THE GUILTY FEELING OF BEN THOMAS CHARACTER ENDED IN TRAGEDY IN SEVEN POUNDS MOVIE BY GRANT NIEPORTE

TERM PAPER

Submitted in part-fulfilling for obtaining Strata One (S-1) Degree



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STRATA ONE (S-1) OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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2014

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I hereby declare that the term-paper is the result of my own work, and all the sources quoted or referenced have been stated correctly.

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PREFACE

Praise be to Allah, God who has been giving His blessings and mercy to the writer to complete this term-paper entitled *The Guilty Feeling Of Ben Thomas Character Ended In Tragedy* in *Seven Pounds* movie by Grant Nieporte. This term-paper is submitted in part fulfilling for obtaining Strata One (S-1) degree in English Department, University of Darma Persada. I am so grateful to all my lecturers in English Department who have guided me. In finishing this term-paper, I really give my regards and gratitude for people who have helped me.

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This term-paper is far from perfection. Suggestions and constructive criticism are welcomed to improve this term-paper.

Jakarta, March 2014

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ABSTRACT

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THE GUILTY FEELING OF BEN THOMAS CHARACTER ENDED IN TRAGEDY IN SEVEN

POUNDS MOVIE BY GRANT NIEPORTE

This term-paper discusses the theme of a literary work using a movie approach to intrinsic and extrinsic. Intrinsic approach applied concepts characterization, using showing, setting, plot and theme, while extrinsic approach used to study the concept of The Guilty Feeling Concept by Sigmund Freud. The term paper is categorized as a quality based research that combines *Seven Pounds* movie by Grant Nieporte as the primary source and is supported by some of the literature related to theories, concepts and definitions which relevant as a secondary source.

Keywords: Seven Pounds, characterization, setting, plot, and Guilty Feeling.

ABSTRAK

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THE GUILTY FEELING OF BEN THOMAS CHARACTER ENDED IN TRAGEDY IN SEVEN

POUNDS MOVIE BY GRANT NIEPORTE

Skripsi ini membahas tema karya sastra berupa film dengan menggunakan pendekatan intrinsik dan ekstrinsik, diterapkan konsep-konsep; perwatakan menggunakan metode-metode langsung (showing), latar serta alur; dan untuk pendekatan ekstrinsik digunakan konsep Rasa Bersalah oleh Sigmund Freud. Skripsi ini termasuk riset berdasarkan kualitas yang mengkombinasikan teks karya sastra dan film yang berjudul Seven Pounds oleh Grant Nieporte sebagai sumber primer dan didukung oleh beberapa literatur yang terkait dengan teoriteori, konsep-konsep dan definisi yang relevan sebagai sumber sekunder.

Kata Kunci: seven pounds, perwatakan, latar, alur, dan Rasa Bersalah.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of The Problem

A film that I am going to analyze entitled Seven Pounds, by Grant Nieporte. I would like to tell about a biography of the author first. Grant Edward Nieporte, born in 1973, is a screenwriter best-known for the film Seven Pounds. Nieporte got the idea for the script after having a chat with a man whom he called "one of the saddest people I've ever met in my life." in the behind scenes vignette found of the Seven Pounds DVD, Nieporte seems to suggest that the man was responsible for the death of seven in a "national tragedy". Nieporte was a technical advisor for the TV show Home Improvement from 1997-1999. He was a writer's assistant on Jack and Jill in 1999-2000. ¹

I choose this movie, titled *Seven Pounds* by Grant Nieporte that is released on 2008, in United States of America. This movie is based on the true story. All the screens played by Ben Thomas. Will Smith is as a major actor has beautiful playing in Ben Thomas character. He totally performs perfect acting in this movie. Ben Thomas character has full emotional feelings in this movie. He calls as a saddest man in this movie. Ben Thomas character can truly be seen by the actions. Based on the story, I really love Ben Thomas character that has to be responsible to others seven good people.

Ben Thomas is over all the scenes. The real major actor is Tim Thomas. He borrows his brother name. It is a Ben Thomas. Ben Thomas actually is a brother of Tim Thomas. There is a reason why Tim Thomas use the name of Ben Thomas.

Ben Thomas has a secret. He has gotten a serious problem in his life. It is because the fatal car crash has happened in his life. It is conducted by himself. There are seven victims in the crashing. There are

¹"Screenwriter Grant Nieporte"; February, 13, 2014; available from http://en.uci.alumnusi/grant/nieporte.html

seven names, six victims people and his beloved. His beloved is Sarah Jensen. She is one of victim in a crash. He gets a deep sorrowful since he has been lost of his beloved. In a grief of him. Ben Thomas has the guilty feelings over himself. Based on that crashing, he never forgive to himself.

According to Ben Thomas feels guilt. He is aware of it. He has to do something. He will be responsible over all that. He arranges the planning. He has plans as his purpose. He wants to give the beautiful gift to others seven good people. There are seven good people as his criteria candidates. All the plans are that he will donates his vital organs to that people. Therefore, Ben Thomas is in a bid for redemption, and he sets out to save the lives of seven good people.

B. Identification of The Problem

Based on background of the problem above, I limit my identification of problem to the character of Ben Thomas that has guilty feeling to seven victims who died. He is going to donate his vital organs to others seven good people. This is the donation as to be responsible for the accidents. Therefore, I assume that the assumption of the research is The Guilty Feeling Of Ben Thomas Character Ended In Tragedy in *Seven Pounds* movie by Grant Nieporte.

C. Limitation of The Problem

Based on the identification of the problem above, I limit the problem to the research of the guilty feeling concept, the guilt as deep within, and the fanatically self-punishing of Ben Thomas character ended tragedy. Theory and concept that I used are by intrinsic approaches as follows characterization, settings and plot. By the extrinsic approach, I used the Guilty Feeling by Sigmund Freud.

D. Formulation of The Problem

Based on the limitation of the problem above, the formulation is whether the theme of this movie Seven Pounds by Grant Nieporte is the Guilty Feeling concept? To answer this question, there are some steps that I take:

- 1. Can the methods of characterization be used to analyze this movie?
- 2. Can the plot and setting be used to analyze this movie?
- 3. Can the concept of the Guilty Feeling by Sigmund Freud be used to analyze this movie?
- 4. Can the theme of the literary work be reinforced by using the result of analysis of the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

E. Objectives the Research

Based on the formulation of the problem above, the objectives of this research is to prove whether the theme of this movie is the Guilty Feeling Of Ben Thomas Character Ended In Tragedy in *Seven Pounds* movie by Grant Nieporte. To fulfill this purpose, I have to take some steps:

- 1. To analyze the characterization this movie by using methods of characterization.
- 2. To analyze the plot and setting this movie.
- 3. To analyze literary work by using the concepts of the Guilty Feeling concept by Sigmund Freud.
- 4. To reinforce theme by using the intrinsic and extrinsic approaches.

F. Framework of The Theories

Based on the objectives of the research above, in this research I use the concepts of intrinsic and extrinsic approaches. For the intrinsic, I use literay approaches. Meanwhile, for the extrinsic approach, I use the psychological approach:

1. Intrinsic Approach

a. Indirect Method (Showing)

According to James. H. Pickering (1981) tells that there are essentially two methods of indirect characterization by showing:

characterization through dialogue (what characters say) and characterization through action (what characters do). ²

1) Characterization through dialogue.

The task of establishing character through dialogue is not a simple one. Some characters are carefully and guarded in what they say: they speak only by indirection, and what we must infer from their words what they actually mean. Others are open and candid; they tell us, or appear to tell us, exactly what is on their minds. Some characters are given to chronic exaggeration and overstatement; others to understatement and subtletly. It is a rare work of fiction, whose author does not employ dialoguein some way to reveal, establish, and reinforce character.

2) Characterization through action

To establish character on the basis of action, it is necessary to examine the several events of the plot for what they seem to reveal about the characters, about their unconciousness emotional and psychological states as well as about their concious attitudes and values. ³

b. Elements setting as a fiction

Elements setting can be divided into three main elements, namely of place, time and social condition. The third element although each offers different issues and can talk about themselves.

According to Dr. Albertine Minderop, MA's book entitled Memahami Teori-teori: Sudut Pandang. Teknik Pencitraan dan

²James. H. Pickering & Jeffrey. D. Hooper, *Concise Companion to Literature* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1981), p. 32

³*Ibid.*, p. 34

Arus Kesadaran Dalam Telaah Sastra quoted from Pickering said that, the definition of setting refers to the definition of place and the social environment where the events occured are narrated. Setting is classified into:

- Setting of place: Background to suggest the location where the events recounted in a work of fiction. Elemently may be used where the places with certain names, certain initials, perhaps a particular location without a clear name.
- 2) Setting of time: Background related to the problem of time "when" the occurrence of the events described in a work of fiction. The issue of "when" is usually associated with a factual time, time that are related or can be attributed to historical events.
- Setting of social condition: Social background suggests on matters related of social life in a place that is told in a work of fiction.

c. Plots

According to James. H. Pickering (1981) tells that Plot is deliberately arranged sequence of interrelated events that constitute the basic narrative structure of a novel or a short story or film. The plot has five distinct sections as follows: An explanation of each element of the plot is as follows:

1) Exposition.

The exposition is the beginning section in which the author provides the necessary background information, sets the scene, establishes the situation, and dates the action. At this point, the author may also introduce the characters and the conflict, or the potential for conflict. The exposition may be accomplished

in a single sentence or paragraph, or, in the case of some novels, occupy an entire chapter or more.4

2) Rising Action

This section breaks the existing equilibrium and introduces the characters and the underlying or inciting conflict. The conflict is then developed gradually and intensified.⁵

3) Crisis

The crisis is the moment at which the plot reaches its point of greatest emotional intensity; it is the turning point of the plot, directly precipitating its resolution.⁶

4) Falling Action

Once the crisis, or turning point, has been reached, the tension subsides and the plot moves toward its appointed conclusion.⁷

5) Resolution.

The final section of the plot is its resolution; it records the outcome of the conflict and establishes some new equilibrium or stability. The resolution is also referred to as the *conclusion*.

2. Extrinsic Approach

According to Sigmund Freud in Dr. Albertine Minderop, MA's book entitled *Psikologi Sastra* for the support extrinsic approach, I choose the concept of the Guilty Feeling.

a. The Guilty Feeling Concept

⁴ James H. Pickering & Jeffrey D. Hoeper, *Concise Companion to Literature* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., Inc., 1981), p.16.

⁵*Ibid.*, p. 17.

⁶Ibid.

¹Ibid.

⁸Ibid.

Guilt and remorse. Emotions of guilt and of shame are not the same, though they are often closely linked. The essential circumstances evoking guilt involve the perception of one's action in a situation as divegent from the right or moral or ethical action required by the situation. ⁹

b. The Guilt As Deep Within

Especially in cases of ill-defined guilt feelings a person tends to perceive the guilt as deep within herself; it is not so much that any of her acts is bad that she is a bad person. ¹⁰

c. The Fanatically Self-Punishing

The most profound and agitating fuilt emotions—olike those found in the fanatically self-punishing or in the insane---are of sort; the self is seen as the focal point and basic source of guilty action. Guilt of this kind of course implicated in the development of personality, mental illness, and psychotheraphy. ¹¹

G. Methods of Research

Based on the theoretical framework, the writer uses the research method with variety of qualitative; type of research literature, the research tendency is interpretative or analyzing by method of data collection from literary texts.

H. Benefits of the Research

Based on the methods of research, the benefits of this research are firstly it could be beneficial for students or researches who want to explore more deeplyabout *Seven Pounds*. Secondly, this research may be beneficial

⁹AlbertineMinderop, PsikologiSastra (Jakarta: YayasanPustakaObor Indonesia, 2010), p. 40. ¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 41

¹¹ Ibid. p.41

because it has been done through the new perspective by applying the concept of emotional classifications of guilty feeling, which is in the emotional classifications so it can show something new for further researches.

I. Systematic Organization of the Research

In relation with the title of this research, the systematic presentation is written as follows:

- CHAPTER I entitled INTRODUCTION, consists of: Background of the Problem, Identification of Problem, Limitation of the Problem, Formulation of the Problem, Objective of the Research, Framework of the Theories, Methods of the Research, Benefits of the Research, Systematic Organization of the Research.
- CHAPTER II entitled THE ANALYSIS OF MOVIE SEVEN POUNDS

 BY GRANT NIEPORTE THROUGH THE INTRINSIC

 APPROACH, consist of: analysis of characterization, plot and settings with intrinsic approaches.
- CHAPTER III entitled THE GUILTY FEELING OF BEN THOMAS

 CHARACTER ENDED IN TRAGEDY, in this chapter I

 will prove the theme of the movie by using extrinsic
 approaches of the concept of guilty feeling in emotional
 classifications by Sigmund Freud.
- CHAPTER IV entitled CONCLUSION, consist of the theme of this movie is "The Guilty Feeling Of Ben Thomas Character Ended In Tragedy"

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Scheme of the Research

Attachment

Abstract