
The External Conflicts of Emma in *Emma* Movie (2020)

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is about to find the external conflict in Emma movie (2020). Emma movie (2020) directed by Autumn de Wilde and was adapted from the novel by Jane Austen (1815) that had the same name. The movie showed the relations between Emma and the other character and sometimes there were conflicts between them. There are two objectives of this study: 1) to analyse the external conflicts between the main character (Emma) and the other characters in Emma movie (2020) that can be reflected in conversation in the movie and the movie script; 2) to find out the solution of the external conflicts that occurred in Emma movie (2020) that is shown in conversation in the movie and the movie script. In collecting the data from the movie, the researcher used qualitative research in analysing the data. The researcher used the external conflict theory by William Kenny (1966) and the conflict management strategies by Deetz and Stevenson (1986) to analyse the data. This research found six external conflicts experienced by the main character Emma and four data from the conflict management strategies. The findings of this research taught that there are several ways to resolve the conflicts until it reaches an agreement between both sides.

Keywords: *conflict theory; literature; management strategies*

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INTRODUCTION

Literature is something that people around the world are familiar with and has been a part of people's lives since a long time ago. Literature, like other art is essentially an imaginative act of the writer's imagination in selecting, ordering, and interpreting life experiences (Eagleton, 1996).

The genres of literary are divided into three majors namely text of fiction, drama and poetry. The last is film also is integrated as the next genre along the side of three majors (Klarer, 2004). Watching films or movies is one of the activities that people often do in their lives. There are many different purposes for someone to watch movies. The purposes can be for refreshing, killing time, adding some knowledge, learning new languages through movies, and also analysing the movie script for research purposes. The movie script is a written form of a movie, including the dialogues.

In the movie, the basic elements are characters, moral values, purpose, and conflicts. Sometimes the messages in a movie can be seen through the problems or conflicts that happen to the characters. Conflict that is shown in a movie is one of the things that make the movie interesting.

Conflict that is related to the characters, setting, and plot of the literary work is one of the things that makes a movie intriguing. Without conflict, the movie would feel flat and the plot would not stand out.

Conflict is a dramatic expression, indicates the struggle between equal forces and implies action and vengeance (Wellek & Warren, 1956). They occur among the characters because each character has a different personality, background, culture, perspective and so on. Each character also has different opinions, ideas, interests, and understanding about something that makes them not always agree with each other.

There are two kinds of conflict in fiction, internal conflict and external conflict. Every work of fiction contains obvious internal conflicts between two desires within a character, or external conflicts between characters or between a character and his environment (Stanton, 1965). The internal conflict is the conflict that occurs in the character's mind and heart. On the other hand, external conflict is the conflict that deals between the individual and another individual, the individual and the environment, the individual and the group,

the individual and the government, and so on. In this research, the researcher analysed the conflict of the main character "Emma" in *Emma* (2020) movie and only focused on the external conflict. The external conflict is analysed from the dialogues of the main character in the movie script.

Emma movie directed by Autumn de Wilde and was adapted from the novel by Jane Austen (1815) that had the same name. In *Emma's* movie, the main character is Emma. Before Jane Austen began the novel, she said that she was going to take the heroine whom nobody would like but herself. *Emma's* movie is about love and also friendship. As depicted in the movie and written in the film, Emma is a beautiful woman, smart, strong, brave, independent, and comes from a wealthy family. She is also someone who does not waver. However, she is also a spoiled woman, stubborn, and self-satisfied. She highly overestimates her matchmaking abilities, she likes to mind others people's lives which causes danger for herself and others as well, also her perceptions and imaginations of matchmaking are often misleading. She also feels she does not need a partner or lover and does not want to get married, but she loves to

matchmaking her friends. According to the novel, she is matchmaking her former nanny and its success. After that, she decides that she likes matchmaking. She often makes mistakes and imperfect, but that is making her a better example for women since nobody is perfect. Even though she causes many problems herself, but she is brave to solve all of her problems by herself. As a result, it is interesting to analyse the external conflicts and also how Emma solves her conflicts in *Emma* movie (2020).

METHODOLOGY

This research used qualitative research in analysing the data. Qualitative research is an approach for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem (Creswell, 2009). Qualitative research focuses on exploring and understanding the meaning of a person or group relating to social and human issues. Qualitative research is the type of research that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words from observing people's behaviour Taylor, Bogdan, & DeVault (Taylor, Bogdan, & DeVault, 2016). It can be concluded that the data can be taken in the form of written or spoken words and can be taken

from observing the behaviour or action of people.

The source of data in this research is *Emma* movie (2020). The duration of this movie is two hours, four minutes, and twenty seconds (02:04:20). *Emma* movie is directed by Autumn de Wilde. This movie is based on a novel with the same title, *Emma*, by Jane Austen and published in 1815.

A research instrument is a tool for measuring, observing, or documenting the data (Creswell, Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research, 2012) In this research, the researcher used observation and note - taking to collect the data. Observation is the process of gathering open - ended, firsthand information by observing people and disadvantages (Creswell, Educational Research: Planning, Conducting, and Evaluating Quantitative and Qualitative Research, 2012). This research used observation to observe the character in the movie.

The data in this research had to be collected, analysed, and observed. The supporting tools that used were a laptop to help working on the thesis; a smartphone to access the

internet, online journals, and e-books; a notebook to take a note of important information while watching the movie.

There are several steps in analysing the data in this research. The steps are:

a. Watch the *Emma* movie (2020)

Watched the *Emma* movie (2020) over and over again to get the essential data.

b. Identify

In this stage, the researcher identified, found, and focused on the script and dialogues of the *Emma* movie (2020).

c. Classify

After identifying the data, the researcher classified the data that will answer the problem formulation.

d. Analyse

The researcher analysed the context of the conversations between *Emma* and other characters that allow the conflicts that occur in the *Emma* movie (2020) and also the resolution of that.

e. Conclude

After the data are analysed and explained in the research, the researcher made a suggestion and also a conclusion.

DISCUSSION

Emma is a spoiled woman who comes from wealthy family, stubborn, self-satisfied and has high self-esteem. She highly overestimates her matchmaking abilities. Her perceptions and imaginations of matchmaking are often misleading. However, she is smart, strong, brave, independent, and beautiful woman. Even though she has some problems with the people around her, but she is brave to solve all of her problems by herself and dare to apologize when she is wrong in order to maintain good relations with the people around her.

External conflict of Emma

Conflict between Emma and Mr. Knightly

1) (The scene was played in 10:34 - 11:10.)

Mr. Knightley : *If Frank Churchill had wanted to attend his father's wedding, he would have contrived it. He chose not to come.*

Emma : *It is very unfair to judge of any body's conduct without an intimate knowledge of their situation. We have never met Mr Frank Churchill; we do not know what he is able, and unable, to do.*

Mr. Knightley : *There is one thing, Emma, which a man*

can always do if he chooses, and that is his duty. It is Frank Churchill's duty to pay this attention to his father.

Emma : *He also has a duty to his aunt, who is unwell.*

Mr. Knightley : *Mrs Churchill has been unwell for as long as she could say so. Her nephew is not a doctor. If he had told her, simply, and resolutely, that he must attend his father's wedding, there would have been no opposition to his going.*

From the data above, it can be concluded that the conflict between Emma and Mr. Knightley occurred because they have different opinions about Mr. Frank Churchill's presence at Mr. Weston's wedding. Both of them defended their own opinions and no one gave in to each other.

2) (The scene was played in 28:15 - 29:03.)

Mr. Knightley : *Refused! Then she is a greater simpleton than I ever believed her! Harriet Smith refused Robert Martin? I hope you are mistaken.*

Emma : *I saw her answer; nothing could be clearer.*

Mr. Knightley : *You saw her answer! You wrote her answer. This is your doing, Emma. You persuaded her to refuse him.*

Emma : *If I did, I should not feel that I had done wrong. Mr Martin is a respectable young man, but I cannot admit him to be Harriet's equal.*

Mr. Knightley : *No, indeed: he is her superior in both sense and situation! Emma, your infatuation about that girl blinds you. What are Harriet Smith's claims, either of birth, nature, or education, to any connection higher than Robert Martin? She is the natural daughter of nobody knows whom, with probably no settled provision at all, and certainly no respectable relations.*

Emma : *There can scarcely be a doubt that her father is a gentleman, and a gentleman of fortune. Her allowance is very liberal; nothing has been grudged for her improvement.*

From the data above, it can be concluded that Mr. Knightley and Emma have the different opinions again. Mr. Knightley wanted Mr. Robert Martin to be with Harriet because he thought that Harriet would be safe and respectable forever (because nobody knows Harriet's parents and Harriet is only known as a parlour-boarder at common school). Emma is on the opposite side again. Emma thought Mr. Robert Martin is not equal for Harriet and she was trying to do match-making

Harriet with the other man (Mr. Elton).

Conflict between Emma and Mr. Elton

(The scene was played in 41:40 - 43:30.)

Emma : *You take me for my friend. Any message you have to Miss Smith, I shall be happy to deliver.*

Mr. Elton : *For Miss Smith? A message for Miss Smith? I never thought of Miss Smith in the whole course of my existence - never paid her any attentions but as your friend, never cared whether she was dead or alive but as your friend. Oh, Miss Woodhouse, who can think of Miss Smith when Miss Woodhouse is near! Everything I have said or done for many weeks has been with the sole view of making my adoration to yourself. Charming Miss Woodhouse...allow me to interpret this...interesting silence. It confesses you have long understood me.*

Emma : *No, sir. It confesses no such thing. Nothing could be farther from my wishes. Your pursuit of Harriet has given me great pleasure, and I've been very earnestly wishing your success.*

Mr. Elton : *Miss Smith is a very good sort of girl...and no doubt there*

are men who might not object. Everybody has their level. Madam, my visits to Hartfield have been for yourself only, and the encouragement I received...

Emma : Encouragement? I give you encouragement? You are entirely mistaken, sir. I have no thoughts of matrimony at present.

From the data above, it can be concluded that there was a misunderstanding between Emma and Mr. Elton. Emma thought Mr. Elton had a crush on her friend, Harriet. Mr. Elton thought Emma gave him an encouragement for him to get close to her.

Conflict between Emma and Harriet

1) (The scene was played in 45:16 - 46:04.)

Harriet: He never loved me. He loved you.

Emma : He sought to aggrandize and enrich himself!

Harriet: Yes.

Emma : Harriet. You might never have thought of him but for me. I assured you of his attachment- I contrived his visits to Hartfield-

Harriet: I do not blame you. I could never have deserved him, and none but so partial and kind a friend as you could have even thought it

possible. It is silly, really.

From the data above, the researcher concludes Harriet was disappointed about it and she felt insecure about herself. She felt that she did not deserve him

2) (The scene was played in 1:42:13 - 1:42:28.)

Harriet: We were interrupted, but before we were...he seemed almost to be asking me if my affections were engaged.

Emma : Yes, but is it possible that he might have been alluding to Mr. Martin? That he might have had Mr. Martin's interest in view?

Harriet: You think of Mr. Knightley for yourself.

Emma : Harriet. I-I do not flatter myself with any idea of his attachment to me.

Emma : Harriet.

Harriet: I should have considered it too great a presumption even to think of him but for you.

Emma : Harriet. I know that he is the last man who would intentionally give any woman the idea of his feeling more for her than he does, so...if you believe...he loves you...

Harriet: I refused Mr. Martin because of you. Because...

Emma : *Harriet.*

As seen from the dialogue above, the conflict occurs when Emma knows Harriet fell in love with Mr. Knightley and also when Emma realizes that she started having a feeling for Mr. Knightley. Emma does not want Harriet with Mr. Knightley because she likes him. Also, Harriet has refused Mr. Martin in the first place and it makes things more complicated.

Conflict between Emma and Miss Bates

(The scene was played in 1:30:35 - 1:31:10.)

Miss Bates : *Oh! Very well, then I need not be uneasy. 'Three things very dull indeed'. That will just do for me. I shall be sure to say three dull things as soon as I open my mouth.*

Emma : *Ah! Ma'am, but there is a difficulty. When have you ever stopped at three?*

Miss Bates : *Ah- well- to be sure- yes, I see what she means. I will try to hold my tongue.*

In this situation, Emma accidentally insults Miss Bates. As seen in the dialogue, Miss Bates was offended and also disappointed by Emma, and she never thought would be treated this way by her friend, Emma.

How Emma resolves her conflict

Avoidance

(The scene was played in 43:38 - 43:41.)

Mr. Elton : *Driver, stop the carriage. Driver, stop the carriage!*

According to the dialogue from the movie, Emma resolves her conflict with Mr. Elton by avoiding him and letting it happen. Emma turned her face away while Mr. Elton got out of the carriage. After this, they never talked to each other.

Competition

(The scene was played in 11:11 - 11:12.)

Emma : *You are the worst judge in the world, Mr Knightley, of the difficulties of dependence. You have always been your own master. You do not know what it is to have tempers to manage.*

Mr. Knightley : *I shall remember that next time you quarrel with me.*

From the dialogue above, it can be concluded that they argued and no one wanted to give in until the end.

Compromise

1) Emma and Mr. Knightley

(The scene was played in 1:14:45 - 1:15:28.)

Emma : *Thank you. For your kindness to Harriet.*

Mr. Knightly: *He was unpardonably rude- and he aimed at wounding more than Harriet.*

Emma : *I was completely mistaken in Mr Elton. There is a littleness about him which you discovered, and which I did not. I was fully convinced of his being in love with Harriet.*

Mr. Knightley glances at her. Then, kindly:

Mr. Knightly: *You would have chosen for him better than he has chosen for himself. Harriet Smith has some first-rate qualities, which Mrs Elton is totally without. She does you credit, Emma, as you do her.*

From the data above, it can be concluded that they have fixed their problem through the compromise method by giving an advice and support in a nice way. Emma also admitted she was wrong and Mr. Knightley did not feel that he won the argument with Emma, but gave advice and support instead.

Emma and Harriet

(The scene was played in 46:15 - 46:30.)

Emma : *Harriet.*

Harriet stops.

Harriet: *I cannot see it without thinking of him.*

Emma : *Burn the frame if you like, but you must keep the likeness.*

An uncomfortable silence.

Emma : *Then I will take it. I will treasure it as a picture of my friend.*

As seen from the dialogue above, Emma tried to make Harriet feel better and still supported her. Emma also tried to compromise with Harriet by giving the solution that she would keep the picture instead of burning it in a fire.

Creative Integration

1) Emma and Miss Bates

The next day, Emma visited Miss Bates to apologize. She also brought a gift for her, a basket full of fruits as an apology

(The scene was played in 1:36:58 - 1:37:51.)

Miss Bates : *I am afraid Jane is not very well. A dreadful headache, writing all morning, such long letters. I said my dear you will blind yourself!*

Emma : *I am sorry to hear it, Miss Bates. Please give Jane my good wishes.*

Miss Bates : *How kind you are. You were kept waiting at the door- I was quite ashamed- but somewhere there was a little bustle- for it so happened that we had not*

heard the knock, and till you were on the stairs, we did not know anybody was coming.

Emma gave the basket full of fruits to Miss Bates.

Miss Bates : *So very kind. But you are always kind, Miss Woodhouse.*

From the text about, it can be concluded that Emma has fixed her problem with Miss Bates through the creative integration method. Emma showed that she has the courage to apologize face to face for feeling guilty and also because she wanted to maintain her relationship with Miss Bates, even though it takes courage and a lot of energy. Miss Bates is also a good person. She forgave Emma and did not hold a grudge against her.

2) Emma and Harriet

Harriet told Emma that she fell in love with Mr. Knightly. Emma realized she also started falling in love with him. Then Mr. Knightly fell in love with Emma. Mr. Knightly gave an idea to Emma that she had to visit Mr. Robert Martin to propose to Harriet because he still loved Harriet. Emma also did not want to make Harriet disappointed and sad. Then, she visited Mr. Robert Martin and brought a gift basket, which contained a dressed goose, fruit, nuts, bunches of

lavender, and also a picture of Harriet that she kept before.

(The scene was played in 1:49:00 - 1:49:37.)

Emma : *Mr Martin. I have a confession to make. I have caused you great suffering, as I have also caused the suffering of my friend- (correcting herself) -my dearest friend.*

From the text above, it can be concluded that Emma has fixed her problem with Harriet through the creative integration method. Emma showed that she dared to apologize to Mr. Robert Martin, because of her, Harriet refused him. Now, Emma wanted them become together and she did not want Harriet sad again.

CONCLUSION

Conflict that is shown in a movie is one of the things that make the movie interesting. Conflict that is related to the characters, setting, and plot of the literary work is one of the things that makes a movie intriguing. Without conflict, the movie would feel flat and the plot would not stand out. Emma, as the main character of this movie has some external conflict with people around her. In this research, the type of external conflict that was found is only man vs man. It consists of six conflicts, which are experienced between

Emma and Mr. Knightley (two conflicts), Emma and Harriet (two conflicts), Emma and Mr. Elton (one conflict), and Emma and Miss Bates (one conflict). For the second findings, there are four types of the conflict management strategies, such as avoidance (one data), competition (one data), compromise (two data), and creative integration (two data). Lastly, the researcher learned that there are several ways to resolve the conflicts until it reaches an agreement between both sides.

COMPETING INTEREST STATEMENT

Herewith the author declares that this article is totally free from any conflict of interest regarding the assessment, review and revision, and publication process in general.

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