

**PROTAGONIST'S STRUGGLE AGAINST PREJUDICE
IN PHIL JOHNSTON'S MOVIE SCRIPT *WRECK-IT
RALPH***

A THESIS

BY:

NAUFAL KARIM SIREGAR

Reg. No : 71200411033



**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LITERATURE
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM
SUMATERA UTARA MEDAN
2024**

**PROTAGONIST'S STRUGGLE AGAINST PREJUDICE
IN PHIL JOHNSTON'S MOVIE SCRIPT *WRECK-IT
RALPH***

**A THESIS
BY:**

NAUFAL KARIM SIREGAR

Reg. No.: 71200411033

**SUBMITTED TO
THE FACULTY OF LITERATURE
ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF NORTH SUMATRA
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF *SARJANA SASTRA*
IN ENGLISH LITERATURE**

Supervisor,

Dr. Pardi, S.S., M.S.

Dean of the Faculty,

Head of Department,

Dr. Purwanto Siwi, S.S, M.A

Dr. Ely Ezir, M.S.

**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LITERATURE
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM
SUMATERA UTARA MEDAN**

2024

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Firstly, the writer would like to thank Allah SWT, the Almighty, the Most Gracious, and Merciful, who has granted me health, time, and opportunity to finish this thesis, titled "PROTAGONIST'S STRUGGLE AGAINST PREJUDICE IN PHIL JOHNSTON'S MOVIE SCRIPT WRECK-IT RALPH." Without His blessings, this thesis would not have been completed.

This thesis is written in order to fulfill one of the requirements to obtain a Bachelor's Degree at the Faculty of Literature, Islamic University of North Sumatra (UISU), Medan. During the course of my study and the process of researching and completing this thesis, many hands were involved, and much energy was spent. I humbly would like to convey my sincere gratitude to all of them:

1. Dr. Purwanto Siwi, S.S., M.A., the Dean of the Faculty of Literature, and Dr. Ely Ezir, M.S., the Head of the Department, for their approval of this thesis.
2. My supervisor, Dr. Pardi, S.S., M.S., for his invaluable guidance, support, and encouragement throughout the writing process.
3. All the lecturers in the Faculty of Literature at UISU Medan, for their knowledge, experience, and advice during my studies.
4. My beloved family for their unwavering prayers, support, and love. Special thanks to my respected and cherished parents, ROMY KARIM SIREGAR and DEWI OCTAVIANI.
5. My classmates for being true friends through thick and thin, helping and supporting me during this challenging journey.

6. My girlfriend, Alya Anatasya, for her understanding, support and her belief in me.
7. My working team, Boboyuk Team for their support and belief in me.

Finally, I hope this thesis can make a valuable and constructive contribution to the advancement of knowledge, particularly in the field of literature. I apologize for any shortcomings in this work. Let us continue to strive for growth and success in all aspects of life. Aamiin.

Medan, 10 July 2024

Naufal Karim Siregar

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPROVAL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	i
ABSTRACT.....	iii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	iv

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study.....	1
1.2 Statement of the Problem.....	4
1.3 Objective of the Study.....	4
1.4 Scope of the Study.....	5
1.5 Significance of the Study.....	5

CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Protagonist.....	6
2.2 Struggle.....	6
2.3 Type of Struggle.....	7
2.3.1 Negative Struggle.....	7
2.3.2 Positive Struggle.....	8
2.3.3 Inevitable Struggle.....	8
2.3.4 Chosen Struggle.....	8
2.4 Prejudice.....	9
2.5 Scale of Prejudice.....	9
2.5.1 Antilocution.....	9
2.5.2 Avoidance.....	10
2.5.3 Discrimination.....	10
2.5.4 Physical Attack.....	11

2.5.5 Extermination.....	11
--------------------------	----

CHAPTER III: METHOD OF THE STUDY

3.1 Research Method.....	12
3.2 Data Collection.....	13
3.3 Data Analysis	13

CHAPTER IV: ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

4.1 Analysis	14
4.1.1 Type of Struggle.....	14
4.1.1.1 Inevitable Struggle	14
4.1.1.2 Chosen Struggle	16
4.1.2 The Scale of Prejudice in the Movie Script.....	18
4.1.2.1 Discrimination	18
4.1.2.2 Avoidance	21
4.2 Findings	22

CHAPTER V: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Conclusion	24
5.2 Recommendation	25

REFERENCES	26
-------------------------	-----------

APPENDIX.....	28
----------------------	-----------

REFERENCES

- Allport, G. (1954). *The Nature of Prejudice*. Massachusetts : Addison-Wesley Publishing Company.
- Ananda, T. (2023). Protagonist's suffering in Dennis Bock's novel *The Ash Garden*. *Thesis*. <https://doi.org/http://repository.uisu.ac.id/handle/123456789/2091>
- Conteno, J. C. (2014). *Struggle*. Retrieved from http://www.searchquotes.com/quotes/author/Junethea_Crystal_Centeno/
- Hanes, C., & Rudd, K. (2007). *Prejudice in the Modern World: Biographies (Prejudice Throughout History Reference Library)*. U-X-L.
- Harmon, H. (2014). *The Theology Of Struggle (13th ed.)*. South Carolina: *Kingdom Book & Gift LLP*.
- Hidayah, N. et. Al. (2023). Prejudice towards African American Characters in 12 Years a Slave Film. *Ilmu budaya : Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, Seni, dan Budaya*. Vol.7 (4) <http://dx.doi.org/10.30872/jbssb.v7i4.9919>
- Jones, D. J. (2007). *My Struggle, Your Struggle Breaking Free From Habitual Sin*. Maitland : Xulon Press.
- Kennedy, D. (2016). *A world of struggle how power, law,ahape,global political economy*. Woodstock, Oxfordshire :Princeton University Press.
- Maizler, J. S. (2012). *Struggle and Human growth*. Retrieved from <http://www.motivationalmagic.com>
- McCombes, S. (2019). *How to Create a Research Design*. Retrieved from <http://www.scribbr.com/research-process/research-design>
- McKechnie. (1989). *A Webster Dictionary*. New York : Prentice Hall Press
- Miles, M.B., Huberman, A.M. and Saldana, J. (2014) *Qualitative Data Analysis: A Methods Sourcebook*. London : Sage Publications
- Muzo, R. (2018). *A Student's Guide to Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë*. Irvine : Universal Publishers.
- Safardi, I. (2014). The psychological analysis of major character of the boy in the strypped pyjamas Movie. *Wanastra*, Vol. VI No. 1. Retrieved from <https://ejournal.bsi.ac.id/ejurnal/index.php/wanastra/article/viewFile/3824/2448>
- Sanusi, A. (2015). *Value system: Alternative faces of education*. Bandung, ID: Scholarly Nuances.

- Saunders, M., Lewis, P., & Thornhill, A. (2012). *Research Methods for Business Students (6th ed.)*. New York: Pearson Educational Limited.
- Schaefer, R. (2015). Prejudice in Society: Sociological Perspectives. *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*.
- Sutopo, H. B. (2006). *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. Surakarta : UNS
- Theodorson, A., & Theodorson, G. (1969). *A Modern Dictionary of Sociology*. New York : Thomas Y. Crowell Company.
- Yilmaz, K. (2013). Comparison of quantitative and qualitative research traditions: Epistemological, theoretical, and methodological differences. *European Journal of Education*, 48, 311–325.
<http://www.scribbr.com/research-process/research-design>

APPENDIX

A. Synopsis of the movie

"Wreck-It Ralph" is a delightful animated adventure that plunges audiences into the vibrant and interconnected world of arcade video games. The film follows Ralph, the hulking antagonist of the classic arcade game "Fix-It Felix Jr.," who, despite his size and strength, feels overshadowed and unappreciated. While Felix, the game's hero, basks in adoration from the game's characters, Ralph is relegated to a life of isolation in the dump every time the arcade closes.

Frustrated with being treated as the bad guy, Ralph sets out on a journey to prove that he can be a hero too. His quest takes him beyond the confines of his own game and into the expansive realm of the arcade, where he hops through the power cables that connect each game to the central hub known as Game Central Station.

In his exploration of other games, Ralph encounters a different backgrounds of characters, each struggling with their own challenges and identities. From Sergeant Calhoun, a tough-as-nails soldier from the intense first-person shooter "Hero's Duty," to Vanellope von Schweetz, a spunky glitched character from the whimsical racing game "Sugar Rush," Ralph finds himself navigating unfamiliar territories and forming unexpected friendships.

However, Ralph's adventures take a perilous turn when he inadvertently unleashes a dangerous threat that threatens to destroy the entire arcade. Realizing the gravity of his actions, Ralph teams up with Vanellope, whose own game faces potential doom, and other newfound allies to confront this

looming catastrophe. Together, they embark on a high-stakes mission that challenges them to overcome their insecurities, harness their unique abilities, and ultimately redefine what it means to be a hero.

Amidst exhilarating races, daring escapades, and heartfelt moments of self-discovery, "Wreck-It Ralph" is an evidence to the power of embracing one's true self and the importance of friendship. Packed with nostalgic references to beloved video game icons and brimming with humor and heart, the film captivates audiences of all ages with its imaginative storytelling and memorable characters. Through Ralph's journey of redemption and Vanellope's quest for acceptance, "Wreck-It Ralph" celebrates the magic of video games while delivering a timeless message about courage, identity, and the bonds that unite us all.

B. Characters of the movie

1. John C. Reilly as Ralph

Ralph is a complex and multi-dimensional character. As the antagonist in the arcade game "Fix-It Felix Jr.," he is programmed to wreck buildings that Felix then repairs. Physically, Ralph is a large man with big hands, broad shoulders, and a disheveled appearance. His overalls and rugged look contrast sharply with Felix's neat, heroic image.

Despite his role as the "bad guy," Ralph is inherently good-hearted and longs for acceptance and recognition. He is tired of being ostracized and living in the garbage dump while Felix and the other characters enjoy the comforts of the penthouse. This desire for a better life drives Ralph to leave his game in

search of a hero's medal, believing that it will earn him the respect he craves.

Ralph's journey takes him through various games, including the candy-coated racing game "Sugar Rush" and the high-intensity shooter "Hero's Duty." Along the way, he encounters different characters and learns valuable lessons about friendship, self-worth, and what it truly means to be a hero.

Despite his scary looking appearance, Ralph is shown to be compassionate and protective, especially towards Vanellope von Schweetz, a glitch in "Sugar Rush." Their friendship becomes central to the story, with Ralph ultimately sacrificing his own desires to help Vanellope achieve her dreams. This act of selflessness highlights Ralph's true heroism, redefining his identity from a mere "bad guy" to a beloved character who is valued for who he is.

Ralph's development throughout the movie is a testament to the themes of acceptance, redemption, and the importance of being true to oneself. His character arc resonates with audiences as he learns that being a hero isn't about medals or recognition but about doing the right thing and embracing one's unique qualities.

2. Sarah Silverman as Vanellope

Vanellope is a spunky and energetic "glitch" in the candy-themed racing game "Sugar Rush." She dreams of becoming a real racer and breaking free from her outcast status. Vanellope forms a close bond with Ralph, and together, they work to overcome their challenges and achieve their dreams.

Vanellope is originally one of the main characters of the "Sugar Rush" game but is reprogrammed as a glitch by King Candy (Turbo) to prevent her from racing and potentially exposing his deceit. As a glitch, she experiences moments of instability, disappearing and reappearing unpredictably, which

isolates her from the other racers and makes her a target of bullying.

Her encounter with Ralph marks the beginning of her transformation. Initially, she sees Ralph's medal as her ticket to proving herself as a real racer. However, as their friendship develops, Vanellope learns to trust Ralph and discovers her own self-worth. Ralph's support helps her believe in her abilities, and she, in turn, helps Ralph realize that being a hero is more than just winning a medal.

3. Jack McBrayer as Felix

Felix is the titular hero of the game "Fix-It Felix Jr." He has a magical hammer that can fix anything Ralph destroys. Felix is kind-hearted, optimistic, and always tries to do the right thing. Despite his initial view of Ralph as just a villain, Felix eventually sees him as a friend.

Felix embodies traditional heroic qualities: he is brave, resourceful, and endlessly optimistic. He believes in the inherent goodness of others, including Ralph, whom he sees not as a villain but as a misunderstood individual deserving of acceptance. Despite the game's simplistic nature, Felix exhibits a depth of character through his unwavering loyalty to his duty and his genuine kindness towards others.

4. Jane Lynch as Sergeant Calhoun

Sergeant Tamora Jean Calhoun is a tough and no-nonsense character from the first-person shooter game "Hero's Duty." She is the leader of the soldiers fighting against the Cy-Bugs. Calhoun is brave and skilled in combat but also has a tragic backstory that influences her actions.

Throughout the film, Calhoun undergoes a transformation as she learns to trust others and confront her own fears and past trauma. Her partnership with

Ralph and the others teaches her the value of teamwork and compassion, ultimately revealing a softer, more empathetic side beneath her tough appearance.

Sergeant Calhoun's character adds depth and complexity to "Wreck-It Ralph," contributing to its exploration of themes such as redemption, courage, and the power of camaraderie. Her blend of strength and vulnerability makes her a compelling and memorable presence in the arcade universe portrayed in the film.

5. Alan Tudyk as King Candy

King Candy, also known as Turbo, is a key antagonist in "Wreck-It Ralph," embodying deception and manipulation within the vibrant arcade universe. Originally from an old racing game called "TurboTime," Turbo was once a popular character until his jealousy and ambition led him to commit a reckless act.

King Candy presents himself as a flamboyant and charismatic leader in "Sugar Rush," known for his eccentricity and love of showmanship. However, beneath his jovial facade lies a cunning and ruthless individual willing to go to any lengths to maintain his grip on power. He views Vanellope, who discovers her true identity as the rightful ruler, as a threat and goes to great lengths to keep her from reclaiming her position.

Throughout the film, King Candy's true nature is gradually revealed as Ralph and his allies uncover the secrets of "Sugar Rush." His machinations escalate as he attempts to eliminate anyone who stands in his way, including manipulating Ralph into unknowingly aiding his schemes.

