

THE TYPES OF LOVE THROUGH THE MAIN CHARACTER IN ELEMENTAL MOVIE SCRIPT

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Abstrak: Penelitian ini mengkaji penggambaran cinta dalam naskah film Elemental melalui analisis tekstual kualitatif. Menggunakan Teori Cinta Segitiga Sternberg, penelitian ini berfokus pada jenis cinta yang digambarkan melalui tokoh sentral, Ember. Temuan ini mengungkapkan bahwa keintiman, gairah, dan komitmen terjalin secara rumit ke dalam narasi, yang terwujud dalam romansa, kekeluargaan, dan cinta diri. Keintiman ditunjukkan melalui kedekatan emosional, sedangkan gairah dilambangkan dengan momen ketertarikan yang intens antara Ember dan Wade. Komitmen ini tercermin dalam tekad mereka untuk mengatasi tantangan dan saling mendukung. Selain itu, penelitian ini menyoroti universalitas cinta sebagai kekuatan transformatif yang menjembatani perbedaan budaya dan unsur dalam dunia film fiksi. Perjalanan pribadi Ember mencerminkan tema penemuan dan penerimaan diri, menekankan kompleksitas cinta sebagai pengalaman manusia. Dengan mengintegrasikan teori Sternberg dengan analisis interpretatif naskah, penelitian ini berkontribusi pada pemahaman lebih dalam tentang sifat multidimensi cinta dalam penceritaan. Temuan ini menyoroti Elemental sebagai sebuah narasi yang melampaui bentuk animasinya, menawarkan wawasan tentang dinamika emosional dan sosial dari cinta sekaligus mempromosikan empati dan hubungan lintas batas.

Kata Kunci: Cinta, Teori Segitiga Sternberg, Analisis Tekstual, Elemental, Keintiman, Gairah, Komitmen, Bercerita

Abstract: This research examines the depiction of love in the Elemental film script through qualitative textual analysis. Using Sternberg's Triangular Love Theory, this research focuses on the type of love depicted through the central character, Ember. These findings reveal that intimacy, passion, and commitment are intricately woven into the narrative, manifesting in romance, kinship, and self-love. Intimacy is demonstrated through emotional closeness, while passion is symbolized by moments of intense attraction between Ember and Wade. This commitment is reflected in their determination to overcome challenges and support each other. In addition, this research highlights the universality of love as a transformative force, which bridges cultural and elemental

differences in the world of film fiction. Ember's personal journey reflects themes of self-discovery and acceptance, emphasizing the complexity of love as a human experience. By integrating Sternberg's theory with interpretive analysis of the script, this research contributes to a deeper understanding of the multidimensional nature of love in storytelling. These findings highlight Elemental as a narrative that goes beyond its animated form, offering insight into the emotional and social dynamics of love while promoting empathy and connection across boundaries.

Keywords: Love, Sternberg's Triangular Theory, Textual Analysis, Elemental, Intimacy, Passion, Commitment, Storytelling

INTRODUCTION

Literature is a creative work that describes human existence in society and can be enjoyed, intelligent and beneficial for society as a whole. The results of this creativity will be written by the author as a literary work. the format of literary works, including novels, dramas, poetry and short stories. Every literary expert has his own definition of literary works.

Literature is often understood as "the entirety of written expression, with the limitation that not every written document can be categorized as literature in a more precise sense," according to (Klarer, 2004:1). "Literature means not only what is written but what is voiced, what is expressed, what is created, in any form," according to (Sollors & Marcus, 2009).

Sternberg (1986) emphasized that the most profound and desired human feeling is love. For love, people may steal, cheat, lie, and even kill; they would sooner die than lose their loved ones. Everyone can feel love, regardless of age. Love is an intense emotion that is often accompanied by a sentiment of exclusivity. According to Warga (in Muchtar, 2004), the demands and desires of loved ones take precedence over those who are in love, who defines love as a strong positive emotion and connection with other people. Love is an expression of intense affection towards a person and is defined by feelings of emotional intimacy and an attitude towards that person that includes meeting one's own needs and enhancing one's well-being. Meanwhile, love is a collection of complex mental and emotional experiences, according to Hendrick & Hendrick (1992). In essence, everyone experiences different types of love, each of which has its own unique form and quality.

Love is an attitude that a person has towards another person who is valuable to him and influences his thoughts, feelings and actions. Depending on the situation, love can be described in various ways due to its complexity and diversity. In general, it includes a strong feeling of care, devotion, and affection for someone or something.

Love has long been a predominant theme in literature, film, and various artistic mediums, owing to its universal resonance and profound impact on human life. As a concept, love transcends cultural, social, and geographical divides, emerging as a formidable force that connects individuals and influences their relationships. This theme is frequently explored in narratives that delve into the complexities of human emotions and experiences, providing audiences with relatable and transformative tales. A notable example is *Elemental* (2023), an animated feature from Disney and Pixar, which offers a unique perspective on love through its imaginative storytelling and vibrant characters.

The storyline of *Elemental* revolves around Ember, a Fire element, and Wade, a Water element, as they navigate the challenges of their relationship in a world where the elements of Fire, Water, Earth, and Air coexist. The film effectively portrays love in its diverse manifestations romantic love, familial love, and self-love through the evolution and experiences of its main characters. Ember's journey, in particular, serves as a profound exploration of how love, despite its intricacies, nurtures empathy, acceptance, and personal development.

The significance of this research lies in its ability to analyze how *Elemental* represents love as a universal theme through its characters and narrative. By focusing on Ember's character development and her interactions with Wade and other people, this research aims to reveal the different types of love depicted in the film and their implications for understanding human emotions and relationships. Additionally, this research contributes to academic discussions about how cinematic storytelling can effectively convey deep themes such as love in a way that is relatable to diverse audiences.

This research seeks to explore the types of love depicted through the character Ember in the *Elemental* film script. The analysis will focus on her emotional journey and the relationships that shaped her understanding of love, excluding technical aspects such as animation or production design. Thus, this research aims to highlight the depth of narrative and its ability to convey the transformative power of love.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research adopts a qualitative methodology, primarily using textual analysis to investigate the various manifestations of love represented in the film script *Elemental*. The research framework prioritizes narrative structure and character evolution in the script, with a particular emphasis on the experiences of the main character, Ember. Textual analysis serves as a tool to interpret the cultural, social, and emotional dimensions embedded in the script, so as to illuminate the complex depiction of love as a central theme.

Giles A. Hindle notes that the origins of textual analysis can be found in the Greek myth of Hermes, a mythological God who had to first interpret the messages of the Gods before translating and explaining their meaning into a language that could be understood by ordinary people. Hermes was given the monumental task of conveying the messages of the Gods to ordinary people (Hindle 601). Understanding the language and symbols used in a text is necessary for textual analysis in order to learn how readers interpret it. The goal of textual analysis is to understand the text and derive its meaning or understanding.

As articulated by McKee (2003), textual analysis is a qualitative technique that aims to understand how individuals derive meaning from texts. This process entails a thorough examination of the language, symbols, patterns and imagery present in a text to uncover deeper messages. This approach is particularly beneficial in the field of literary and cultural studies, as it allows researchers to contextualize texts within broader cultural, social, and historical frameworks. Hindle further emphasizes that textual analysis requires an understanding of the language and symbols used in a text to understand how readers interpret it. Therefore, this method is particularly appropriate for analyzing *Elemental* scenarios, which function as cultural and narrative artifacts.

This study concentrates exclusively on the narrative dimensions of the text *Elemental*, with a particular emphasis on the different expressions of love experienced by the character Ember. As outlined by Sternberg (1986), love is comprised of three fundamental components: intimacy, passion, and commitment. Intimacy refers to the emotional closeness and sense of safety between individuals, passion involves both physical and emotional attraction, and commitment represents the decision to maintain

the relationship over an extended duration. These components provide a framework for analyzing the representations of love within the narrative, which encompass romantic, familial, and self-love.

The main data source for this research is the Elemental scenario, supported by a theoretical framework and literature on love and textual analysis. Important scenes and dialogue are carefully examined to identify patterns and themes related to love. For example, Ember's vulnerability and Wade's empathetic response convey intimacy, while their attraction highlights passion. Commitment is reflected in a shared determination to overcome challenges and maintain relationships despite social and elemental differences.

Data analysis follows a qualitative framework, interpreting manuscript excerpts in narrative and cultural context. This approach aims to reveal the symbolic and emotional meaning of love as depicted in the Elemental film script. By combining Sternberg's theory and a detailed examination of the text, this research provides insight into how love functions as a transformative and universal force.

This research methodology integrates theoretical and interpretive approaches to analyze the representation of love in the Elemental scenario. It contributes to the broader discussion of emotional and social themes in storytelling, showing how love, in its many forms, is intricately woven into the narrative to resonate with universal human experience.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on a qualitative textual analysis of the Elemental movie script, the conclusion of this study shows that love is portrayed in various ways and aspects, with the main focus on Ember. Selected conversations and exchanges that illustrate the three forms of love - intimacy, passion, and commitment - described by Sternberg's Love Triangle Theory were used to present the findings. Throughout Ember's journey, these components are woven together to demonstrate the complexity and transformational power of love.

This study highlights specific textual texts that illustrate various manifestations of love. Ember's candor when she acknowledges, "This store was my father's dream," for instance, demonstrates intimacy. Wade's empathetic response, "It would kill him if I was the reason why the store was closed," demonstrates emotional connection and comprehension. In a similar vein, the physical exchanges between Ember and Wade—

such as when Wade touches Ember's fire hand and causes steam to form—also show passion despite the elements' differences. "I'll help you track down the leak and fix it," Wade said, demonstrating his dedication to helping Ember rescue her father's store. We shall overcome it together.

A detailed table summarizing the findings is presented below to clarify the manifestations of Sternberg's components of love in the Elemental script:

Table 3.1 Analysis Script/Dialogue to Type of Love

Script/ Dialogue	Type of Love	Explanation
"The shop is my dad's dream. If I'm the reason it gets shut down, it will kill him." – Ember	Intimacy	Ember expresses her fears, and Wade responds with empathy, reflecting emotional closeness
Wade touches Ember's flame hand, causing steam to form.	Passion	This moment highlights their physical attraction and the tension arising from their differences.
I'll help you track the leak and fix this. We'll figure it out together." – Wade	Commitment	Wade's actions demonstrate his dedication to supporting Ember despite the challenges they face.

When these results are interpreted, it is clear that Elemental depicts love in a way that goes beyond simple romantic attraction. Ember's loyalty to her father's ideal and her attempts to uphold his legacy serve as a vehicle for the script's exploration of familial love. According to Sternberg, commitment is the choice to maintain and value relationships, and this type of love is firmly based in dedication and selflessness. Furthermore, Ember and Wade's passionate and intimate relationship develops with time, focusing on acceptance and respect for one another.

The way that love is portrayed in Elemental aligns with Sternberg's theory and expands its use to a cultural setting. The story emphasizes the universality of love as a bridge across boundaries by setting the characters in a made-up planet where fire, water, air, and earth coexist with distinct social conventions. This interpretation supports Warga (2015) claim that love is a multifaceted emotional and mental experience impacted by cultural, devotional, and caring components.

This discussion also highlights how character development can be altered by love. As is common with Ember's journey, her meeting with Wade aids in her self-discovery and acceptance. Despite the challenges of their love, Ember is motivated to embrace vulnerability and reconsider her relationship philosophy. Sternberg's concept of ideal love, which blends closeness, desire, and devotion, is best illustrated by the relationship between Ember and Wade; nevertheless, the narrative also acknowledges the challenges of sustaining such a bond.

The results imply that *Elemental* provides a nuanced analysis of love via its narrative and character development. By fusing literary analysis with Sternberg's theory, the study demonstrates how love serves as a universal theme, transcending differences and fostering personal growth. The findings deepen our understanding of emotional dynamics in narrative and highlight the enduring significance of love in the human experience.

CONCLUSION

The journey of Ember, the protagonist of the film *Elemental*, offers a thorough analysis of love as a universal and transformative notion, per the study's conclusions. The study's analytical framework, Sternberg's Triangle Theory of Love, demonstrated how the narrative is intricately linked to closeness, ardor, and dedication. These elements are demonstrated by Ember's romantic involvement with Wade as well as her personal growth and familial closeness.

Moments of emotional intimacy and comprehension, especially in the bond between Ember and Wade, are where intimacy is portrayed. Their physical interactions, which also emphasize the difficulties of their elemental disparities, serve as a representation of passion, which is defined by great attraction and connection. Their mutual resolve to overcome challenges, maintain relationships, and encourage one another's goals is a sign of their commitment.

The analysis shows that love in *Elemental* encompasses a variety of elements, such as self-love, family, and romantic love. Ember's devotion to her father's heritage reveals that love is unselfish and founded on familial responsibility, even as her developing relationship with Wade illustrates the transformational power of passionate love, which transcends social and elemental bounds. A recurring topic in the narrative is the

importance of loving and embracing oneself, which is further highlighted by her personal experiences.

The script emphasizes how universal love is as a unifying force by placing love in a made-up planet where fire, water, earth, and air coexist with different cultural identities. This supports Warga (2015) claim that love is a multifaceted emotional experience influenced by cultural norms, caring, and dedication. The study also emphasizes how well the story captures emotional dynamics in the real world and how important love—in all of its manifestations—is to human connection and personal development.

To put it briefly, *Elemental* presents a profound and in-depth depiction of love that goes beyond its cartoon format. Through a sophisticated plot and character development, the film not only entertains but also challenges audiences to think on the eternal importance of love in overcoming challenges, developing empathy, and tolerating diversity. Because of this insight, we can now recognize love as a fundamental human feeling, which makes *Elemental* a poignant and universal tale.

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