

DOMINANT PERSONALITY OF OTTO IN A MAN CALLED OTTO MOVIE

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Abstract:

Personality is an important component in character development in a movie. Each character has a dominant personality that differentiate one character from another which influences how each character feels, thinks, and behaves. The problems in this research are what are Otto's personality traits and what is Otto's dominant personality in *A Man Called Otto* movie based on Florence Littauer's theory and how does the dominant personality influence Otto in *A Man Called Otto* movie. The objectives in this research are to find out Otto's personality traits and Otto's dominant personality in *A Man Called Otto* movie based on Florence Littauer's theory and to explain the influence of dominant personality on Otto in *A Man Called Otto* movie. The researcher used a qualitative method and the data were collected from the scenes and the dialogues. After analyzing the data, the researcher found 6 traits for Sanguine, 10 traits for Melancholy, 22 traits for Choleric, and 2 traits for Phlegmatic. The researcher found the dominant type of Otto's personality is Choleric. Choleric personality influences how Otto feels, thinks, and behaves in his daily activities.

Keywords:

Movie; Character;
Personality



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INTRODUCTION

Literature and psychology have a very close relationship as psychology is one of the studies in examining literary works. According to Dudek (1974:17) using psychology in literature requires us to be able to know how the mind works, when we already know how the mind or the imagination work then it is poured and explained in literature. By looking at literary aspects from a psychological perspective, psychology and literature are closely related. Personality is one literary aspect that can be examined from a psychological perspective (Cervone & Pervin, 2022). Personality is the way people present themselves to others, whether intentionally or unconsciously. Every person has a different personality, including their feelings, thoughts, and behaviors. Personality is unique. One person does not enjoy being alone, silent, or self-conscious. Another person prefers to be in an enthusiastic, conversational group with lots of people around them. Understanding personality is crucial because it affects how people interact and respond to their surroundings in daily life (Carson, 2019). Those personalities that are often seen in everyday life is then applied to the characters in a movie as part of literary work.

Endraswara (in Mayanti & Ridwan, 2022:2) says character is an aspect that can be examined in a literary work and psychology can help literary research from the psychological aspects of characters including personality. Character personalities in movies are essentially the product of the human mind or imagination applied to the characters to represent human behavior. Each character has a dominant personality that sets them apart from one another and influences how they feel, think, and behave. For instance, how a character reacts to melancholy when a loved one leaves or when they think of their opposite character. Thus, the researcher chooses personality because it has a unique role in distinguishing one character to another through character's feeling, thinking, and behaving that influence how character deals with various events in a movie. The researcher wants to analyze the personality of a character in A Man Called Otto movie.

The researcher chooses A Man Called Otto movie because no one has taken this movie to discuss the personality and this movie teaches a lot about the meaning of life by encouraging viewers to see things from a variety of perspectives because we are surrounded by various objects. The main character of this movie is Otto, a grumpy 60-year-old man. Otto Anderson decided to commit suicide after his wife passed away and he was forced to leave his job after nearly 40 years of employment. However, the boisterousness of his new neighbors consistently gets in the way of his efforts to commit suicide, which finally creates a special friendship as they push Otto to look on the bright side of things. The way Otto feels, thinks, and behaves in this movie give the impression of being concerned but also annoyed and it makes his character stand out throughout the movie.

The explanations above attract the researcher's interest to study Otto's personality and wants to know more about the dominant personality of Otto, which is known for being grumpy but caring. Based on Florence Littauer's theory, also known as personality plus, the researcher is interested to understand more about Otto's dominant personality type. Personality plus theory can answer problems from this research that aims to find the dominant personality of the character in a movie. The theory is divided into four personality types, they are Sanguine, Melancholy, Choleric, and Phlegmatic (Nurhalimah, 2018).

The personality theory introduced by Florence Littauer is known as Personality Plus. Littauer (2006:16) says that Personality Plus views each of us as an individual blend of four basic temperaments and encourages us to get to know the real me before trying to change what shows on the surface. Personality is divided into four types, namely Sanguine, Melancholy, Choleric, and Phlegmatic.

1. Sanguine

Sanguine or Popular Sanguine is a type that easily shows emotions, enthusiastic, active, talkative, and optimistic. This type of person makes everything enjoyable. They are outgoing, enjoy being in a large group of people, find enjoyment in new experiences, and vividly describe their enjoyment of each occasion. Popular Sanguine can be identified by the following traits: Appealing personality, talkative and storyteller, life of the party, good sense of humor, memory for color, physically holds on to listener, emotional and demonstrative, enthusiastic and expressive, cheerful and

bubbling over, curious, good on stage, wide-eyed and innocent, lives in the present, changeable disposition, sincere at heart, and always a child.

2. **Melancholy**

Melancholy or Perfect Melancholy tend to think and feel analytical and detail-oriented. They enjoy a calm setting far from crowds of people and are reserved, introverted, and schedule-oriented. People with this personality have high standards for themselves; instead of rushing off in desire of adventure, they carefully consider the best course of action for their future. Perfect Melancholy can be identified by the following traits: Deep and thoughtful, analytical, serious and purposeful, genius prone, talented and creative, artistic or musical, appreciative of beauty, sensitive to others, self-sacrificing, conscientious, and idealistic.

3. **Choleric**

Choleric or Powerful Choleric is dynamic person and born to be a leader, independent, decisive, and goal oriented. They are extroverted and want a setting where others follow their lead. People with this personality are outgoing, clear with others about where they stand, and naturally possess leadership skills. As a result, Powerful Choleric frequently achieves success in their field. Powerful Choleric can be spotted with the traits: Born leader, dynamic and active, compulsive need for change, must correct wrongs, strong-willed and decisive, unemotional, not easily discouraged, independent and self-sufficient, exudes confident, and can run anything.

4. **Phlegmatic**

Phlegmatic or Peaceful Phlegmatic is relaxed, calm, and easy-going personality. Despite their tendency for introversion, they function effectively in large crowds. They do not seem to be bothered by anything, and they enjoy watching others. Emotions do not overwhelm people with this personality type since they are very excellent at controlling them. Peaceful Phlegmatic can be spotted with the traits: Low-key personality, easy-going and relaxed, calm-cool and collected, patient and well balanced, consistent life, quiet but witty, sympathetic and kind, keeps emotions hidden, happily reconciled to life, and all-purpose person.

METHOD

In conducting this research, the researcher uses qualitative method that aims to understand the occasions related to personality through action and behavior that exist in a character in a movie which will be further described in words. In order to support the statement above, according to Moleong (2016:6) qualitative research is research that aims to understand occasion about what subject experiences such as behavior, perception, motivation, and action which is then described in a descriptive way using words. These factors lead the researcher to conclude that qualitative methods are appropriate for this study. Semiotics can be used as a theory and method, in this study semiotics is used as a method. Semiotics is referred to study of signs or symbols-images and how they are interpreted into their possible meaning based on their context (Panzaru, 2012). According to Saussure (1959:16) semiotics as the study of the life of signs in social life. Saussure (1988:13) also states that semiotics as the linguistics sign consists of a signifier and a signified. It is known the signifier is seen as a physical form that can be captured by our minds, such as visual images, written images, or sound images. Meanwhile, the signified is seen as the meaning behind the physical form in the form of values (concept).

The source of data used in this research is a 2022 American movie entitled A Man Called Otto, directed by Marc Forster from a screenplay by David Magee. First released on December 25, 2022 in cinemas. Now, A Man Called Otto can be watched through online platforms such as Apple TV, Amazon Video, Google Play Movie, YouTube, Netflix, etc. Genre of A Man Called Otto movie is comedy-drama with 2 hours 6 minutes total duration. The data for this research are the scenes and dialogues that show Otto's personality based on Florence Littauer's theory that involves Sanguine, Melancholy, Choleric, and Phlegmatic.

The researcher did the following steps to collect the data. The first step is watching A Man Called Otto movie repeatedly in order to understand the whole story. The second step is collecting the data by taking screenshot of the scenes in the movie and noted the dialogues in the movie that show Otto's personality. The third step is classifying the data into each category based on Florence Littauer's theory. The researcher did the following steps to analyze the data. The first step is reviewing the data. The second step is analyzing the data that had been found. It based on Saussure's signifier and signified to analyze the meaning of the signs in a scene and Florence Littauer's theory to analyze Otto's personality. The third step is drawing conclusion about Otto's personality based on Florence Littauer's theory.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

After going through the data collection process, the researcher presents the findings of Otto's personality as the main character in A Man Called Otto movie based on Florence Littauer's theory. In collecting the data, the researcher focused on the scenes and dialogues. The researcher has found 40 data of Otto's personality traits. For Sanguine, such as talkative and storyteller, memory for color, and curious. For Melancholy, such as deep, thoughtful, and analytical, serious and purposeful, philosophical and poetic, sensitive to others, self-sacrificing, and conscientious. For Choleric, such as born leader, compulsive need for change, must correct wrong, strong willed and decisive, not easily discouraged, independent and self-sufficient, and can run anything. For Phlegmatic, such as low-key personality and sympathetic and kind.

Table 1 Otto's Personality

NO	TYPE	QUANTITY
1	Sanguine	6
2	Melancholy	10
3	Choleric	22
4	Phlegmatic	2
	Total	40

The table shows that Choleric is the most dominant type with a total of 22 traits. Otto is Choleric. Choleric personality is known as a good leader, goal-oriented, strong-willed, independent, can run anything, and they must change whatever they see out of place or correct whatever wrongs.

Discussion

Sanguine

Memory for color

01:50:17-01:50:19



Figure 1 Otto's Sanguine Personality

Otto : *She loves pink color.*

Otto is sensitive to color, this is supported by when he saw the pink flowers, Otto remembered that it was his wife's favorite flower when she was alive. The pink color of the flower indicated in the scene above can indicate that Sonya is a person who is full of compassion and love, it can also indicate a symbol of the affection and love that Otto has for his wife. Otto's memory of pink which refers to his wife is strengthened in Otto's dialogue "*She loved pink flowers, girls*"

Melancholy

Deep, thoughtful, and analytical

00:43:42-00:43:50



Figure 2 Otto's Melancholy personality

Woman : *What are you passionate about?*

Otto : *Machines, engines, I like knowing how things work.*

Otto is deep, thoughtful, and analytical, this is also supported by Otto's answer when his girlfriend asks about his passion, he answers enthusiastically, "*Machines, engines, I like knowing how things work*". Otto's enthusiasm is reflected in his hands moving while speaking, as depicted in signifier in the scene above. This explains that Otto likes to work things with their fingers, come up with complicated answers to problems, for example work related to machines or engines. The explanations above prove that Otto is deep, thoughtful, and analytical.

Choleric

Must correct wrong

00:31:56-00:32:03



Figure 3 Otto's Choleric personality

Otto : This is a private road, and these gates are to keep down the flow of the traffic. Not so idiot drivers can go around them and tear up the grass.

The notice board in this scene above explains the rules which clearly state that the road is only for cars that already have a permit. Otto is a man who dares to right something wrong, he confidently warns a driver who does not have a permit. Otto feels that it is against the rules, Otto wants to correct that mistake.

Phlegmatic

Lowkey Personality

01:19:22-01:19:30



Figure 4 Otto's Phlegmatic personality

Woman : I have an online series called 'Everyday Heroes' what you did the other day at the station was amazing. You saved that man's life.

Otto : You have the wrong guy.

Otto has a low-key personality, when he is offered to appear on TV, he refuses because he does not like being the center of attention. This is supported by Otto's refusal and he says, "You have the wrong guy" he does not want to admit that he becomes a hero for saving someone's life and he does not feel the need to be credited. This proves that Otto is person with a low-key personality.

Otto's dominant personality in *A Man Called Otto* movie is Choleric and it influences how Otto feels, thinks, and behaves in his daily activities. Otto is a capable leader who can be counted on in both his personal and professional life. Otto becomes an independent person and rarely relies on others because he is capable of doing many different things. Otto has a strong sense of purpose, which makes him determined and strong-willed. Otto is compulsive need for change, he cannot see something out of place or when someone makes a mistake. Otto will always act bravely and with confidence in supporting the truth. Choleric personality is suitable for Otto and can be seen in *A Man Called Otto* movie.

CONCLUSION

This research discusses about Otto's personality in *A Man Called Otto* movie. The researcher uses Florence Littauer's theory, they are Sanguine, Melancholy, Choleric, and Phlegmatic. The researcher found 40 total data. The 6 data show Sanguine such as talkative and storyteller, memory for color, and curious. The 10 data show Melancholy such as deep, thoughtful, and analytical, serious and purposeful, philosophical dan poetic, sensitive to others, self-sacrificing, and conscientious. The 22 data show Choleric such as born leader, compulsive need for change, must correct wrong, strong willed and decisive, not easily discouraged, independent and self-sufficient, and can run anything. And for the last, the 2 data show Phlegmatic such as low-key personality and sympathetic and kind. Otto's dominant personality as the main character in *A Man Called Otto* movie is Choleric. Otto's dominant personality in *A Man Called Otto* movie influences how Otto feels, thinks, and behaves.

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