

DUNBROCH ROYAL FAMILY CHARACTERS AND THEIR ROLE IN *BRAVE* FILM (2012)

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research is to find out the characters of the Dunbroch Royal Family members which consists of Merida, Queen Elinor, King Fergus, Harris, Hubert and Hamish as well as their role in the plot of the *Brave* (2009) film. There are two data sources in this research. First is the *Brave* (2009) film, and the second is the script of this film itself. The data then categorized by using Reams's characterization. The role of the characters the connected wirh Kenney's plot development. The result of this research show that Dunbroch Royal Family member characters consist of four different kind of characters and all of them except for King Fergus have a significant role in the plot of the story.

Keywords: Character, Role, Dunbroch Royal Family Member.

ABSTRAK

Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menemukan karakter dari anggota Keluarga Kerajaan Dunbroch (Dunbroch Royal Family) yang terdiri dari Merida, Ratu Elinor, Raja Fergus, Harris, Huber, dan Hamish demikian pula dengan peran mereka di plot dari film Brave (2009). Ada dua sumber data dari penelitian ini. Pertama adalah film Brave (2009), dan yang kedua adalah skrip dari film itu sendiri. Data dikategorikan menggunakan karakterisasi Reams. Peran dari para karakter dihubungkan dengan perkembangan polt milik Kenney. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa anggota Keluarga Kerajaan Dunbroch terdiri dari emoat jenis karakter yang berbeda-beda dan mereka semua memiliki peran yang cukup signifikan kecuali Raja Fergus di dalam plot dari cerita.

Kata kunci: Karakter, Peran, Keluarga Kerajaan Dunbroch

A. INTRODUCTION

Character was one of the most important elements in literature works. The character was important to make the story in literature works good. The way of the author presenting their character was characterization. According to Reaske,

all characterization must be presented through dialogue: characters speak about each other and characters speak about themselves-particularly of course about their central emotion (40). Film was a part of a literary work because it contains characters that play and act based on the dialogues that speak about each other characters or themselves.

In this research, the researcher interested in discussing a film as an object for the research. The researcher analyzed a film entitled *Brave*. It was a film released in 2012 by Walt Disney. *Brave* was a film directed by three directors, Mark Andrews, Brenda Chapman and Steve Purcell. *Brave* film told about Merida who was a princess from the Dunbroch Clan in Scotland and her journey to repair her relationship with her mother.

Dunbroch Clan was a clan that settled in the Scotland, they have their own kingdom and the family that lead their clan called *Dunbroch Royal Family*. This family consists of six people. Merida, Queen Elinor, King Fergus, and the triplet prince, Hubert, Hamish and Harris. In this research, the researcher analyzed three characters from *Dunbroch Royal Family* members. They were Merida, Queen Elinor, and King Fergus.

Merida was a young princess who liked to go on an adventure, riding horse, and archery. She seemed different from the other princesses who liked to be inside the castle but very outgoing and likes adrenaline and risks.

Her father, the King Fergus was a big strong man who lost his leg to the demon bear Mor'du and become a legend because of that. Her father was also the one that taught her how to fight and archery, in fact he even gave Merida a bow on her birthday. He appeared very unfriendly and scary but he was actually very soft to his family especially to his wife, Queen Elinor.

Her mother, Queen Elinor, taught her how to become a princess. She was a very graceful lady and very wise. She was very conservative and thought that Merida should do anything that women should do in order to become a great princess and later become a queen just like her. But she also really loves her family even though sometimes she appeared very strict and cold.

Merida's brothers Hamish, Harris, and Hubert are the three little princes who were much younger than Merida and a triplet. There were very mischievous and created troubles together every day in the palace. However they easily bribed with sweets and listen to their mother well.

The analysis about Dunbroch royal family used the theory of character and characterization by Reams as these theory was suitable to investigate the characters of the Dunbroch royal family member. Another theory that also was used to analyze Dunbroch royal family member's character was the plot development theory by Kenney. This theory used in order to find out the roles of the members in the plot development of the story.

B. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

1. Character

A character was a person, or sometimes evens an animal, who took part in the action of a movie in literary work. The plot can only exist with the characters. The main character was placed in a situation that contains a problem he must overcome. Most stories also have minor characters that either helped or hindered the main character's attempt to solve his problem.

According to Kenney, character was a person that was a part of imagination product from the author that filled up the story. In describing the character the author had to make it resembles human, however sometimes some characters were described much more special that the others, and sometimes they also appeared unrealistic for example being too kind or too bad. (27)

The grounds in the characters temperament, desires, and moral nature for their speech and actions were called their motivation. The action and motivation of the character were the one that defined the story and became the major influence for how the story began and end. These characters can be divided into four types that distinct them from one to the other. The four types of characters were:

a. Round Character

A round character was complex in temperament and motivation and was represented with subtle particularity; such a character therefore was as difficult to describe with any adequacy as a person in real life, and like real persons, was capable of surprising us (Abrams 33).

This statement was also supported by Kenney as he stated that the round character called as "complex" because we all could see all of their side. It was also more lifelike than the simple, because in life people were not simply embodiments of attitudes. The round character was higher bind of achievement than the simple complexity of character tends to produce life likeness in the world of fiction. The round character was also in many different ways difficult than the simple (22).

b. Flat Character

A flat character (also called a type, or "two-dimensional"), was built around "a single idea or quality" and was presented without much individualizing detail, and therefore can be fairly adequately described in a single phrase or sentence (Abrams 33).

Not only built around "a single idea" but it was also built around "a single attitude" as Kenney stated that the flat character was less the representation of human personality than embodiment of single attitude or single obsession in a character. This character called as flat because in contrast with the round character we only can see one side of them. The simple characters can perform many important functions in the work of fiction. Simple character many appeared in minor role in serious fiction, but will a major part in interior fiction (20)

c. Static Character

Static character was the character that remains unchanged throughout the whole entire story. Whether count as a round or flat character but mainly their personality will be stable and unchanged in the story.

As Abrams said, a character may remain essentially "stable," or unchanged in outlook and disposition, from beginning to end of a work. The reader of a traditional and realistic work expects "consistency" the character should not suddenly break off and act in way not plausibly grounded in his or her temperament as we have already come to know it. (33)

Based from the explanation above a static character was the one that will remain "stable", "unchanged", and "consistent" throughout the whole story from the beginning until the end. That was why these characters are flat character.

d. Dynamic Character

Dynamic Character was the one that changed throughout the entire story. Their personality, understanding, values, or even commitment may change or different in the beginning and the end of the story. As Abrams said, or may undergo a radical change, either through a gradual process of development or as the result of a crisis (33) . By that definition, the main character will be most likely always a dynamic character. For instance the main character usually undergoes change in circumstances both in physical and mental way.

2. Reams's Characterization Category

Characterization can be defined as any action by the author or taking place within a work that was used to give description of a character. According to Reams, characterization can be conveniently separated into five primary categories: Physical description, Actions, Reactions, Thoughts, and Speech.

1. Physical Description

Physical description was a necessary part of creating any character. When we first see a person in real life, we took in their appearance as a sort of preliminary evaluation. We took in everything from how they were dressed to the appearance of their skin and facial expression in order to form a quick, rough estimate of who this person was. Physical description fulfilled more or less the same roll in literature; it told us right off the bat what to imagine our character as.

2. Action

In the real world, our actions revealed who we were. In the same way, a character's actions inside a story revealed who they were. Action here would be defined as anything a character does as a primary act. In other words, a character's actions were the *cause*, not the *effect*. While no action was truly independent of context, a person's actions reflect a conscious or unconscious decision.

A person may say something, or think something, but it lacked the solid significance of an action performed. Actions cannot be undone, and therefore were often the most reliable and concreted proof of what kind of person a character truly was.

3. Reaction

Some reactions were expected. When sad news was given, we expect sadness. When harm was done, we might expect revenge as a natural reaction. An expected reaction served to humanize a character – to make them relatable. But occasionally, we can be surprised by a reaction. For example, when someone chose to turn the other cheek rather than fight back, it can convey the shocking depth of his or her resolve to avoid violence. Surprising reactions served to make the character stand out.

4. Thoughts

Thought was a method of characterization that varies by story and point of view. Some stories allow access to only one character's (usually the protagonist's) thoughts; some allow those of several characters. Some stories do not allow access to any character's thoughts at all. Ultimately, it affects the reader's relationship with the character; direct access to the thoughts and inner emotions of a character allowed the reader to identify with them at their most personal level. Access to the thoughts of multiple characters results in a looser individual connection to the reader, but provided a rich amount of depth to the story by providing several points of view.

5. Speech and Dialogue

A character's speech or the dialogue between characters forms a medium between their actions and thoughts. How they communicate with other characters can establish not only how they feel, but also descriptors such as where they came from and their relationship with the character to which they are speaking. A character who spoke softly and kindly to the narrator was obviously perceived as gentle.

One who spoke very eloquently, with formal grammar and carefully chosen words, will come across as scholarly and possibly distant. Loud or coarse speech conveys just the opposite; that a character was aggressive and probably unintelligent. An accent can serve as a distinctive feature, just like any physical trait. Dialogue, much like thought, allows an author to develop their character organically within the story.

3. Plot Development

Plot was an important element of the story and every story should have a plot. It was the narrative structure of a play, tale or a novel and probably the term should be retained (Wellek 216). According to Kenney, plot revealing events to us their causal relationship. These events not only the one that recounted in the story but also their sequence that already made by the author to related one after another (14)

There were five essential parts of plot, such as exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement,

1. Exposition – The beginning of the story where the characters and setting is revealed. The exposition was the introduction to the characters and setting of the story. The elements maybe largely presented at the beginning of the story, or occur as a sort of incidental description throughout.
2. Rising Action – The central part of a story during which various problem arise, leading up to the climax. This was where the events in the story become complicated and the conflict in the story is revealed. The rising action introduced the conflict or problem in the story. This part of plot told us what it was the main character or protagonist is facing. During the rising action, the main character struggles with conflict or problem.
3. Climax – The climax was the high point of the story, where a culmination of events created the peak of the conflict. The climax usually features the most conflict and struggle, and usually revealed any secrets or missing points in the story. Alternatively, an anti-climax may occur, in which an expectedly difficult event is revealed to be incredibly easy or of paltry importance. Critics may also label the falling action as an anti-climax. The climax was not always the most important scene in a story.
4. Falling Action – The part of a story following the climax. This part of the story showed the result of the climax, and its effects on the characters, setting and proceeding events.
5. Denouement – This was the final outcome or untangling of events in the story. The part of a story or a drama which occurred after the climax and which establishes a new norm, a new state of affairs-the way things were going to be from then on. The author often tied up the loose ends of the story to have the plot reach a conclusion.

C. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The approach that was applied in this research is qualitative research approach. According to Creswell, “Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem” (32). Therefore, this research was categorized as qualitative research because the qualitative used to understand human problem on Dunbroch Royal family member characters in Brave movie.

Therefore, this research was a qualitative research, since it described and discussed how the character that showed by Dunbroch Royal family in the film. To understand the film, the researcher used theory of character, characterization, and plot development.

The source of the data of the research analysis in this thesis is a film which entitles *Brave*, directed by Mark Andrews and Brenda Chapman. This film was fantasy, released by Walt Disney Picture in 2012. The data was presented in the

form of words, sentences, narration, dialogue, through the script of *Brave film*, action, and also behavior through the film that were related to the character of Merida, Queen Elinor, King Fergus, Harris, Hubert, and Hamish from Dunbroch Royal family member.

The researcher used the Reams Characterization Category and Kenney's Plot Development, also the researcher used Miles and Huberman interactive model in analyzed the film. There were four processes: first, **Data collection** was the process of collecting data that the researcher found. Second, **Data reduction** was the processing of the data that had been collected by the researcher. For this research, after collected the data from conversations, dialogues, scenes and the words that explained the actions and role from Dunbroch Royal Family members in the film, all of the data were selected again and filtered further in order to be specific. Third, **Data display** was a process in indicated and analyzed the data. After that the process to analyze the data would be done in order to the answer the research question. Forth, **Conclusions: drawing/verifying** was the last process after analyzed the data. The conclusions were made after assured that all of the data are valid and relevant in answered the research question.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The Characters of Dunbroch Royal Family Members

a. Princess Merida

A round character was complex in temperament and motivation and was represented with subtle particularity; such a character therefore was as difficult to describe with any adequacy as a person in real life, and like real persons, is capable of surprising us (Abrams 33).

Princess Merida or more known as Merida is counted as rounded character. Because her character is presented in the film with showing a lot of her sides.

(min 00:05:45) (Data 1) :

Merida : "My whole life is planned out"

The first side that can found on Merida's character is even though she was a princess, she usually was very awkward to act like one. According to Merida, her life " is planned out " which made her has to follow everything that has been prepared for her. Merida does not really like everything that has been planned for her, including how to become a proper princess. Therefore even though her mother, Queen Elinor taught her a lot of things to become the proper princess but Merida still found it awkward to act like one. The reason was because she liked being free and doing archery instead of learning to playing music or embroidery and many more.

In **(min 00:07:21)** (Data 2) The second side of Merida's character is she is very skillfull in archery. She was presented by her father the bow

on her birthday when she was little. Since then she took a liking in doing archery and managed to master it. Merida loved archery therefore she liked to went around the woods by riding her horse and practicing archery diligently, very different with her lazy attitude whenever her mother taught her the proper way to become princess.

(min 00:08:12) (Data 3) : *Merida bravely climbed the cliff.*

The third side that from Merida's character is she is very brave. She liked to take risks and action. One of her bravest action was when she decided to climbed the high cliff alone without any equipment while still using a dress. She bravely climbed the cliff without hesitation even though her horse was panicked when she was almost fell off after being slipped from her gripped in the cliff. This side is yet another different side of Merida as she was a princess but she also very brave to do the outdoor extreme activity that not usually being done by a princess.

(min 00:010:00) (Data 4)

Queen Elinor : “ **Merida, a princess does not place her weapons**

on the table.”

In the data above it showed that Queen Elinor told Merida not to put her weapon which was the bow in the dinner table. This showed the side of Merida who was very comfortable around her family. She was just getting back from her adventure after climbing the cliff, and was ready to have dinner with her whole family. That is why she absent mindedly put the bow in the dinner table, forgetting that her mother dislike her action that did not represented a proper princess. Her action to put the bow in the dinner table also showed that Merida was not the princess who act very carefully and gracefully. She was very relaxed and comfortable around her family.

b. Queen Elinor

The character of Queen Elinor, or also referred as Elinor only by her husband King Fergus, was the mother for Merida and the triple princes (Hamish, Hubert, and Harris). She was a beautiful queen who treasured great attitude and proper way of being a queen and responsible for educating Merida to become a proper princess in the film. Her character was same as Merida's character which categorized as the round character. Queen Elinor is very serious and firm but actually had different sides that can be seen in the evidences below which proof she was a round character

(min 00:012:20) (Data 5)

Queen Elinor : “Honestly, Merida, I don't know why you're reacting this way.”

The first side from Queen Elinor is she was sometimes did not understand the other people's feelings, many times it will be Merida. As

in the data above it showed that Queen Elinor advised Merida about the marriage. She said that she did not understand why Merida refused to get married to the other son from the other clan, when in fact Merida who was still a teenage is very surprised because she did not know anything about the marriage until that time when it was announced that she will be engaged very soon.

(min 00:016:54) (Data 6)

Queen Elinor : **“You look absolutely beautiful”**

Despite sometimes did not understand how others feeling, especially Merida. Queen Elinor is still has side of a very dotting mother. She did really love her children including Merida. When event in data above happened, Merida was being dressed up to meet her future fiancée. Therefore, Queen Elinor helped her dressed and after done. She praised her by saying “you look absolutely beautiful” very genuinely especially because it was very rare for her to see Merida allowing herself being dressed in Queen Elinor liking.

(min 00:0127:37) (Data 7)

Merida : “Just listen”

Queen Elinor : “I am the Queen”

The last side of Queen Elinor that can be seen from her is she was sometime very egoist and wanted to win by herself. In data 7 above it showed how Merida said “just listen” to Queen Elinor because she wanted to explained why she did not wanted to get married and she hated to always being pressured to become a great and proper princess. However, Queen Elinor is very egoist as she did not want to listen to Merida’s words and said “I am the Queen” . This means that she did not want to listen any reason from Merida and her decision is the right one. She also was the Queen so Merida who was a princess should listen to what she said.

c. King Fergus

As Abrams said, a character may remain essentially "stable," or unchanged in outlook and disposition, from beginning to end of a work. The reader of a traditional and realistic work expects "consistency" the character should not suddenly break off and act in way not plausibly grounded in his or her temperament as we have already come to know it. (33).

The character of King Fergus, who was also Merida’s father and Queen Elinor’s husband categorized into flat character. He showed a very stable side of him which related with how he like to fight. King Fergus was very great in fighting, he was also very skilled and powerful. Throughout the film, King Fergus’s action and dialogue is very stable in relating with the fighting.

(min 00:10:19-00) (Data 8)

King Fergus : **“Princess or not, learning to fight is essential”**

The data above showed how King Fergus supporting Merida in learning to fight. Not to forget the fact that he was the one gave Merida her bow on her birthday when she was little. King Fergus really appreciate and honor the fighting as he looked supportive toward Merida that he indicate that it does not matter if it Princess or not, learning to fight is essential.

(min 00:020:50) (Data 9)

King Fergus :**“Nut’ em! Nut’ em! That’s the way to...”**

As it has been already explained King Fergus stable side keep appearing in the film. In data 9 it showed how King Fergus even chanted for the group of people that was fighting in front of him, instead of taking the initiation to stop the fight. He really like to fight that is why he was even chanting “Nut’ em!” to make the fight that happened in front of him getting bigger instead of stopping it. Later, King Fergus even joined the fight with that group of people which actually were all the leader of the other clan who wanted to marry their son to Merida.

d. The Triplet Prince: Harris, Hubert, Hamish

The youngest in the Dunbroch Royal Family Members were the triplet princes which are, Harris, Huber, and Hamish. They are the little brother of Princess Merida and the sons of King Fergus and Queen Elinor. Their character were described as very mischievous from the beginning of the film to the end which also means that their characters are “stable” and “consistent” just as King Fergus was. Their character is categorized as “flat” and “static” character as there is no change from their characters from the beginning to the end.

(min 00:005:18-00:05:30) (Data 10)

Merida :**“I became a sister to three new brothers. The princes. Hamish, Hubert and Harris. Wee devils, more like. They get away with murder. I can never get away with anything.”**

In the data above it showed the introduction of the triplet prince by Merida. In the scene, they were in the middle of stealing the pies from the maid. Harris, Hubert and Hamish really like sweets and desserts, therefore their mother Queen Elinor forbid them to eat too many of sweets and desserts. However that was not stopping them to eat their favorite food as they try many things in order to steal and get the desserts from the maid, the kitchen, and from Merida.

(min 00:11:08-00:11:21) (Data 11) :

The triplet were lured by Merida with pies in the dining table.

According to the data the triplets were constantly seen eating pie or trying to eat it. If they were not given the pies there will be a possibility where they will try to acquire the pie by stealing it from the maid or from the kitchen. Merida who knew this usually lured his brothers so they want

to do things that she ordered them. For example in the data above, Merida lured the triplets to eat the pies below the table so they can help her running away from their parents that marry Merida into the sons of the other clan's leader.

(min 00:23:30-00:23:55) (Data 12)

The triplets were seen stolen the pie in the from the maid again.

As already mentioned above. The characters of Harris, Hamish and Hubert are categorized as static and flat character. The reason can be seen above from three different data as these characters were described to love desserts and willing to do anything to get it from the beginning of the film into the end of the film.

The Roles of Dunbroch Royal Family Members in Plot

a. Princess Merida

Merida's role in the plot of the film is very clear even from the beginning of the film. She was the protagonist of the film and the one introduced some characters in the film including herself, Queen Elinor, King Fergus, and her three little brothers Hubert, Harris, and Hamish.

(min 00:05:45) (Data 1)

Merida : "My whole life is planned out"

In the data above Merida was in the process of introducing the story. She even said that her whole life is planned out by her parents as a way to introduced her character as the princess. Exposition in plot is the beginning of the story where the characters and setting is revealed. The exposition is the introduction to the characters and setting of the story. The elements maybe largely presented at the beginning of the story, or occur as a sort of incidental description throughout. That is why Merida's role in the plot was in exposition to introduced the characters including herself and the story to the viewers or audience.

b. Queen Elinor

The role of Queen Elinor in the plot is the one who started the conflict that cause the problem to arise and appear. Merida was always being pressured by her so one day when she was very mad, she caused Merida angry and made a conflict with her. Which later ended with Merida caused trouble and accidently turned Queen Elinor into a bear.

(min 00:0127:37) (Data 7)

Merida : "Just listen"

Queen Elinor : "I am the Queen"

Rising Action in plot is the central part of a story during which various problem arise, leading up to the climax. This is where the events in the story become complicated and the conflict in the story is revealed. The rising action introduces the conflict or problem in the story. This part of plot tells us what it is the main character or protagonist is facing.

During the rising action, the main character struggles with conflict or problem. The main character of the *Brave* film is Merida, so when Queen Elinor cause the Merida to conflict with her. It was the very first thing that caused Merida angry and decided to asked a shaman to change her which unfortunately turning her into a bear.

c. The Triplet Prince: Harris, Hubert, Hamish

The role of the triplet prince in the plot of the film is they help Merida to fix the problem in falling action. The triplets is also a part of the result that happened after the climax where they also turned into bear after eating the dessert that made by Merida. Falling action is the part of the story that shows the result of the climax, and its effects on the characters. As Merida made the dessert that can turned the person to become bear. Harris, Hamish, and Hubert were also become the victim as their character who loves sweets and desserts ate the cake and making them turning into bear as well.

(min 01:13:47-01:14:10) (Data 13)

Merida : **“Get the key.”**

In the data above, Merida found out that his brothers have turned into bears as well. When she was trapped by King Fergus, she ordered her brothers to get the key for the door. Harris, Hamish, and Hubert obeyed her and help Merida to get the key from the maid and released her from the room which allowed her to help her mother and the plot flowed from the falling action into denouement where Queen Elinor and the triplet prince finally turned back into normal and all of the conflict done along with a new beginning for the Dunbroch Royal Family members.

E. CONCLUSION

In this chapter, the researcher drew some conclusions and answered the research questions in the chapter I, based on the findings and discussion in chapter IV. The researcher found out that The answer of first research question to find the character of Dunbroch Royal Family Member in the film *Brave*. The researcher found Merida was a round character, Queen Elinor was a round character as well, King Fergus is a flat character and The Triplet static and flat characters. This research question is analyzed through characterization theory of Reams.

The answer for the second research question which is the roles of Dunbroch Royal Family member in the plot. The researcher found that Merida role is the one that started the story which is the exposition. She was the one who first introduced the story as well as the Dunbroch Royal Family member that consists of her, Queen Elinor, King Fergus, and her three little brother, Hubert, Hamish and Harris. The researcher also found that Queen Elinor role in the plot was the one that started the Rising action, as she was

the one who created the conflict between her and Merida, and The Triplet as Merida;s helper to fix the problem in falling action.

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