

**PAT'S STRUGGLE TO REACH A HAPPY ENDING
PORTRAYED IN *THE SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK* BY
MATTHEW QUICK**

THESIS



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HAPPINESS IN PAT'S HAPPINESS LOVE LIFE PORTRAYED IN *THE SILVER LININGS*
PLAYBOOK BY MATTHEW QUICK

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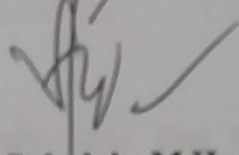
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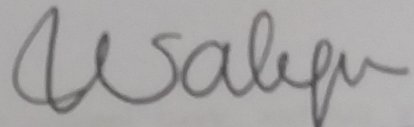
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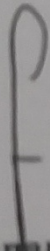
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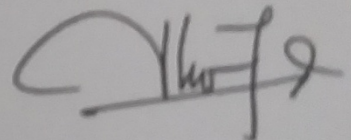
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ABSTRACT

Munafidsyah Sofy Fawzia (2019). *Pat's Struggle to Reach a Happy Ending Portrayed in The Silver Linings Playbook by Matthew Quick*. English Department, UIN SunanAmpel Surabaya. Advisor: Sufi IkrimaSa'adah, M.Hum.

Keywords: happy ending, struggle, new criticism

This research discussed Pat Solitiano's struggle to recognize his belief in a happy ending of his life, which is depicted in the novel *The Silver Linings Playbook* by Matthew Quick. It is important to know how Pat struggled to reach his hope.

This research used a qualitative descriptive method to provide a full explanation and description. New Criticism is used as a big umbrella theory to analyze the problems that the researcher discussed. The theory helped the researcher to describe the character and his struggle

The results of this study showed that Pat Solitiano is a person who has a merciful, optimistic, and bad-tempered characteristic. He loved Nikki very much, and was optimistic that he would get Nikki back. His belief that his wife would return to him made Pat struggle for it. They were improving his physical and emotional health, becoming an enthusiastic book reader, and trying to be able to communicate with Nikki again. All Pat's struggles ended when he realized that Nikki was not back to him and Pat could not a happy ending.

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CHAPTER I

1.1 Background of Study

Every human in the world would want a happy life. Such as; physically and mentally healthy, married and have children, have a good education and get achievements, have a good job and get a promotion, and so on. However, in reality, life will not be as they want. Every human being must have a problem in his life, such as a problem in their job, family, love, education, and so on. Even though they have planned their lives well, failures and problems will still occur under predictable and unpredictable conditions. Problems that exist in life usually come and make someone unprepared with the things that happen. Because usually, the human only thought about happily in their life. Therefore, when the problem occurs, people usually do anything so that the problem can be solved. This action is usually called as struggle. According to McKechnie (1989, p.367), struggle is the act of achieving something. People will keep their struggling to achieve their dreams even if they are in a bad situation.

There are many things happen in life, planned or unexpected, good or bad that occur in our life, the example are: meeting someone, getting married, giving birth to a baby, achievement in education, being good at work or even, a separation, remorse, death, ungraduated from college, being fired from work, being sick, and

Literary works can reflect human life experience. Hudson (1958, p.10) said, literature is an expression of life that describe about life, experience, people, thoughts, and feelings. Meanwhile Taylor (1981, p.81) argues that literature, like other works of art, is based on the author's imaginative actions in choosing, order, and interpret life experiences. The researcher state from the quote above that literature cannot be separated from life because it is related to experience and imagination in life. Easily to say that literary works contain human experience developed by the author's imagination.

In this study, the researcher is interested in a novel written by Matthew Quick, namely *The Silver Linings Playbook*(TSLP) (2008). Beside that, in 2012,

In this novel, Matthew Quick uses the first-point of view in his writing. Pat Solitiano is the main character and narrator in the novel. At the beginning of the story, Pat is described as coming out of a place of psychiatric rehabilitation. Pat felt he had only been there for a few months, but actually he stayed on the psychiatric rehabilitation for four years. After leaving the place, Pat found that Nikki, his wife was not at home. He tried to fix everything and think that Nikki returned to him. Pat made a lot of effort to get Nikki back. One of them was sending a letter through Tiffany, a widow who was depressed due to her husband's death. Tiffany also asked Pat to become her partner in the dance competition. Because Pat really want to go back with Nikki and the only way is through Tiffany, Pat agreed to accompany Tiffany as his partner. This novel describes how Pat fixed his relationship with Nikki so that his love story ended happily, but there were also many obstacles that Pat encountered. One of them was the falsity of the letter Pat had received. All the letters were written by Tiffany, not Nikki.

[illegible]

1.5 Method of Study

1.5.1 Research Design

1.5.2 Data Source

1.6.3 Data Collection

Data are very important to analyze the answer of the research problems. In this part, the writer gave the step of collecting the data as follow:

- Reading *TSLP* novel written by Matthew Quick as the main data.
- Highlighting the sentences and dialogues that related with Pat's character.
- Classifying the Pat's character.
- Highlighting the sentences and dialogues that related with Pat's struggle to realize a happy ending in his life.
- Classifying the Pat's struggle to realize a happy ending in his life.

1.6.4 Data Analysis

After collected the data, the researcher analyzed based on the statement of the problems as the following steps:

- a. Analyze the data related to the description of Pat's characterization in the novel. The analysis of this part is supported with character and characterization in New Criticism theory.
- b. Analyze the data related to the description of Pat's struggle to realize happy ending in his life in the novel. The analysis of this part is supported with conflict, characterization, plot in New Criticism theory.

New criticism is a theory in the literature that analyzes the text and ignores the biography of the author, historical context, psychological issues, political effect, and others, which are not explained in the text of literary work. (Gillespie 2010 p.172). On the other hand, new criticism is the theory that believes in single best, or more accurate, of the interpretation which can be discovered to represent the text itself, or easily, new criticism believes with best explain its organic unity (Tyson 2006, p.148). In this case, new criticism pays attention to the formal elements of the text and the meaning in the text. The formal element here is the structure of the text, which covers; character, characterization, plot, setting, point of view, symbols, and images (Tyson 2006, p.137).

2.1.1 Character

[illegible]

On the other hand, secondary characters perform more limited functions. It can also be said; secondary characters are supported about how the problems and conditions of the main characters in the course of the story. In other words, secondary characters build the context of time and society. These characters only appear in certain scenes. They are not portrayed intensely in the story, so they are less attractive to readers.

So, the researcher concludes that the character is a human who lives in a story. The character is an important part of the story because the character is the human who builds the story itself. The character is divided into several types. There are round and flat, and then there are major and secondary. Therefore, the researcher used the character as one of theory that to analyze this study because, this study focused on the character, especially main character in the novel itself.

2.1.2 Characterization

Characterization is imagery of character. The primary attribute of a good novelist, dramatist, or short story is when the reader can get the limits of the function and characterize the people successfully Holman (1992, p.75). When the readers read the story, they can understand the character's personality, the behavior of the character, the way of character solves the problem, or faces the problem. It automatically makes the reader had known the characterization of the character.

Characterization is divided into two types; firstly is direct characterization. Direct characterization means the narrator or author directly says or thinks about

the character. The reader is told what the character is like. Secondly is indirect characterization that refers to what character does and what character speaks. The reader then infers the character and is obligated to figure out what the character is like. Bernardo (2012, p.2).

Another explanation from Holman, there are three ways of characterizing character in the story. Firstly, explicitly by the author through being presented the character directly, described by action. Secondly, in the presentation of characters from action illustrations. The reader will be able to deduce the actor's attributes from the action. Thirdly, representation of the character itself, without the author's comment, the reader will understand the character's attributes. (1992, p.76)

With regard to methods for portrayal, Murphy in *Understanding Unseens* (161-173) makes reference to nine elements for character depiction in the story. They are personal descriptions, sayings, characters as seen by others, reactions, conversations of others, past lives, direct comments, thoughts, and behavior. Each component will be mentioned as follows:

a. Personal Description

Here, an author portrays a person in a story through his appearance, manner of dress, physical condition, and others related to his personality.

b. Characters as Seen by Others

As should be described directly, the author can describe it through the eyes and opinions of others. Readers can get a explanation or depiction of the person through the assessment of others.

2.1.4.1 Types of Conflict

From the explanation above, conflict can define as a struggle opposing forces. Conflict is an essential element of the novels. Without conflict in a novel, there is no sense; there are two kinds of conflicts: external and internal conflict. Further explanation will explain as follows.

A. External Conflict

The external conflict also defines as a conflict that happens in one character with something outside himself. It can be the environment or nature. This kind of conflict occurs when characters are involved in the world's woes. Therefore, external conflict can be separated into physical and social conflict (Nurgiyantoro 124). First is physical conflict. Physical conflict is the leading character struggles with the physical strength of other man, forces of nature, or animal. Physical conflict can be separated into man vs. man and men vs. nature. Man versus man is the most fundamental type of external conflict. This form of external conflict occurs when a character struggles against another character.

B. Internal Conflict

Internal conflict is the conflict that happened in character between the character and herself. Internal conflict also called psychological conflict without influenced by the other person (124). According to Brooks, internal conflict is a conflict that a person struggles against some elements which are in their personality, such as with his soul, ideas of right or wrong, physical limitations, choices, and others. (57).

To enlarge the knowledge about this study, the researcher reviewed the previous studies which related with this study in some aspects. The first and second thesis are from the English Department at State Islamic University Sunan Ampel Surabaya. The third and the last are thesis is from the English Department in Sanata Dharma University Yogyakarta. The writer chose them because they used the same theory and the same subject with this study. All of them used New Criticism, and struggle concept as theory, and the last one used *The Silver Linings Playbook* by Matthew Quick as the subject of the thesis.

The first previous study is from Andzi Setya Pambudi with the title *Romance Popular Formula Reflected In The Main Characters of Kevin Kwan's Crazy Rich Asians*. This study discusses how the main character conflicts in his romantic relationship. Pambudi uses descriptive qualitative methods to present the results of his analysis. Pambudi used the popular literary formula approach from John G. Cawelti and New Criticism as supporting theories. Pambudi find the main character conflict that reveals the secret of Kerry. The main character can also reveal a story that happened in the past.

Secondly, thesis with the title *The Struggle of Five Characters to Achieve The Target in Paulo Coelho's "The Winner Stand Alone" Novel: New Criticism Study* written by Lailatul Hidayah. Lailatul used qualitative method to analyze the data, she also used new criticism as the theory to answer the question of problems. She analyzed the struggle of each character in the novel, it means she used new criticism as a main theory. The different with this research is, the researcher only analyze the main male character, Pat. And then, in this research, the researcher

Thirdly, researcher uses the thesis from Theresia Rita Fibrianingsih with the title *Clare's Struggle for a Better Life as Seen Constance Briscoe's Ugly*(2010). The researcher uses this thesis as a review of related studies because it has the same theory, namely new criticism and the issue of struggle in life. In Fibrianingsih's thesis, she managed to explain how the main character's struggle in her childhood. This thesis uses a qualitative method because it contains explanations and depictions of the character. The difference between Fibrianingsih's thesis and this research is, in this research, the main character is male; besides that, the issue of struggle discussed in this study is the struggle in love.

The last one is the thesis from Hari Cynthia Yudanti with the title *The Influence Of Tiffany's Character on Pat Solitano In Facing His Conflict As Seen in Matthew Quick's The Silver Linings Playbook*(2015).The researcher use this thesis as one of the previous studies because it has similarity in the novel as the main data in the study. In addition, in his thesis, Yudanti also uses New Criticism to analyze characters. The results of this thesis show the characterization of Pat as an unstable and stubborn person who is easily motivated, while Tiffany as a strong person, and stubborn in helping Pat. In addition, the results of Yudanti's thesis also showed Tiffany's role in Pat to starting in his new life. The striking difference with this study is, in this study researchers only focus on Pat as a main character. This study is very focused on Pat's thought about getting his ex-wife

back, which made him did a struggle and it has broke with a realities in the end of story.

CHAPTER III

Pat's Struggle to Reach a Happy Ending

In this chapter the researcher described the characterizations of the main character; Pat Solitiano. Pat's characters are: merciful, optimistic, and bad tempered. After knowing Pat's characterization, the researcher described Pat's struggled in a problem when he has separated with Nikki. In separation time, Pat did a lot of struggles including: improved his physical and mentality health, to be an enthusiastic book reader, and could communicate with Nikki. All the thing he

did because he would get Nikki back. But in the end, Pat had to stop because it turned out Nikki had divorced him and already had a new family.

3.1 Pat's Characters

To easily in understanding, researcher classified Pat's character into three parts. The researcher argued that Pat is someone who is merciful, Pat is also someone who is optimistic, and the last is Pat is also someone who bad tempered. The following are the quotation that will support the statement of the researcher:

3.1.1 Merciful

In this novel, it was told that Pat is Nikki's husband. They had separated which Pat called as Apart time. During his separation time, Pat was very love Nikki. Not only with Nikki, some quotes also described that he is a loving person to another. And researcher argued merciful is one of Pat's character. Here is proof that Pat is a merciful.

“Nikki? She’s great,” I say, and then smile, feeling the warmth that fills my chest whenever I say her name, whenever I see her face in my mind. “She’s the best thing that ever happened to me. (16) The quote is the beginning of how Pat thinks about Nikki and the events of apart time he experienced. In Pat’s statement, it can be said easily that Pat would like to end separation time with Nikki. The author did not explain in before what apart time was, but after that, in Pat’s next explanation, he explained how apart time he experienced it. Of course, that was all how Pat thought about apart time that he did. The reason that Pat

It's still about how Pat loved Nikki. In the quote above, Dr. Patel previously asked if Pat wanted to have sex with Tiffany, but Pat denied and emphasized that he was Nikki's husband and he loved Nikki. So it very impossible that Pat will have sex with Tiffany. With the statement, the researcher concluded that Pat was a merciful person even though he had not met Nikki for a long time, he still loved Nikki very much.

After knowing how Pat loved Nikki, this part illustrated that Pat also loved his mother. The quotation below is a conversation between Pat and Dr. Patel.

Then Cliff says he knows that I have been rough with my mother, shaking her in the kitchen and knocking her down in the attic, which makes me really sad because I love my mom so much and she rescued me from the bad place and has even signed all those legal documents—and yet I cannot rightly deny what Cliff has said. My chest heats up with guilt until I can't take it. Truth be told, I break down and cry—sobbing—for at least five minutes.(38)

Pat told me that he was sorry he had done something rude to his mother. When in fact, Pat really loved his mother because his mother was the one who guaranteed that Pat could get out of the hospital. From Pat's statement, the researcher concluded that Pat loved his mother a lot and that proved that Pat was a merciful person.

As the waves grow in size, I have to jump and kick really hard to keep both of our heads above water, but Emily loves it and begins squealing and laughing and clapping her hands every time we float up. This goes on for a

good ten minutes, and I am so happy; I kiss her chubby cheeks over and over. Something about Emily makes me want to float over waves with her for the rest of my life, and I decide that when apart time is done, I will make a daughter with Nikki.(40)

Emily is the child of Pat's friend. This part is when Pat and Emily play on the beach. Described Pat is very happy to play with Emily, Pat also kissing her cheek repeatedly and it made him happy. It can be concluded that Pat is a merciful person, even in child. He felt that when Nikki back to him, they would have a children and he would love them with all things that he has.

From all the quotations above, it shows that Pat is loving person. He loved Nikki, his mother, even he also loved a children. Pat often shows how he loved others by said it directly. Therefore, the researcher argued that one of Pat's characters is merciful.

3.1.2 Optimistic

Besides being merciful, Pat is also someone who is optimistic in his life. Here, the quotes that show about Pat believed in happy ending and he is very optimistic about it. The happy ending here when only Nikki returned to him. So, below are the quotes about Pat who is very optimistic in realized a happy ending.

“I believe in happy endings,” I tell him. “And it feels like this movie has gone for the right amount of time.”..... I have sworn off movies until Nikki returns, because now my own life is the movie I will watch, and well, it’s always on. Plus I know it’s almost time for the happy ending, when Nikki will come back.....(17)

done to improve himself would result in a happy ending, and that was when Nikki
back to his life.

...was when I met Nikki, and I'm thinking maybe she was upset by the weight I gained during the five years we were married. Won't she be surprised to see me looking so muscular when apart time is over.(21)

The quotes above explained when Pat lost his weight. He believed that one of the reasons he was separation time with Nikki because Pat was fat, so when Nikki returned, she would be amazed and happy because Pat lost his weight so much, and Pat was muscular. So Nikki would back in Pat's life. Pat clearly described how he optimistic about happy endings.

In the next part, Pat got an offer from a friend named Tiffany. Tiffany offered to be a liaison between Pat and Nikki in communication. But, unfortunately, Tiffany didn't want to help Pat for free. Tiffany wanted Pat to be a partner in the dance competition because if Tiffany doesn't have a partner, she won't be able to join the competition.

“I know this is all so complicated right now. But there must be a reason that we are in contact again. There must be a reason that I lost my memory and then was filled with a vicious need to improve myself. There must be a reason if Tiffany was able to arrange this letter exchange. All I’m asking is that you keep the possibility of a reunion open as we continue to communicate through *hour liaison*.” (181)

I worked for this happy ending. I am very fit, and am now practicing being kind rather than right. I am not the man you were married to for all those lonely years. I am a better man. A man who will take you dancing and will give up sports entirely—coaching and Eagles—if that makes you happy. My conscience tells me that I should not continue to pursue these feelings, but your telling me to read Twain’s novel made me think that maybe you were giving me a sign.”

In Pat's expectation, when he becomes a better man, Nikki would back to him. Because he has worked very hard to be able to realize what he hoped for. Pat assumed that his expectations would be realized if he could become someone better, and Nikki would be happy with that. Automatically, when Nikki was happy, Nikki was willing to back with Pat. Pat's expectation of happiness was very high. He was too confident that whatever he did would result in a happy ending in his life, which to get Nikki back.

“I believe in happy endings with all my heart. I’ve worked too hard on self-improvement to give up on my movie now. Remember where I asked you to marry me? Meet me there on Christmas Day at dusk. This is the only thing I will ever ask of you. But I feel as though you owe me this one last request. Please.”

The quote explains how Pat requested that he be able to meet Nikki and talk about problems that had occurred, and in his expectation, he wanted to have a meeting with Nikki, and after that, he could ask Nikki to be back in his life. Pat hoped to see Nikki on Christmas and it is like a past event where he asked Nikki to be his wife. He is an optimist, he could meet Nikki again and it was the same as the

Still in the same situation, Pat felt himself getting more angry, so he immediately looked for ways to calm it. He really wanted to not be angry but instead he felt very angry because he lost his wedding video cassette. The researcher concluded that even though Pat was a bad-tempered person, he also tried to calm his emotions and reduce his temper. The quote below is Pat's anxiety because he has hit someone else because Pat could not control his emotions

...I realize that I have once again failed to be kind; that I lost control in a big way; that I seriously injured another person, and therefore I'm never going to get Nikki back now...I look and confirm that there are only parked cars outside, nothing of interest. And then I am talking: "I hit a man so hard—lifting him up off the ground even—I thought I maybe killed him...,"(97)

because Pat was also a human being, Pat also had a bad character which is bad tempered and usually Pat could not control his emotions.

3.2 Pat's struggle to realize happy ending in his life

As the researcher told before, happy ending in Pat's life is when he could get Nikki back in his life. In this part, the researcher divided Pat's struggle into four parts: Physical, emotional, and enthusiastic book reader and got communicating with Nikki back.

3.2.1 Pat's struggle to be physically better

The first is, the researcher describes Pat's struggles to be physically healthy. Pat wants to have a fitter and healthier physique. He wants to be physically healthy so that he can win Nicki back. In this novel, a lot is mentioned that Pat has exercised to prepare and to get Nikki back.

“Just how many push-ups are you going to do, Pat?” Mom says when I start the second set of one hundred without speaking to her. “Nikki—likes—a—man—with—a—developed—upper—body,” I say, spitting out one word per push-up, tasting the salty sweat lines that are running into my mouth.” (8)

The quotation above explains how Pat is practicing push-ups because Nikki likes a brawny man. At the beginning of the story, there is no mention of who Nikki is and where she is now, but it is enough to illustrate how much Pat wants Nikki to return to his life. To get Nikki back, Pat is willing to do exercise to make his body shape better according to what Nikki likes. But unfortunately, Pat's

struggle is often ignored by many people, and they don't believe that Pat's struggle can make Nikki turn back to him.

“I don’t want to stay in the bad place where no one believes in silver linings or love or happy endings, and where everyone tells me Nikki will not like my new body....”(9)

...`It's funny because all the other therapists I've seen said that Nikki wouldn't be back. Even after I told them about the life improvements I have been making, how I am bettering myself, they still were always 'hating on me,' which is an expression I learned from my black friend Danny.` (18)

This quote supports the researcher's previous statement that Pat fought hard, but not many people believed that Pat would get the happiness of love in his life with Nikki. But, Pat did not care and continued to do many things so that his body was getting fitter and healthier so he could get Nikki back.

“I am in the basement doing shots of water, taking my three-minute break between crunches on the Stomach Master 6000 and leg lifts on the weight bench...”(25)

When he got out of the hospital or a bad place (as Pat has said) Pat continued to do exercises at his home. He kept doing it all so he could see how happy Nikki was because Pat had changed and become a healthier and more muscular man.

“.....mostly because I've been seeing them almost every day when I emerge from the basement, push my head and arms through a trash bag-so my torso will be wrapped in plastic, and I will sweat more- and then go running. I always try to coordinate then the ten-mile running portion of my ten hour

exercise routine with sunset, so I can finish by running west past the playing fields of Knight's Park, where as a kid, I played baseball and soccer.” (20)

In order to support the exercise of his body, Pat to do things quite strange that he was wearing a trash bag and glue it to make it more sweaty when exercising. With this method, Pat can burn calories faster because Pat also explains that he is overweight “:...Also, I let my appearance go, to the point where I was maybe ten to seventy pounds overweight,.” (16) Here it can be concluded that Pat is a character who has many ways and is willing to do anything to gain happiness in his love life.

The quote above also explains that Pat routinely runs as a form of exercise for his body. He is willing to run within ten miles, and it becomes part of his ten hours of his exercise routine.

When I run, I always pretend I am running toward Nikki, and it makes me feel like I am decreasing the amount of time I have to wait until seeing her again.

(21) In addition, Pat thought when he was running, he felt that he was running towards Nikki so that he can get Nikki back. The researchers concluded that whatever Pat was doing was only about Nikki and Nikki. The quotes below will support the Researcher's statement;

“Since my wife asked for some time apart, I’ve lost more than fifty pounds, and my mother says that soon I’ll be at the weight I was when I played varsity soccer in high school, which is also the weight I was when I met Nikki, and I think maybe she was upset by the weight I gained during

agrees to change the medication method that he has been done for. All the things that he did only to get Nikki back immediately.

“Before I leave, Cliff says he will be changing my medication, which could lead to some unwanted side effects, and that I have to report any discomfort or sleeplessness or anxiety or anything else to my mother immediately—because it might take some time for him to find the right combination of drugs—and I promise him I will.” (18)

The quote made it very clear that his doctor named Cliff changed his medication method, and he promised to report whatever effects that he experienced when the method was changed. It was very clear that Pat was struggling with an unhealthy mental condition to get better soon. The next quotation will more be portrayed how Pat's struggle to be better emotionally.

“After a brief wait, I meet with Cliff for my second session, like I will every Friday for the foreseeable future. I pick brown this time, and we sit in his leather recliners among the clouds, talking about how much we like a women and “kicking it like we do,” which is another one of Danny’s sayings.” (24)

The quote above explains that Pat underwent routine treatment in every Friday. This has done Pat to improve how he controlled his emotions. The quote also describe how Pat very comfort with the new medication with Dr.Patel because Pat feels Dr.Patel is like his friend, namely Danny. And continued by the quotation below;

disturbing in his life and the people around him. Therefore, this next quote will explain how Pat was truly sad and determined to improve his emotions.

``You want to be a good person, don't you Pat?``

I nod. I cry. I do want to be a good person. I really do.

“I’m going to up your meds,” Dr. Patel tells me. “You might feel a little sluggish, but it should help to curb your violent outbursts. You need to know it’s your actions that will make you a good person, not desire. And if you have any more episodes, I might have to recommend that you go back to the neural health facility for more intensive treatments, which —”

“No. Please. I’ll be good,” I say quickly, knowing that Nikki is less likely to return if I backslide into the bad place. “Trust me.”

“I do,” Dr. Patel replies with a smile. (38)

From all the quotes above, it can be concluded that Pat is someone who has psychological problems and emotional disturbances. so he has to undergo routine treatment, and Pat wants to undergo treatment with Cliff because he feels better than the doctor who previously handled him. Like Pat's description of Cliff as follows;

[illegible]

3.2.6 Pat's struggle to be an Enthusiastic Book Reader

The third of Pat's struggle was about how much he wanted to read literary novels. Pat wants to learn more to make Nikki happy. Because Nikki is an English teacher and she likes reading so much.

“Nikki likes to read, and since she always wanted me to read literary books, I start, mainly so I will be able to participate in the dinner conversation I had remained silent through in the past-those conversations with Nikki’s literary friends, all English teachers....”(12)

The above quote is an affix to the previous quote. Pat's struggle in liking and reading books was to be able to communicate with Nikki's literary friends. This will make Pat look smart and also to make Nikki happy, and it can make Pat get Nikki back in his life.

Because Pat read many books to make Nikki happy and get Nikki back, the next book after *The Great Gatsby* that he has read is a Hemingway's book because Nikki is one of Hemingway's fans.

“Knowing that Nikki does a big unit on Hemingway every year, I ask for one of Hemingway’s better novels. “One with a love story if possible, because I really need to study love — so I can be a better husband when Nikki comes back,” I tell Mom.” (22)

forced to read *The Bell Jar*.” I had Mom check it out of the library, mostly because I want to understand women so I can relate to Nikki’s feelings and whatnot.” (100)

over the phone. She will be able to dictate her responses to me, again over the phone, which I will type up on my laptop, print out, and present to you.” (150)

The quote above shows how Tiffany tried to explain how she helps Pat to get communicate with Nikki. Tiffany will read Pat's letter to Tiffany by phone, and Nikki will answer it, then Tiffany will type it, and she will give it to Pat every two weeks.

What do I want? Remember when I said I was scouting you? Well, I want to win this year's Dance Away Depression competition, and I need a strong man to do it. Tiffany explains what she wants when she has helped Pat to communicate with Nikki, who is she wants Pat as her partner in a dance competition. And the quotation below depicted how Pat thinks about Nikki's statement and tries to understand it.

Of course, I cannot be sure about anything, since I have no memory of the past few years. Maybe Tiffany made up the story just to get me to perform in her dance competition. This is possible. I certainly would not have volunteered to be her partner, even if I am practicing being kind now. I realize that Tiffany's letter might be a trick, but the possibility of communicating with Nikki is too good to chance—as it may be my last opportunity. Also, Tiffany's mentioning God's will seems to suggest that she understands what apart time is all about. It makes sense that Nikki would want me to take dancing lessons. She always wanted me to dance with her, but I never did.

In Pat's thought above, actually Pat is doubtful about Tiffany's explanation. However, because Pat really wanted to come back to live with Nikki, Pat tried to trust Tiffany's statement, and Pat wanted to be Tiffany's partner in the dance competition. It was also explained that Pat wanted to do this because maybe with this Pat could dance well and Nikki became happy because Nikki had always wanted him to dance with her, but Pat never did it.

“The thought of dancing with Nikki in the future is enough to make me accept that I will be missing the three Eagles games before the bye week, including the home game against Jacksonville. I think about how angry this will make my father, Jake, and maybe even Cliff, but then I think about the possibility of finally living out the happy ending to my movie—getting Nikki back—and the choice is obvious.” (153)

Eventually, Pat decided to be Tiffany's partner in a dance competition even though he had to miss a soccer match and might be scolded by his father, Cliff, and Jake. Because of this, Pat thinks that he can get Nikki back in his life.

“Next, I run across Knight’s Park, jog around the Websters’ house, and knock on Tiffany’s door. She answers in a red silk nightgown, squinting at me. “Well?” “When do we start training?” I ask. “Are you ready to commit fully? Ready to give up everything—even Eagles football?” I nod eagerly. “Only I can’t miss my therapy sessions on Fridays, because some judge will send me back to the bad place if I do, and then we won’t be able to win the competition.” “I’ll be outside your house tomorrow at two o’clock,” Tiffany says, and then shuts the door.” (153)

The quote above explains that Pat is serious about his decision. Even though he had to leave the soccer match schedule, but Pat still could not leave his treatment schedule on Friday. And Tiffany agreed.

“Explaining how I learned Tiffany’s routine and became an excellent dancer would be difficult—mostly because our rehearsals are long and

grueling and extremely boring. We do the same little things over and over again endlessly. For example, if I had to lift a finger in the air for the routine, Tiffany would make me do it a thousand times every single day until I could do it to her liking on command.” (156)

The researcher has explained about Pat's struggle to get Nikki back. After did a lot of struggle, here the researcher show a few of Pat's struggle was end. Everything that Pat did to get Nikki back was useless. Because, Nikki and Pat actually divorced, which means Nikki will not back to Pat, and Nikki is also married with someone else and lives happily.

3.2.5 Pat's Struggle was End

In this part, there are several facts written by Pat's friend, named Tiffany. Tiffany said that Pat and Nikki were not in apart time, but they have divorced. Nikki was divorcing Pat.

“..has been providing Nikki within formation about you ever since you were permanently assigned to that neural health facility in Baltimore. It turns out that your family banned Nikki from obtaining information about you, which they could do because Nikki divorced you soon after you were permanently admitted. I know this bit of news has most likely upset you terribly. Sorry, but it’s best just to state things plainly at this point. Don’t you think?” (149)

The above quote proves that Pat's thought has been wrong. The fact that Pat actually happened was that he had divorced Nikki. There is no agreement between Nikki and Pat about apart time. Pat's thought about apart time is how something that he feels, and he creates in his mind because he has lost his memory.

In Tiffany's long letter, Tiffany also explained the reason why Nikki divorced Pat. Tiffany said that this was a bad thing and Pat lost his memory about

this. Tiffany's explanation below is one form of the fact that Pat has experienced, but he lost his memory, and he always believes in his thoughts about happy endings that occur in his life, so Pat often ignores the facts which people around him always try to explain it.

“Okay, this next part is bad too. Nikki was able to divorce you because you committed a crime, which you do not remember. (I am not going to tell you what that crime was, because you have probably blocked it from your memory intentionally; most likely, you are not yet mentally ready to deal with this very frightening reality. My therapist Dr. Lily and I theorize that you will remember committing this crime when you are mentally and emotionally ready.) Nikki was granted a divorce and all your assets, and in exchange, someone else dropped all charges against you. Of course, the deal also sent you to the bad place indefinitely for “rehabilitation.” You agreed to all of the above at the time and were deemed to be “of sound mind” by your therapist Dr. Timbers, but soon after being put away for good, you “lost” your memory and your marbles as well.” (149)

improve his physically better, Pat also improves mental and emotional problems and to be a better man, and therefore he has stayed in rehabilitation place and special therapy with Dr. Patel. After that, because Nikki was a literary teacher, Pat struggled to become an enthusiastic book reader. He read many books that Nikki liked, even though Pat actually didn't really like Nikki's favorite books. The last of Pat's struggle was to become a Tiffany dance partner just so he could send a letter to Nikki and he could communicate with Nikki, besides, Pat also believed that by practicing dance, Nikki would be happy and finally Nikki would be willing to back with Pat.

However, in the end, Pat realized that his struggle had to end and be useless because Nikki already had a new husband and family. So the researcher concluded that Pat could not realize the happy ending in his life that he had believed so far.

The researcher provides some suggestions related to this research. New Criticism, it is best to analyze anything toward the text itself, such as the character, characterization, plot, and conflict. The researcher hoped that future research can use this theory to analyze more developed issues and be better to apply them.

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