

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Struggle is the process of making great efforts to achieve our goals in this life, although sacrificing many things. If we try to do something to achieve it, we will try hard to achieve it, even though we will face challenges in any form in our way to achieve it. According to McKechnie (1989), struggle is a task or goal requiring great effort accomplish or achieve. In addition, Harmon (2014) states that struggle is a means by which we are entranced into a process that is intended to move us from a place of limitation in capacity to unlimited potential and possibilities. There are a lot of things that can caused someone to struggle. One of the most common problems is Prejudice.

Prejudice is one of the huge problems in social life. In classic book, *The Nature of Prejudice*, Allport (1954) who is a social scientist argued that an adequate definition of prejudice must include two essential elements: an attitude of favor or disfavor and overgeneralized, erroneous belief. Supporting that statement, Hanes and Rudd (2007) stated that prejudice can be extremely harmful, oversimplifying diverse aspects of human nature and making a broad generalization about entire races and culture. Prejudice and struggle are often discussed in a lot of literary work since they are common problem in human life.

Literature has become an important part of human life. It is the best way to express feeling and to entertain everybody at the same time. Safrudi (2014) says that literature is the making of literary work which is expressed through the writing style or expressions such as drama, short story, novel, and many others. In other words, audiences can enjoy the drama if the player shows good performance with the best expressions. So far, literature are increasing quickly and are crucial in people's social lives, coming in different types like story, poetry, drama and movie. Many of these literary works are made by reflecting the real life, history, society, culture, traditions, myths, and using imagination and observation. For example, the movie script *Wreck-it Ralph* written by Phil Johnston portray about the society life. *Wreck-it Ralph* is a 2012 American film directed by Rich Moore and written by Phil Johnston. Phil Johnston was born in October 26th, 1971 in Minnesota, United States. He is an American film scriptwriter and a voice actor. He was involved as the main writer in multiple blockbuster movies such as *Wreck-it Ralph* (2012), *Zootopia* (2016), and *Ralph Breaks the Internet* (2018).

In addition, *Wreck-it Ralph* movie became a critical and commercial box office success. The film grossed \$496 million worldwide, with only \$165 million budget and winning the Annie Award for Best Animated Feature , as well as receiving nominations for the Golden Globe and Academy Awards for The Best Animated Feature. The movie *Wreck-it Ralph* starred by John C. Reilly as Ralph, Sarah Silverman as Vanellope, Jack McBrayer as Felix, Alan Tudyk as King Candy, Jane Lynch as Sergeant Calhoun, Rich Moore as Sour Bill, Ed O'neill as Mr. Litwak, Phil Johnston as Surge Protector, and Mindy Kaling as Taffyta Muttonfudge.

In the movie, Ralph, the villain in the arcade game "Fix-It Felix Jr." Tired of being the designated "bad guy" and feeling unappreciated, Ralph decides to embark on a journey to prove that he can be a hero. His goal is to earn a medal, the symbol of heroism in the gaming world. As Ralph travels through various arcade games, he encounters characters from different video game worlds. One such encounter is with Sergeant Calhoun from the game "Hero's Duty," a tough and no-nonsense soldier. Ralph also crosses paths with Vanellope von Schweetz, a glitchy character from the candy-themed racing game "Sugar Rush."

In "Sugar Rush," Ralph learns more about Vanellope's struggles. She desires to be a racer but faces discrimination and exclusion from the other characters due to her glitchy nature. Despite initial clashes, Ralph and Vanellope form a bond as they navigate the challenges of their respective games.

As the story unfolds, Ralph and Vanellope discover a hidden threat that could impact the entire arcade. This threat is related to a deadly Cy-Bug from "Hero's Duty," which threatens to wreak havoc on all the games. The characters must work together to confront this danger and save their virtual world. In a climactic sequence, Ralph demonstrates true heroism by sacrificing himself to save Vanellope and the arcade. This act of selflessness leads to a change in the way he is prejudiced by the other characters.

Based on the summary given above, the protagonist struggle is shown very clear in this movie. The protagonist struggle in a movie is a really popular problems that will be faced by the protagonist until the end of the story. How he is trying to prove that he is the same as every character and

need to be treated the same way is a form of struggle that common in our life.

The writer chooses struggle against prejudice in this study because it is one of the main problem in this movie script. It is the struggle of the protagonist to prove to everybody that he is not the 'bad' guy that they think he is. The results of prejudice are in many scenes of the movie. Struggle against prejudice is also can be easily found in social life. It is very common in our life, so the writer is interested in choosing this topic for this study.

1.2 Statement of the Study

Statements of the problem in this study focuses on the protagonist's struggle against prejudice in *Wreck-it Ralph* movie. The writer forms the research questions as follows :

1. What are the types of struggle to the protagonist's life in Phil Johnston's movie script *Wreck-it Ralph*?
2. What scales of prejudice are experienced by the protagonist in Phil Johnston's movie script *Wreck-it Ralph*?

1.3 Objective of the Study

According to the statements formulated above, the writer concludes that the objectives of the study are :

1. To find out the types of struggle in Phil Johnston's movie script *Wreck-it Ralph*.
2. To find out the scale of prejudice experienced by the protagonist in in Phil Johnston's movie script *Wreck-it Ralph*

1.4 Scope of the Study

In Phil Johnston's movie script, *Wreck-it Ralph*, we can find a lot of things to be discussed, consequently, the writer limits the discussion in this research. The analysis of this research only on the protagonist's struggle against prejudice, particularly because of the other characters giving him a lot of bad prejudice in daily activity.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study is shown in two ways, that is :

1. Theoretical Significance

This research offers multiple benefits for the readers to understand the struggle of the protagonist who has been prejudiced as a bad guy in the story by Phil Johnston. The writer also hopes that this research can be used as a valuable reference for other researchers who are interested in the similar issues with the same topic in order to investigate literary works and give information needed regarding the protagonist's struggle against prejudice in Phil Johnston's movie script *Wreck-it Ralph*.

2. Practical Significance

In practical terms, this research is expected to provide and to add more information to the student of English Literature and the other readers from movie script using descriptive research with qualitative approach. Through this movie, Phil Johnston wants to show the real life impact of prejudice.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Protagonist

Protagonist is basically the main character in all forms of literary work. Protagonist is the one who's going through all the stuff that moves the plot along. They deal with challenges and stuff, and how they change or grow is a big part of the whole story vibe. As stated by Muzo (2018), Protagonist is the main role that is the center or center of the story. In addition, Ananda (2023) argues that the protagonist is the main heroine who is the center of attention of a literary work. This role is usually tends to be a character who is hurt, has good nature, and suffers so that he will arouse sympathy for the audience. This protagonist's role usually becomes the central character, the character who determines the motion of the scene..

Wreck-it Ralph is one of movie script which also have characters such as protagonist, antagonist, and deutronist. Ralph, as the protagonist of this movie script suits all of the above definition of protagonist. Ralph is a character who is hurt, has good nature, and suffers in this movie script. He is hurt because he is treated differently because of his role and his looks in the game. He try to prove that he is a good person to everybody so he will not suffering again in this movie script, he is the central character who determines the motion of the scene, as every problem in this movie is mainly caused by his action.

2.2 Struggle

As Kennedy (2016) states struggle whose outcome can be predicted need not be undertaken to be lose or won: some struggles need only be referenced to be won decisively. It takes courage, energy, and imagination to be open what has been settled for reconsideration.

Meanwhile Jones (2007) states struggle we all have them; personality quirks, natural tendencies, or the result of circumstances that have shaped us and caused difficulties in life. As Centeno (2014) states, sometimes struggle is exactly what we need in our life. People crippled if they were to go through the life without any obstacle.

Everyone must have been struggling once in their life Sanusi (2015) states that struggle has values. Struggle values are a system based on components that interact, interrelate, and interconnect. Those values are value of unity, value of willing to sacrifice, value of nationalism, and value of tolerance.

Based on the theory above, the writer concludes that this theory provides for understanding the serious impact of struggle, especially in the context of prejudice, on individual development and societal dynamics. These ideas suggests that while struggle may manifest differently for individuals, it remains an essential aspect of the human journey, offering opportunities for transformation and strength in the face of challenges.

2.3 Type of Struggle

According to Maizler (2012), there are four kinds of struggle. They are Negative struggle, Positive struggle, Inevitable struggle, and Chosen struggle as described below.

2.3.1 Negative Struggle

Negative struggle is done to eliminate a deficit state. This occurs when you are attempting to get back to the norm, such as mastering a life-limiting phobia.

2.3.2 Positive Struggle

Positive struggle is done to involve transformation from your steady state into a more evolved, grown, or developed state of being. Positive struggle, in contrast to negative struggle, does not involve overcoming pathology. The examples of positive struggle are going to graduate school or writing a book. Positive struggle may still certainly involve overcoming resistance and discomfort.

2.3.3 Inevitable Struggle

Inevitable struggle deals with the necessary losses and attendant discomfort that are conditions of your life in this world. As your mother struggled to birth you, you struggled to adjust to a new and less comforting world. During your life, you will struggle with sadness and loss when your friends, parents, or partners die or go elsewhere. These struggles are an automatic condition of your life.

2.3.4 Chosen Struggle

Chosen struggle is the product of personal choice and is not automatic condition of life. The simple examples of chosen struggle are climbing a mountain, going to graduate school, or becoming a body

builder.

2.4 Prejudice

Allport (1954) defines prejudice as an aversive or hostile attitude toward a person who belongs to a group, simply because he belongs to that group, and is therefore presumed to have the objectionable qualities ascribed to the group. Schaefer (2015) defines prejudice as a negative attitude that rejects an entire group. Prejudice can lead an individual or a group to unfair treatment even worse. From the theories given, the author concludes that Prejudice is the negative attitude to rejects an entire group. Prejudice can create social inequalities, discrimination, and marginalization, sustaining cycles of injustice and challenging the development of inclusive and harmonious societies.

2.5 Scale of Prejudice

Allport (1954) in his book entitled *the nature of prejudice* mentions the theory of prejudice scales covers 5 stages as follows :

2.5.1 Antilocution

Antilocution is the first stage of prejudice that occurs when a person or group talk about the stereotype they have. With like-minded friends, occasionally with the stranger, they may express their antagonism freely . There are also indicators behind antilocution itself such as; spreading hoaxes, making jokes about some people or group, lowering the self-esteem of a person or group. Hidayah (2023) states that antilocution is

an initial act of prejudice that makes the victim feel insecure and uncomfortable in the majority environment with the words that the perpetrator of prejudice says.

2.5.2 Avoidance

Avoidance is a treatment of a person or group by another person or another group that thinks they were the majority one. In this stage, there are only small chances that physical harm happens in addition, Allport also stated “The bearer of prejudice does not directly inflict harm upon the group he dislikes. He takes the burden of accommodation and withdrawal entirely upon himself” . In addition Hidayah (2023) states that Avoidance is an attitude of unliking group member, where perpetrator of the prejudice is not actively touching or giving harm to the victim (The perpetrator of prejudice has no desire to harm the victim).

2.5.3 Discrimination

Discrimination is denying opportunities and rights to some people or some group, this is often happening to the minority group. Discrimination treatment occurs when the prejudiced person makes a detrimental distinction of an active sort. He undertakes to exclude all members of the group in the question of certain types of employment, from residential housing, political rights, educational or recreational opportunities, churches, hospitals, or from some other social privileges . In addition, Theodorson (1969) states that discrimination is an unequal treatment of individuals and groups on the basis of some, usually categorical attribute such as race, ethnic, religious, and social class. The term is used to describe the action of a dominant majority to a weak

minority in a relation, implying an immoral and undecromatic behavior.

2.5.4 Physical Attacks

Often happens after discrimination occurs, it also has been known as a hate crime, where some person or some group vandalism the minority group. Those who often become suspects in this stage are the majority group, they do not hesitate to harm the victims. Under the condition of heightened prejudice may lead to acts of violence or semi violence.

2.5.5 Extermination

This is the last stage of prejudice is the dangerous stage of prejudice it can be said termination or annihilation. In this last stage, it occurs with eliminating all groups who became the victims. Not only happen to groups but this also can happen to individuals. The extermination suspects can cause murderer by driven the individual or person who got prejudice and discrimination to suicide. Extermination is the last step in the acting out prejudice scale. There are several steps before extermination finally happens. For example, there is an important condition that supports the extermination that is a low level of law enforcement in the society.