

**THE PORTRAYAL OF THE UNITED STATES AND
GERMANY AS SEEN IN *PITCH PERFECT 2* MOVIE**

A GRADUATING PAPER

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



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2016

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I declare that this thesis is my own and I am completely responsible for the contain of this thesis. All of the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledge by means of complete references.

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Nomor: UIN.02/DA/PP.009/ 1344 /2016

Skripsi / Tugas Akhir dengan judul:

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ABSTRACT

THE PORTRAYAL OF THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY AS SEEN
IN *PITCH PERFECT 2* MOVIE

By: Meiga Dwi Astuti

Literary work is one tools to present of humans think. One kind of literary work that use to share idea is film. Film show human problem be main idea of the movie, one idea that show society life is about two countries, the United States and Germany. The United States and Germany are two strongest countries that have rivalry since world war I and world war II. From the history, rivalry between the United States and Germany still become one sensitive thing. Rivalry between the United States and Germany also becomes main story of *Pitch Perfect 2* that represented with two cappella group are Barden Bellas from The United States and Das Sound Machine from Germany that compete on world a cappella competition. This research aims to analyze about how the portrayal of the United States and Germany in *Pitch Perfect 2* movie. To answer the problem statement, the researcher uses Structuralism theory as the main theory and film theory by Amy Villarejo as supporting theory. Furthermore, the research method that use is qualitative description method. The result of the research is the United States portrayal as shame team, looser team, powerless team, not solid in the beginning of the story. Then in middle, the United States portrayal as team with fraternity, and in the end the United States get the various. Germany represented as superior and solid team in the beginning of the movie, then Germany portrayal as full of ambitious team and be a loser in the end of the movie.

Key Words: Structuralism, *Pitch Perfect 2*, the United States and Germany

ABSTRACT

THE PORTRAYAL OF THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY AS SEEN
IN *PITCH PERFECT 2* MOVIE

By: Meiga Dwi Astuti

Karya sastra adalah salah satu alat bagi manusia untuk menyampaikan ide. Salah satu karya sastra yang digunakan untuk menyampaikan ide adalah melalui film. Banyak permasalahan sosial yang menjadi ide utama dari film, salah satunya tentang Amerika dan Jerman. Amerika dan Jerman adalah dua negara yang bersaing pada perang dunia I dan perang dunia II. Sejak saat itu, persaingan antara kedua negara menjadi hal yang sensitive. Persaingan antara Amerika dan Jerman juga menjadi alur cerita dari *Pitch Perfect 2* yang direpresentasikan dengan dua grup akapela yaitu Bellas dari Amerika dan Das Sound Machine dari Jerman yang bersaing untuk menang di kejuaraan akapela dunia. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana penggambaran kedua negara melalui plot cerita. Oleh karena itu, untuk menjawab rumusan masalah peneliti menggunakan teori structuralism dan teori film oleh Amy Villaerjo sebagai teori pendukung. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif descriptive. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan jika Amerika direpresentasikan sebagai tim yang kalah, tim yang tidak memiliki kekuatan, tim yang memalukan, tim yang tidak kompak, sedangkan pada tahap pertengahan cerita Amerika digambarkan sebagai tim yang penuh persahabatan dan pada akhir cerita Amerika digambarkan sebagai tim pemenang. Jerman pada awal cerita digambarkan sebagai tim yang tangguh, tim yang kuat, sedangkan untuk bagian pertengahan Jerman digambarkan sebagai tim yang penuh dengan ambisi dan pada bagian akhir Jerman digambarkan sebagai tim yang kalah.

Kata kunci: Struktural, *Pitch Perfect 2*, Amerika and Jerman,

MOTTO

Life is short, so learn from your mistake and stand behind the choices that you made

- John Petrucci -

I'd rather hated for what I am, than loved for what I am not

- Kurt Cobain -

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step

-Lau Tzu-

Don't be what you're told to be. Follow your own path. Be your own person. Don't get held down by everyone else.

-Danny Worsnop-

Life is an absurd journey

-Marischka Pradence-

Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving.

- Albert Einstein -

DEDICATION

My beloved parents,

My old brother,

My Partner,

English Department,

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Assalamualaikum wr. Wb

Praise and great gratitude be to Allah the most Gracious, the most merciful for blessing and His guidance the researcher can complete this graduating paper entitled **“The Portrayal of the United States and Germany as Seen in *Pitch Perfect 2* movie”** for obtaining bachelor degree in English Department, State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. The researcher willing to present my thanks and appreciations for everyone who has helped me to finished this graduating paper. They are:

1. The Dean of Faculty of Adab and Cultural Sciences, Dr. Zamzam Afandi, M.Ag.
2. The Head of English Department, Dr. Ubaidillah, M.Hum
3. Mr. Fuad Arif Furdiyartanto, S.Pd, M.Hum, M.Ed as my academic advisor, who has given support and advices for me.
4. Ulyati Retno Sari M.Hum as the Research advisor. Thank you for all of your advices and guidance in this research.
5. Danial Hidayatullah, M. Hum Witriani, M.Hum. Jiah Fauziah, M. Hum. (RIP), Bambang Haryanto, and all lecturers of English Department who have given the researcher supports and wise guidance.
6. My beloved parents who always pray and support me.
7. My precious friends of English Literature A 2011, from you I can learn about the true friendship.

8. My best friends, Haida, Lulu (Frankenstein), Linda, Riska, Umi, Lina, Opik, Najmi, Nina, Hella, mbak Risa, mbak Nur, Isti, and Eka who always support me.
9. My old brother, thank you for your doctrine with best music ever.
10. My beloved friends from my band, Oyon, Lulu, Adam, Angga, and Yeni.
From all of you, I get my spirit and mood again.
11. And those I cannot mention in every single name, thank you so much.

As the writer recognize that this research cannot reach perfect result. The researcher hopes the criticisms and suggestion for the perfection of this research. Hopefully this research can be useful.

Wassalamu'alaikum wr. wb

Yogyakarta, 13 June 2016

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

Literary is one tools of humans to share about their idea and expression. The expression share by three kinds of the literary works, those are; prose, poetry and drama. Abram stated in his book *A Glossary of Literary Terms*:

Literature is imaginative writings-poetry, prose fiction, and drama. In an expanded use, it designates also any others writings (including philosophy, history and even scientific works addressed to a general audience) that are especially distinguished in form expression, and emotional power (1999:177).

At this age, drama can be found in a new form; movie. Movie becomes one part of literature because movie contains with script and intrinsic elements. Turner argue that “film (movie) incorporates the separate technologies and discourse of the camera, lighting, editing, set design and sound-all contributing to the meaning” (1999:57). Movie, however, is different with other literary works. It is because movie is completed with picture and sounds that make the description clearer.

Movie also contains with expression and emotional power that can be similar to the real life. One theme that brings to movie is about society life like rivalry. In this world, sometimes people want to show their existence. They show their existence with lot of ways, one way is showing their power that they have. On the process of showing their existence, there is often a trigger rivalry between one to another. They want to show that they are better than another. According to

Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary, rivalry is “competition between two peoples, companies, etc” (2008:382).

One movie that contains rivalry is *Pitch Perfect 2*. *Pitch Perfect 2* movie is sequel from *Pitch Perfect 1*. This movie tells about a female *a capella* group from the United States, the Barden Bella. In *Pitch Perfect 1* the Barden Bella overcomes their internal problems. In *Pitch Perfect 2*, they have an external problem that must compete with other *a capella* championship. They have a new rival. It is a team from Germany which called Das Sound Machine.

The Barden Bellas and Das Sound Machine meet on the world *a capella* championship. They get their rivalry to show their existence on the world *a capella* championship. Unfortunately, the conditions turn the competition between them into an unhealthy rivalry. The meeting between the United States and Germany team in the world *a capella* championship implies situation of the rivalry between those countries.

Unhealthy rivalry between Americans and Germany group can be one thing that shows about sensitivity between both of country after they meet in World War I and World War II. The United States and Germany is in World War I, the United States and Germany fight after the United States declares war to Germany (Thomas, 1966:805). The United States and Germany compete to show their power especially on the war weapon. Germany produces lot of modern technology and the United States counterbalance by consolidating their troops power and make war industries board (Bannon, 1951:407-408). In World War II the rivalry happened from the region and grew to attack each other by using war weapons.

Both of the rivalry that happened in World War I and World War II grow into conflict that involved some of countries.

However, the meeting between the United States and Germany team in the world *a capella* championship implies situation of the rivalry between those countries. The conditions that turn the competition between them into an unhealthy rivalry be one evidence how their rivalry intensity. In Islam perspective, rivalry that becomes enmity is not permitted. This case is explained in Surah Ali Imran: 103.

وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا وَاذْكُرُوا
نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنْتُمْ أَعْدَاءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ
فَأَصْبَحْتُمْ بِنِعْمَتِهِ إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ
فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ آيَاتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

(١٠٣)

Means: “And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favor of Allah upon you when you were enemies and He brought you hearts together and you became, by His favor, brothers. And you were on the edge of a pit of the Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus does Allah make clear to you His verses that you may be guided and do not be like the ones who became divided and differed after the clear proofs had come to them. And those will have a great punishment” (<http://quran.com/3/103-106>)

Rivalry can be one way to people get the enmity, conflict and differences.

This verse explains about human is forbidden to get enmity and it is better if they befriend one to another. Because being friends is a blessing from Allah to human.

Rivalry between two countries can be one thing that show up the enmity because

if the rivalry between two countries with war way can make bad affect like in the World War I and II that left bad affect from American and Germanys. This verse shows the ideal situation between the United State and Germany. But, the rivalry still happens until now although the effect from the rivalry is not in big damage like from World War I and World War II.

Furthermore, sensitivity between both of countries can be seen from the movie represent from the Barden Bella and Das Sound Machine meet on the world *a capella* championship by show their unhealthy rivalry. From those rivalry, the researcher is interested to analyze the rivalry of the United States and Germany from *Pitch Perfect 2* movie.

1.2. Research Questions

As the background written above, the research aims to discuss of problem below:

How are the portrayal of the United States and Germany in *Pitch Perfect 2* movie?

1.3. Objectives of Study

Concerning from the problem statement, the objective from this research is to know the portrayal of the United State and Germany in *Pitch Perfect 2* movie.

1.4. Significances of Study

This research is analysis about portrayal of the United States and Germany as seen on *Pitch Perfect 2* movie. By applying structuralism theory this research hopefully can give some of values in academics.

This research is aimed to be more a reference for literary work analysis by applying on structuralism theory. From this research paper, the researcher hope

gives information about how read the portrayal from structuralism theory depend on intrinsic elements especially from plot of the movie.

1.5. Literature Review

Pitch Perfect 2 is a movie that produced in May 2015. Based on the review that research do by searching in library, e-library, or another research, the research did not found *Pitch Perfect 2* movie be the object from other research. So, depend on the object of the research, this research is the first research uses *Pitch Perfect 2*. But, from the theory applied, the researcher finds some of researches before this research.

First research that use same theory is “Plights of The Slave’s Life As Seen In Solomon Nurthup of *12 Years A Slave* movie”. This research is written by Mohamad Zaim from State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. He uses theory of structuralism to searching about the plights of slave’s life as seen in *12 Years A Slave*. For the result, he can find eleven plights of a slave who was described in the script of the movie. He also finds how a slave was considered as an animal and how a slave executed the orders of his employer.

Second research that use Structuralism theory is “Reading The Violence in Graphic Novel *A History of Violence: A Study of Sigh*” by Danu Rachman Wahid from the State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta. He uses theory of Structuralism to find the violence that represented in graphic novel *A History of Violence* and to find the symbols of violence in graphic novel *A History of Violence*. For the result he can finds that those graphic novel tries to communicate and emphasize violence in any senses which are various and different to judge.

The different thing from this research and both of the researches is this research analyze about the portrayal between two different countries. This research analyze about the rivalry between the United States and Germany that can be seen from characters, costumes, dialogs and scenes from *Pitch perfect 2* movie.

1.6. Theoretical Approach

1.6.1. Structuralism

This research applies structuralism theory. Structuralism discusses the intrinsic elements from the text. Structuralism analyzes the text by reject the author. According to Teeuw, structuralism is whole of idea from parts of the intrinsic elements that determine whole of the structure or part of the structure (1984:141). In this research, the text is on the movie field. The movie contain with intrinsic elements. Intrinsic elements are consists with seven structural, those are plot, character, setting, point of view, style and tone, and theme. (Kenny, 1996:8-101).

According to Aristotle plot is the most important thing. Aristotle believed that plot is essential to tragedy, character is second to plot (Belfiore, 2000:37). In intrinsic elements, plot be the most important thing that can develop the stories and other intrinsic elements. Aristotle termed plot as the mythos. Aristotle argued that; “the plot in a dramatic or narrative work is constituted by its events and actions, as these are rendered and ordered toward achieving particular artistic and emotional effects.” (Abrams, 2009:265). Plot determine whole of the story and understanding the story.

Aristotle divides three phase of plot those are, beginning, middle and end (Abrams, 2009:267). Three phase of the plot has structure from the beginning consist from events and actions. The events and action makes in structural that can make the story in one line unit. Furthermore, plot can gives t

The main concept from the structuralism is about interpret the concept through of intrinsic elements from the text. The interpret takes from the internal structure of the text itself. In this research, the internal structure takes from the plot of the *Pitch Perfect 2* movie. From plot can see the developments of the portrayal from the United States and Germany.

1.6.2. Film Theory

This research uses movie as an object of the research, because of that using movie theory becomes the supporting theory is really important. It is purpose to know about the representation from the movie in more clearly. According to Villarejo, there are two important things that become the basic of film analysis those are *mise-en-scene* and cinematography.

Mise-en-scène is one important concept on the movie analysis. *Mise-en-scene* is used to make every scene in the movie look like in real life. *Mise-en-scene* is derived from French that means “put into the scenes” which represent into “frame”. It is mean that every scenes in the movie put into a unity in visual which taken by camera. *Mise-en-scène* presents the “real world” and “reality” into the visual image. *Mise-en-scène* have six components to support it become a real world, such as: setting, lighting, costume, hair, make-up and figure behavior. Those components has own function to make film like with real.

- a. Setting: to make strong emotion or “a mood” by the characters which supported by the condition at the scene.
- b. Lighting: the intensity and quality of lighting can help the spectator to understand the scene.
- c. Costume, hair and Makeup: this component involves what the characters use in their body to create imaginative dimensions of the film world.
- d. Figure behavior: “means to describe the movement, expressions, or actions of the actors or other figures (animals, monsters, animated things, droids) within a given shot”.

Beside *mise-en-scene*, cinematography is also one important element on the film analysis. Cinematography is about how camera takes a shoot of the object. Includes the camera are distance, depth of field, camera angle and camera’s movement that belong to cinematography (Villarejo, 2007:36). The functions of camera shot is depend on the distance with use human body as the reference object.

Villarejo points that “film analysis has evolved an anthropocentric taxonomy for describing distance, that is, using the human body as the references point for each designation:

- a. the extreme long shot (ELS), covers a wide area, including the human figure and environment;
- b. the long shot (LS), the focus is the subject but the background still visible;
- c. the medium long shot (MLS), frames the whole subject from the knees up;
- d. the medium shot (MS), frames the whole subject from the waist up;

- e. the medium close-up (MCU), frames the subject from the chest up;
 - f. the close-up (CU), frames the subject, especially the face;
 - g. the extreme close-up (ECU), frames just the person's facial features;
- (2007:38)

This cinematography and *mise-en-scène* technique will help the research to analyze *Pitch Perfect 2* movie with showing the expression, setting, condition of the character in the scene.

1.7. Method of Research

1.7.1. Type of Research

In this research the research uses the qualitative method. According to Creswell in his book entitled *Research Design*, “Qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem” (2009: 1). The strategy of inquiry that will be used in this research is case study. It is chosen in order to make the case being explored deeply by practicing a theory. Creswell states, “... [the] researcher explores in depth a program, event, activity, process, or one or more individuals” in the case study. The researcher collects detailed information and gives a detailed description of the setting or individuals (Creswell, 2009: 9).

Qualitative research involves the uses of qualitative data, such as document and participant observation data, to understand and explain social phenomena. In this research the researcher collects the data by searching the reference in the library and other documents such as journal, articles or book that support the object.

1.7.2. Data Sources

Data sources of this research use primary data and the secondary data:

1.7.2.1. Primary Data

Primary data is the main data from all of *Pitch Perfect 2* movie element. They are character from Barden Bella and Das Sound Machine *a capella* groups, visual appearance from Bella and Das Sound Machine, scene from the movie and the movie script.

1.7.2.2. Secondary data

Secondary data is the supporting data taken from representative books, articles, articles related to the movie and journals.

1.7.3. Data Collection Technique

For the data collecting technique, the researcher uses the documentation method. In this research the data are collected from the movie script related to the topic. To collect the data, the researcher does four steps. First step is watching *Pitch Perfect 2* movie repeatedly to understand the story. Second step the research take a note the data that has relation with the research. Third step the research classifies the data into some classifications related to the portrayal between the United States and Germany.

To collect supporting data using the documentation technique, the research take the documentation by finding the data from the website to find the information about the *Pitch Perfect 2* movie.

1.7.4. Data Analysis Technique

In this research, the data are analyzed with descriptively by applying structuralism theory as main theory and film theory as supporting theory. Furthermore, the steps for analyzing the data in this research are bellow:

First step is watching *Pitch Perfect 2* movie to understand the Barden Bellas and Das Sound Machine from the dialogue, scenes, physical appearance, role and other that relate with the portrayal between the United States and Germany. Second step, classifies the data between the United States and Germany by applying structuralism theory. Third step, the researcher makes note in the dialogue and take some of scene from the movie that relate with this research. For the supporting data, the researcher also uses supporting data that related to the portrayal of the United States and Germany includes dictionary and books. Fourth step, the researcher gives the conclusion from the research.

1.8. Paper Organization

This paper consists of four chapters. In the first chapter describes about the general information of the research consists of introduction, scope of study, research question, objectives of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. In the chapter two, the researcher explains about the intrinsic elements of the movie. In chapter three, the researcher explains the analysis of the data. The last chapter consists of conclusion and suggestion of the research.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

This research aims to describe how the portrayal of the United States and Germany in *Pitch Perfect 2* movie. In analyzing the portrayal between the United State and Germany, the researcher uses structuralism approach. To get the portrayal, the researcher looks from the plot development through the movie. The researcher also uses film theory which are *mise-en-scene* and cinematography to find out the representation in the movie.

Here, the researcher finds that the United States is portrayals as looser team, shame team, not cohesive team, failure team, fraternity team and victorious team. Those portrayal consider in three part of Plot according to Aristotle. Those are the beginning, middle and the end of the stories. In the beginning the United States portrayal as shame, looser, failure and not cohesive team. Middle the United States portrayal as fraternity and in the end the United States portrayal as victorious team.

Then, the researcher find portrayal from Germany represented from Das Sound Machine a cappella group from German. The portrayal of Germany looks from three phases of the plots. The researcher can find Germany as superiority team, solid team, ambitious team, and looser team. In the beginning, the Germany is portrayal as superiority team, powerful team and solid team. In the middle, the Germany portrayal as ambitious team and in the end the Germany portrayal as looser team.

From the plot, there are the offensiveness between the United States and Germany portrayal. Three phases of the plot, can be seen the United States portrayal as bad portrayal which they are describe as looser and shame team, furthermore in the beginning the Germany describes as good development as superiority team, powerful team and solid team. In the middle of the plot, United States portrayal in better development as fraternity team and Germany in the middle of the plot portrayal in balance condition as ambitious team. In the end of the plot, the United States development in best condition which they are portrayal as the victorious and Germany portrayal in worst condition as the looser.

4.2 Suggestion

Pitch Perfect 2 is a movie that tells about social problem especially about the rivalry between two countries and tells about young people life. In conducting research in this movie, the writer recognizes that many mistakes in this research. So, to make this research more perfect, the writer hope the reader give positive suggestion to improve this research. Then, the writer suggest to next researcher which will be analysis *Pitch Perfect 2* movie, it possible to use psychoanalyze theory to analyze about character of this movie or using feminism to analyze about the female character in this movie.

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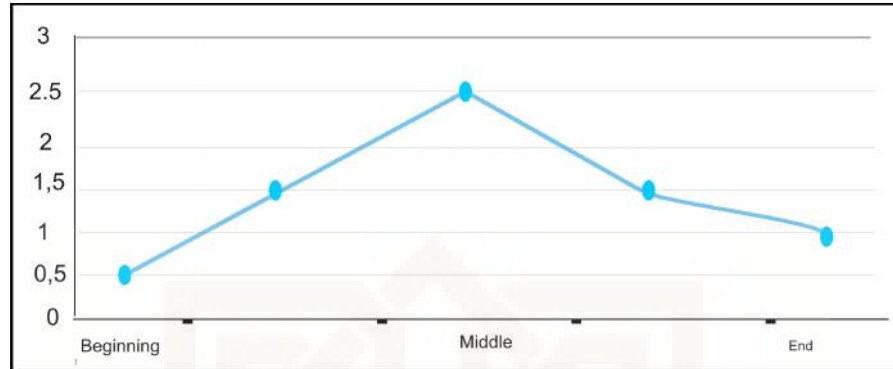
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APPENDIX



1. The Portrayal of the United States

Beginning ☛ The United States as Loser Team

☛ The United States as Shame Team

Middle ☛ The United States as Failure Team

☛ The United States as Powerless team

☛ The United States as not cohesive team

☛ The United States as fraternity team

End ☛ The United States as Victorious Countries

2. The Portrayal of the Germany

Beginning ☛ Germany as Superior Country

☛ Germany as powerful team

Middle ☛ Germany as ambitious team

End ☛ Germany as loser team

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