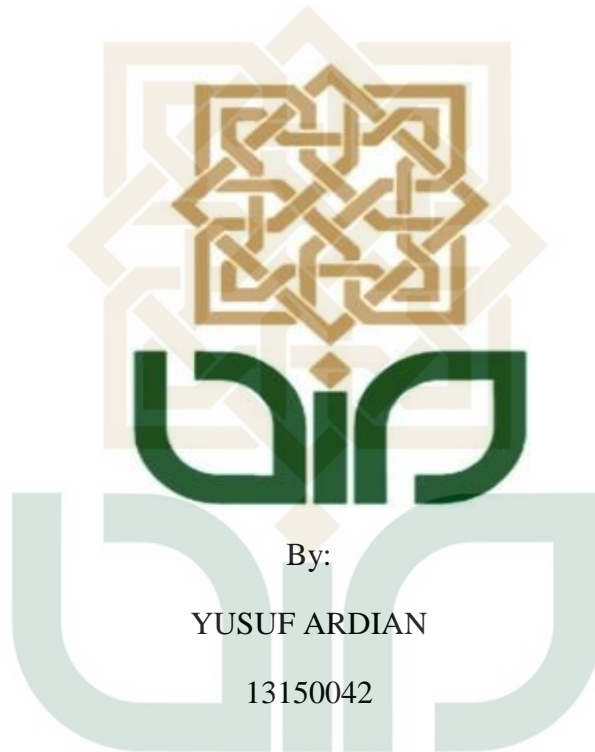


NIETZSCHE'S EXISTENTIALISM AS SEEN IN FRANK OF SAUSAGE PARTY

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for Gaining
the Bachelor Degree in English Department



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A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

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

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ABSTRACT

This graduating paper aims at explaining how Sausage Party movie portrays the Nietzschean Existentialism through the main character Frank. As an animated movie portraying Nietzschean existentialism becomes important to investigate because the nature of the movie seems to contradict the nature of the theory. In other words, animated movie seems to be assumed as a not-serious movie, meanwhile Nietzschean existentialism is a serious philosophical context. This research uses qualitative methods to collect data. The movie of *Sausage Party* has completed the existentialism theory proposed by Nietzsche, and it is proven by the character of Frank. This shows that Nietzsche's existentialism fits to analyze this plausibility cartoon.

Keywords:

Animated, Existentialism, Nietzsche.



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Abstrak

Skripsi ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan bagaimana penggambaran eksistensialisme Nietzsche melalui karakter Frank dalam film Sausage Party. Sebagai film animasi yang menggambarkan eksistensialisme Nietzsche menjadi penting untuk diselediki karena sifat asli dari film terlihat berlawanan dengan sifat asli dari teori ini. dengan kata lain, film animasi di asumsikan sebagai film yang tidak serius/ penuh canda tawa, sementara eksistensialisme Nietzsche adalah sebuah konteks teori filosofi yang serius. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif sebagai media untuk mengumpulkan data. film Sausage Party memenuhi unsur eksistensialismenya Nietzsche dan dibuktikan oleh karakter Frank. Terbuktinya eksistensialisme tersebut menjadi pas karena fakta bahwa film tersebut film kartun karena dengan film kartun plausibilitasnya lebih memudahkan untuk dikaitkan dengan eksistensialisme Nietzsche

Kata Kunci

Animasi, Eksistensialisme, Nietzsche

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Motto:

Better be a stupid person to make people happy, Rather than being a smart but to fool people



DEDICATION

I dedicate this graduating paper to:

My Superhero who does not have power but has bravery to protect his family, Surono

My Guardian Angel who does not have wing but always loving and caring, Siti Herlina Yuliani

My Elder Brothers and Younger Sister Harry Murti Wiryawan, Ikhsan Fauzi Wiryawan and

Annisa Iftina Qurratua'in

My honorable Teachers and Lecturers

My dear and beloved Friends

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Yogyakarta, June 4th 2018

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of Study

In the modern era, literary works have changed into new shapes. The literary works were mostly written in the beginning era, while over years they have come into audio and visual forms due to technology. Pickering said that “Literature is a uniquely human activity, born of man’s timeless desire to understand, express, and finally share experiences” (1981:307). There are many different kinds of literary works, such as movies, short stories, and poetry. Movies are one of the modern literary works that come from various genres, such as: thriller, sci-fi, action, animation, fantasy, etc. Movies have become one of the most favorite types of entertainment people eagerly wait to be released on cinemas due to the fact that in movies, everything seems real. This is what makes movies different from other literary works that mostly require people to rely on their imagination. The viewers can watch the actors’ movement, the setting and the walkthrough of the movies. When people are watching movies, they can be feeling and expressing different emotions, such as happiness, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, or even disgust. Barsam and Monahan said, “People treat movies as something that can entertain and please them. However, there are also people who think that movies are also worth for serious study.” (2013:2). This means movies function not only as an entertainment but also as an object for researches.

In this study, the researcher focuses on an animated movie. Animated movies hold a special place in people’s hearts because they take people’s imagination and bring it to life. In animated movies, reality can be restructured. Drawings, clays, puppets, and other objects or images are transferred to a computer screen and manipulated to make them move so that people will believe those objects or images are alive. As Kristin Thompson stated

The term “animated films” not only refer to cartoons, but also to any motion picture films. As late as 1912, Frederick A. Talbot made cartoons a mere subset on his lengthy section on “trick films” in *Moving Pictures: How they are made and worked*. Animation, then, constituted a minor aspect of special aspects; quite possibly the majority of audience members at this period had never seen a cartoon. By 1920, however, E.G. Lutzis was able to write a whole book on animation and entitled it *Animated Cartoons*. At some point in the intervening eight years, animation had become recognized as a distinct type of filmmaking (1980:106-107).

An animated movie the researcher chose is *Sausage Party*. This is an animated film produced by Sony Pictures and directed by Conrad Vernon and Greg Tiernan. The film released in August 2016 and voiced by Seth Rogen as Frank tells a story about a sausage who leads a group of supermarket products on a quest to discover the truth about their existence and what really happens when they become chosen to leave the grocery store (www.sonypictures.com).

This film received positive reviews from critics and grossed more than \$140 million, becoming the most commercially successful R-rated animated film. This film portrays uncertain human’s life. Despite the fact that this is an animated movie which is often considered for children consumption, this film is actually for adults because of the content of this film. According to the scriptwriter, Seth Rogen, said “I am convinced that they all got together and one guy said: 'This is not for children. But it is food, and it is animated. it is not people, it is a cartoon.’” (www.usatoday.com). *Sausage Party* contains sexual content, rude words, and violence which are not suitable for kids and under parental guidance when the children watch it.

In this research, the researcher focuses on one of the characters in this film, which is Frank, the Sausage. In this film, he acts as the main character. He represents as a human in real life who has lost his belief of religion or value of his life existence. This resembles Nietzsche’s Nihilism thought.

Nihilism is one of part of existentialism; it is derived from the word “existence” that comes from the verbal word “exist”. The word *exists* itself is derived from language. ex: exit, and sister: stand. So, existence is stand to exit from selfness. Existentialism is primarily concerned with the meaning of individual existence, and not with abstract account about nature of reality, society, culture and morality. (Acharya, 2014:28). Meanwhile, the definition of Nihilism itself is a viewpoint that traditional values and beliefs are unfounded and that existence is senseless and useless.

At first, Frank is the same as other foods that believe that the Great Beyond is an amazing and great place in which those who enter that place will get happiness and ever after life. But after a Honey Mustard tells the truth about the Great Beyond, Frank becomes shocked. At first he does not believe what the Honey Mustard says, but he is still curious and insists to find the truth. Before Honey Mustard dies, his last word is “talk to Firewater”. Followed by Honey Mustard Message, Frank goes to Liquor area where Firewater lives. When Frank meets with Firewater, Firewater tells everything about the Great Beyond. He suggests Frank go to Dark Aisle where he can see the proof of what will happen after the food goes to the Great Beyond. Then Frank becomes shocked over the truth about what truly happens with all foods. Frank wants to show the truth to all the foods in grocery store and commits to change their mindset about the Great Beyond that the place is horrible.

As explained by the writer, Frank experiences that symptom in his individuation’s processes to dumped his believe to the. He makes a choice to change his life better than before. His struggle against his dread for choosing his way of life in reaching the best in the movie is described in surah Ar-Ra’d: 11:

لَهُ مُعَقِّبَاتٌ مِّنْ بَيْنِ يَدَيْهِ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِ يَحْفَظُونَهُ مِنْ أَمْرِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّىٰ يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ وَإِذَا أَرَادَ اللَّهُ بِقَوْمٍ سُوءًا ۖ فَلَا مَرَدَّ لَهُ وَمَا لَهُمْ مِنْ دُونِهِ مِنْ وَالٍ ۝ ١١

For his sake there are angels following one another, before him and behind him, who guard him by Allah's commandment; surely Allah does not change the condition of a people until they change their own condition; and when Allah intends evil to a people, there is no averting it, and besides Him they have no protector. (The Noble Qur'an).

That verse describes about Frank's effort in changing his life. It emphasizes that human can change their destiny once they try first by their heart and attempt all their efforts. They have to choose what they will do for their future because they have a self-center to decide a choice in determining their lives. They are not allowed only to wait for God to make their destiny toward goodness but also to change it with their own effort.

This research focuses on Frank's proofs of the truth about the Great Beyond and how Frank loses his belief by using existentialism paradigm by Nietzsche.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of study, the researcher formulates a research question as follows:

How is Nietzsche's existentialism portrayed by Frank in *Sausage Party* movie?

1.3 Objective Study

Based on the research question above, this research aims to explain how existentialism is portrayed by Frank as the main character according to Nietzsche's Nihilism thought.

1.4 Significance of Study

Theoretically, this study provides further information about the existentialism that occurs in *Sausage Party* movie. In other words, this study is expected to add knowledge, to become a reference, and to understand the meaning of Nietzsche's Existentialism theory in the movie.

Practically, this study aims to : 1) increase the ability of the writer in doing research or study related to existentialism; 2) help the readers understand existentialism theory and its application in research 3) be used as reference for another researcher; 4) be the motivation hopefully for readers to do other researches about Existentialism.

1.5 Literature Review

The researcher has found one research related with this term of theory. A research entitled "*Pemikiran-Pemikiran Filosofis W.F. Nietzsche dalam Roman Also Sprach Zarathustra: Sebuah Kajian Filsafat Postmodern*" written by Nurita Meliana in 2013. This research uses qualitative descriptive method. The researcher concludes that the result of this research is descriptive and Nietzsche's philosophy thought interpretation in his roman *Also Sprach Zarathustra*.

1.6 Theoretical Approach

Based on the objective and the scope of study, the researcher applies Friedrich Nietzsche's Existentialism theory as the main theory and also uses the film theory to support the analysis.

1.6.1. Existentialism theory

Existentialism is a philosophy thought about understanding something, especially related to human. It emphasizes the importance of existence than abstract speculations which

the form is conceptual construction. The object of existentialism is human being in which human is always open and dynamic. In this context, human cannot be limited in ideal, objective and universal concept about himself because human is dynamic and open for anything. Each human is a unique creature., In short, each person has their own free will and creativity to do something (Roswanto, 2008:39).

One of philosophers related with existentialism is Friedrich Nietzsche, a philosopher was born in Roken, Germany on 15 October 1844. In his life timeline, there are four phases which influenced him and his thought.. First phase covers early life in his family and childhood which was really tight and obedient with Christian education. Second phase covers Nietzsche's life as a student; in this stage he started to get acquainted with a German poet Johan Wolfgang Goethe (1749-1832), a musician Richard Wagner (1813-1883) and a philosopher Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860). His introduction with these German public figures is really important for development of all of his thought. Third phase of Nietzsche's life is his career as a lecturer in Basel. From this phase Nietzsche started to worry about his health condition which was getting worse than before. At the last phase Nietzsche was aware with his condition and struggled to cure his sickness. At this phase Nietzsche travelled around to many cities and countries to find fresh and less crowded places and to finish his masterpiece (Sunardi, 1996:2).

Almost of Nietzsche's book were written unsystematically. To determine all of his thoughts, he wrote it in aphorisms forms. According to Meriam Webster Dictionary "Aphorism is a concise statement of a principle, a short pointed sentence expressing a wise or clever observation, or a general truth". An aphorism consists of only few sentences or paragraph. An aphorism sometimes is full of meaning, not related with previous or next

aphorisms (Sunardi, 1996:12). This aphorisms' writing style is a perfect way to determine Nietzsche's thoughts. His thought started with labor to find and experiment something new and did not want to strict with previous thought. By rejecting system and choosing the aphorisms form, Nietzsche's purpose was to avoid what is called as decadence. This decadence happens because of people strict with worn-out disclosure experience. Even though Nietzsche never clearly mentioned about all of his idea systematically, but based on the source that the researcher found, there are four main ideas of Nietzsche's thought. Those are Nihilism, the will of power, Ubersmensch, and the returning of everything (Sunardi, 1996:14).

Willing is not primarily wanting, striving, and demanding something; whether this thing is power, life or truth. It is primarily commanding. Willing is always a desire to command something. The will is not the subject that is "seeking" power. With command being the basic affect, the struggle between the forces fundamentally involves, not the seeking, but the demonstration of power. This is the reason why Nietzsche's uses the term "will to power". This indicates a dynamic, active and creative process as the essence of interaction between "wills." The will to power is defined as the insatiable tendency to "manifest power" or as the employment and exercise of power, as a creative drive. Whole human and nature living, because it consist to ended and finished traditional metaphysic thought (related with the values that occur in society and these values do not always a with the situation). Nietzsche Said "world is the will of power, life is the will of power, morality is the will of power and also knowledge is the will of power" (Sunardi, 1996:36). In his book, Nietzsche criticized the values related with the religion, morality, and philosophy. In the end his critics will be ended with Nihilism.

Nihilism is an event to free human to act creatively even though they donot know whether what they have done is right or wrong. Nihilism can be related as fallout of the highest values and human failure to answer the problem of “what for?”. With the fallout of values, human will be facing with the problem that everything becomes meaningless and valueless (Sunardi, 1996: 15).

Meanwhile, Ubersmensch refers to someone who is proud of themselves. Ubersmensch will not be affected by people’s opinion; in fact, Ubersmensch affects those who have relation with Ubersmensch. Ubersmensch is also related with human’s purpose in this world created by human itself to replace every purpose that has already been determined from the outside (Sunardi, 1996: 97-99). Through Ubersmensch humans do not have to give value in this world and depend on something across the world. For Nietzsche, the biggest value in this world is Ubersmensch. To achieve this, people have to be a bridge to Ubersmensch, to have spirit to “the will of power”, to solve their animal instinct and organize their life, so that they will get experience of powering something continuously.

And the last is “the return of something”. The return of something is a way to aphorize the world. With admitting this thought, human can state that this world is walking from, to and base itself without having final purpose. Nietzsche said, our world is a gigantic energy. This energy never increases nor run out. This energy is static and never changes so that it is impossible there is a change that will impact its quantity (Sunardi 1996: 117).

Even though there are four thoughts of Nietzsche’s philosophy, the researcher focuses on the Nihilism that will be discussed in the next chapter. The reason why the researcher focuses on Nihilism is because Nihilism is related with this film that explains the process of how someone that was once a religious person, have gotten lost his believe. Once

someone loses his belief to God, he will create his own world and fulfill it with values that he has already found. According to this film, the value that Frank found is sexual desire.

1.6.2. Film Theory

In this research, film theory is used to support the theory of main analysis. The film theory will be used to understand what the images in film want to inform. According to Amy Villarejo, she points out that there are two aspects needed to analyze film; mise-en-scene and cinematography. Mise-en-scene-from French its initial means as the theatrical process of staging, in film study means whole of narrative.

From the beginning until the end, It can be seen that there are four elements of mise-en-scene;

1. Lighting

Lighting establishes mood and directs attention to detail. There are three points of lighting, which are: key light (provide the primary or key light source), fill light (fill in the shadows thrown by the key light), and backlight (comes from behind the subject and separates the subject from the background). (Villarejo, 2007:33)

2. Costume and hair

The details of costume and hair contribute to the believability of a film's world. (Villarejo, 2007:34)

3. Make-up

Make-up is one of those elements of the larger effect of glamor, which by the definition remains concealed as a process and as labor. (Villarejo, 2007:34)

4. Figure Behavior

Figure behavior means to describe the movement, expressions, or actions of the actors or other figures (animal, monsters, animated things, and droids) within given shot. (Villarejo, 2007:35)

Meanwhile, cinematography encompasses all that is to do with camera framing. There are several types of shots:

- The extreme long shot (ELS), in which one can barely distinguish the human figure;
- The long shot (LS), in which humans are distinguishable but remain dwarfed by the background;
- The medium long shot (MLS), or plan American, in which the human is framed from the knees up;
- The medium shot (MS), in which move in slightly to frame the human from the waist up;
- The medium close-up (MCU), in which are slightly closer and see the human from the chest up;
- The close-up (CU), which isolates a portion of a human (the face, the most prominently);
- And the extreme close-up (ECU), in which see a mere portion of the face (an eye, the lips) (Villarejo, 2007:38).

1.7.Methods of Research

Scientific research is systematic, controlled, empirical, and critical investigation of hypothetical propositions about the presumed relation among natural phenomena (Kerlinger, 1963:11). It means that scientific research is a systematical, controlled, empirical and critical investigation activity based on the characteristics or proposition. There are three types of research: qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods.

1.7.1. Type of Research

This research used qualitative methods. According to Denzin and Lincoln (year?), qualitative research is multi-method in focus, involving an interpretative, naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomenon in terms of the meanings people bring to them. Qualitative research involves the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials case studies, personal experiences, introspection, life story interview, observation, history, interaction, and visual tests that describe routine and problematic moments and meaning in individuals lives.

1.7.2. Data Sources

The researcher collected data and divided them into two parts: the primary data and the secondary data. The primary data of this research were the *Sausage Party* film. Then, the secondary data were taken from some sources, such as journals, books, article, and website that were related with the research.

1.7.3. Data Collection Technique

In this research, the researcher watched the movie repeatedly as the technique to collect the data. It means the researcher paid attention closely to the events of the film, including reading the events of the story in the film. The data needed in this research were the events of

the story, which included: actions, dialogues, gestures. These events were categorized based on the variables of Nietzsche's Nihilism, which is the will of power, Nihilism, Ubersmensch and the Return of something.

1.7.4. Data Analysis Technique.

Data analysis means finding the connections among the data. To do this, the writer found the connections between the data in each of the category. Eventually the analyzed data showed the connections between will to power, Nihilism, Ubersmensch and return of something. The data were analyzed with the support of the film theory to find the connections between the events and the shots.

1.8. Paper Organization

This research consists of four chapters. The first chapter is introduction, including background of study, literature review, theoretical approach, method of research, and paper organization. The second chapter is the intrinsic elements of *Sausage Party* movie. The third chapter is the analysis of Frank according to Nietzsche's Nihilism thought in *Sausage Party* movie. The last chapter is the conclusion of the research.

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CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

4.1 Conclusion

The movie of *Sausage Party* has completed the existentialism theory proposed by Nietzsche, and it is proven by the character of Frank. This shows that Nietzsche's existentialism fits to analyze this plausibility cartoon. It can be concluded that Frank experienced from three of four main points of Nietzschean existentialism thought.

Frank has *Will to Power* to decide his life and to make it better. "Will to Power" encourages humans to open their potential, to solve the problem, and to achieve something by their own. "Will to power" will not be created if someone does not feel the pain. The Suffer makes human stronger. In this movie Frank felt the pain because Brenda left him and she did not want to believe what he said, but he insisted to continue his trip.

He has *Ubersmanch* characteristic, which is he has control over himself without restriction with his friend's criticism. "Ubersmanch" will not be created if someone still has pessimism which causes anxiety of life motivations. From this movie it is described that Frank holds tight his belief meanwhile his friend humiliates his belief until then they follow Frank's step and ended with Nihilism, a situation which humans do not follow the old value anymore. In this movie they dumped their belief over the Gods by killing them and holding an orgy party.

4.2. Suggestion

Sausage Party is a movie that tells about the meaning of life. The researcher that uses Nietzsche's existentialism to analyze this movie hopes that other researchers can apply other theories to analyze this movie such as deconstruction theory, sign theory, and others.

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