

FRIENDSHIP AS REFLECTED IN *THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER* (2012) MOVIE: A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE



Compiled as one of the requirements for completing the Strata I Study Program at the Department of English School of Teacher Training and Education

by:

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ACCEPTANCE



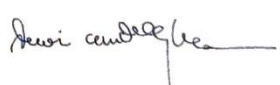
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GERALDIN MELANIA SEKARTAJI

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**FRIENDSHIP AS REFLECTED IN *THE PERKS OF BEING A
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Abstrak

Penelitian ini menyelidiki persahabatan sebagaimana digambarkan dalam film *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012). Teori persahabatan Aristoteles digunakan untuk menganalisis data. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi tipe-tipe persahabatan dalam film dan untuk menjelaskan bagaimana persahabatan digambarkan dalam film. Penelitian ini berjenis studi kepustakaan atau kritik sastra. Data-data penelitian disajikan dalam bentuk dialog, kutipan, tangkapan adegan, dan elemen struktural di antara para karakter. Data-data penelitian dikumpulkan menggunakan metode analisis dokumen. Data primer berasal dari film *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) yang disutradarai oleh Stephen Chbosky. Data sekunder berasal dari jurnal, skripsi, dan dokumen lainnya terkait dengan penelitian. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat tiga jenis persahabatan dalam film *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012), yaitu Persahabatan Kebaikan, Persahabatan Kesenangan, dan Persahabatan Keuntungan. Selain itu, hasil penelitian juga menunjukkan bahwa persahabatan dalam film *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) digambarkan melalui enam cara, yaitu melalui Tema, Penokohan, Latar, Peristiwa, Sudut Pandang, dan Suara.

Kata kunci : persahabatan, teori persahabatan Aristoteles, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*

Abstract

The present study deals with friendship as reflected in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie. Aristotle's theory of friendship was employed for analyzing the data. This study aims to identify the types of friendship in the work and to describe how friendship is depicted in the work. This study is a type of library research or literary criticism. The data are in the form of dialogues, quotes, scene captures, and structural elements between the characters. The data are collected using the document analysis method. The primary data sources come from *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie directed by Stephen Chbosky. The secondary data sources come from journals, theses, and other documents related to the study. The finding shows that there are three types of friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, namely Friendship of Goodness, Friendship of Pleasure, and Friendship of Utility. Furthermore, the finding also shows that the friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie is depicted in six ways, which are through Theme, Characterization, Setting, Event, Point of View, and Sound.

Keywords : friendship, friendship theory of Aristotle, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*

1. INTRODUCTION

The present study discusses friendship as reflected in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie. Friendship is valued in social skills due to its contribution to happiness. According to Demir et al. (2012), people with good social skills are more likely to have close friendships, which predict happiness. Furthermore, friendship is important from a sociological standpoint because it can help someone develop a more stable identity by cultivating a trusting and reciprocal relationship (Greco et al., 2015). Adolescence is a time when friendship is at its peak. According to Hafner (2009), Johnson (2004), & Larson (2001) as cited in Bagwell et al. (2015), teenagers spend the majority of their time with friends, such as meeting face-to-face, talking on the phone, and communicating via text message.

Stephen Chbosky belongs among the many writers whose work fosters friendships. Stephen Chbosky is a writer, screenwriter, and director. He was born in 1970 and is a citizen of the United States. He has been nominated for 22 movie awards and won nine of them.

Stephen Chbosky's *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* has received widespread praise. His work has piqued the public's interest since the publication of his novel in 1999 and the movie adaptation in 2012. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie grossed \$33.4 million worldwide on a \$13 million production budget. From 2012 to 2013, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie received numerous movie award nominations and won 19 of the 50. The IMDb website's 8/10 rating for *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie also demonstrates this.

The Perks of Being a Wallflower is a movie released in 2012 based on Stephen Chbosky's novel of the same title, published in 1999. Interestingly, this movie was directed by the novel's author, Stephen Chbosky, directly. The actors and actresses who appear in this movie are famous stars, among them are Logan Lerman who plays the main character—Charlie, Emma Watson who plays Sam, and Ezra Miller who plays Patrick.

This movie tells the story of a young man named Charlie who is about to begin his high school education. He was concerned because he believed he would be bullied by the seniors at his high school. Fortunately, he met two seniors (Sam and

Patrick) in his high school days and became close friends with them. He improved his social skills as a result of his friendship with them.

The issue, however, resurfaced after the two seniors graduated. Charlie is unable to find a peer who is a match for him. As a result, he re-experienced a period in which his trauma recurred to require him to stay in a mental hospital.

The study of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* is broadly divided into two parts, which are linguistics study and literary study. Some researchers examined *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* in linguistics studies. Atmaja (2013) discusses the meaning of modal auxiliary verbs. Saputra (2015) discusses prepositions. Kurniaty (2018) discusses women's language. Tenriuji et al. (2021) discuss the politeness element.

Besides that, the study of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* was also examined by some researchers in the field of literary study. Haryawan (2013) discusses the issue of identity construction and the media's role in the main character of the story. Pane & Murni (2015) discuss antihero characterizations. Octaviani & Saraswati (2016) discuss sublimation as the defense mechanism done by Charlie. Khotimah et al. (2017) discuss the correlation between Charlie's personality with his childhood life. Devina & Mustofa (2019) discuss the fear of abandonment of Charlie. Putri & Nurhamidah (2020) discuss the struggles of the main character toward anxiety and his defense mechanism. Kamilia & Ayu (2021) discuss the depression experienced by the main character.

The literary study on *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* was also conducted by some researchers in their theses. Dzikriya (2014) discusses ego defense mechanisms of Charlie. Febriantary (2015) discusses the post-traumatic growth experienced by Charlie. Austriani (2016) discusses Charlie's traumatic experience. Sari (2016) discusses the true meaning of the wallflower. Ayubrata (2016) discusses the post-traumatic stress disorder experienced by Charlie. Roy (2017) discusses the maturation process experienced by survivors of trauma. Zahmalia (2017) discusses the contributions of the minor characters to Charlie's character development. Turangan (2018) discusses pedophilia issues in the novels of *Lolita* and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*. Iljina (2019) discusses the development of the romantic

concept of self-destructive love and its realization in J. W. Goethe's novel *The Sorrows of Young Werther* (1774) and Stephen Chbosky's novel *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (1999). Utami (2019) discusses the anxiety experienced by Charlie. Dewi (2019) discusses the introverted personality of Charlie. Nurmalasari (2022) discusses the main character's coping with a traumatic experience. Wardani (2022) discusses the main character's traumatic childhood experience and how it shaped his personality.

Furthermore, the topic of friendship theme is also examined by some researchers in the field of literary study. Andewi (2013) discusses love and friendship reflected in *Ten Inch Hero* (2011) movie. Jamiati (2014) discusses love and friendship reflected in the novels *The Land of Five Towers* (2011), *The Rainbow Troops* (2009), and *Edensor* (2011). Pangestika (2018) discusses friendship reflected in *Looking for Alaska* (2005) novel. Sugiharti (2021) discusses the friendship depicted in *The Death Cure* (2011) novel.

These previous studies are relevant to the friendship theme and *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* in both the novel and the movie version. The study on *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* in the area of literary study has been widely discussed in the psychological approach, especially in the field of psychoanalysis. The psychoanalysis study on *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* discussed anxiety, sublimation, fear of abandonment, introversion, and personality disorder of the main character.

On the other hand, the study that discusses *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* from a sociological perspective, especially in the terms of friendship between supporting characters and the main character is still limited. Therefore, this study will analyze friendship which focuses not only on the lives of the main character but also on the lives of supporting characters.

In addition, sociology focuses on how a group can affect the people inside the group in the way they would think and behave (Ballantine et al., 2018). The ultimate goal of sociology is to understand how people shape society and society shapes people (Corrigall-Brown, 2019). On the other hand, literature differs from other types of writing in that it appeals to the reader's emotions, imagination, senses, and

intellects (Mays, 2018). Through literature, people are provided to understand other cultures (Berthoud, 2020). Then, the sociology of literature grows in a social environment and becomes part of a culture (Wellek & Warren, 1949). Sociology of literature emerges as a result of how literature affects the society in which it appears (Laurenson & Swingewood, 1972).

The sociology of literature is currently losing ground because sociologists see literary texts as passive objects to be translated into sociological discourse (Vána, 2020). Sociologists must ensure that their literary approach contributes an explanation of society or social facts (Lévy & Quemin, 2022). Then, it is necessary to understand how literature both inspires and reflects the individual's society (Lamba & Akhter, 2022).

Furthermore, the present study uses a theory of friendship as proposed by Aristotle in *The Nicomachean Ethics* (2020), which consists of the friendship of goodness, the friendship of pleasure, and the friendship of utility. The three types of friendship all share the same attachment and desire for the best for each other, but it all depends on what exactly they like about each other.

Based on these considerations, the writer wishes to examine the friendship between the main character and the supporting characters in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie using sociological approaches. This study aims to identify the types of friendship in the work and to describe how friendship is depicted in the work.

2. METHOD

This study is a type of library research or literary criticism. George (2008) states that library research is a type of structured inquiry that employs a set of tools, rules, and techniques. Klarer (2004) states that both text interpretation and text evaluation can be referred to as literary criticism. The data are in the form of dialogues, quotes, scene captures, and structural elements between the characters.

The data are collected using the document analysis method. This study also uses the technique of note-taking and image-capturing to collect the data. According to Bowen (2009), document analysis is a systematic procedure for reviewing or

evaluating documents, in which documents serve as the only source of data in the interpretive paradigm. The primary data sources come from *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie directed by Stephen Chbosky. The secondary data sources come from journals, theses, and other documents related to the study.

This study uses the qualitative method. According to Creswell (2014), qualitative research is a type of research where the finding is served in the form of tables, graphs, and figures that need to be interpreted by the researcher. According to Merriam & Tisdell (2016), the goal of qualitative data analysis is to make sense of the data collected by consolidating, reducing, and interpreting what the researchers see in the data. Furthermore, the study uses Aristotle's theory of friendship to describe the friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie.

In addition, according to Miles & Huberman (1994), the data analyzing process is conducted in three steps, which are data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. In data reduction, the writer reduces the data that has been collected related to the friendship between the main character and the supporting characters in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie based on a sociological approach and Aristotle's theory of friendship. In data display, the writer organizes the data that has been reduced into a research writing format. In the conclusion drawing, the writer concludes with the data that has been collected to answer the problem statement.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Types of Friendship

The writer analyzed the types of friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie using Aristotle's theory of friendship. There are three types of friendship found in the movie, namely Friendship of Goodness, Friendship of Pleasure, and Friendship of Utility.

3.1.1 Friendship of Goodness

Friendship of goodness is a sincere relationship that is done knowingly by each party, regardless of one's benefit. This friendship tends to be long-lasting. In *The*

Perks of Being a Wallflower (2012) movie, the friendship of goodness is shown back and forth between the main character, Charlie, and the supporting character. Friendship of goodness is shown by the character of Mr. Anderson toward the main character, Charlie, through an extra assignment of writing essays. He did this to get Charlie involved in social activities in his surroundings. Mr. Anderson's efforts were classified as a friendship of goodness because he simply desires Charlie to be more open and capable of participating in social activities. Mr. Anderson's efforts to persuade Charlie to participate in learning activities were also successful.



Figure 1. Charlie eventually braved participating in the learning by raising his hand in response to a question (scene at 01:20:30).

Furthermore, Mr. Anderson's efforts were also classified as a friendship of goodness because both parties were aware of each other's good intentions. Mr. Anderson does a good thing by assigning the extra assignment to Charlie that encourages him to be more socially active, and Charlie recognizes this as one of the efforts he can make to learn to socialize with his surroundings.

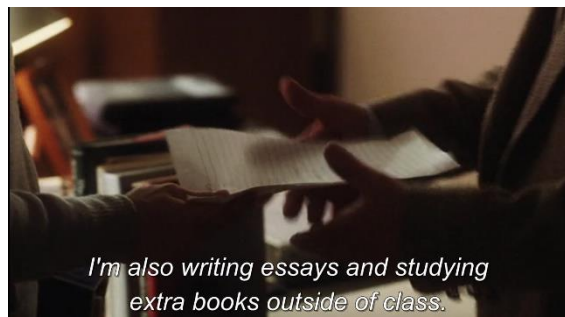


Figure 2. Charlie participated in Mr. Anderson's extra assignment (scene at 00:28:55).

Mr. Anderson and Charlie's friendship is also considered a friendship of goodness because it demonstrates a mutual sense of trust and comfort. Mr. Anderson had faith in Charlie's writing abilities, and Charlie felt at ease befriending Mr. Anderson because he thought he was the best teacher he had ever had. Furthermore, trust and comfort became the foundation of their long-lasting friendship.

Mr. Anderson : "So, uh Charlie... I was thinking maybe I could still give you books next year."
Charlie : "Yeah. Yeah."
Mr. Anderson : "I think you could write one of them one day."
Charlie : "Really?"
Mr. Anderson : "I do."
Charlie : "You're the best teacher I ever had."
Mr. Anderson : "Thank you."
(Dialogue at 01:21:04 – 01:21:25)

Furthermore, the friendship of goodness is also shown back and forth between the main character, Charlie, and the supporting character, Patrick and Sam. Charlie, Patrick, and Sam have a friendship of goodness because they openly accept Charlie to befriend them. Patrick and Sam, who are both talkative, are unbothered by Charlie's quiet character. They also introduced Charlie to their other friends, all of whom were seniors to Charlie, after learning that he had lost his only friend.

Sam (whispering) : "I need to talk to you. Charlie just told me that his best friend shot himself. I don't think he has any friends."
Patrick : "Everyone. Raise your glasses to Charlie."
Charlie : "What did I do?"
Patrick : "You didn't do anything. We just wanna toast to our new friend."
(Dialogue at 00:25:35 – 00:26:07)

Charlie's friendship with Sam is classified as a friendship of goodness because it demonstrates Charlie's willingness to remain friends with Sam despite her dark past. Instead of being annoyed by Sam's childhood sexual abuse, Charlie encouraged her. This shows Charlie's friendship with Sam is based on her true self. Sam also shows her trust in Charlie as a friend by telling him about her past.

Sam : “You know Charlie, I used to sleep with guys who treated me like shit. And get wasted all the time. But now... I feel like I have a chance. I could even get into a real college.”

Charlie : “It’s true. You can do it.”

(Dialogue at 00:45:24 – 00:45:40)

Charlie also demonstrated friendship of goodness by listening to Patrick’s complaints after he broke up with his same-sex boyfriend. Charlie shows his concern for his best friend by patiently listening to all of his complaints. He wanted to cheer up his best friend by listening to his problems.



Figure 3. Patrick told about his breakup with Brad to Charlie (scene at 01:18:01).

Charlie’s friendship with Patrick and Sam is considered a friendship of goodness because Patrick and Sam can play with Charlie during their college vacation time. This demonstrates that their friendship endures and remains a priority, although they are no longer in the same school.



Figure 4. Patrick and Sam, who had already graduated from high school, took Charlie out to play during their vacation time (scene at 01:36:04).

3.1.2 Friendship of Pleasure

Friendship of pleasure is a relationship based on the similarities in their interests, as long as they get pleasure from it. In *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, the friendship of pleasure is shown back and forth between the main character, Charlie, and the supporting character.

Patrick, Sam, and Charlie all enjoy music. They enjoy listening to music while driving and dancing to musical accompaniment. Patrick and Charlie were even recommended music by Sam. This demonstrates that their friendship of pleasure is based on a mutual interest in music.



Figure 5. Patrick, Sam, and Charlie danced to a song they liked (scene at 00:19:09).

Patrick and Sam, on the other hand, enjoy parties. They even invited Charlie and introduced the idea of a party to him. They engage in activities such as having fun with their partners, drinking, and using drugs at the party. Patrick and Sam had a good time with their partner at the party, whereas Charlie had a good time drinking and doing drugs. This demonstrates that their friendship of pleasure is based on a mutual interest in partying.

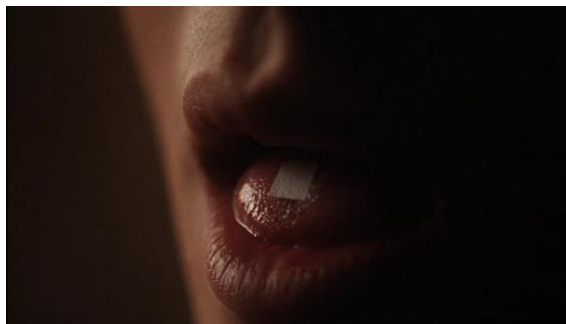


Figure 6. Charlie drank an LSD tab at the New Year's Eve party (scene at 00:50:34).

Patrick, Sam, and Charlie also have their own event. The event is known as Secret Santa, and it is one of Sam's favorite Christmas Eve activities. In Secret Santa, they must exchange gifts with each other and guess who sent the gift. They also compete to give their friend the best gift, even if the gift is quite expensive. Charlie also convinced his father to give him money so he could attend the event. This demonstrates that their friendship of pleasure is based on a mutual interest in gifts. Despite having to ask their parents for money, they did not mind giving their friend a fairly expensive gift.

Charlie : "Dad? Can I have 30 dollars?"

Father : "20 dollars? What do you want 10 dollars for?"

Charlie : "Sam is doing Secret Santa. It's her favorite thing in the world. Please."

Father : (Charlie's father reaches into his pocket and hands Charlie a bill. It's a fifty. Dad winks, in a great mood.) "Have fun."

Charlie : "Thanks."

(Dialogue at 00:38:33 – 00:38:47)

3.1.3 Friendship of Utility

Friendship of utility is a relationship where someone makes friends with others to gain benefit. In *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, the friendship of utility is shown back and forth between the main character, Charlie, and the supporting character.

Patrick warns Charlie not to tell anyone after Charlie unintentionally discovers Patrick's secret about his same-sex relationship with Brad. This demonstrates a friendship of utility because Patrick uses Charlie, his best friend, to keep his relationship a secret. Patrick believes that using Charlie, his best friend who is also a quiet person, his secret will be safer than if someone else discovers it.

Patrick : "Okay, Charlie, listen. I need you to promise that you're not going to say anything to anyone about me and Brad. This has to be our little secret."

Charlie : "Our little secret. Agreed."

Patrick : "Thank you. We'll talk later."

Charlie : "I look forward to that big talk."

(Dialogue at 00:24:53 – 00:25:18)

Sam struggled academically, failing to achieve the required SAT exam score for admission to her dream university. Charlie, on the other hand, is a brilliant student. Charlie then offered to assist Sam in preparing for the next SAT exam. Sam accepted Charlie's invitation to study with him. This demonstrates a friendship of utility because Sam uses the intelligence of Charlie, her best friend, to help her study SAT exam materials that she does not yet understand.

Sam : *"Yeah. Yeah. But I got my SAT results back. Oops."*
Charlie : *"You can take them again."*
Sam : *"Yeah, it's just if I'm going to Penn State main campus, I have to do much better. I wish I would have studied freshman year. I was a bit of a mess."*
Charlie : *"I'll help you study for the next one."*
Sam : *"Will you?"*
Charlie : *"Yeah, of course."*
Sam : *"Thanks, Charlie."*
(Dialogue at 00:33:42 – 00:34:13)

Charlie, on the other hand, adores Sam. He saw a chance to spend time with Sam by teaching her SAT exam materials. As a result, he offered to tutor Sam. This demonstrates a friendship of utility because Charlie uses Sam, his dream girl, to spend time together.

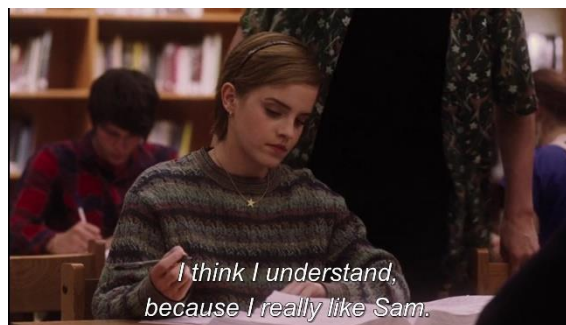


Figure 7. Charlie admitted that he does like Sam (scene at 00:30:45).

3.2 The Depiction of Friendship

The friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie is depicted in six ways, which are through Theme, Characterization, Setting, Event, Point of View, and Sound.

3.2.1 Theme

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through the theme used in the movie. The movie's theme is centered on Charlie's high school friendship with his senior. Furthermore, friendship is a central theme in this movie because the characters rely on it to feel better.

3.2.2 Characterization

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through characters who are described as gloomy and bubbly. The characters require each other's friendship for the gloomy character to feel better and the bubbly character to get through difficult times.

3.2.2.1 The Gloomy Character

The main character in this movie is Charlie Kelmeckis. Charlie's character is not created as the main character with prominent characteristics; rather, Charlie's character is depicted as having a variety of flaws. One of Charlie's flaws is his inability to socialize with his classmates. Charlie is depicted as a loner who only stares at his friends instead of talking with them.



Figure 8. Charlie was alone at the homecoming party (scene at 00:17:14).

Charlie is portrayed as a frail man as well. This is exemplified by his fight with his friends after not seeing them for two weeks. He also had the feeling that traumatic events from his past were returning to haunt him.

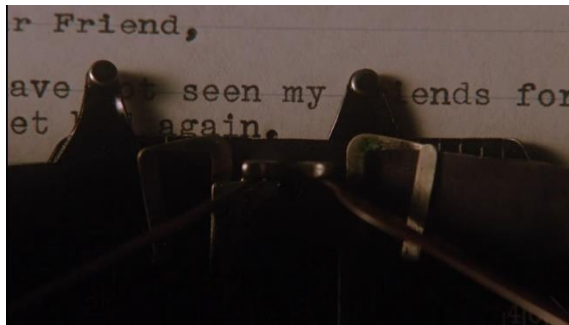


Figure 9. Charlie typed, “*Dear friend, I have not seen my friends for 2 weeks now. I am starting to get bad again.*” (scene at 01:08:16).

3.2.2.2 The Bubbly Character

3.2.2.2.1 Patrick

Patrick was the first senior to make contact with Charlie. Patrick is depicted as a cheerful and sociable character. He can lighten the mood in the classroom by making jokes about the instructor.

Patrick is a gregarious character with a large circle of friends. Despite his apparent shyness at the start of their meeting, Patrick manages to make friends with Charlie. In addition, he introduced Charlie to his peers (Charlie’s seniors).

Patrick is depicted as gay, as well as cheerful and sociable. He is dating Brad, a high school football player. Unfortunately, because Brad’s parents were against it, their relationship had to be kept hidden. Until Brad’s father finds out and orders them to separate.

Patrick : “Yeah, I’ve got one. Well, there was this one guy. Queer as a 3-dollar bill. Guy’s father didn’t know about his son. So, he comes down into the basement one night when he’s supposed to be out of town. Catches his son with another boy. So, he starts beating him. But not like the slap kind. Like the real kind. And the boyfriend says, “Stop. You’re killing him.” And the son just yells, “Get out.” And eventually, the boyfriend just did.”

(Dialogue at 00:16:51 – 00:17:39)

3.2.2.2.2 Sam

Sam is Patrick's step-sister. She is the second senior to become acquainted with Charlie. Sam is portrayed as a lovely young lady with a musical ear. Sam frequently tells her friends about her favorite songs.

Sam is also depicted as someone who cares about her friends. Sam demonstrated this by making a milkshake for a stoned Charlie and listening to his babbling.

Sam is also depicted as a generous individual. She thanks Charlie for his assistance in studying for the university entrance examination materials by giving him a typewriter.



Figure 10. The typewriter Sam gave to Charlie (scene at 00:43:39).

3.2.3 Setting

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through the setting of place and setting of time used in the movie. Several places such as The King Restaurant, the tunnel, and the high school canteen are special places for the characters in this movie because they spent so much time together there.

3.2.3.1 Football Competition

Charlie and Patrick met by chance at a football game. Charlie, who had arrived by himself, attempted to approach and greet Patrick. Furthermore, Charlie had direct contact with Sam.

3.2.3.2 The King Restaurant

Charlie, Patrick, and Sam are regulars at The King Restaurant. They used to gather there to talk, study, and even hold reunions.



Figure 11. The first day they know each other (scene at 00:14:00).

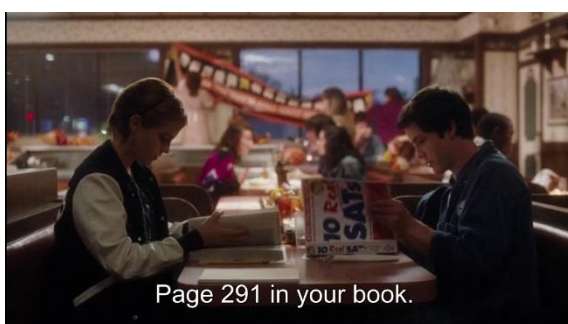


Figure 12. Charlie helped Sam to prepare for her SAT exam (scene at 00:38:10).



Figure 13. Charlie, Patrick, and Sam met again after some time and decided to go to The King Restaurant (scene at 01:36:11).

3.2.3.3 Bob's House

After attending a homecoming party, Patrick and Sam invite Charlie to a party at the home of one of their friends, Bob. When they arrived, Bob's house was already crowded with other friends. Charlie also met the other seniors there.

3.2.3.4 Tunnel

Charlie, Patrick, and Sam all remember the tunnel fondly. They went twice through the tunnel. When they crossed the tunnel for the first time, they had only recently become acquainted. They were driving through this tunnel while listening to one of Sam's favorite songs. Sam stood up in the back of the car, her hands spread, not wanting to miss the moment.



Figure 14. The first time they went through the tunnel (scene at 00:27:32).

They played the same song they had heard the first time they crossed the tunnel. Charlie smiled and raised his hands in the back of the car as Patrick and Sam screamed.



Figure 15. The second time they went through the tunnel (scene at 01:38:25).

3.2.3.5 Secret Santa

Secret Santa is Sam's favorite pre-Christmas activity. They exchange gifts anonymously and try to figure out who sent them the gift in this activity.

3.2.3.6 The Rocky Horror Picture Show

Charlie originally came to watch his friends' show. Charlie was asked to take the place of one of the performers who were unable to attend. Charlie's

performance that night astounded the audience, who applauded and cheered loudly.

3.2.3.7 The High School Canteen

Charlie's favorite hangout with his friends is in the high school canteen. They frequently get together for lunch and talk about a variety of topics.



Figure 16. Charlie and his friends gathered during lunchtime (scene at 01:19:27).

3.2.3.8 Charlie Senior's Graduation

Charlie's friends, all of whom were seniors, graduated from high school. They also took Charlie to take pictures with them at their graduation.

3.2.4 Event

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through several key events in the movie, such as Mr. Anderson's English class, the confession of each secret, and Patrick's bullying. These friendships play an important role in the lives of several characters in the movie, such as making the best friend more active in social life, accepting the friend regardless of their secret, and protecting their best friend from bullying.

3.2.4.1 Mr. Anderson's English Class

On the first day of Charlie's high school, he met Mr. Anderson who teaches English in his class. Mr. Anderson recognized Charlie because he was able to answer his questions which cannot be answered by the other students in his class. Unfortunately, Charlie was too shy to answer the questions orally and wrote the answer in his notebook instead. Later on, Mr. Anderson urged Charlie to be active during learning activities.

Mr. Anderson also suggested that Charlie make one friend during his first day of high school to help him feel better. In response to Mr. Anderson's appeal, Charlie stated that he was fine.

Mr. Anderson : *"So, I heard you had a tough time last year. But they say if you make one friend on your first day, you're doing okay."*

Charlie : *"Thank you, sir, but if my English teacher is the only friend I make today, that would be sort of depressing."*

Mr. Anderson : *"Yeah. I could see that."*

Charlie : *"Don't worry, Mr. Anderson. I'm okay."*

(Dialogue at 00:07:07 – 00:07:24)

Charlie gained confidence in carrying out his daily activities after making friends with Patrick and Sam. Charlie's participation in Mr. Anderson's extra essay writing assignment demonstrated his confidence. Charlie has improved because he was previously hesitant to answer the teacher's questions.

Charlie's consistency in writing his essays drew Mr. Anderson's attention even more. He also gave Charlie a copy of his favorite book from his adolescence.

Moreover, Mr. Anderson said that he would still give Charlie a new book the following year. He also added that Charlie could write a book in the future.

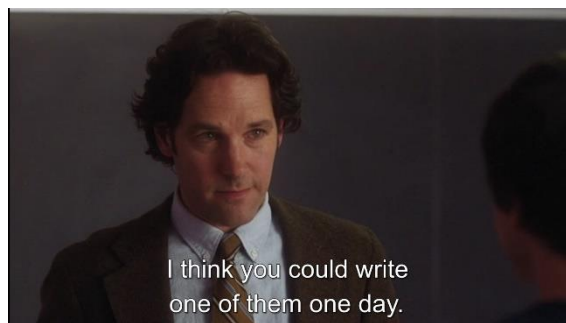


Figure 17. Mr. Anderson believed in Charlie's writing skills (scene at 01:21:14).

3.2.4.2 The Confession of Each Secret

Charlie, Patrick, and Sam all keep a secret close to their chest. Charlie is a loner, Sam was sexually abused as a child, and Patrick is in a same-sex relationship.

Charlie had a friend named Michael before meeting Patrick and Sam. Charlie had never revealed Michael's identity to his friends. This is because Michael committed suicide by shooting himself. Before his death, he also left no letters or notes for Charlie. Charlie told Sam about Michael's death when he was drunk at the party.

Patrick, on the other hand, has his secret. He is in a same-sex relationship with Brad, a high school football player. Brad refused to make their relationship public, so it had to be kept private.

Sam, on the other hand, keeps her childhood sexual abuse a secret. She was even surprised that she could attend college despite her circumstances. She told Charlie about it when no one else was around.

All of their dark secrets did not prevent them from befriending each other; in fact, it was precisely this that drew them together in the circle of friendship.

3.2.4.3 Patrick's Bullying

Brad's father meets Patrick, Brad's same-sex partner, for the first time. Brad's father is opposed to their relationship, which hurts Brad's face. Patrick and Brad's relationship had to come to an end.

After their relationship ended, Patrick and Brad avoided each other. If they happen to cross paths, one of them chooses to go the other way. Until Brad's friend saw Patrick passing by in the canteen one day and purposefully tripped Patrick's leg, causing him to fall.

Patrick approached Brad in the hopes of defending him after being offended by his friend's action. Instead of supporting Patrick, Brad encouraged his friend to mock him.



Figure 18. Brad called Patrick a faggot (scene at 01:11:23).

Patrick, enraged by what he had just heard, confronted Brad angrily. At this point, the two of them began to argue.



Figure 19. Patrick and Brad got into a fight (scene at 01:11:28).



Figure 20. Brad's friend slapped and punched Patrick (scene at 01:11:58).

Charlie approached Brad's two friends and struck them. He was astounded by his bravery. Then, he warned the seniors to stay away from Patrick because he is his friend and he will protect him.



Figure 21. Charlie warned the seniors to stay away from his friends (scene at 01:12:39).

3.2.5 Point of View

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through the point of view used in the movie. *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie is told in the first person. The audience can learn about the main character's perception of the friendship he shares with his friends from this point of view. Charlie's perspective is used to tell the story. In the movie, Charlie frequently expresses his feelings about someone or something.

3.2.6 Sound

The director of *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* movie indicated friendship through the song or sound used in the movie. As with Michael Brooks' song *Charlie's Last Letter* which is used in this movie. The director uses sound to convey the main character's heart to his story with his friends through the lyrics of a song. At the end of the movie, Charlie narrates the lyrics of this song. Charlie's condition before and after meeting with his best friends is described in the lyrics.

3.3 Discussion

3.3.1 Types of Friendship

The present study discovered three types of friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, namely Friendship of Goodness, Friendship of Pleasure, and Friendship of Utility. The present study supports Aristotle's theory of friendship (2020).

The finding of the present study on friendship types is consistent with those of Andewi (2013) and Pangestika (2018). The writer assumes they are compatible because they used the same theory to analyze the data (i.e., Aristotle's theory of friendship).

3.3.2 The Depiction of Friendship

The present study discovered six ways in which the director depicted friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, namely in Theme, Characterization, Setting, Event, Point of View, and Sound.

The depiction of friendship in the present study contradicts the findings of Jamiati (2014) and Sugiharti (2021). Jamiati (2014) discovered friendship

depicted in three ways: theme, setting, and characterization. Meanwhile, Sugiharti (2021) discovered friendship depicted in three ways: characters, events, and styles. The writer believes the distinction in findings is due to the different objects of the study. Jamiati (2014) used three novels: *The Land of Five Towers* (2011), *The Rainbow Troops* (2009), and *Edensor* (2011). Meanwhile, Sugiharti (2021) used *The Death Cure* (2011) novel.

4. CLOSING

From the finding, it can be concluded that there are three types of friendship found in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie, namely Friendship of Goodness, Friendship of Pleasure, and Friendship of Utility.

Furthermore, the finding also concluded that the friendship in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie is depicted in six ways, which are through Theme, Characterization, Setting, Event, Point of View, and Sound.

The writer advises future researchers who want to study *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie to try a different topic than previous studies. The research's topic could be romance, bullying, or homosexuality.

The writer also hopes that the present study will shed light on the friendship issues depicted in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012) movie for its viewers. The writer also hopes that movie viewers will be able to grasp the movie's essence.

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