

Stepanovna's Motivation in Marriage Proposal Script by Anton Chekov

Sagita Octavia, Singgih Daru Kuncara, Indah Sari Lubis

English Department, Faculty of Cultural Sciences

Mulawarman University

Email: sagita.oktapia@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research focuses on motivation in *Marriage Proposal* script by Anton Chekov which was published in 1888. The script tells about a rich woman named Stepanovna who was proposed by a rich man named Lomov. However, the proposal did not go smoothly because Stepanovna was long-winded about it. Therefore, this study aims to determine the motivation of Stepanovna, by describing Reaske's motivation theory to reveal the type of motivation in Stepanovna. Then, the theory used in analyzing Stepanovna's character, the researcher used Boggs and Petri characterization theory. Furthermore, the researcher used qualitative research as the method and mimesis as the approach in this research. The data collected comes from the dialogue of Stepanovna and the narration of *Marriage Proposal* script. The results showed that there were four types of seven types of motivation they are fear of failure, love, hope for reward, and jealousy. In four types of motivation, the researcher got four characters of Stepanovna, they are an arrogant, determined, aggressive and sincere person. It can be concluded that the characters of Stepanovna were influenced by her motivations, it means that these characters depending the situation faced by Stepanovna and made Stepanovna behave towards Lomov then it is the reason of her motivation existed.

Key Words: Motivation, Character, Characterization

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini berfokus pada motivasi Stepanovna dalam naskah Lamaran Pernikahan karya Anton Chekov dan aslinya diterbitkan pada tahun 1888. Naskah tersebut menceritakan tentang seorang wanita kaya bernama Stepanovna yang dilamar oleh seorang pria kaya bernama Lomov. Tetapi, hal itu tidak berjalan mulus karena Stepanovna bertele tele tentang lamaran tersebut. Maka dari itu penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui motivasi dari Stepanovna, dengan mendeskripsikan teori motivasi Reaske untuk mengkaji tipe motivasi pada Stepanovna. Lalu, teori yang digunakan dalam menganalisis karakter Stepanovna, peneliti menggunakan teori penokohan Boggs and Petri. Selanjutnya, Peneliti menggunakan kualitatif sebagai metode penelitian dan mimesis sebagai pendekatan dalam penelitian ini. Data yang di kumpulkan berasal dari percakapan Stepanovna dan narasi dari naskah Marriage Proposal. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan terdapat empat jenis dari tujuh jenis tipe motivasi, yaitu ketakutan akan kegagalan, cinta, mengharapkan imbalan, dan cemburu. Dalam empat jenis motivasi tersebut, peneliti mendapatkan tiga karakter dari Stepanovna, yaitu sombong, penentu, agresif dan orang yang tulus. Hal ini dapat disimpulkan bahwa karakter Stepanovna

dipengaruhi oleh motivasinya, artinya bahwa karakter stepanovna bergantung pada situasi yang di hadapi oleh Stepanovna dan membuat Stepanovna bertingkah laku kepada Lomov kemudian itulah alasan motivasinya ada.

Kata Kunci: Motivasi, Tokoh, Perwatakan

A. INTRODUCTION

The drama comes from the text that was made by the author to be displayed and listened to by the audience. The text of the drama is called a drama script. The drama script contains a monologue/dialogue between two or more characters which becomes a depiction of the storyline of the drama. In the drama, the characters are one of the important points of the performance. It is because the characters can liven up the story and act as story mover. Without characters, the performance cannot be displayed. Each character in the drama has its characteristics. The characteristics can be seen from the behavior of each character. A person who plays a role on the stage will imitate a character in the drama script, by assuming the characteristic of personality by following the desired character. The character should have the right motivation to support emotions when they were acting. Motivation does not exist if no encouragement or support is wanted by the characters to achieve the goal.

This thesis analyzed a drama script written by the famous Russian writer, Anton Chekhov entitled *The Marriage Proposal* published in 1888, translated by Julius West in 1889, and adapted by Brian Molloy. This script tells a rich woman named Natalia Stepanovna, a daughter of Chubukov who will be proposed by a rich man named Lomov. Stepanovna is happy because she will be married to the man she loves, but she has high prestige to be honest. From the script, the researcher was curious about the motivation possessed by Stepanovna who always changes her mind and is wordy about the proposal. Actually, Stepanovna was happy because she would be proposed by the man she loved. But when they wanted to discuss the proposal, Stepanovna became complicated and began to debate non-important things. Therefore, the researcher used Reaske's motivation theory to clarify Stepanovna's motivation and describes her character by using Boggs and Petri's characterization theory.

Based on the background above, the aims of this research are (1) find out Stepanovna's motivation reflected in *The Marriage Proposal*. (2) To describe the character of Stepanovna through her motivation.

B. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. Characterization

Characterization is the creation of the author's imaginative character which can effectively dramatize the story. By instilling the nature and qualities of human beings in general, such as their physical, moral, psychological, emotional dispositions and attitudes toward other characters and situations. According to Boggs and Petri, the methods of revealing characterization included the following points:

a) Characterization by Appearance

Most actors give the quality of the characters when they appear on the screen. The main aspects of the characterization are revealed visually and instantly. When these characters are seen on the screen, certain assumptions will be made, their face, body shape, and how they move.

b) Characterization through Dialogue

Fictional characters naturally reveal a lot about themselves through what they say. In addition, there are many ways that are revealed by the way they pronounce such as the patterns, tones, and pauses of their speech which contain of their thoughts, emotions and attitudes.

c) Characterization through External Action

The characters do something to achieve the goal of a motive that is consistent with their overall personality. So, there is a connection between the characters and their actions. Actions with clear motivation will affect the quality of his personality.

d) Characterization through Internal Action

There is a world of inner action that no one can see and hear. But a human has a soul in his mind. Inner actions are unspoken actions, daydreams, inspirations, fears and fantasies.

e) Characterization by Reaction of Other People

We can learn about a person's personality by what other people say. By using this method, information about the character has been conveyed before the character appears on the screen.

f) Characterization through Contrast: Dramatic Foils

This characterization is displayed using characters that contrast or differ from the main character. Differences in behavior, attitude, physique, opinion, and lifestyle.

2. Motivations

Motivation is a need that encourages a character to do something in order to achieve the desired target. "Motivation is the drive every action a character takes in a play" (Iwuchukwu 33). Cristopher Russel Reaske gave his opinion about motivation, he said in his book *How to Analyze Drama* page 41-42 that he differentiates it into seven types, they are:

a) Hope for reward

Someone who does something for the pleasure of others for the rewards that will be achieved for fulfilling life's desired needs. Usually, this character does something insincerely and only expects the reward to bring prosperity and happiness to him.

b) Fear of Failure

Someone will do something harder to face the fear of failure. Such as, misery and poverty that makes people will conduct anything in order to get advantages and wealth. Usually, this motive makes a person devises a plan to prevent or postpone a failure and even threaten others not to fail other people.

c) Love

An act with the motive based on love towards someone. Usually, this person commits something to get love and expects the love as a reward from someone.

d) Jealousy

This motivation exists because of a dispute in getting something. Whether it is in terms of getting love, getting a reward or fear of losing the competition. This jealousy will become hatred and someone will do something to be a winner from any other competitor, even if they had to conduct the violence when they feel threatened.

e) Greedy

Greedy is similar to motives that hope for reward. But in this case, greed expects rewards with “more rewards”, which means is not having the satisfaction to be grateful and often being confused with the desire to achieve more rewards.

f) Religious Feelings

Someone does something just because of God’s command. The spiritual life made people avoid the acts that were forbidden by God. Generally, this person will always act out of feeling and faithful to God.

g) Revenge

Someone who is covered by endless anger. Someone will kill anyone to avenge their loved ones. Despite this, killing people is not the only way of fulfilling revenge toward someone

C. RESEARCH METHOD

1. Research Designed

This research is qualitative research by using mimetic approach. Qualitative research is achieving understanding the phenomena experienced by subjects such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, etc (Moleong 6). The researcher used this qualitative research method because it was suitable to describe Stepanovna’s motivations using Reaske’s motivation theory through dialogue, purpose and objectives listed in *Marriage Proposal* script.

2. Data and Data Source

Data source of this research was taken by *Marriage Proposal* script written by Anton Chekhov published in 1888, translated by Julius West in 1889 and adapted by Brian Molloy.

Data is taken from the dialogue of Stepanovna's character to other characters in this script that include information about the character's motivation portrayed in the *Marriage Proposal* script.

3. Data Instrument

Flick said in his book, "the researcher, respondent and communicative competencies are the main instruments of collecting data and of recognition" (121). It means in this research, the researcher herself is the research instruments to observation, participation, collection, analysis and classification of the data directly.

4. Data Collection

To obtain the necessary data in this study, the steps of collecting data in this thesis such as follows:

1. The researcher read the whole of the *Marriage Proposal* script.
2. The researcher read in more detail and focuses on the motivation of Stepanovna.
3. Then researcher took notes of the data that related to the research question.

5. Data Analysis

This information can help the researcher examine the motivation of a character who acts following the text written by the author and developed by the readers that they get a deep understanding of the text. In this research, the researcher found the ways to analyze this thesis. For the first step, the researcher categorized the motivation of Stepanovna in *Marriage Proposal* script by using Reaske's motivation theory then identified the character of Stepanovna as the reason for her motivation. The last step the researcher concluded based on the result of the analysis.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The researcher found out the motivation through Stepanovna in the script. The first is fear of failure, this motivation can be seen in Stepanovna when she argued with Lomov about the possession of the Oxen Meadows. She convinced Lomov that she was indeed the actual owner of the Oxen Meadows by asking her father, Chubukov who would defend on her. Then, the researcher found out the motivation of fear of failure on Stepanovna when she debated with Lomov about whose dog is better. She kept arguing it until she was recognized by Lomov if her dog is better than his dog. The second is love, this motivation is shown when Stepanovna cried hysterically after knowing if Lomov would propose to her. She asked her father to bring Lomov back to house to continue the proposal. The third motivation is hope for reward, it is shown when Stepanovna handed over the ownership of the Oxen Meadows and looked for a good conversation to make Lomov forgives her then continue to propose to her. The last is jealousy, this motivation is shown when Stepanovna felt unfair about the cost of dog's treatment between her and Lomov. In fact, her dog is purebred whereas Lomov's dog is only an ordinary dog.

In the findings, the researcher also found out the characters of Stepanovna. The first is determined, this character can be seen when Stepanovna refused the statement that Lomov is the owner of the Oxen Meadows. She kept insisting that the land belonged to her family. On the other hand, Stepanovna handed over the Oxen Meadows to make Lomov forgive her and be able to continue the proposal. The second is arrogant, this character can be seen in Stepanovna when she said proudly that Lomov was lying about his statement that he has the document, she also underestimated and disrespected to Lomov. The third character is aggressive, it can be seen in Stepanovna when she bullied Lomov and insulted his family without paying attention to his feeling. The last character is sincere, it can be seen on Stepanovna when she handed over the Oxen Meadows to Lomov as a sign of her apology and helped Lomov to lend the machine which means she delayed her harvest. From all the characters of Stepanovna it can be shown depending on the situation faced by Stepanovna.

Further, the researcher found out that the characters of Stepanovna were influenced by her motivations. Stepanovna has the character of determined. This character was influenced by her motivation to fear of failure and hope for reward which is revealed through her dialogue. The second character of Stepanovna is an aggressive. This character made by her motivation of fear of failure appeared that was revealed through her dialogue. The third character of Stepanovna is arrogant. Stepanovna is an arrogant person that she is motivated to fear of failure and to be jealous of Lomov, it was revealed through her dialogue. The last character of Stepanovna is a sincere person. This character is found in the motivation of love that is revealed through her dialogue.

E. CONCLUSIONS

After analyzing this research based on the *Marriage Proposal* script written by Anton Chekov, the researcher found out four types of motivation are shown by Stepanovna when she faced Lomov to debate something and responded to Lomov, they are fear of failure, love, hope for reward and jealousy.

The types of her character can be identified through Boggs and Petri's characterization theory, they are arrogant that she said proudly the Oxen Meadows belongs to her family and claimed confidently that she has the best dog. Stepanovna is also a determined person that she Lomov's statement that he is the owner of the Oxen Meadows and keeps maintaining that she is the actual owner of the Oxen Meadows. In the other moment, she gave the Oxen Meadows to make Lomov happy then be able to continue the proposal. The third character of Stepanovna is aggressive, she is indeed the person who likes to see her rival looked weak because of her insults and swearing. The last character is a sincere person that she always helps Lomov even it means delayed her harvest even she handed over the Oxen Meadows as a sign of her apology. These characters depending the situation faced by Stepanovna and made Stepanovna behave towards Lomov then it is the reason of her motivation existed. In addition, the researcher found out the motivation and the character which reflected in Stepanovna's character was characterized through her dialogue and external action.

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