

## AN ANALYSIS OF THE MAIN CHARACTER'S CONFLICT IN THE MOVIE *ACT'S OF VENGEANCE*

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### ABSTRACT

The aim this study is to describe the conflict of the main character Act of Vengeance in the movie. This study focused on explaining the types of conflicts that the main character faced in the movie Act of Vengeance and to analyze how the main character manages to settle conflict in the movie Act of Vengeance. The collected data were analyzed descriptively based on Kenney's theory of literature (1966). The result of this study reveals that the conflicts faced by the main character can be divided into internal conflict and external conflict. The sources of conflicts faced by the main character are different opinions, incompatible roles, incompatible goals, limited resources. The conflict management strategies applied are pacification, compromise, and creative integration. Conflict adds excitement and suspense to a story. As the plot unfolds, the readers start to wonder what will happen next, and how the character will handle the situation. It can be concluded that the conflict of the main character has important roles in created the movie story.

Keywords: Main character, Movie, and conflict.

### ABSTRAK

*Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan konflik karakter utama Act of Vengeance dalam film tersebut. Penelitian ini difokuskan untuk menjelaskan jenis-jenis konflik yang dihadapi tokoh utama dalam film Act of Vengeance dan menganalisis bagaimana tokoh utama mengelola konflik dalam film Act of Vengeance. Data yang terkumpul dianalisis secara deskriptif berdasarkan teori sastra Kenney (1966). Hasil penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa konflik yang dihadapi oleh tokoh utama dapat dibagi menjadi konflik internal dan konflik eksternal. Sumber konflik yang dihadapi oleh tokoh utama adalah perbedaan pendapat, peran yang tidak sesuai, tujuan yang tidak sesuai, sumber daya yang terbatas. Strategi manajemen konflik yang diterapkan adalah pasifikasi, kompromi, dan integrasi kreatif. Konflik menambah kegembiraan dan ketegangan pada sebuah cerita. Saat plot terungkap, pembaca mulai bertanya-tanya apa yang akan terjadi selanjutnya, dan bagaimana karakter akan menangani situasi tersebut. Dapat disimpulkan bahwa konflik tokoh utama memiliki peran penting dalam pembuatan cerita film.*

*Kata kunci: Tokoh utama, Film, dan konflik.*

### I. INTRODUCTION

Literature is a reflection of human life, a criticism implicitly commenting on the relationship between people, the environment, and the creator. It describes how people are involved in the conflict and

how they discover the solution. (Wellek & Warrens 1994:22). Literary works as the social-cultural phenomenon have a relation to the writer and human life. There are many

forms of literary work, and those are novels, poems, dramas, movies, and short stories.

Conflict is very influential on social life because the primary concern in each story is the storyline that is the meaning of the conflict itself, from the conflict the people can understand and get interested in the story of the movie. Conflict is essential to be discussed in literary work because it provides that primary material for the construction of the plot, many literary works, including movies, must have conflict within without it, the story would not have meaning and it would be worthless.

According to Wellek & Warren (1994:122) conflict is dramatic even that focuses on the battle between two forces balanced and implies the action and relation. The movie is one of the products in which there is conflict as an intrinsic element. A movie can be defined as any movie picture, cinema, and fictional movie. In a movie, many characters make the story run smoothly. The movie also serves as communication media that provides a valuable message to the audience. The message is displayed above the study aims to analyze the movie entitled "*Act of Vengeance*" by Isaac Florentine as the data source, there will be several problems by conflict the main character that could be analyzed in accordance to the theory. Generally, conflict can be separated into two parts such as: internal conflict and external conflict. The Main character is a central character the whole story, has a most important role in the development of the story and the character's psychological experience development (Morner & Rausch, 1991:43). The main character is the character who has an important role that is mostly related to the other characters, the character that is mostly involved in the theme of the story.

This research was interested in analysing the main character conflict faced in the movie *Act's of Vegeance* because it is very famous

movie and also this movie tells about madness, togetherness and adventure. This movie was released on 27 October 2017. So the researcher has a chance to make the first study about it. By this movie, the researcher would share with the reader about the conflict face by the main character and also to know the main character to settle the conflict in the *Act's of Vengeance* movie.

Before the researcher carries out this study about the types of conflict faced by the main character in the *Act's of Vengeance* movie. The researcher analyzes the research gap about the conflict to be compared with his study. The first, related to Putra (2016) "The Analysis of Main Character and Conflict in the Movie *The Hangover III*". In this research, the writer categorized conflict the main character is Alan because he diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity (ADH). The second research conducted by Suerni (2014) "An Analysis of Internal Conflict Faced by The Main Character in Novel *The Notebook* by Nicholas Spark" in this research she focused on the analysis of internal conflict in the novel and sources of the conflict, especially faced by the main character. And another resist conducted by Sudarsana (2009) "Analysis conflict in the novel *In My Fair Lady*" According to Sudarsana, in the novel *In my Fair Lady*, there were contains external and internal conflicts found in the story that occurred between the main character Elisa. For external conflict occurred between man against man.

From the three research gaps above, this study has novelty and has not been carried out by the preceding research. He will do the the study differs from the study which are done by three researcher above. Therefore, the researcher analyzes the conflict that the main character in the *Act's of Vegeance* movie. Beside that, the writer believes that he found some types of conflict used. He also studies about how the main character manages to

settle the conflict in the *Act's of Vengeance* movie.

## II. RESEARCH METHODS

In this section involve the data source, data collection, data analysis, and finding presentation. Those four subject were explain as follows:

The data of this study were taken from the film entitled *Act of Vengeance* movie directed by Isacc Florentine and the script written by Matt Venne produced by Saban Capital Group.

In collecting the data, the writer used some steps: Watching the movie of *Act of Vengeance* repeatedly to find every moment that occurs to the main character from the beginning of the movie until the end of the movie, Reading the script of that movie to find out the dialogue between the main character and the antagonist character will create a conflict in each scene, Note-taking per each moment of that movie to find the conflict, and make a sequence of that moment structured.

In analyzing the data, the researcher used the descriptive qualitative method. In this analysis was identifying the types of conflict that the main character in the data source by using the theory Kenney (1966) and also Deetz and Stevenson (1986) about analysing how the main character manages to settle the conflict in the movie.

## III. DISCUSSION

**This section presents the findings and discussion of the main character's conflicts based on the theory of the conflict Then, it is followed by the presentations of the findings and discussions of the internal and external conflicts faced by the main character. The source of the conflict and also how the main character resolves or settle the conflict in the movie *Acts of Vengeance* are also presented.**

### 3.1 Internal conflict

Internal conflict is represented by some opposing forces that take place inside the person of the character. Sometimes the character must deal with his or her mixed feeling or emotions. According Koesnoesoebroto (1984:42-43) internal conflict is conflict that comes from inside of the character in literary work. The internal conflict can be identified in the ways described below:

#### Data 1.

Setting : Place : At talent show place  
Time : At the midnight



**Picture 1. Frank was scared and worried about his Family**

The picture shows above that Frank come late to watch his daughter's performance in singing because he was busy with his job and had stuck on the road when Frank went toward his kid's talent-show. The conflict happened when Frank arrived at the kid's talent-show place where he found people already gone back home, and there he did not find his family. After that, he was scared about his family since that moment. This situation is presented in the dialogue below:

Sue's Phone : *Hi, it's Sue. Please leave a message.*

Frank : *Sue. Listen, i'm sorry. Things just got away from me, at work. Call me back, please. I'm sorry.*

Sue's Phone : *Hi, it's Sue. Please leave a message.*

Frank : *Sue, listen uh..., I know you're upset with me, but please call me back. It's getting late, and I'm worried about you guys, okay?*

The dialogue above tells about Frank who worried about his family. He promised to his daughter to come and be there on time, but at the same time, he had got to finish some extra job that was given by his partners and Frank also, face some bad situation when he left for his daughter's talent show. He got stuck on the road and it was raining. Frank tried to phone his wife several times and apologize for but there was no answer by his answer. He said, *Susan. Listen, I'm sorry. Things just got away from me at work.* Frank expressed his mistake and tried to explain to his wife by phone. Furthermore, when Frank arrived back home at the night, he did not find his family at home until midnight. From that moment he was confused and worried about his family. Frank said, *Sue. Listen, uh... Listen, I know you're upset with me, but please call me back. It's getting late, and I'm worried about you guys, okay?* The situation Frank is scared because his wife and daughter didn't ring him back to know where they are.

From the illustration of the story and dialogue above, the source of this conflict was **Incompatible roles**. This type of conflict arises whenever individual roles in interaction cannot be appropriately assumed because each requires a complementary role that the other is not playing. In this situation, Frank who was getting late and did not watch his daughter singing in kid the talent show became a big conflict to his family. In this case, Frank used Compromise Strategy to resolve the conflict. A Compromise is an approach with a desire to keep everyone a little bit happy, perhaps not as happy as they would like. By making a compromise or

agreeing to meet in the middle, you can find a positive way to resolve the conflict that can make other participants a little happy. Frank felt guilty because he was getting late to watch his daughter perform. In this conflict, Frank used **Compromise Strategy** to resolve the conflict. He tried to apologize and explain the reason why he was getting late by phone. The conflict became arise because the communication between Frank and Sue not running well. Although, this strategy was not succeeded Frank to resolve this conflict.

## Data 2.

Setting : At the Frank House

Time : In the afternoon.



**Picture 2. Frank felt Sadness and Guilty for the Death of his Family**

The picture above shows that Frank looks sadness because he gets bad news from the police who found his wife and his daughter dead. How quickly the loved one disappeared that made frank sad. This conflict happened at a crime scene in the film when Frank was asked to recognize his family's corpses. Since that incident, he always remembers his family and feeling guilty for the death of his family. The struggle between inside Frank's mind presented in the dialogue bellow:

Lustiger : *Mr. Frank Valera, I'm detective lustiger.*

Frank : *Where are they? Are they okay? Where are they?*

Police : *Mr Frank....Mr. Frank...Mr. Frank! We're still waiting for the forensic team. Frank! Frank! I can't let you contaminate the crime scene.*

Frank : *My baby. Th-that's mybaby. That's my baby!*

Police : *Hold him back!*

Frank : *Let me go. Let me go! Let me go! Let me go!*

Police : *Get him back! Get him back!*

Frank : *It became clear to me that justice would never be served. I made my family a promise, but my words were as empty as everyone else's. I was the guilty one.*

The conversation above shows that Frank as the main character who was in sadness and felt guilty for the death of his family. The conflict happened since Frank was getting late to watch his daughter perform in the talent-show, and when he arrived back home and did not find his family at home until midnight. The conflict was identified when the police come to his house and invited Frank to the crime scene, to the place where his wife and his daughter died. Frank said “*where are they? Are they okay? Where are they?*”? A beloved family suddenly disappeared that made Frank sad. Frank recognized his wife and his daughter’s corpses. Frank felt sad and was unbelievable about what he was witnessing. He felt lonely with the memory of his family in his mind. On the next day, Frank found his wife’s and his daughter’s photos that made him feel guilty for his mistake. He said “*it became clear to me that justice would never be served. I made my family a promise, but my words were as empty as everyone else's. I was the guilty one*”. Since that moment, Frank punished himself and fell into bad habit of drinking and joining free-fighting boxing.

Frank was identified as having conflict from the expression of his face of as well as from the words he said.

From the illustration of the story and dialogue above, the source of conflict can be identified as **Incompatible roles**. This type of conflict arises whenever individual roles in interaction cannot be appropriately assumed because each requires a complementary role that the other is not playing. In this situation, Frank as the main character cannot appropriately keep his promise to watch his daughter’s performance in the talent-show. In the fact, Frank get late toward the places of his daughter performance. In this situation Frank used **Pacification strategy** to resolve the conflict. Pacification massages can be identified in the deal with the problem, but actually this strategy to subvert the conflict discussion. It debilitates individual and relationship problem solving by the incapacity of decision making and it can expand the complexity of the issues, leaving them more difficult to address in the future. Nevertheless, pacification may be desirable to think of and pre plan to deal with conflict. In this situation Frank felt guilty because of his family’s death and realized that it would not happen if he had been always with them on that moment. Since his family died everything changed in Frank’s life which made he fall into a bad habit of drinking alcohol and joining a free boxing activities. After that, Frank was conscious and tried to solve the conflict by finding out the murderer. At the point of Frank’s life he becomes guilty for the death of his family. In this situation the conflict was rising to the main character.

### 3.2 External conflict

External conflict is a conflict between characters and outside forces. The external conflict could be in the form of a fight, argument or disagreement, or simply opposition in which two sides are present.



The form is on the verbal and this is support into the visual to come to a better understanding of the conflict. It can be conflict between man against man, man against nature, and man against society (Kenney, 1966: 19). From the whole story of the movie Acts of Vengeance, in analyzing the external conflicts can be categorized that was faced by Frank as the main character two aspect of the film (story) need to be presented, namely verbal and visual. The form is on the verbal and this is support into the visual in order to come to better understanding of the conflict.

### a. Man against Man

#### Data 3

Setting: Place: At Frank's lawyer's office.  
Time: In the afternoon.



**Picture 3. Conflict between Frank and Sue**

The picture above shows that Frank called his wife, Sue, by phone. Frank was busy with his job preparing some file acquittal at the office. The trouble occurred when Frank already promised his family to watch their daughter's performance together, but he was late because he had extra works at the office and he got stuck on the road. The conversation below presents the condition.

Sue : *Frank, you were supposed to be here half an hour ago. The really starting to fill up.*  
Frank : *I know, I know. I'm sorry. I'm heading down to the garage right now.*

Sue : *Olivia wants to talk to you.*

Olivia : *Hi, daddy.*

Frank : *Hi, sweetheart.*

Olivia : *You're coming, right?*

Frank : *I'm on my way.*

Olivia : *Good... Cause I think you're gonna love my performance. Promise you'll be there?*

Frank : *I promise. I love you. Shit. Wait. Wait.*

The conversation above shows that the conflict happened between Frank and

Sue when Sue was asking Frank to watch their daughter's (Olivia) performance in the talent show event. Sue said, "*Frank, you were supposed to be here half an hour ago. The place is really starting to fill up*". The conflict occurred when Frank hesitated because he was still busy at his office. It made Frank apologize for getting late and hurry up leaving the office "*I know, I know. I'm sorry. I'm heading down to the garage right now*". Suddenly, his lovely daughter namely Olivia called Frank to make sure that "*You're coming, right? Frank promised to watch his lovely daughter's performance at the talent show event. Frank said.*" I'm on my way I promise. I love you.

From the dialogue above, the source of the conflict can be identified as **Incompatible roles**. This type of conflict arises whenever individual roles in interaction cannot be appropriately assumed because each requires a complementary role that the other is not playing. In this situation, Frank as a Father who was promised to watch his daughter's performance but he loosed to watch the performance. Frank used the **Pacification strategy** to resolve the conflict. The pacification strategy works to block the discussion of the conflict issued by undermining rather than avoiding the conflict discussion. It debilitates individual and relationship problem solving by incapacity

decision making and it can expand the complexity of the issues, leaving them more difficult to address in the future. Nevertheless, pacification may be desirable to think and pre-plan them to deal with conflicts. Frank promised to come at his daughter's singing. However, he got late because he got stuck on the road and it rained. Debilities between Frank and Sue were solving the problem by incapacity decision making and it can expand the complexity of the issues which was missed by Frank. At the point of the story, Frank became fell unsuccessful to solved his conflicts, although he was tried to calling to find out their existence. In this fact, their communication was not running well because Frank and Sue did not meet each others.

#### Data 4

Setting: Place: At the Bar

Time: In the Morning



**Picture 4. Conflict between Frank and a police (Strode)**

The picture shows above that Frank was at the bar that afternoon. Since his family is dead, Frank always spent his time doing bad habits such as joining the free-boxing activities and got drunk. One day, Frank met Strode, someone who helped him at the free

boxing arena. Frank tried to share and told his problem about his family. He took his family picture in his hand and he showed that picture to his new friend who was a Policeman. Frank looked tired and confused when Strode said something annoying. The conversation below presents the situation

Frank : *What about you? You're not in a police uniform, which means you're not here to bust to fights up. You follow me here?*

Strode: *This job, frank...It's a fucking war zone out there. The way people feel about cops, sometimes I just gotta blow off a little steam, you know? You know, I, uh, was sorry to hear that, um, they're going to re-prioritize your case.*

Frank: *What the hell are you talking about?*

Strode: *Your case has been reprioritized from active to cold. I thought you knew.*

Frank: *Wh-why?*

Strode: *Frank, it's been a long time. We've got no fresh leads. I mean, it's hard.*

Frank : *The case is dead?*

Strode : *No, it's not dead, it's just...cold.*

Frank: *Those are fucking semantics, and you know it: This is a way of twisting words around. Believe me, I know about it. I've made a lot of money doing that. Look, I'll stay on top of lustiger. You know, try and keep it in his mind. Talk is cheap, huh?*

The dialogue above shows that the conflict between Frank and Strode who was a cop told something that made Frank disappointed. Strode said, "You know, I, uh, was sorry to hear that, um, they're going to

*re-prioritize your case*". Strode said to Frank here about the unclear case of his family, the police give up finding out the murderer of his family. Frank was angry and responded to Strode *"What the hell are you talking about?"* Strode tried to explain again to Frank *"Your case has been re-prioritized from active to cold. I thought you knew"*. Frank felt surprised and disappointed because of Strode's news. Frank was able to know the reason why the case changed from active to becoming cold. Disappointedly Frank said, *"Wh-why?"* Strode explained the reason to Frank, Strode said, *"Frank, it's been a long time. We've got no fresh leads. I mean, it's hard"*. As the Police, Strode explained the reason for the murder of Frank family has not been found yet. Strode said that the Police had not enough evidence and witnesses for the case. That's why the case seems to change from active to the cold case.

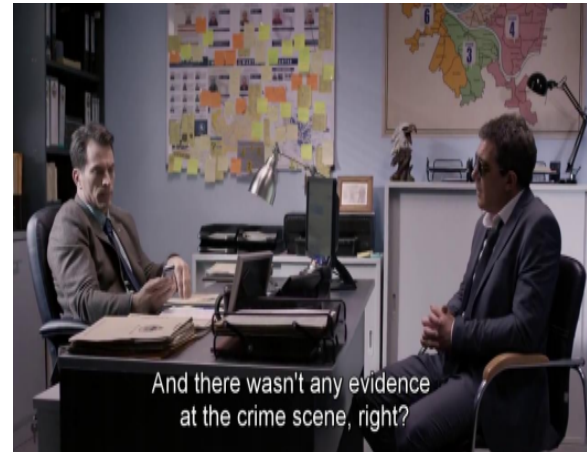
From the dialogue above, the source of the conflict can be identified as **Incompatible roles**. This type of conflict arises whenever individual roles in interaction cannot be appropriately assumed because each requires a complementary role that the other is not playing. In this situation, Frank used the **Pacification strategy** to resolve the conflict. The pacification strategy works to block the discussion of the conflict issued by undermining rather than avoiding the conflict discussion. It debilitates individual and relationship problem solving by incapacity decision making and it can expand the complexity of the issues, leaving them more difficult to address in the future. Nevertheless, pacification may be desirable to think and pre-plan to deal with conflict.

## b. Man against Society

### Data 5

Setting: Place: At Police Office

Time: In the Day



**Picture 5. Conflict between Frank and Police Rules**

The picture above shows that Frank was at the Police office. He felt disappointed and unsatisfied with the Police's duty that was slow in handling his family's cases. Frank tried to meet Detective Lustiger and found out the information directly. Frank's family death has happened at long time, the Police did not have witnesses, especially one against the murderer. The conflict between Frank and the Detective Lustiger is shown in dialogue below.

Frank : *You guys never found my wife's purse.*

Lustiger : *Pretty violent for a purse snatching, don't you think, frank? Or carjacking? Why'd they leave the car?*

Frank : *I don't know. Maybe something went terribly wrong and they had to flee, i don't know.*

Lustiger : *We are exhausting all leads. You don't need to keep coming down here, frank. I'll call you if anything comes up. I'll call you even if something doesn't, just to keep you informed.*

Frank : *Detective lustiger, will you please stop texting, sir? Can I see the file on the case?*



Lustiger : *No. It's confidential. It's police business.*

Frank : *It is my wife and my daughter.*

Lustiger : *I am trying to find out who did this and to bring them into justice.*

Frank : *Well, try harder. Goddamn it!*

The description and dialogue above shows the conflict between Frank and Detective Lustiger. Frank tried to find out the information about his family's case and he complained about the police duty. Generally the police rules even explain as Lustiger said, *"We are exhausting all leads. You don't need to keep coming down here, frank. I'll call you if anything comes up. I'll call you even if something doesn't, just to keep you informed"*. In this situation, the conflict between Frank and police occurred when police asked Frank to not keep coming to the police office. Meanwhile, Frank felt unsatisfied with Police's job which was slow in handling the case. Furthermore, conflict between man and society occurred when Detective Lustiger prefer playing his phone and did not respond to Frank intensively. It was a big problem when Frank needs his respect. Frank said, *"Detective lustiger, will you please stop texting, sir? Can I see the file on the case?"* Then, Frank asked Lustiger's to stop playing his phone and offering to checking the file case together but Lustiger's easily said *"No. It's confidential. It's police business"*. The file case handled by police is confidential, that's why frank was difficult to know well the leads. Frank felt unsatisfied with the police duty which the police still have not a sign and in weak to find the murderer.

From the explanation and the dialogue above the source of that conflict can be identified as **Limited resources**. Conflict over limited resources is similar to those over incompatible goals, when one person acquisition of the resources precludes the other's gaining the resources. The conflict

happen when the police limited to found out the evidence and the witnesses of the case. Furthermore, Frank annoyed with Lustiger's behavior. He preferred playing his phone and did not respond to Frank intensively. The strategy used by Frank to resolve the conflict is **Pacification Strategy**. The pacification strategy works to block the discussion of the conflict issued by undermining rather than avoiding the conflict discussion. Pacification massages appear to the deal with the problem, but actually subvert the conflict discussion. It debilitates individual and relationship problem solving by incapacity decision making and it can expand the complexity of the issues, leaving them more difficulty to address in the future. Nevertheless, pacification may be desirable to think and pre plan them to deal with conflict. Frank unsatisfied with police's duty which is have not clear to found the murderer, he tried to found information directly from Lustiger's to deal with problem solving however desirable to think and pre plan deal with conflict.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

From the analysis that has been done regarding to the same thing or problem. The main character in the movie has external and internal conflicts. Based on the analysis in the study, incompatible roles and incompatible goals mostly occurred as the source of conflict. The way used by the main character to resolve the conflict was the conflict management strategy. Through managing the conflict, people can develop and maintain cooperative relationships to solve the problems. The researcher suggest for future to read the analysis carefully until know the types of conflict internal and external and to know about the main character manage to settle in conflict of *Act's of Vengeance* movie itself. So the readers / listener will no longer have difficulty to interpret the types of conflict

and also to settle in conflict main character manage in *Act's of Vengeance* movie.

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