

**THE DIFFERENCES OF TEMPERAMENT BETWEEN BATMAN AND IRONMAN IN
BATMAN BEGINS AND *IRONMAN* MOVIE**

Submitted by:

DANANG EDMIRENDY SURYA PERMANA

A2B009015

ABSTRACT

Dalam makalah ini, penulis menganalisis perbedaan-perbedaan antara dua pahlawan super yang terkenal; Batman dan Ironman. Penulis memilih film *Batman Begins* dan film *Ironman* sebagai obyek dari penelitian karena di kedua film tersebut menceritakan tentang bagaimana kedua pahlawan super itu yang awalnya hanya manusia biasa namun bisa menjadi pahlawan super mengandalkan kepintaran dan kekayaan mereka untuk menciptakan peralatan canggih. Fokus dari thesis skripsi ini adalah perbedaan kepribadian yang dimiliki Batman dan Ironman; meskipun mereka sangat mirip dalam banyak hal. Tujuan penulisan skripsi ini adalah untuk mencari perbedaan-perbedaan kepribadian yang dimiliki oleh Batman dan Ironman dan kemudian menggolongkannya. Penelitian kepustakaan digunakan dalam pembuatan thesis ini. Penulis menggunakan teori 4 (empat) kepribadian oleh Florence Littauer untuk mengkaji data-data yang didapatkan penulis. Penulis membatasi pembahasan masalah hanya pada membandingkan dan mengklasifikasikan kepribadian antara Batman dan Ironman dalam film *Batman Begins* dan *Ironman*. Hasil dari analisis berdasarkan teori 4 (empat) kepribadian yang dikemukakan oleh Florence Littauer adalah bahwa Batman memiliki kepribadian melankolis berdasarkan sifat analitis, berhati-hati, pintar, tidak suka dipuji, disiplin, serius, pendiam, penyendiri, memiliki empati yang besar terhadap kesengsaraan manusia, dan terkadang menjauh dari pergaulan sosial, perfeksionis, dan keren. Sebaliknya, kepribadian Ironman banyak yang bertolak belakang dari Batman, kepribadian Ironman adalah Sanguin; terkenal, gemar berbicara, tapi tidak suka mendengarkan, antusias, ekspresif, bahagia, kekanak-kanakan, penasaran, arogan, humoris, tidak disiplin, mudah bergaul, kreatif dan inovatif, berpikiran sederhana, optimis, suka dipuji, suka menjadi pusat perhatian, spontan, dan emosional.

Keywords: Batman, Ironman, Personalities, Temperament, Superhero.

I. INTRODUCTION

Marvel and DC comics are well known as superheroes headquarters. Marvel with Ironman, Captain America, Hulk, Thor, Spiderman, and etc. On the other hand, DC comic comes with their superheroes such as, Superman, Batman, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman, and etc. Ironman from Marvel and Batman from DC comic have similarities, both of them are human beings, with no superpower. The rest of the superheroes have superpower abilities, such as, super strength, six senses, ability to fly, laser beam, and ability to heal. Ironman and Batman depend on their gadget, Ironman with his iron suit, and Batman with his gadget. Both of them are also orphans coming from wealthy families. Tony Stark as Ironman and Bruce Wayne as Batman also have a big company, Tony with his *Stark Industries*, Bruce with his *Wayne Enterprises*. Both of them also fight in the name of justice. Superheroes do not always come from people with gift or natural superpower, but money can be another form of “power” as well.

Even Batman and Ironman have many similarities, but both of them have opposite personalities. Florence Littauer on her book has the explanation why humans can have different personalities; in this case is Tony Stark as Ironman and Bruce Wayne as Batman. Florence Littauer on her book states that;

"We were all born with our own temperament traits, our raw materials, our own kind of rock. Some of us are granite, some marble, some alabaster, some sandstone. Our type of rock doesn't change, but our shapes can be altered. So it is with our personalities. We start with our own set of inborn traits. Some of our qualities are beautiful with strains of gold. Some are blemished with fault line of gray. Our circumstances, IQ, nationality, economics, environment, and parental influence can mold our personalities, but the rock underneath remains the same" (Florence Littauer: 1992: 12).

Furthermore, Florence explains about the differences between temperament and personality on her book. If temperament is determined by gen, then personalities influence the temperament itself. So someone's temperament may not change, but his personality might. In her book Florence Littauer state that;

"My temperament is the real me; my personality is the dress I put on over me. I can look in the mirror in the morning and see a plain face, straight hair, and a bulgy body. That's the real me. Gratefully, within an hour I can apply makeup to create colorful face; I can

plug in the curling iron to fluff up my hair; and I can put on a flattering dress to camouflage too many curves. I've taken the real me and dress it up, but I haven't permanently changed what's underneath" (Florence Littauer: 1992: 12-13).

the writer will focus on his analysis in comparing the personalities between Batman and Ironman then classifying them based on data that writer obtain from *Batman Begins* and *Ironman* movie. The objectives of this study are Analyzing the personality of Batman and Ironman in *Batman begins* and *Ironman* movies and classifying the personality of Batman and Ironman. In this thesis, the writer uses library research. Furthermore, the writer uses two methods of approach. They are exponential approach and psychological approach. In this thesis, the writer only analyzes the character, setting, and conflict. The writer will focus on the personalities which is part of psychology, of both character Batman and Ironman from the beginning movie, until the end of the movie. Therefore, the writer chooses psychological approach in this thesis.

II. Theoretical frame work

II.1 Intrinsic Elements

II.1.1 Narrative Elements

A story should have intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. In a movie, there are two intrinsic aspects, first is the narrative element and second is the cinematography. David Bordwell and Kristin Thompson in their book *Film Art: an introduction, 8th ed.* state about the narrative of a literary work as the following.

We can consider a narrative to be a chain of events in cause- effect relationship occurring in time and space. A narrative is what we usually mean by the term story, although we shall be using story in slightly different way letter. Typically, a narrative begins with one situation; a series of changes occurs according to a pattern of cause and effect; finally, a anew situation arises that brings about the end of the narrative (2008: 75).

The narrative elements include the basic elements in a literary work, such as theme, character, plot, setting, and conflict (Meyer, 1990: 38– 196). Yet, in this thesis, the writer only analyzes the character, setting, and conflict of the movies.

II.1.1.1 Character

Michael Meyer in his book, *The Bedford Introduction to Literature* (1990), states that character is “an imagined person in the story, is confronted with a problem leading to a climatic

struggle that is followed by a resolution of the problem” (1990: 39). There are two kinds of character. First is protagonist character, that is “the central character who engages our interest and empathy” (1990: 44). Second, antagonist character, that is “the force that opposes the protagonist” (1990: 44).

II.1.1.2 Settings

Michael Meyer in his book, *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, says that setting is the context in which the action of a story occurs (1990: 107).

There are three major elements of setting. These elements establish the world in which the characters act (1990: 107). First, setting of place which contains the place where the conflict happens in a literary work. Second, setting of time which explains when the events in the literary work happen. Third, setting of social environment explains the case relating with the attitudes of the people in the society in a certain place in the story.

III.1.1.3 Conflict

Conflict is one of the main parts of the story, which underlies the story and it changes the protagonist character. According to Perrine, in the book, *The Story Structure, Sound, and Sense* (1988):

Conflict is a clash of action, desire, ideas, or goods in the plot of a story or drama. Conflict may exist between the main character and some other person or persons (man against man); between the main character and some external force, physical nature, society, or fate (man against environment); or between the main character and some destructive elements in his own nature (man against himself) (1988: 1408).

According to Meyer, in his book, *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*, conflict is separated into two parts (1990: 45).

- a. Internal conflict; the conflict may also be internal; in such a case some moral or psychological issues must be resolved within the protagonist. (Meyer, 1990: 45).
- b. External conflict; the protagonist’s physical struggles with a formidable foe or the ever-present dangers of a dense jungle echoing wild screams provide plenty of excite. It may place the protagonist in opposition to another individual, nature, or society (Meyer, 1990: 45).

III.2 Extrinsic Elements

In this paper the writer will compare the personality between Batman and Ironman use “Personality Plus Theory” by Littauer.

When we know who we are and why we act the way we do, we can begin to understand our inner selves, improve our personalities, and learn to get along with others (Florence Littauer: 1992).

Based on her book titled *Personality Plus* published in 1992, Florence Littauer describes the theory of 4 basic personality of human, those are Sanguine, Choleric, Melancholy, and Phlegmatic.

III. DISCUSSION

III.1 Intrinsic Aspects

III.1.1 Narrative Element

III.1.1.1 Characters

Batman Begins Characters

Bruce Wayne, or Batman, is the main character. Since the dead of his parents he inherits the wealth of his father’s company, *Wayne Enterprise*. That is why he can afford expensive equipments to support his role as Batman. Bruce Wayne is a quiet man, he barely talks to people. Bruce Wayne is neat; He always wears nice outfit every day. Bruce Wayne wears the bat costume as Batman to fight for justice in Gotham city. The others character are; James Gordon, Rachel Dawes, Alfred, Lucius Fox, Ra's al Ghul, Henry Ducard, Falcone, Jonathan Crane .

Ironman Characters

Tony Stark is the main character in “Ironman”. He is the owner of Stark Industry which concentrates in developing military weapons. He is betrayed by his father's friend, Obadiah, who plans the terrorist attack and takes over Stark Industry. Tony Stark then builds Ironman suit to stop the terrorists attack. The others are; Pepper Pots, Rhodes, Yinsen, Ten Rings’ terrorists and Obadiah

III.1.1.2 Setting

Batman Begins Setting of Place

“Batman Begins” takes place in Gotham city in the year of 2000s. Wayne building is located on the centre of the city.

Batman Begins Setting of Time

The movie takes place in the year 2000 above which is shown by a car used. Bruce Wayne goes to hotel with two ladies driving Lamborghini Murcielago which begins to produce in 2004.

Batman Begins Setting of Social

Rich people wear nice suits and drink wine. While poor people live on the streets under the buildings.

Ironman Setting of Place

“Ironman” takes place in Afghanistan, California, and Las Vegas.

Ironman Setting of Time

“Ironman” takes place in the year of 2000s. It is proven by car driven by Tony Stark is Audi R8, which is produced in the year of 2006.

Ironman Setting of Social

In this movie, there is a war in Afghanistan. The ‘Ten Rings’ terrorist tries to take over Afghanistan.

III.1.1.3 Conflict

III.1.1.3.1 Batman Begins

Internal Conflict

The story begins when Bruce Wayne losses his parents after they are shot by a thief on the street. He is very depressed because of the incident. He grows up with guilt in his heart believing that his parent’s death is his fault.

External Conflict

Batman interferes Henry Ducard when Ducard is trying to destroy Gotham City using poisons that creates fear if someone inhales it through Gotham Water Center on Wayne building. Batman decides not to kill Henry Ducard, but he decides not to help Hendry Ducard.

III.1.1.3.2 Ironman

Internal Conflict

The story begins when Tony Stark demonstrates Jericho (guided missile) to United States Department of Defense in Afghanistan. He ends up getting kidnapped by ‘Ten Rings’ terrorist group. Finally, he finds out that ‘Ten Rings’ uses Stark weapons to terror people, then Tony Stark decides whether he should shut down the Stark Industry or not.

External Conflict

In this movie, the conflict happens between Tony Stark and Obadiah. Obadiah tries to take over Stark Industry and sell weapons to both Afghanistan and United States.

III.2 Extrinsic Aspects

Both Ironman and Batman are well known superheroes, both of them are also known for their ability to use high-end equipment to help people. Because they don't have special power like Superman or Hulk, both Ironman and Batman depend on their equipment and skills. Those things make Ironman and Batman are identical, but there are differences in each character between Batman and Ironman. The writer will elaborate more the details below.

Here are the definition and proofs of Batman and Ironman personality that is brought by Florence Littauer.

Based on "Personality Plus Test" by Florence Littauer, Batman has strength and weakness as shown below

III.2.1 Batman's Strengths

III.2.1.1. Adventurous

After meeting Ducard in a jail in China, Bruce decides to pick the rare blue flower, he is wondering to eastern slopes mountain to pick the flower as a requirement to meet Ra's al Ghul.

III.2.1.2 Persistent

Bruce represents a description of a persistent. Bruce keeps fighting against Ducard on his training and does not surrender even he is knocked down many times, he keeps getting up and fights back.

III.2.2 Batman's Weaknesses

III.2.2.1 Bossy

Bruce Wayne asks Alfred to pick him up after destroying League of Shadow. Alfred always fulfils Bruce's wish. It is evident that Bruce Wayne is bossy. In picture 48.a, a private jet is landed to pick Bruce up, and in picture 48.b, Alfred comes out from the jet to welcome Bruce.

III.2.2.2 Fearful

After falling into the well, Bruce is frightened by the bats which live in the cave under the well. Later, Bruce is always afraid of anything related to bat. In picture 51.a, Bruce is frightened

by the bats which live in the cave under his house. Bruce shows a terrified face, he asks his father to leave the theatre because it performs a bat show. It is described in the dialogue below as a proof that Bruce is fearful.

III.2.3 Ironman's Strengths

III.2.3.1 Playful and Funny

Tony says O.K when a soldier that guards him asking him to take a photo together inside the Humvee,. Then the soldier makes a peace sign from his fingers. Tony tells him not to make that sign, and the soldier puts his hand down. Then Tony says to the soldier that he can make that peace sign and the soldier makes peace sign. It is a proof that Tony is playful and funny.

III.2.3.2 Considerate

Tony wears his armoured suit and asks Yinsen to escape with him, but Yinsen refuses, because he knows that he is dying. Tony almost cries, it can be seen in the picture, his eyes is wet. Tony Stark feels guilty when he cannot save Yinsen. Tony's dialogue with Yinsen also proves that Tony is considerate

III.2.4 Ironman's Weaknesses

IV.2.4.1 Bossy

Tony supposes to be in flight to Afghanistan to demonstrate Jericho. But, at the time he should leave America, he is still in his house, fixing his car engine proves that Tony is bossy.

IV.2.4.2 Undisciplined

Tony has just arrived at his jet while Rhodes has already waited for him for three hours. It proves that Tony is undisciplined.

CONCLUSION

Ironman and Batman are superheroes that have been idolized by many children around the world. Children around the world idolized them because they represent the imagination beyond human being, goodness will always win against evil, they are cool, and people love them. Children also sees them as the perfect figures without flaws, but based on the writer analysis, both of Batman and Ironman aren't perfect figures. They have many good and bad side of their personalities. Based on the analysis on the movie "*Batman Begins*" and "*Ironman*", the following points can be drawn as the conclusion.

Four temperaments theory by Florence Littauer shows us that every human has his own personality based from the four personalities that Florence Littauer explains. Even though Ironman and Batman have many similarities in many ways, but the result from the analysis is both Ironman and Batman have contrary personality, Ironman refers to Sanguine, and Batman refers to Melancholic.

Batman and Ironman teaches us that even a superheroes must have a bad side in their personality. Parents guidance are needed to make sure that the children realizes and learns what can be imitate and what cannot be imitate. They also teaches us that it even Superheroes makes mistakes. The point is not the mistakes, but how they do the responsible to it.

REFERENCES

Bordwell, David and Kristin Thompson. 2008. *Film Art: An Introduction*. New York: Mc. Graw-Hill Companies.

Fountain, Alvin M, and Gibbens, V. Sypherd W. O. 1957. *Manual of Technical Writing: a Revision and Extens*. Illinois: Scott, Foresman and Company.

Guerin, Wilfred L.et.al. 1992. *A Handbook of Critical Approaches to Literature*. New York : Oxford University Press.

Littauer, Florence. 1992. *Personality Plus*. Michigan: Fleming H. Revell.

Meyer, Michael. 1990. *The Bedford Introduction to Literature*. Boston: Bedford Books St. Martin Press.

Perrine, Laurence. 1988. *The Story Structure, Sound, and Sense (Rev. Edition)*. New York: Harcourt.

Silverman, Robert E. 1971. *Psychology*. New York: Meredith Corporation.