

ABSTRACT

This study is aimed at examining to examine the character development of Wednesday Addams and investigate how social conflict influences her personal growth throughout the Netflix series Wednesday (2022). A qualitative descriptive approach was employed, with the series serving as the primary source of data. The data were collected through observations of dialogues, character actions, and scenes depicting social conflict, supported by relevant books, scholarly journals, and other academic references. The analysis was conducted using Robert Stanton's theory of character development and Georg Simmel's theory of social conflict. The findings indicate that Wednesday Addams undergoes substantial character development throughout the narrative. At the beginning of the series, she is portrayed as emotionally detached, highly independent, and socially withdrawn, deliberately avoiding emotional involvement and interpersonal relationships. Her distrust of others and rejection of conventional social values reinforce her position as an outsider. As the story unfolds, however, a series of social conflicts involving friends, family members, authority figures, and adversaries gradually reshape her perspective. These experiences contribute to the development of greater emotional awareness, social sensitivity, and personal maturity. Although she retains her intelligence, independence, and distinctive personality, Wednesday becomes increasingly capable of appreciating different perspectives, forming meaningful relationships, and participating more actively within the Nevermore Academy community. The study concludes that the social conflict serves as a significant driving force behind the protagonist's character development throughout the series.

Keywords: character development, social conflict, Wednesday Addams, Robert Stanton, Georg Simmel.

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis perkembangan karakter tokoh utama serta mengkaji pengaruh konflik sosial terhadap perubahan karakter Wednesday Addams dalam serial Wednesday (2022). Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif dengan menjadikan serial Wednesday sebagai sumber data utama. Data dikumpulkan melalui pengamatan terhadap dialog, tindakan tokoh, serta berbagai adegan yang merepresentasikan konflik sosial, kemudian didukung oleh kajian pustaka yang berasal dari buku, jurnal ilmiah, dan sumber relevan lainnya. Analisis dilakukan menggunakan teori perkembangan karakter Robert Stanton dan teori konflik sosial Georg Simmel. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Wednesday Addams mengalami perkembangan karakter yang cukup signifikan sepanjang alur cerita. Pada awal serial, ia digambarkan sebagai sosok yang tertutup, individualistis, serta cenderung menghindari hubungan emosional maupun interaksi sosial. Sikap tersebut tercermin melalui ketidakpercayaannya terhadap orang lain dan penolakannya terhadap norma sosial yang berlaku. Namun, berbagai konflik sosial yang dialaminya, baik dengan teman, keluarga, figur otoritas, maupun pihak yang menjadi lawannya, mendorong terjadinya perubahan secara bertahap. Pengalaman tersebut membentuk pemahaman baru mengenai pentingnya kepercayaan, kerja sama, dan hubungan interpersonal. Meskipun tetap mempertahankan sifat mandiri, kecerdasan, serta kepribadian khasnya, Wednesday menunjukkan peningkatan dalam kemampuan memahami sudut pandang orang lain, membangun hubungan yang lebih bermakna, dan berpartisipasi secara lebih aktif di lingkungan Nevermore Academy. Temuan penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa konflik sosial berperan penting sebagai faktor yang mendorong perkembangan karakter tokoh utama sepanjang narasi.

Kata Kunci: perkembangan karakter, konflik sosial, Wednesday Addams, Robert Stanton, Georg Simmel.