



PLOT IN JUSTIN LIN'S *THE FATE OF THE FURIOUS* MOVIE

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Abstract:

The research, titled "Plot in Justin Lin's The Fate of The Furious," aims to explore how the plot is developed in the movie "The Fate of The Furious" directed by Justin Lin and identify the components of the plot structure present in the film. The study utilizes Freytag's plot methods (1863) as its theoretical framework. The research methodology involves determining the data sources, collecting data, and analyzing the data based on Freytag's methods. The data are classified according to these methods, and calculations are conducted to understand the presence and elements of the plot in "The Fate of The Furious." The theoretical foundation for analyzing the plot methods comprises the five steps outlined by Freytag in his book "An Exposition of Dramatic Composition and Art." This theoretical framework is applied to scrutinize the movie, considering both the dialogue and each scene. The findings reveal five essential steps in the plot structure: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement. These plot elements serve as a narrative framework for "The Fate of The Furious," shaping the events, conflicts, and resolutions that unfold throughout the film.

Key Terms: *Plot, movie, the fate of the furious*

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INTRODUCTION

Literary works serve as reflections of life, blending imagination and creativity with the experiences and observations of life. They encompass two key aspects: form and content. The form pertains to literary objects, reflecting human life experiences and societal perspectives (Djojuroto, 2006). People engage with books and literature, finding enjoyment in comedy and tragedy stories, and potentially growing through their literary journeys. Literature, as Teeuw (1988:35) notes, mirrors "life," predominantly social reality, while also incorporating elements of the natural and inner worlds.

The development of literary works takes various forms, such as novels, drama, poetry, and short stories (Waluyo, 2001:15). Genres, categorized by their form, style, or subject matter, include comedy, romance, tragedy, and satire (Abram, 1971:68). Literary works often draw themes from real-life reflections, creating meaning in both form and content. Hudson (1958:10) emphasizes that every literary work, regardless of form, carries a meaningful expression of life, offering readers' pleasure, excitement, understanding, and new perspectives.

Literature is bifurcated into fiction and non-fiction. Fiction, encompassing narratives like novels, short stories, and drama, relies on the author's imagination rather than historical facts (Sumarjo and Saini in Bahun, 2014:1). Non-fiction, as factual reporting, may incorporate elements of fiction for interest but remains rooted in actual or realistic events (Taringan in Bahun, 2014:1). Fiction, often referred to as prose fiction, shares a category with movies, which Taylor (1981:21) describes as extended prose fiction narratives with a central plot.

Movies, considered works of art and culture, function as mass media for auditory and visual communication, employing cinematographic principles (Arsyad, 2003:45). Films, distinct from literary arts, heavily rely on technology for production and exhibition (Baskin, 2003:15). The elements shaping movies, including plot, setting, point of view, style, character, and theme, collectively influence their content. The researcher's interest lies in analyzing English movies, particularly focusing on Justin Lin's "The Fate of The Furious." This movie, recognized as America's best in 2017, presents a unique arrangement of events with a causal relationship of conflicts, providing a captivating exploration of real-life conditions through cinematic storytelling.

METHODS

The methodology serves as a critical phase in the research analysis, contributing to the essence of the study. This paper delineates the research methods into distinct components: identification of the data source, the data collection process, and the subsequent data analysis. Each of these steps is explicated as follows:

Data Source

The determination of the data source hinges on an understanding of the research type. This qualitative study, centering on the violation of conversational maxims, draws its data from the cinematic production "The Fate of The Furious." Employed extensively in the social sciences, qualitative research delves into the exploration of social interactions, systems, and processes. The chosen movie, Justin Lin's "The Fate of The Furious" (2017), serves as a rich substrate for acquiring an in-depth comprehension of how individuals perceive, behave, and navigate their day-to-day circumstances within a specific context.

Data Collection

The observational method constitutes the approach employed for data collection. This involves a systematic process: initially, a comprehensive viewing of the movie, accompanied by the documentation of pertinent statements relevant to the research topic. Subsequently, the aggregation of these statements facilitates the structuring of events within the narrative.

Data Analysis

The qualitative method guides the analysis of the collected data, a pivotal component of the scientific method that imparts significance and utility to address research quandaries. Building on Tukey's (1977) endorsement of graphical techniques like box plots and stem-and-leaf plots for visual data exploration, pattern identification, and hypothesis generation, this study adopts a descriptive qualitative analysis approach. This methodology not only processes and presents the acquired data but also conducts a nuanced qualitative analysis. The integration of obtained data with existing literature and prepared datasets ensures a comprehensive and cohesive analytical framework.

FINDINGS

Gustav Freytag (1863) considered plot as narrative structure that divides a story into five parts, like the five acts of a play. These parts are: exposition (of the situation), rising action (through conflict), climax (or turning point), falling action; and resolution. These are the following definition of plot elements:

Exposition

The first part of a plot is the exposition. Every story must have a beginning. Exposition is where the characters and setting are established. During this part of the movie, the conflict or main problem is also introduced. The exposition is the beginning of the story and it is the place where the characters are introduced to the reader.

Girl: Dom. Dom. It's your cousin. He's in trouble. Come on!

Raldo: You know I can't make a living without my car.

Dom: Not my problem, bro.

Raldo: Dominic Toretto, I heard about you. Welcome to my island.

The Fate of the Furious (00:04:35-00:04:47)

The scene takes place in Havana, Cuba, where Dom and Letty (Dominic's wife) are enjoying their honeymoon. Dom, known for his exceptional driving skills and love for fast cars, comes across Raldo, a talented local street racer. Raldo is a respected figure in the Havana racing scene and is known for his flashy driving style.

Dom's curiosity piqued, he approaches Raldo and engages in a friendly conversation. They discuss their shared passion for cars, showcasing their mutual respect for the art of street racing. During their conversation, Dom learns that Raldo races to support his family, much like Dom's own commitment to his "family" of friends and loved ones. According to Freytag, exposition phase the audience learns about the characters' identities, relationships, motivations, and relevant background information. It often includes the presentation of the central conflict or dilemma that will drive the plot forward. The exposition can take various forms, such as dialogue, narration, or visual cues, depending on the medium of the story.

Chiper: Oh, this is a very different game that I can assure you. This...There's something much greater at work here. This is fate.

Dom: I choose to make my own fate.

Chiper: I put a lot of work into getting you here today.

Dom: Well, now that I'm here, what do you want?

Chiper: I want you to work for me.

Dom: Work for you?

Chiper: Oh, I could've saved you a lot of time, then. See, I don't work for anyone. You can't walk away from this, Dom, you're gonna want to work for me. You're gonna betray your brothers, abandon your code, and shatter your family. You see, your team is about to go up against the only thing they can't handle.

Dom: What's that?

Chiper: You

The Fate of the Furious (00:14:36:35-00:15:29)

Dom glanced at Chiper, a mixture of surprise and skepticism crossing his face. He had grown accustomed to being the one in control, making his own decisions and calling the shots. The idea of working for someone else didn't sit well with him. He couldn't deny the appeal of having more resources at his disposal, but he also didn't want to compromise his principles or become beholden to someone else's agenda.

He was hesitant to relinquish his independence, he also couldn't deny the potential of their partnership, and with that, they continued on their journey, aware that the decision to work together or remain independent rested in Dom's hands. Their paths remained intertwined, their shared experiences forging a connection that would shape the course of their future endeavors.

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Hobbs: Hey, Dom.

Dom: Hey, Hobbs.

Hobbs: I got a job in Berlin and I need a favor, brother.

Dom: No problem. I'll grab the team and meet you in Berlin.

Hobbs: Thanks, man. I'll see you soon.

The Fate of the Furious (00:20:06 – 00:20:15)

Hobbs informs Dom that he has a job in Berlin and asks for a favor, indicating that he needs assistance with the task at hand. Dom agrees to help without any hesitation, assuring Hobbs that he will gather their team and meet him in Berlin.

This exchange showcases the close bond between Hobbs and Dom, who are both central characters in the "Fast & Furious" film series. They are portrayed as being like brothers, willing to support and help each other no matter the circumstances. The "Fast & Furious" franchise is known for its action-packed and adrenaline-fueled sequences involving cars, heists, and high-stakes missions.

This is one of exposition part in this movie. According to Freytag's dramatic structure, the exposition phase is where the audience is introduced to the characters, their relationships, motivations, and relevant background information. It sets the stage for the story and provides the necessary context for the events that will unfold. Additionally, this dialogue sets up the plot by indicating that the story will involve a mission or task in Berlin, creating anticipation for the action and events that will take place. The exchange between Hobbs and Dom serves as an exposition, providing crucial information to the audience about the characters and their current situation.

The movie begins by introducing the audience to the central characters of the franchise, including Dominic Toretto and his team, known as the "Fast Family." It establishes their close-knit bond and their expertise in high-stakes driving and heists. Under Cipher's control, Dom turns against his family and allies, causing tension and confusion among the team. The remaining members must team up with intelligence operative to stop Cipher and bring Dom back. The exposition further establishes Dom's love for Letty and their relationship, highlighting their strong bond. It also sets the stage for their upcoming wedding and the peaceful life they have built together. However, the exposition takes a turn when Dom unexpectedly turns against his team and partners with a cyber-terrorist named Cipher.

Rising Action

It starts with the death of the characters or a conflict. In this next section, the reader has the opportunity to see where the problem or conflict arises within the story as well as the tension that is a direct result of the conflict, which includes the motivation as well as obstacles of each of the main characters in the story.

Hobbs: You lost your goddamn mind, Toretto? Toretto, you put hands on that thing, you're gonna have the whole world gun for you, including me. I don't know what you're doing, but you better think about this, Toretto. It ain't too late to stop this.

The Fate of the Furious (00:23:17 – 00:23:43)

Dom becomes the central conflict and drives the rising action. His actions confuse and shock his former crew, leading to a sense of mistrust and urgency to understand his motives. Cipher continues to manipulate Dom, exploiting his weaknesses and forcing him to carry out her malicious plans. She holds leverage over him and poses a constant threat to his loved ones, adding to the escalating tension. Dom's crew, along with Hobbs and Deckard Shaw, engage in a series of high-stakes missions to stop Cipher and unravel her grand scheme. These missions involve intense car chases, daring stunts, and explosive action sequences, heightening the excitement and danger.

The dynamics within Dom's crew as they navigate their fractured loyalty and work to understand his actions. Tensions arise between team members, and alliances shift as they grapple with the consequences of Dom's betrayal. Throughout the rising action, the plot becomes increasingly complex, with new revelations, unexpected twists, and escalating challenges for the characters. It builds suspense and anticipation, setting the stage for the climactic moments that will determine the outcome of the story.

Chiper : 'Course I could've taken his car.
Dom : But it's about something bigger. This way... I changed him.
Chiper : That's not your responsibility.
Dom : But it's who I am. Is it?
Chiper : Let me ask you something, Dom. What's the best thing in your life?
Dom : Family.

The Fate of the Furious (00:31:20 – 00:31:39)

After the dialogue you mentioned, the rising action in "The Fate of the Furious" involves the introduction of a new character named Cipher, who becomes a major antagonist in the story. Cipher is a highly skilled cyberterrorist and hacker who manipulates Dom into working for her against his own team.

During their first encounter, Cipher approaches Dom and reveals compromising information about someone dear to him, coercing him into assisting her in her criminal activities. This creates a significant conflict within the story, as Dom is forced to betray his team, including Hobbs, whom he previously pledged to help in Berlin.

As Freytag said, rising action builds tension and increases the stakes as Cipher's plans unfold, leading to further conflicts and challenges for Dom and his team. It sets the stage for the subsequent action sequences, twists, and turns that drive the plot forward.

Hobbs: You okay?
Letty: That wasn't him. I don't know what she's got on him, but that wasn't
Dom
Hobbs: Brian would know what to do.
Letty: No! We can't bring Brian and Mia into this.
Hobbs: We agreed on that.
Letty: I know

The Fate of the Furious (00:31:20 – 00:31:39)

In the dialogue you provided, which appears to be from "The Fate of the Furious," there is a discussion about the character Dom's unusual behavior, the mention of Brian implies that he has a history of handling similar situations or providing guidance. This statement adds to the rising action by hinting at the need for Brian's perspective or involvement in addressing the current predicament.

"No! We can't bring Brian and Mia into this. We agreed on that. "This line further escalates the rising action by revealing that there is an agreement among the characters not to involve Brian and Mia (Dom's sister). The fact that this agreement is being challenged suggests that the situation has become serious or dangerous enough to consider breaking that agreement, adding tension and raising the stakes.

This dialogue contributes to the rising action by introducing a complication regarding Dom's behavior, highlighting the absence of Brian and Mia, and creating a sense of conflict as the characters grapple with the decision of whether to involve them. As Freytag said, rising action builds tension and increases the stakes as Cipher's plans unfold, leading to further conflicts and challenges for Dom and his team. It sets the stage for the subsequent action sequences, twists, and turns that drive the plot forward.

Climax

In the film "The Fate of the Furious," the climax can be considered the most exciting point and the turning point of the story. The climax is the moment of highest tension, where the conflicts and stakes reach their peak and the outcome of the story hangs in the balance. The climax in "The Fate of the Furious" is likely filled with thrilling action, suspenseful moments, and significant revelations that impact the characters and the overall plot. It is the turning point that propels the story towards its resolution and leaves a lasting impact on the audience.

*Chiper: You see these cameras in here? The moment you make a move, highly- paid men with weapon will make their way into this room with one very specific instruction. It's not to save me. It's to k*ll your son. Now, that's a lot of bullets, and it only takes one for you to lose everything. So, I have to ask you, because I know family is so important to you. Is that really a choice you want to make? Because I'm ready if you are. If I pull this trigger, and God knows I want to, if I killed everyone on this plane, I still couldn't get in there.*

The Fate of the Furious (00:52:37-00:54:01)

During this climax, Cipher reveals her leverage over Shaw by threatening the life of Shaw's son. She explains that highly skilled individuals are waiting with weapons to kill Shaw's son if he makes any hostile move. She emphasizes the gravity of the situation and the potential loss Shaw could face by defying her.

Cipher's monologue highlights the intense psychological pressure she places on Shaw, leveraging his love for his son and the importance of family. It creates a moment of extreme tension and conflict, forcing Shaw to confront a seemingly impossible choice. It adds to the high-stakes nature of the final confrontation between the heroes and Cipher.

According to Freytag's statement, climax can be considered the most exciting point and the turning point of the story. The climax is the moment of highest tension, where the conflicts and stakes reach their peak and the outcome of the story hangs in the balance.

Chiper: Look, psychotic, I did exactly what you asked me to do.

Dom: Don't do this.

Chiper: This is your doing.

Dom: My doing?

Son: Da-dada.

Dom: Please don't hurt him, I'm begging you.

Chiper: I don't want you to beg. I want you to learn.

Dom: Learn what?

Chiper: I understand why you did what you did.

Cipher is the main antagonist who orchestrates a series of events to manipulate Dominic Toretto and his crew. As for the specific reason why Cipher shoots Dom's girlfriend, Letty Ortiz, it is revealed as a significant plot twist and a pivotal moment in the storyline.

Dominic isn't able to escape, and Letty steals the briefcase from him: This event indicates a complication in the story. It shows that Dominic, the protagonist, is facing obstacles and is unable to fulfill his mission or objectives. Letty's actions introduce tension and raise questions about her motivations and loyalties. Cipher watches as Dominic hesitates to kill Letty. Dominic's hesitation to harm Letty, his wife, hints at his internal struggle and potential conflict between his loyalty to his team and his personal connections. Dominic rescues Elena, Cipher's prisoner. Dominic's act of saving Elena, who was under Cipher's control, highlights his compassion and willingness to defy Cipher's orders. It establishes a personal connection and potential conflict between Dominic and Cipher.

Cipher taunts Dominic with his child. Cipher's taunting of Dominic with his child amplifies the stakes and forces Dominic to confront the threat to his family. It deepens the conflict between Dominic and Cipher, intensifying the rising action. These events contribute to the rising action by introducing conflicts, deepening character dynamics, and increasing the tension and stakes in the story. They create a sense of anticipation and propel the narrative towards the climax, where the conflicts will be resolved. According to Freytag's theory, climax can be considered the most exciting point and the turning point of the story. The climax is the moment of highest tension, where the conflicts and stakes reach their peak and the outcome of the story hangs in the balance.

Falling Action

The falling action refers to the sequence of events that occur after the climax and lead to the resolution of the story. It is the phase where the tension and conflicts begin to wind down, and loose ends are tied up.

Cipher: I'm gonna be there to hold them responsible. Because the truth is, Dom, to the world out there, I am the crocodile at the watering hole. We've got one last job to do.

Dom: Cipher, if I were you, I'd kiss my son. Because whether you value it or not, all of this, your plane, your security, and you, are still on this earth because of him

The Fate of the Furious (01:26:10-01:27:03)

The falling action happens when Dom's true motivations are revealed, and he reconciles with his team. They realize that he was forced into betraying them by Cipher's manipulation and forgive him, reestablishing their trust and unity. The falling action focuses on the efforts of Dom and his crew to defeat Cipher and put an end to her plans. They work together, utilizing their skills and resources to outsmart her and neutralize the threat she poses.

Deckard Shaw, previously a nemesis, aligns with the team to take down Cipher and seeks redemption for his past actions. The resolution of these personal conflicts contributes to the overall resolution of the story. Mr. Nobody and his team is revealed, and their roles in the larger narrative are clarified. Any remaining mysteries or unanswered questions are resolved during this phase.

The conflicts are resolved, and the characters find a sense of closure and fulfillment. The characters come out stronger, having overcome their challenges, and return to their respective lives with a renewed sense of purpose and unity. They return to their respective lives, having overcome their challenges, and the movie concludes on a note of resolution.

and unity. Furious provides a sense of resolution and closure, allowing the audience to witness the aftermath of the intense conflicts and the characters' journey towards restoration and redemption.

Denouement

The denouement refers to the final resolution of the story and the aftermath of the falling action. It is the phase where the remaining conflicts are fully resolved, loose ends are tied up, and the overall outcome of the narrative is revealed.

And I put two killers on your untraceable plane. You lost the minute you interrupted my honeymoon. Now guess who I'm coming for

The Fate of the Furious (01:57:19 - 01:58:47)

Dom's redemption and his reunification with his family. After the intense events of the movie, Dom is fully exonerated, and his loyalty to his crew is reaffirmed. He is able to reconcile with his wife Letty and their son, and they embrace as a family once again. Here is the part when all character defeat of the main antagonist, Cipher. With the combined efforts of Dom's team and the authorities, Cipher is apprehended and brought to justice for her crimes. This ensures that the threat she posed is neutralized, providing a sense of closure and safety for the characters.

The characters rebuilding their lives and moving forward. They reflect on the events that transpired, learn from their experiences, and seek a new sense of normalcy. The relationships among the characters are strengthened, and they find a renewed purpose in their lives. It may introduce new characters or tease upcoming conflicts, leaving the audience with a sense of anticipation for what may come next in the franchise. The denouement in "The Fate of the Furious" serves as the final resolution of the story, providing closure to the conflicts and character arcs. It offers a glimpse of the characters' lives after the intense events of the movie and sets the stage for potential future developments.

CONCLUSIONS

In the cinematic spectacle that is "The Fate of the Furious," the intricately woven plot revolves around the compelling narrative of Dominic Toretto's unexpected betrayal and the ensuing series of events orchestrated by the cunning cyberterrorist Cipher. The storyline, set against the backdrop of the "Fast & Furious" franchise's signature adrenaline-fueled car chases and heists, unfolds with a perfect blend of high-stakes missions, personal conflicts, and intense action sequences.

The exposition artfully introduces the audience to the familiar dynamics of Dom's loyal team and their unshakeable commitment to one another. Cipher, a formidable antagonist, is seamlessly woven into the narrative, setting the stage for the complexities that lie ahead. As the rising action unfolds, the audience is taken on a journey through a web of missions orchestrated by Cipher, the team's heart-wrenching realization of Dom's betrayal, and their relentless pursuit to bring him back into the fold. The climax, a zenith of intensity, features a gripping confrontation between Cipher and Dom's team as they strive to thwart her plans and resolve internal conflicts. The falling action gracefully guides the narrative into the aftermath of the climax, offering resolution to conflicts, the reconciliation of Dom and his team, and the decisive defeat of Cipher. This segment serves as a poignant reminder of the themes that underpin the "Fast & Furious" universe—family and loyalty. The denouement, the final brushstroke on this cinematic canvas, ties up loose ends, providing

closure for character arcs and subtly hinting at future events. It is a masterful conclusion that resonates with the overarching conflicts presented throughout the film.

In essence, the plot structure elements of "The Fate of the Furious" serve as an indispensable framework, shaping a narrative replete with events, conflicts, and resolutions. The film not only satisfies the craving for heart-pounding action but also reinforces the enduring themes of family and loyalty that define the essence of the "Fast & Furious" franchise.

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