

ABSTRACT

PUTRI, RIRIT PRASTIKA. (2026). **Behind Emily's Desire for a Wedding: Exploring Emily's Core Issues, Denial, and Trauma in Tim Burton's *Corpse Bride***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Universitas Sanata Dharma.

This study examines Emily, the character in Tim Burton's animated film *Corpse Bride* (2005). Apparently, Emily is initially portrayed as a creepy corpse bride whose appearance reflects the origin of her trauma, as she was betrayed and murdered before her wedding day. However, throughout the film, it was found that Emily is a deeply wounded and kind character. These characteristics reveal how Emily's traumatic experience influences her emotions, behavior, and shapes her desire for a wedding throughout the film.

This study aims to identify Emily's characteristics and analyze how her core issues, denial, and trauma are reflected in her characteristics. Moreover, this study analyzes Emily's core issues, such as fear of abandonment and low self-esteem, and how these core issues contribute to her desperation for a wedding as a form of a psychological anchor. This study also examines Emily's denial as her defense mechanism to protect her from a painful reality. Furthermore, this study analyzes Emily's trauma in detail to reveal her desperation for a wedding.

A qualitative library research method is implied in this study. The primary source of the study is Tim Burton's animated film *Corpse Bride* (2005), while secondary sources consist of books and journal articles related to psychoanalytic theory and film studies. There are seven theories that are applied in this study, including the theory of characterization, film elements theory, film animation theory, and psychoanalytic theories such as fear of abandonment, low self-esteem, denial, and trauma theory, to conduct the analysis.

The findings show that Emily is characterized as creepy, deeply wounded, and kind. Moreover, Emily's conscious behavior is reflected in her desire for a wedding. Meanwhile, her unconscious mind is reflected through her core issues of fear of abandonment, low self-esteem, her denial, and trauma, which unconsciously shape her behavior in the film. Therefore, Emily's desire for a wedding is not merely romantic but functions as a psychological anchor to betrayal and loss.

Keywords: *Corpse Bride, Denial, Fear of Abandonment, Low Self-Esteem, Trauma*

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Penelitian ini mengkaji karakter Emily dalam film animasi karya Tim Burton, *Corpse Bride* (2005). Tampaknya, Emily pada awalnya digambarkan sebagai pengantin mayat yang menyeramkan, di mana penampilannya mencerminkan asal mula trauma yang dialaminya, karena ia dikhianati dan dibunuh sebelum hari pernikahannya. Namun, sepanjang film, ditemukan bahwa Emily memiliki karakteristik yang sangat terluka dan baik hati. Karakteristik ini mengungkapkan bagaimana pengalaman traumatis Emily memengaruhi emosi, perilakunya, dan membentuk keinginannya untuk menikah sepanjang film.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi karakteristik Emily dan menganalisis bagaimana masalah inti, penyangkalan, dan trauma yang dialaminya tercermin dalam karakteristiknya. Selain itu, penelitian ini menganalisis masalah inti Emily, seperti rasa takut ditinggalkan dan harga diri yang rendah, serta bagaimana masalah-masalah inti ini berkontribusi pada keputusasaannya untuk menikah sebagai bentuk jangkar psikologis.

Penelitian ini juga meneliti penyangkalan Emily sebagai mekanisme pertahanan untuk melindunginya dari kenyataan yang menyakitkan. Lebih lanjut, penelitian ini menganalisis trauma Emily secara mendetail untuk mengungkap keputusasaannya untuk menikah.

Metode penelitian kualitatif perpustakaan diterapkan dalam penelitian ini. Sumber utama penelitian ini adalah film animasi Tim Burton, *Corpse Bride* (2005), sedangkan sumber sekunder terdiri dari buku dan artikel jurnal yang berkaitan dengan teori psikoanalitik dan studi film. Terdapat tujuh teori yang diterapkan dalam penelitian ini, termasuk teori karakterisasi, teori elemen film, teori animasi film, dan psikoanalitik.

Keywords: *Corpse Bride, Denial, Fear of Abandonment, Low Self-Esteem, Trauma*