting of this event is at Friar Lawrence Cell's. It can be seen in beginning of the story, when Friar asking Romeo in the scene.

In this scene Romeo would like to be friends with Tybalt. Romeo tries to go away from Tybalt who becomes more agitated due to Romeo's puzzling words. Romeo claims to have never offended Tybalt. It can be seen the quotation below:

*"But loves thee better than thou const devise till thou shalt know the reason of my love; And so, good Capulet- which name I tender as dearly as mine own- be satisfied."* (Page 139)

It can be analyzed that Romeo is to be patient and tries to explain that, because of their new unseen family tries, there is no need to fight and their family feuds should be forgotten. The effect of this event is Romeo fight with Tybalt because Tybalt killed his best friend. The setting of this event is at a public place. It described when he meet with their families. There is other example of feeling unpleasant of the main character Romeo. He was frustrated because of Tybalt killed his friend Mercutio and loving of Juliet. It can be seen in the quotation below:

*"In faith, I will. Let me peruse this face. Mercutio kinsman, noble county Paris! I think he told me Paris should have married Juliet. Here to my love! (Romeo drinks poison). O true apothecary! Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die."* (Page 251-255)

It can be seen on the sentence is about Romeo was angriness because Tybalt killed Mercutio, and then Romeo felt frustrated because of Juliet. The effect of this event is Tybalt slain of Romeo. After that Romeo remembered Juliet because he felt can't meet again with Juliet. So, he drinks the drugs and he falls to die.

#### 4 Conclusion

Based on the analysis above, it can be concluded that the psychology aspect found in the novel Romeo and Juliet <sup>[7]</sup>. The things related to this character's psychological aspects which described in this fictional story are: a) emotions, b) wants, c) feelings. The emotions of the main character that are described in the story are: 1) he is worried, when he brings about his

early death, 2) he is afraid, when the relationship with Juliet is threatened because of both families, 3) he is angry, when he sees Tybalt killed Mercutio, 4) He is afraid, because he thinks that can't he meet again with Juliet, 5) he is frightened, when Balthasar that afraid of Romeo will do something foolish. The wants of the main character that are described in the story are: 1) he wants to forget Rosaline, 2) he wants to kiss Juliet, when Romeo fallen in love with Juliet, 3) he wants to love, when Romeo still insist on waiting for his love Juliet, 4) he wants his love, when Romeo is very loving with Juliet but Romeo cannot have this girl because the problems of both families. The feelings of the main character that are described in the story are: 1) he felt unpleasant, when Romeo is always thinking about Rosaline till he is sick, 2) he felt unpleasant, when Romeo is hateful to his self because has an enemy between the families, 3) he felt pleasant, when he is fallen in love with Juliet, (4) she felt happy, when Romeo doesn't stay to hear true shrift, 5) he felt angry, when Tybalt kill his friend, 6) he felt frustrated, because he lose the girl and in the end of story he is dead together with Juliet, 7) he felt unpleasant, when he has killed Tybalt, 8) he felt pleasant, when he has just married, 9) he felt to be patient, when Romeo tries to go away from Tybalt, 10) he felt unpleasant, when he has killed Tybalt

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