

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CONCLUSION**

According to the movie script of “Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” (2022) by Michael Waldron, I identified the issue of grief in the antagonist character of this movie script, Wanda Maximoff. Thus, based on the result of my analysis I identified that Wanda Maximoff’s grief reflects the concept of five stages of grief by Kübler-Ross which was cyclical and showed a regress rather than a progress. The issue of the five stages of grief in Wanda Maximoff was elaborated through the intrinsic elements of narrative, such as characterization, plot, and setting. The extrinsic approach was used to analyze the five stages of grief, which consisted of denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and acceptance, utilizing the theory of Kübler-Ross. Additionally, each of the stages of grief could be seen in the narrative and dialogue of the “Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” (2022) movie script.

In the intrinsic elements, a characterization method was used to analyze the characteristics of Wanda Maximoff as she reflected on the concept of the five stages of grief by Kübler-Ross. It was demonstrated that the screenwriter Michael Wardon employed the method of characterization through dialogue, appearance, internal action, and external action to illustrate Wanda’s five stages of grief. Additionally, the way Wanda refused to believe that her children did not exist demonstrated her denial. Wanda’s physical actions, such as performing a forbidden dream-walking ritual, illustrated how her anger and bargaining stages appeared as she tried to negotiate with reality. Her emotional collapse upon discovering that her alternate children rejected her represented the depression stage, while her ultimate attempt to destroy the Darkhold spell along with the Wundagore building symbolized her acceptance. Through the characterization method, I was able to elaborate on Wanda’s characteristics, showcasing her emotional struggle with grief.

The plot elements were also used to elaborate on the five stages of grief that appeared in Wanda. Wanda’s five stages of grief were portrayed in the movie script “Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness” (2022) as exposition, complication,

climax, and dénouement. In the exposition, I found that it helped to introduce her denial of manipulating reality so she could control the people around her. The complication showcased her relentless pursuit of America's portal dimension-making power, which highlighted her anger, while her attempts to cross the universe to retrieve the escaped America and find her alternate children illustrated her bargaining. Moreover, as the climax unfolded, the scene showed Wanda eventually confronting her alternate children. However, they reacted with fear and rejection, which caused her depression stage to emerge, driven by a sense of desperation. Lastly, the dénouement, signified by her self-destruction, summarized her acceptance stage as she acknowledged that she would never regain her children.

The use of setting elements ultimately served to navigate her stages of grief. Through the setting, I was able to determine her stages of grief, such as the illusionary apple garden fueled by the Darkhold's corruptive power, which implied her denial in refusing to accept the loss of her children. Several settings, like the collapsed Kamar Taj, reflected her anger driven by her profound grief. The setting of the warm suburban house of Wanda's alternate self, Wanda from Earth 838, represented an ideal and dream home that Wanda desperately bargained to achieve. Therefore, the setting of the nearly collapsed Wundagore altar helped to shape the emotional atmosphere as the tension reached its peak, leading to Wanda's moment of realization. The collapsing Wundagore building simultaneously symbolized her acceptance as she acknowledged all the irreparable harm caused during her dangerous pursuit.

Furthermore, as a result, it could be demonstrated that grieving individuals, like Wanda, had to go through the stages of grieving, as this was considered a natural response to loss experienced by many people. Due to past incidents, she had lost her family, her lover Vision, and her boys, Billy and Tommy, which led her to the levels of grief: denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and finally reaching acceptance. Additionally, this literary research analyzed knowledge about the stages of grieving that are typically experienced by those in mourning, which hopefully provided another opportunity for writers interested in literary works, especially in the field of psychology, to further develop this research. Moreover, as the movie script of "Doctor Strange in the Multiverse of Madness" (2022) was analyzed using

the psychological approach of the five stages of grief, it presented an opportunity to be examined again through a sociological approach, which could be viewed through a postcolonial lens as the multiverse represented multiple worlds, offering a chance to explore themes of power, social structure, and cultural interaction.

