

**DEFINING EDDIE: PERSONALITY TRAIT ANALYSIS IN
MITCH ALBOM'S *THE FIVE PEOPLE YOU MEET IN HEAVEN***

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Gaining
the Bachelor Degree in English Literature



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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this thesis is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this thesis. Other researchers' opinions or findings included in the thesis are quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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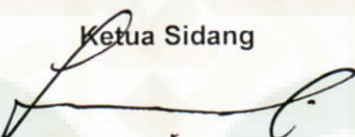
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ABSTRACT

The Five People You Meet in Heaven is a fiction fantasy novel that tells about the journey of a crippled maintenance man named Eddie in both of life and afterlife. This research aims to understand the characterization of Eddie that is explained in the novel. This research uses qualitative method as the method of research and close reading as the technique of collecting data. The analysis uses psychological approach and applies theory of character and characterization, psychology of literature, as well as personality trait by Costa and McCrae as the main theory. Personality trait theory by Costa and McCrae provides specific traits of personality that consist of big five dimensions: Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to Experience, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness. The most intense personality dimension found in the characterization of Eddie is Agreeableness. On the other hand, Eddie has dimension of Neuroticism as seen in the facet of depression, angry hostility, and anxiety which is Eddie's imperfection as human being. This research concludes that Eddie is true to life character and has agreeable personality as reflected in the facets of altruism, tender-mindedness, trust, compliance, and modesty.

Keywords: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven, character, characterization, personality trait, true to life, agreeable.*

ABSTRAK

The Five People You Meet in Heaven adalah sebuah novel fiksi fantasi yang menceritakan tentang perjalanan kehidupan dunia dan akhirat dari seorang pria pengelola taman hiburan yang pincang bernama Eddie. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk memahami karakterisasi Eddie sebagaimana dijelaskan di novel. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif sebagai metode penelitian dan membaca teliti sebagai teknik pengumpulan data. Analisis ini menggunakan pendekatan psikologi dengan mengaplikasikan teori karakter dan karakterisasi, teori psikologi sastra, serta teori sifat kepribadian dari Costa dan McCrae sebagai teori utama. Teori sifat kepribadian Costa dan McCrae mencetuskan sifat kepribadian secara spesifik yang terdiri dari lima dimensi utama: Kegelisahan, Ekstroversi, Keterbukaan untuk Pengalaman, Keramahan, and Kesadaran diri. Dimensi Keramahan merupakan dimensi terkuat yang ditemukan dalam karakterisasi Eddie. Di sisi lain, Eddie mempunyai dimensi Kegelisahan sebagaimana terlihat pada faset depresi, kemarahan, dan kecemasan; yang merupakan ketidaksempurnaan Eddie sebagai manusia. Sehingga dapat disimpulkan bahwa Eddie adalah karakter yang benar untuk kehidupan (*true to life*) dan memiliki kepribadian yang menyenangkan (*agreeable*) sebagaimana tercermin pada faset altruisme, kesimpatikan, kepercayaan, kepatuhan, dan kesederhanaan.

Kata kunci: *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, karakter, karakterisasi, sifat kepribadian, benar untuk kehidupan (*true to life*), menyenangkan (*agreeable*).

MOTTO

"Hakuna Matata"



DEDICATION

*To she who lets me dream with this kind of open eyes,
Dear MAMA.*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Fiction is one of popular genres in literature. The term *fiction* usually closely related to pleasure and imagination. Most people tend to read fiction for pleasure. Fiction brings emotional and intellectual pleasure for the readers through the surprising events, satisfying expectations, and emotional characters (DiYanni, 2002: 2). People may feel the pleasure of fiction through the art of language that the author creates in a fiction. People may also enjoy a fiction work by imagining the characters, the settings, as well as the plot.

Fiction refers to imaginary story. According to Abrams, “fiction in the inclusive sense, is any narrative which is feigned or invented rather than historically or factually true” (1971: 59). This means there is no precise truthfulness could be revealed through a fiction. The truth comes from the author perception as the creator of the fiction. The readers are merely capable to experience, interpret, and evaluate a fiction work.

Fiction portrays human life including the relationship among human beings, environments and God. As Altenbernd and Lewis (1966: 14) stated that even though fiction is imaginative, but fiction is plausible and contains the truth of the relationships among human beings (as cited in Nurgiyantoro, 2010: 2). In addition, fiction has wide form therefore fiction is able to portray human life in detail.

One kind of fiction works is novel. According to Abrams, the term *fiction* sometimes is used to refer to the term of novel (1971: 59-60). In line with fiction, novel provides an imaginative world which is a detail portrayal of human life about the relationship among humans, environments, and God, including the problems in life. Novel is built by intrinsic and extrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are the elements that develop the story directly including characters and characterization, plot, setting, point of view, theme, style, tone, and diction, and so on. Meanwhile, extrinsic elements are the outside elements that influence the story indirectly, such as author's psychology, author's environment, and author's subjectivity including attitude, belief, and view of life (Nurgiyantoro, 2010: 23-24). Both elements develop novel into an imaginative world which seems to be real and plausible.

This research analyzes popular novel since popular novel presents contemporary thought which is crucial to understand society. Popular novel is a novel which is popular in its era and has a great number of readers (Nurgiyantoro, 2010: 18). People sometimes assume that popular novel is commercial literature since popular novel aims to be well-liked by mass of readers. Nowadays, its assumption gradually changes. Popular novel can be considered academically. Popular novel does not merely aim to be commercial but popular novel also presents contemporary thought. Since popular novel is well-liked by mass of readers, therefore popular novel is crucial to understand the society around them. This research analyzes one of popular novels, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* written by Mitch Albom.

The Five People You Meet in Heaven novel tells about the journey of an 83 year old crippled maintenance man named Eddie in both of his life and afterlife. Eddie felt that he was trapped in meaningless life of maintaining the rides in an amusement park, Ruby Pier. Eddie's youth was passionate. He enlisted as World War II soldier when his country entered the war. When Eddie became a soldier he tried to do a heroic action for saving a child from a burning camp, but he got an injury instead of saving that child. The injury caused his leg crippled for the rest of his life. Time passed, Eddie was haunted by the feeling of regret. Eddie's passionate youth turned into hopeless aged man. He underwent a dull routine of work, loneliness, and regret. Eddie often had a feeling that he did not accomplish what he should.

This research focuses on the characterization of Eddie since he has ironic and unique character. It is ironic since Eddie died on his birthday because of a tragic accident. On the other hand, it is unique since his death is a heroic action which he succeeds in saving other's life. Eddie died on his 83rd birthday because of a tragic accident in the Ruby Pier where he tried to save a little girl from a falling cart. After his death, Eddie had a journey in heaven where he met five people who had affected his life; The Blue Man, The Captain, Ruby, Marguerite, and Tala. Eddie was curious about his death since he did not know exactly about his death. This led Eddie to find out what was the last act of his life whether he succeeded in saving the little girl or not. The answer of Eddie's curiosity about his death came from the last person he met in heaven, Tala. Tala revealed that Eddie

had saved the little girl from the falling cart in the Ruby Pier which was his last action of his life.

Furthermore, this research chooses *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel as the subject of the research since this novel presents a unique story about both life and afterlife. This novel has three sections: The End, The Arrival, and The Journey. *The End* tells about Eddie's death, *The Arrival* tells about Eddie's arrival in heaven, while *The Journey* tells about Eddie's journey in heaven. This novel is unique since it begins with the end of Eddie's life that leads to the beginning of his journey in heaven. This means that *The End* does not always signify an ending, but it is also possible to signify a beginning. In other words, death is not completely an ending but it is also a beginning of journey in afterlife where people who were dead are essentially still alive in other life that is afterlife. It is in line with Islamic perspective in the Holy Quran, Surah Al Baqarah, verse 154:

وَلَا تَقُولُوا لِمَن يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمُوتَ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَٰكِن لَّا تَشْعُرُونَ

“And do not say about those who are killed in the way of Allah , "They are dead." Rather, they are alive, but you perceive [it] not” (<http://quran.com/2/154>).

As it was explained in the previous paragraph, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel tells about both life and afterlife. Life and death are essentially a test for the perfect life eternally in heaven. This signifies that people necessarily do not only think about the pleasure of life on earth, but people also need to

concern on their afterlife since it is an eternal life one. It is in line with Islamic perspective in the Holy Quran, Surah Al Mulk, verse 1-3:

تَبَارَكَ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ الْمُلْكُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١﴾
 الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ
 الْغَفُورُ ﴿٢﴾
 الَّذِي خَلَقَ سَبْعَ سَمَاوَاتٍ طِبَاقًا مَا تَرَى فِي خَلْقِ الرَّحْمَنِ مِنْ تَفَوتٍ
 فَارْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ هَلْ تَرَى مِنْ فُطُورٍ ﴿٣﴾

“Blessed is He in whose hand is dominion, and He is over all things competent (1). [He] who created death and life to test you [as to] which of you is best in deed and He is the Exalted in Might, the Forgiving (2). [And] who created seven heavens in layers. You do not see in the creation of the Most Merciful any inconsistency. So return [your] vision [to the sky]; do you see any breaks? (3).” (<http://quran.com/67/1-3>)

Another reason, this research chooses *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel since it is a bestselling novel. This novel was published in 2003. This novel has gained great popularity over the world. Moreover, this novel was translated into 35 languages and sold over 12 million copies in 38 territories. This novel is the bestselling hardcover first time novel ever. Furthermore, this novel is adapted into a three-hour TV Event directed by Lloyd Kramer which was aired on December 2004 and became the most watched TV movie of the year (<http://mitchalbom.com/d/books/3874/five-people-you-meet-heaven>). Hence, its

popularity challenges the researcher to analyze the novel deeply to find out the learning of the novel since basically one of the functions of a literary work is to educate.

Furthermore, this research concerns on the study of character. Character is considered as the most important element in fiction. According to Arnold Bennett, “the foundation of good fiction is character-creation and nothing else...” (as cited in Beaty, et al, 2002: 102). This means the basic element of good fiction is located in the element of character. In short, the readers need to get understanding at the characters in order to get understanding the novel entirely.

This research aims to analyze the characterization of Eddie as the main character of the novel. This research only concerns on the main character. “The main or major character is an important figure at the center of the story’s action or theme” (DiYanni, 2002: 54). The analysis of the main character tends to be effective to get a deep understanding on the novel since the main character is the important figure that develops the story from the beginning until the end.

Study of characters refers to the study of psychology. Literary works whether novel, poetry, or play contains psychological aspects as the result of the psychology of the author, the fictional characters, and the readers (Minderop, 2011: 53). This research uses psychological approach since this research analyzes the novel through psychological aspects of the fictional character.

Furthermore, personality includes to study of psychology. Personality is used to characterize and differentiate one person among the others (Feist and Rosenberg, 2010: 495). Personality in Islamic perspective can be developed

through Muslim relationship with the God (*habluminallah*) and human beings (*habluminannas*), as stated in the Holy Qur'an, Surah an-Nisa', verse 36:

﴿وَأَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَبِذِي
الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْجَارِ
الْجُنُبِ وَالصَّاحِبِ بِالْجَنُبِ وَابْنِ السَّبِيلِ وَمَا مَلَكَتْ
أَيْمَانُكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ مَن كَانَ مُخْتَالًا فَخُورًا﴾

which means: “Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. Indeed, Allah does not like those who are self-deluding and boastful”

(<http://quran.com/4/36>).

This research focuses on the characterization of Eddie based on the personality trait theory by Costa and McCrae. Through analyzing the characterization of Eddie, this research aims to reveal the most intense dimension of personality that appears in the character of Eddie. Furthermore, this research aims to know the personality of Eddie as seen in the result of the analysis.

1.2. Problem Statement

Based on the background of study above, this research has only one research question that is formulated below:

- 1.2.1. How can the character of Eddie be explained in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel?

1.3. Objective of Study

This research aims to answer the problem statement, that is:

- 1.3.1. To understand the characterization of Eddie that is explained in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel.

1.4. Significances of Study

This research expects to be able to give contributions and significances both theoretically and practically:

- 1.4.1. Theoretically, this research intends to reveal the most intense dimension of personality that appears in the character of Eddie. Furthermore, this research aims to know the personality of Eddie as seen in the result of the analysis in order to get learning of the novel.
- 1.4.2. Practically, this research expects can be useful for:
 - a. Students; this research aims to help them in understanding the characterization of Eddie in the novel.

- b. Future researchers; this research expects to be able to become a reference for future researchers that interested in analyzing the similar research.
- c. Lecturers; this research aims to be able to become a reference related the character analysis.
- d. Common people; this research expects to attract people for understanding society through popular novel.

1.5. Literature Review

There are several graduating papers that have analyzed *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel. The first is a graduating paper entitled “Concept of Heaven as Reflected through The Narrator in Albom’s *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*” written by Brian Kevin Panduu from English Letter Study Programme of Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2013). His paper discusses the concept of heaven that is reflected through the narrator in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom.

There are three problem statements in Brian’s paper. The first problem statement is the description of the narrator. The second is the description of Eddie as one of the major character that is described through the narrator. The third is the concept of heaven that is revealed through the narrator’s perception toward Eddie’s life experiences. The research applies moral philosophical approach since the research intends to reveal a philosophical thought based on Catholicism point of view about concept of heaven. According to Brian’s paper, concept of heaven

shows two steps of heaven from many steps of heaven. The first step is after a person death, he passes five heavens that belong to different five people in order to learn life lessons which are similar to purgatory phase. The second step is a person who finishes the first step becomes one of the five people in someone's life to share life lessons too.

Furthermore, Brian's paper concludes that the contribution of the narrator's description toward Eddie's life experiences creates an idea about the concept of heaven. The first step grants valuable life lessons and also the reason of a person's life. The second step is a condition that requires a person who passes the first step. The essences of heaven are a place to learn, to understand life stories that consist of life lessons, to know what a person needs, and do not need to move on to the next steps of heaven.

Another graduating paper entitled "The Influence of Five People on Eddie's Perception of His Former Life in Mitch Albom's *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*" was written by Elisabeth Y.R. Wulandari from English Language Education Study Programme of Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta (2010). Her paper discusses the main character's perception of his former life and the influences of those five people in the main character's perception of his former life. The research applies psychological approach and some theories, such as theory of character and characterization and theory of psychology. The research concludes that Eddie has a bad perception of his former life. He perceives that his life is worthless. The five people that Eddie meets in heaven influence him by sharing their experiences and information which are essential to define how

meaningful his life is. Thus, he perceives his life is meaningful after he meets the five people in heaven.

Another graduating paper entitled “A Semiotic Analysis on the novel *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*” was written by Maulana Mansyur from English Letter Department of State Islamic University Jakarta (2010). The research applies the semiotic theory by Charles Sanders Pierce. The research aims to know the relationship and the meaning among the sign, the object, and the interpretant on Eddie’s way to heaven. The research classifies the data into three groups: the sign, the object, and the interpretant. Further, the research describes and analyzes the meaning of the sign using Pierce’s Triadic Theory to get the semiotic process. The research also assumes the meaning based on Eddie’s experiences and thought, and some references related to the novel. The paper concludes that dream is like a mirror of human life. Eddie can understand his life after he meets five people in heaven.

The other graduating paper entitled “The Search for The Meaning of Life in Mitch Albom’s *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*” was written by Hanita Novianti from English Literature of Airlangga University Surabaya (2007). Her paper discusses about the search for the meaning of life in *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel. The research analyzes the problems that Eddie gets during his life and the purposes of the presence of the five people in heaven based on Eddie’s problems in searching for the meaning of his life. According to her paper, there are two problems that Eddie experiences. Those are Eddie’s own problem and his problem with his father.

Hanita's research applies the new criticism theory which is used to analyze the intention of the novel. The research also uses psychological approach since the novel contains the psychological problems about the influence of father in the development of his children. The paper explains the influences of father's love and care toward the psychological development of his children, especially in the relationship between Eddie and his father. The paper concludes that this novel is about the journey in searching for the meaning of life that is the journey of Eddie from meaningless to meaningful life. Eddie gets the meaning of his life after his meetings with the five people in heaven who reveal the truth of his life.

Therefore, the present research is different from the previous researches since each research uses different theory. On the other hand, the similarity can be seen from the subject of research, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom. The other similarity with some researches is on the approach which uses psychological approach. However, this present research clearly applies different theory. The present research is a new research that focuses on the characterization of Eddie as the main character based on the theory of personality trait by Costa and McCrae.

1.6. Method of Research

This section explains the type of research, data sources, data collection technique, and data analysis technique, as follows:

1.6.1. Type of Research

This research includes in the qualitative research. The research does not use statistic analysis. This research describes and analyzes the characterization of Eddie as the main character based on the big five dimensions of personality trait by Costa and McCrae: Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness.

1.6.2. Data Sources

The main data of this research is the novel entitled *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom. The secondary data comes from the additional sources, such as some referential books and articles in the websites related to this topic. The secondary data are used to support the main data in order to gain comprehensive understanding on the character.

1.6.3. Data Collection Technique

This research applies library research as the data collection technique. This research collects the data through close reading or known as analytical reading. According to Richards (1929), “close reading is not a new instructional routine; it has existed for many decades as the practice reading of a text for a level of detail not used in everyday reading” (as cited in Frey and Fisher, 2013: 57). In other words, close reading refers to detailed reading which is used to get deep understanding on the object of reading. According to Adler and Doren (1972: 163-164), there are several rules of analytical reading, as follows:

- a. Finding what the book is about. This rule can be done by classifying the kind of book, stating and outlining the general idea, and defining the problems of the book.
- b. Interpreting content of the book. This rule can be done by interpreting the keywords, finding the author's argument, and determining the problems that has been solved and failed to be solved.
- c. Criticizing the book as a communication of knowledge. The main point of this rule is the understanding of the book through a complete interpretation of the book. The readers need to differentiate between knowledge and personal opinion for critical judgement.

1.6.4. Data Analysis Technique

According to Ratna (2011: 344), there are two methods of research that deal with psychology of literature. The first research is accomplished through understanding the theory of psychology then applies the theory into the literary work. The first method tends to place the literary work as secondary symptom which assumes that literary work as the passive symptom or the object to apply the theory. On the other hand, the second method provides the literary work earlier then decides the theory of psychology that relevant with the analysis. The second method tends to place literary work as dynamic symptom. This means that literary work itself that decides the theory. This research uses the second method which places the literary work as dynamic symptom. Thus, this research decides to apply the theory of personality trait by Costa and McCrae.

According to Wellek and Warren (1949: 75), there are four kinds of analysis related to the psychology of literature. Those are the analysis of the author, the creative process, the psychological laws within literary work, and the readers. This research uses the analysis of psychological law within literary work which applies theory of personality trait.

This research takes several steps in analyzing the data of research. The first step is organizing the data based on the big five dimensions of personality traits by Costa and McCrae; Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to Experience, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness. The second step is elaborating the data based on the big five dimensions of personality trait by Costa and McCrae. The third step is making the chart of personality dimensions that appears in the character of Eddie based on its intensity. The last step is concluding the result of analysis.

1.7. Paper Organization

This thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter describes the general information of this research including the background of study, problem statement, objective of study, significances of study, literature review, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter contains the theoretical review. This chapter provides a brief explanation about the related approach and theories: character and characterization (i.e. definition of character, kinds of character, and characterization); psychology of literature, and personality trait theory by Costa and McCrae. The third chapter consists of the background and the

intrinsic elements of the novel (i.e. summary, plot, character and characterization, setting, and point of view). The fourth chapter is the data analysis. The last chapter contains the conclusion and suggestion.



CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1. Conclusion

The objective study of this research is to understand the characterization of Eddie that is explained in the novel. After analyzing the characterization of Eddie through the big five dimensions of personality by Costa and McCrae; Neuroticism, Extraversion, Openness to Experiences, Agreeableness, and Conscientiousness, this research found the degree of intensity over those personality dimensions in the characterization of Eddie. The degree of intensity can be seen in the following list decreasingly from the most intense to the least intense: Agreeableness, Openness to Experience, Neuroticism, Conscientiousness, and Extraversion.

Eddie's agreeableness is seen in his strong altruism, trust, and tender-mindedness to the others. Moreover, his altruism leads him to do heroic action of saving a little girl from the falling cart which brings him to the death. Eddie's agreeableness is also appeared in his compliance, modesty, and tender-mindedness. Eddie has openness in ideas, fantasy, aesthetics, actions, and feelings. Further, Eddie's neuroticism is reflected in his high depression which lacks in self-worth. Besides, his neuroticism is also reflected in his angry hostility and anxiety. Eddie's conscientiousness is portrayed in his strong dutifulness, deliberation, and self-discipline in his life. Meanwhile, Eddie's extraversion is portrayed in his positive emotion, high activity, and warmth.

Furthermore, this chapter provides the chart of the intensity of personality dimensions in Eddie's characterization in order to make it easy in seeing the result of the analysis, as follows:

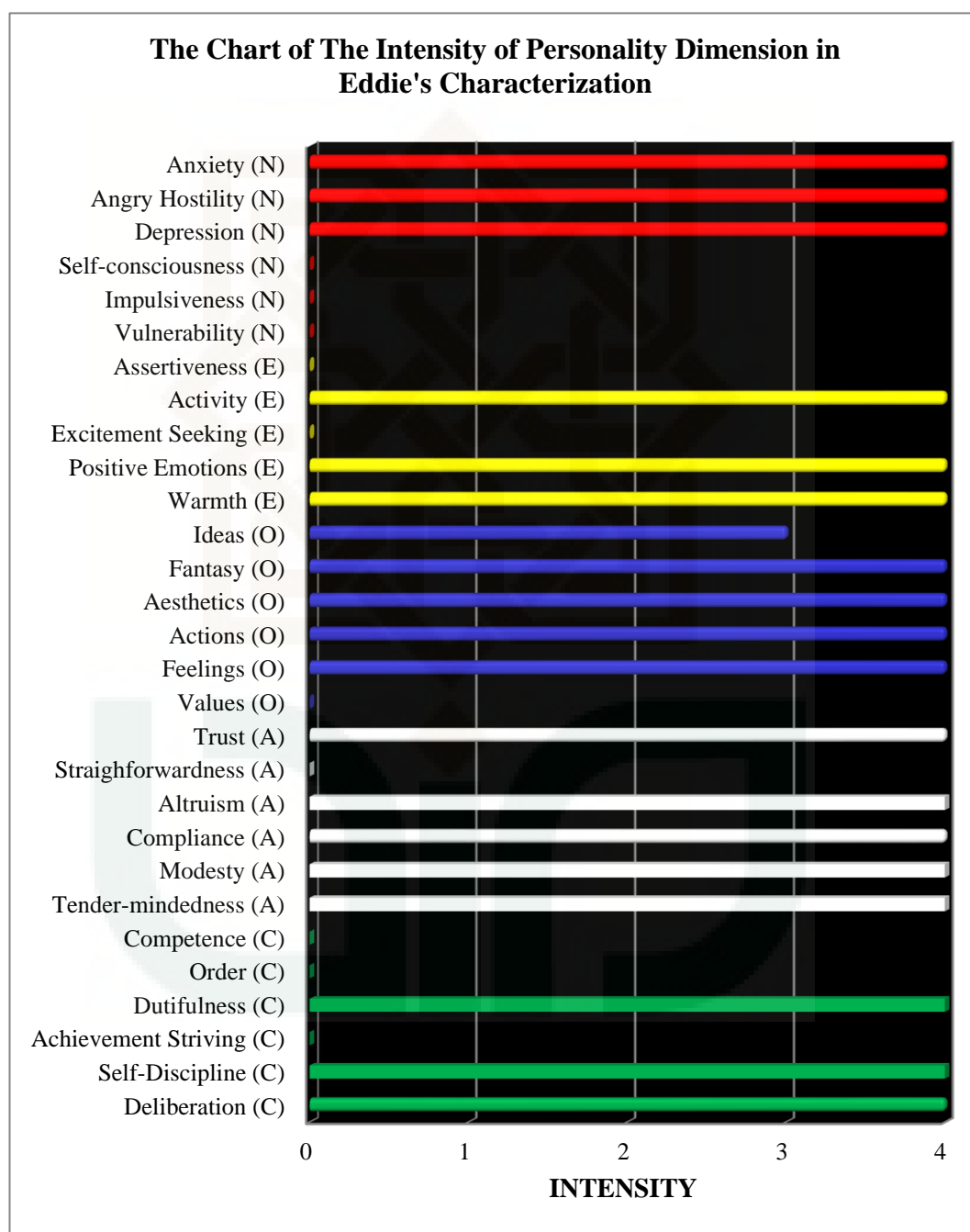


Fig. 2. The chart of the intensity of personality dimension in Eddie's characterization

Chart information:

(N) = Neuroticism

(E) = Extraversion

(O) = Openness to Experience

(A) = Agreeableness

(C) = Conscientiousness

The chart categorizes the intensity into five levels from zero (0) to four (4). The level zero (0) means that this research did not find its personality facets in Eddie's characterization. The level one (1) represents Eddie's thought. The level two (2) represents Eddie's feeling. The level three (3) represents Eddie's speech. The level four (4) represents Eddie's action. Those levels increase from zero (0) to four (4) in line with its intensity from least intense to most intense. If the personality facet falls in the maximum level means that the previous levels have been fulfilled.

According to the chart, this research finds five facets of personality that belong to the dimension of Agreeableness. Those are Altruism, Trust, Compliance, Modesty, and Tender-mindedness. Eddie has high intensity in those facets of Agreeableness. Those five facets of Agreeableness fall in the maximum level that means those facets of Agreeableness are reflected through Eddie's actions. This indicates that the most intense personality dimension on Eddie's characterization is the dimension of Agreeableness.

Costa and McCrae stated that “individuals high in Agreeableness enjoy helping the other (nurturance), self-effacing, and modest (Abasement)” (2006: 54). In line with this statement, Eddie has high intensity in the facet of Altruism which is the tendency to help the others. Eddie was willing to help the child from the falling cart that led him into his death. This heroic action is considered as the most affected action of his life. Furthermore, Eddie also has high intensity in the other facets of Agreeableness; Trust, Compliance, Modesty, and Tender-mindedness. Those five facets of Agreeableness are synergic in developing Eddie’s personality. Therefore, this indicates that Eddie has agreeable personality as reflected through the facet of Altruism, Trust, Compliance, Modesty, and Tender-mindedness.

On the other hand, there is one dimension among the big five dimensions of personality that appears in Eddie’s characterization which is considered as the negative dimension. This dimension belongs to the dimension of Neuroticism. According to Vestre, “neuroticism represents the proneness of the individual to experience unpleasant emotions and to have corresponding disturbances in thoughts and actions” (as cited in Costa and McCrae, 2006: 46).

This research finds three facets of Neuroticism in Eddie’s characterization. Those are the facet of Anxiety, Angry Hostility, and Depression. As seen in the chart, those three facets of Neuroticism fall in the maximum level which means those facets are reflected through Eddie’s actions. Nevertheless, the facet of Anxiety and Angry Hostility rarely appear in Eddie’s characterization. These facets appear only in a few situations. In short, those three facets of Neuroticism;

Anxiety, Angry Hostility, and Depression represent Eddie's imperfection as human being.

Thus, the character of Eddie is true to life. In other words, the character of Eddie represents human being that has imperfection. Despite of his imperfection Eddie is able to be good human being as reflected in his agreeable personality. Since the character of Eddie has close relation with the readers as human being, therefore the readers can learn from the character of Eddie through his good personality as reflected in the dimension of Agreeableness, Openness to Experience, Conscientiousness, and Extraversion.

5.2. Suggestion

The researcher found that *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel is a recommended novel. This novel has good moral value which is crucial for the readers to learn about both life and afterlife. This novel portrays another life after the death. This means that death is not completely the end but death is a beginning of afterlife that is the eternal one. People should be not only concern on the pleasure of life in the earth but they also need to concern on the afterlife since afterlife is the place to make responsible for the people's deeds during their life in the earth. It is in line with Islamic perspective in the Holy Quran, Surah Al Mulk, verse 1-3:

تَبَرَكَ الَّذِي بِيَدِهِ الْمُلْكُ وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿١﴾

الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْمَوْتَ وَالْحَيَاةَ لِيَبْلُوَكُمْ أَيُّكُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ
الْغَفُورُ ﴿٢﴾

الَّذِي خَلَقَ سَبْعَ سَمَاوَاتٍ طِبَاقًا مَا تَرَىٰ فِي خَلْقِ الرَّحْمَنِ مِن تَفَوتٍ
فَارْجِعِ الْبَصَرَ هَلْ تَرَىٰ مِن فُطُورٍ ﴿٣﴾

which means:

“Blessed is He in whose hand is dominion, and He is over all things competent (1). [He] who created death and life to test you [as to] which of you is best in deed and He is the Exalted in Might, the Forgiving (2). [And] who created seven heavens in layers. You do not see in the creation of the Most Merciful any inconsistency. So return [your] vision [to the sky]; do you see any breaks? (3).” (<http://quran.com/67/1-3>)

Furthermore, the research suggests for the next researchers who are interested in analyzing *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* novel, to relate the afterlife including heaven to Islamic perspective using the relevant theory. Every religion has different perspective about afterlife and heaven. The next research may focus on afterlife and heaven based on the Islamic perspective. Therefore, the research will get deep understanding of the novel from the Islamic perspective.

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APPENDIX

CURRICULUM VITAE



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