

A CONCISE OVERVIEW OF THE CHARACTERS IN DANNY CANNON'S MOVIE "GOAL"

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Abstract: Basically, a movie narrates something that is imaginative in nature, be it in the form of actions, events, or stories. Characters are the creations of the writer. However, there are also some real characters. Through characters, the writer can show their qualities, likes, and dislikes to the audience. In a movie, we can find several essential elements. Characters are one of the most crucial elements found in movies, which are divided into various types in terms of selection and character development. The movie "Goal" itself was first released in 2005 and is one of the best-selling movies in Europe. The writer chose the movie "Goal" by Danny Cannon because they found that the story and characters in this movie are very intriguing.

INTRODUCTION

The writer, being more interested in literature, has chosen Danny Cannon's movie *Goal* as the subject matter of this paper. *Goal* showed for the first time in 2005 and it is one of the greatest football movies in the world. Literature is the reflection and reproduction of the people's life.

Watching literary works, especially movie is very lively, because we can understand as well as realize the real condition and life of the society described in the genres. Some movies are fictitious and some based on the true story. Both functions are not only as an entertainment but they also give the meaningful messages and impressions to the watchers. *Goal (2005)* movie, which was directed by Danny Cannon and produced by Lawrence Bender made based on the actual event when Newcastle United Football Club achieved European Champions League's dreams. The most of 113-minute movie show seemed to be much in forming a young man's football carrier, love and family.

The writer assumed that Danny Cannon's movie *Goal* is very interesting and it is one of his bestseller movies. The writer is interested in watching and he finds that the characters in this movie are very interesting. Therefore, the writer wants to know about the characters, condition, and action in Danny Cannon's movie *Goal* as his topic.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A director usually uses characters in their works to identify the people, the situation,

or to unfold the ideas in the movies by using dialogues and actions. We absolutely know that characters are the most important element in a movie. Characters can easily help the director to convey the themes or the main ideas as well as view to the watchers. The people in a movie are referred to as characters. They are assessed on the basis of what the director tells us about them on the basis of what they do and say. This is important, to avoid losing relation about a character and establishing everything from the evidence of the text. Another point to remember is that the characters are part of a broader pattern, they are the members of society, and the director's distinctive view of how people relate to society will be reflected in the presentation of every character. Details are not included just for their own sake but related to the overall pattern of the movie (John Perk and Martin Coyle, *Literary Term and Criticism*, Macmillan Education Ltd, London, 1984, p.105).

According to Richard Taylor in his book *Understanding The Elements of Literature* (1981), a character is a construction of words meant to express an idea or view of experience and must be considered in relation to other features of the composition, such as setting and action. According to M.H. Abraham, characters are the people presented in dramatic or narrative works, who are interpreted by the watchers as being endowed with moral and dispositional qualities that are expressed in what they say in the dialogue and what they do in the action. Movies are not real life. Like all works of art: poems, plays, plot, or pieces of music they have been constructed or crafted. However movies are fictional, they have been made up. A character cannot be compared to a real person from whom he or she has been copied. When directors create characters, they select some aspects of ordinary people to develop some of these aspects while playing down others, and put them together as they please. The result is not an ordinary person but a fictional character that only exists in the words of a movie (Richard Gill, *Mastering English Literature*, Macmillan Education Ltd, London, 1984, p.90).

A movie usually begins with a description about a place or a character. The setting is likely to strike as either an attractive one, where the characters should feel comfortable, or an unattractive one, where people are bound to feel unhappy and alienated. A character introduced at the beginning of a movie will usually come into collision with society. The opening scenes will expand, the picture of the characters and the society they live in, and the movie will then progress by taking the characters through a sequence of events

extending over a certain time span. Some conflicts will always be in evidence, as movies always deal with characters that are at odds with their family or conventional social values. The movies will bring various characters into confrontation and put characters into problematic situations. Characterization is a fundamental element in the movie. It portrays what kind of person he is and in what situation. A story can never be without characters and they are powerful to make the story seem alive and real. Characterization is on the director's way of describing his characters in a literary work, or it is the director's means of differentiating one character to another. Characters are closely related to the plot because characters mean actions, while actions form the plot of literary work. A director may present his characters in two general ways, there are directly and indirectly.

Major Character and Minor Character

A character in a movie is not a real human being and has no life outside the literary composition, however the director has created the illusion of reality. A movie has several characters each of them has different role. Based on the role and the level of importance, there are essential characters being appeared continuously, so that it felt dominating most of the story, it is called major character. In major characters of a movie, the personalities of the character become familiar to us. If the true story seems "true to life" we generally find that the characters act in a reasonably consistent manner, and the director has provided them with motivation, sufficient reasons to behave as they do (X.J.Kennedy, Literature, an introduction to fiction, poetry, and drama Harper Collin, publisher Inc, New York, 1991, p.47-50).

A major character is emphasized in a novel. This character appears in most stories either as subject or as object. A major character is also a complex one and several adjectives will be needed to describe it. On the other hand, there are characters who appear once or sometimes in a movie and may be relatively in short portion. It is called minor characters often provide, support, and illuminate the protagonist.

Protagonist and Antagonist

Some characters may be given some traits, which make them attractive or unattractive to the better than the watcher, like the watcher or worse than the watcher. Such traits practically always be assigned to the protagonist (hero or heroine). A protagonist is the main character in the story. Can be a hero or heroine, example in classic fairy tale, Cinderella is the protagonist and her wicked stepmother is the antagonist. In

the other words Cinderella is the main character and her stepmother is the character who causes conflict for Cinderella (i.e. conflicts such as not following Cinderella to go to the ball).

The center character must be two things in one. A real person and archetype, the central character carries the watcher into the emotional experience of the story and opens up her unconsciously mind. The watcher identifies with the character and can feel the whole story as if it really happened to her, in this way being emotionally imprinted with the experience and absorbing its lesson unconsciously. A protagonist is a character who is admired by the watcher, popularly called as hero because he always does ideal role and follows the rules and values in society. The character that is the focus of interest traditionally has positive qualities such as high ethnical standards, commitment to duty, perseverance and courage. Protagonist is a neutral term denoting simply the main character of work (Halmon and Holman, *Aspect of the movie*, penguin Books Ltd, Harmondsworth, 1990,p104). Antagonist is the opposite character of protagonist directly or indirectly, either physically or psychologically. This character usually causes conflict for the protagonist, although the other things, such as disasters, accident, enviromental and society, society rules, moral values, authority, and cause conflict.

An antagonist is the character who apposes the protagonist, the person that helps cause conflict for the protagonist. The antagonist maybe another person, an animal, nature, the enviromental, God or poltergeist or most notably, the self internal/psychological (E.M.Forster, *Aspect of the movie*, penguin Books Ltd, Harmond Sworth, 1990, p.101).

Static Characters and Developmental Character

Character can be either static or developmental character, depending on whether or not they change over the course of the story. A static character is a character that essentially doesn't experience changes or development of characterization because of events that had happened. (Nurgiantoro Burhan, *Teori Pengkajian Fiksi*, Yogyakarta, Gajah Mada University press, 1998. p.188). This character less involves and isn't being influenced by enviromental changes that happened because of human relationship. Meanwhile, developmental character is a character that experiences changes and development of characterization equally with the development and changes from the beginning, middle until the end of the story.

Round characters include those fictional creations who have complex many faceted personalities and an independent inner life which itself invites our interest. Round characters, however present us with more facts that is, their directors portray them in greater depth and in more generous detail. Such as a round character they appear to us only as he appears to the other characters in the story, if their views of him differ, we will see him more than one side. In other stories, we enter the character's mind and come to know him through his own thoughts, feelings, and perceptions. Meanwhile flat characters are simple ones. They have only one trait of feature or at most a few distinguishing marks. They exhibit only one character trait or motivation and whose main claim to our interest is in the action they perform or the quality they represent.

Flat characters never develop rarely have any inner life never surprise the watcher what they do. It's only once and they often repeat phrases. The watchers never puzzle about them, because there is nothing about them to cause puzzlement. They can, however be delightfully funny and many of them in consequence, are memorable. Flat characters tend to say the same, throughout a story but round characters often change or become unlighted, grow or deteriorate. In general flat characters tend to be static and round characters tend to be dynamic.

Typical Characters and Neutral Character

Typical Character is a character that has little appearance in condition of his individually, but he is appeared in quality of his nationally, or something that is more representatives (Nurgiantoro Burhan, Teori Pengkajian Fiksi, Yogyakarta, Gajah Mada University press, 1998, p.190). Typical character is especially convenient for directors of commercial fiction; they required little detailed portraiture for we already know them well. Typical character tends to have single dominant virtues and vices.

Typical character often provides the basis and prototype of individual creations; the hero, villain rebel, and seeker are all types of men who are seen in relation to their fate, passion, desires, heredity, or environment. Other kind of typical character is peculiar to one or another of the conceptual models or philosophic views of literature. For example, in romantic fiction there are satanic heroes, demon lovers, innocent victims and destroying tempresses. Typical character may represent, qualities rather than relationship and they are very often individualized as paired opposites or conditions representing virtues and vices, for example wealth and poverty, etc.

On the other hand, neutral character is the character that has existence, for the story itself. This character is really an imaginary character who lives and exist in fictional world. He appears only for the story itself or even he is the owner of the story. Therefore, the watchers get difficulty to interpret him as representative character because there is less reflection from the fact in real world.

RESEARCH METHODS

In this paper, the writer wants to know more about the characters that can be found in Danny Cannon's movie *Goal*. The writer wants to find out how they look like, how they speak and how they behave. The writer believes that there are many important aspects of the movies that can be discussed but in this paper, the writer will talk about one of the intrinsic elements of literature that is characterization. Such as distinctive feature, attitude, and consideration.

The writer will concentrate in the characters in Danny Cannon's movie *Goal* that can be drawn from the characterization of major and minor characters. In writing this paper, the writer applies a library research. The writer has watched the movie for many times in order to be able to identify the characterization in the movie itself. Besides watching the movie, the writer also reads some books and other references related to the topic chosen.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Major Character

On *Goal*, directed by Danny Cannon, there are three major characters. They are Santiago Munez, Glen Foy and Roz Harmison.

Santiago Munez

Santiago Munez was born April, 22nd 1986, in Tijuana, Mexico. Munez grew up as a football fan living in poverty in Mexico. His family escaped to Los Angeles in United States as illegal immigrants. As Santiago became older, he became a busboy at a Chinese restaurant, while also working part-time with his father in a gardening business. He lived with his father, a younger brother, and his grandmother—his mother left shortly after his younger brother was born.

Despite his talent and Foy's praises, Santiago's father doesn't not approve of

accepting the offer, claiming that the family business is more important than sports. He later stole Santiago's hidden money to buy a used pickup truck, to begin his own gardening business. Without the money to travel, he nearly lost all hope of traveling to England for the tryout. However, his grandmother, with her own secret money, purchased Santiago a plane ticket to Newcastle, which he reluctantly accepted.

Glen Foy

Glen Foy was a scout and former Scottish footballer with contacts in U.K. soccer. He spotted Santiago's talent. In a single phone call back to Blighty, Glen manages to persuade Erik Dornhelm, the German manager of Newcastle United, to give Santiago a tryout if he comes to the U.K. after a scout from Newcastle United observes his ball skills, this is exactly Santiago's fate. Glen told Santiago has potential, and arranges for Santiago to get a tryout with Newcastle United. The character of Glenn Foy, the former player and sometime scout who helps Muñez get his chance, reminds us of the many soccer coaches and scouts who find and cultivate the new talent, which is so important to the constant renewal of the game. Glen Foy spots Santiago playing for an amateur club in Los Angeles and he has accurate analysis.

Roz Harmison

Roz Harmison was a pretty girl with brown hairs and blue eyes. Roz was assertive and patient in facing whatever. On her great understanding and promoted again by her smart, she became a nurse. Her days were spent with her patients. Until one day, she met a man, Santiago Munez, in a test for health. Santiago successfully passes the medical test by lying about his asthma condition to Roz. More and more day, both Roz and Santiago come closer and fall in love one each other. Then, Roz became Santiago's girlfriend.

B. Minor Character

There are six minor characters on Goal. They are Gavin Harris, Erik Dornhelm, Hernan Munez, Hughie McGowan, Mercedes, and Mal Braithwate.

Gavin Harris

Gavin Harris was a Newcastle's brash superstar. Gavin Harris was yank on the team, hard-partying and wisecracking striker who has forgotten the real reasons why he plays soccer why the game is so important. Gavin was a fast living; multi-million pound signed who takes Santiago under his wing when they share a taxi one day. Harris

accidentally Santiago meets on the same taxicab because he is late for training, as his car tires have been stolen. Harris remembers seeing Santiago in the club and finds out what happened in the reserve game. Harris convinces the manager to extend Santiago's stay at the club.

Erik Dornhelm

Erik Dornhelm was the manager of Newcastle United. Erik was excellent as the wry, foreign club manager, seemingly modeled on Arsenal's Arsene Wenger, handling a bunch of troublesome players. Newcastle's German manager is a wry, colorful character who works miracles with his unruly squad of players. As the loyal Glen, who guides his protégé through the ups and downs of U.K soccer. Erik gave an incredible performance as the British team's head coach. Erik felt Santiago was different from the other players. He desired to find out what excess from this young man.

Hernan Munez

Hernan Munez was Santiago's father. He was the truculent father who scorns soccer. Always under-rated and excellent is outstanding as Santiago's cold father, who had rather his son pursue the American dream of mowing other people's grass. He wants to buy a pickup truck and start his own landscaping business. This is cruel, but perhaps more practical than betting the money on a future in soccer. Hernan told Santiago to stop dreaming and get a proper job. Santiago's relationship with his seemingly unsupportive father gains additional resonance as the story unfolds.

Hughie McGowan

Hughie McGowan was Newcastle's reserves player. He was the nasty team member. He was emotional and tough. He broke Santiago's inhaler too. When the reserve game, Newcastle United Vs Queens Park Ranger, Santiago got a lot of tackling from the enemy. It made Hughie angry and hit them.

Mercedes

Mercedes was Santiago's grandmother. She was very kindly. Santiago starts saving like crazy to buy an air ticket, has his wad stolen by his dad to buy a new pickup truck, but is financially saved by his devoted grandma, who tells him to follow his dream. Santiago's grandmother says she has not worked for a lifetime without having some savings, and pays for him to fly to London out of Mexico City -- a wise precaution, since Santiago has no American passport or identity.

Mal Braithwate

Mal Braithwate was the coach of Newcastle United. He was the gruff but kindly and the cheering coach, Santiago is taken on as a trainee. He braves muddy English soccer pitches and the sneers of the Geordies.

CONCLUSION

From the discussion in the previous chapter, the writer would like to conclude the characterization in Danny Cannon's *Goal* as follows, on *Goal*, directed by Danny Cannon, we could find several characters. They are Santiago Munez, Glen Foy and Roz Harmison as the major characters, Gavin Harris, Erik Dornhelm, Hernan Munez, Hughie McGowan, Mercedes, and Mal Braithwate as the minor characters. Santiago Munez is an energetic and flexible person. Creative and bright ideas in working. Glenn Foy is the former player and sometime scout who helps Muñez get his chance, reminds us of the many soccer coaches and scouts who find and cultivate the new talent, which is so important to the constant renewal of the game. Glen has accurate analysis. Roz Harmison was a pretty girl with brown hairs and blue eyes. Roz was assertive and patient in facing whatever. Gavin Harris was a Newcastle's brash superstar. Gavin Harris was yank on the team, hard-partying and wisecracking striker who has forgotten the real reasons why he plays soccer why the game is so important. Erik Dornhelm is a wry, colorful character who works miracles with his unruly squad of players. Hernan Munez was Santiago's father. He was the truculent father who scorns soccer. At least, he proud of his son before he died. Hughie McGowan was Newcastle's reserves player. He was the nasty team member. He was emotional and tough. Mercedes was Santiago's grandmother. She was very kindly. Mal Braithwate was the coach of Newcastle United. He was the gruff but kindly and the cheering coach.

At the ends of this paper, the writer like to say that watching movies actually has many advantages and the watchers may have some moral teachings from what they watch and they supposed to know what to do and not to do in their daily life and watching movie is an enjoyment. The watchers feel pleased when they watch a movie like this movie especially for the students of English to enrich their vocabularies and cultural views. After reading this paper, the writer hopes that the readers have a description of a phenomenal story of *Goal* in its characters.

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