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RESEARCH

I Am Juan Pedro, Case Study of the Gambler's Script Adapted By Rachman Sabur

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Abstrak

Pertunjukan teater merupakan kerja kolektif berbagai pihak. Aktor memerankan tokoh berdasarkan penafsiran dari naskah lakon. Penelitian ini penting dilakukan karena berfokus pada keadaan saat ini, dimana sudah banyak perubahan yang mempengaruhi hasilnya. Terutama kondisi waktu dan tempatnya berbeda. *The Gamblers* menceritakan tentang seorang gambler ulung, yang selalu menang dalam permainan-nya. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini yaitu kualitatif deskriptif. Tokoh Pedro dianalisis secara detail dalam naskah. Observasi tokoh Pedro dengan melakukan pencarian contoh model dan menyelaraskan semua aspek, diantaranya setting tempat, waktu, penempatan tokoh dan latar sehingga sesuai dengan kehidupan nyata saat ini. Penulis menonton dokumentasi naskah *The Gamblers* di *youtube*, menonton pertunjukan teater secara langsung dan beberapa film. Hasil penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa tokoh utamanya pada naskah ini adalah Pedro, seorang yang cerdik dengan aksen Spanyol. *The Gamblers* terdiri dari satu babak. Menceritakan tentang penipuan, kecurangan, dan perebutan harta yang dikemas menggunakan unsur komedi.

Keyword:
Juan Pedro, the Gamblers, Acting, Adaptation

Abstract

Theatrical performances are collective work of various parties. Actors play characters based on the interpretation of the play script. This research is important because it focuses on the current situation, where many changes have affected the results, particularly the different time and place conditions. The Gamblers tells the story of a skilled gambler, who always wins in his game. The method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. The character Pedro is analyzed in detail in the script. Observation of the character Pedro by searching for model examples and aligning all aspects, including the setting of the place, time, placement of characters and background so that they are in accordance with real life today. The author watched the documentation of The Gamblers script on YouTube, watched live theater performances and several films. The results of this study indicate that the main character in this script is Pedro, a clever person with a Spanish accent. The Gamblers consists of one act. Tells about fraud, cheating, and the struggle for wealth packaged using comedy elements.

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INTRODUCTION

Acting is closely related to the art of acting. All activities in the form of dialogue, improvisation, or behavior carried out by the actor while playing a role are acting. The actor must be able to convince the audience that what the actor is doing is real acting. Theater and film acting are not different or differentiated, even by Stanislavski himself (Susandro & H, 2023). Acting is an activity that tells a story through the actions of an actor, or what we usually call an actor. The actor imitates a character he plays in terms of pronunciation and movement. Acting involves various skills such as imagination, body language, emotion, improvisation, and voice. Some acting skills are related to music. For example, voice language, voice projection, voice power, articulation, intonation, and voice volume. This shows that music and acting function as a medium of communication and self-expression (Phetorant, 2024). In addition, before starting all acting training methods, actors must also have the skills to observe and research to support their acting. This involves a deep understanding of the character they are playing (Warsana & Pauhrizi, 2024).

The Gamblers play originally written by Nikolai Gogol and adapted by Rachman Sabur, which in Russian is Игроки (read Igroki), which means players, is one of the comedy plays. The Gamblers was staged in Moscow on February 5, 1843, at Shchepkin's charity performance, on the same night as The Marriage. Gogol considered the whole world to be a game for the characters he created and also referred to the direction where each character in the story considered themselves the winners at the end of the story. Gogol wrote this script

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at a time when the imperial landscape in Russia was very strict, so Gogol created his satirical work to present the conditions at that time.

One of the problems of life that is always relevant in this era is fraud. Fraud is very rampant, especially in the era of the Internet of Things (IoT), which is generally targeted by those who are not familiar with technology, especially in old age. Many people of old age have not been able to keep up with the very rapid development of technology today. The objects that trigger fraud are very diverse, such as personal needs, and are mostly caused by poverty (material).

The conflict play that is highlighted is the deception by each character. Deception in this theater play is interpreted as "comedy." Comedy is usually a light drama that exaggerates the action, situation, language, and character (Lestari & Yuniawan, 2021). A comedy play is not just an empty joke but must be able to open the audience's eyes to the deeper realities of everyday life. This script reveals the purpose of each character, which is the same, namely to deceive for personal needs, but with different characters in each character. It begins with the news that Juan Pedro, who is none other than a great gambler, has just won big with a profit of 800 million. This news was heard by a gang of gamblers who were also con artists, including Nona Meymey, Raam Hotahot, Tobing, Wan Abab, Paimin, and Wan Antum. Based on the literature above, this study complements previous research on Pedro's acting, especially on the script adapted by Sabur.

METHOD

The method used by the author in the research process is a descriptive qualitative method, where this method is carried out by observation through in-depth observation, starting from dissecting and analyzing various aspects of the script in detail. In addition, the Stanislavsky acting method supports the analysis of acting roles. Observation of the character Pedro by searching for model examples and aligning all aspects, including the setting of place, time, placement of characters, and backgrounds so that they are in accordance with real life today. The author watched the documentation of The Gamblers script on YouTube, watched live theater performances, and watched several films to take the relativity between model examples and the character Pedro and to find out the relativity of the conflict that occurred**.**

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Juan Pedro

Self-knowledge is a fundamental concept for becoming an actor. Actors interpret and bring to life characters beyond themselves (Benedetti, 2004). Pedro is physically interpreted as having straight brown hair in a man bun style. His eyes are light brown, with a height of 170 cm and a weight of 70 kg. His face shape is oval, and he has a mustache and a tan skin color.

Pedro is a scholar; he completed his undergraduate studies in international relations. However, instead of focusing on working according to his education, he made gambling a means to expand his relations so that his business could grow. Pedro's attitude is also very polite and respectful of others even though he just met them. This is evident in the following dialogue:

Pedro: Hey! Junior!
Miss Meymey: Nice to meet you….
Wan Antum: Wan Antum!
Raam Hotahot: You are so dashing! Just like your father!
Pedro: Mr. Wan Antum, I see a blazing light in your eyes! What kind of light is that, sir?
Wan Antum: Oh, really? I don't know myself.

From an economic perspective, Pedro is depicted as a figure from the wealthy or upper class. His abundant wealth does not stop him from continuing to gamble because his ambition is high to gain profit. He is easy to get along with other people, but he also cannot deny that he also has people who do not like him. Pedro also experiences ups and downs due to his own profession, namely gambling, where he repeatedly experiences glory when he wins and slumps when he loses. Proven in the following dialogue:

Pedro: Oh, my cards! The ones that have given me my life's passion! Oh,
my Lady Luck! Goddess Sandra! Goddess Gita and Goddess Sri! Who won 800 million last night, and hopefully tonight I can sweep away all their money! Oh my Joker! Please come! Give me big money!

Socially, Pedro is a person who adapts quickly. Indirectly, he has many relationships because he meets many people with different backgrounds at the gambling table. Pedro also has good public speaking skills. However, that ability also makes him have many opponents. The larger the area of his relationships, the more people who dislike him. This is a challenge for him. Proven in the following dialogue:

Pedro: I will finish them off! (Miss Mey-Mey, Raam Hotahot, and Tobing appear.) Please! Please! Come, please! Ladies and gentlemen! I feel proud and touched to receive the arrival of such distinguished guests!

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Comedy

The term comedy emerged since it became part of the tragedy festival that took place in the city of Dionysus. Comedy plays reveal the shortcomings and weaknesses of human nature in a humorous way so that the audience can better appreciate the reality of their lives. The characters in this comedy play are usually weak, oppressed, naive, and innocent people. The audience's identification with the character can be laughed at and mocked. The event of laughing at the character seen is actually laughing at the weaknesses and shortcomings in him (Santosa, 2008). Types of comedy drama can be divided into three, namely: a) situational comedy. A funny story whose humor does not come from the players but because of the situation; b) slapstick comedy. A funny story made with vulgar and rude movements; c) satirical comedy. A funny story full of sharp satire and d) farce comedy. A funny story that is a joke deliberately creates humor with dialogue and behavior (Lutters, 2018).

The Gamblers is a situational comedy story. This story focuses on a skilled gambler who always wins in his game. The gambler's name is Pedro. The Gamblers only has one act, which is to commit fraud and cheating by gambling for the sake of group lust. It tells about fraud, cheating, and the struggle for wealth that is packaged using comedy elements, which imply many moral messages in it.

Character Relation

Character relationships are the connections between one character and another. In this context, it is Pedro with the main and other supporting characters. In-depth character interpretation of each character in the script is done through in-depth analysis. This is done to convey the message contained in the script through the appearance of each character. Pedro, one of the main characters from Spain, has a character and attitude that are quite striking. Such as arrogance, perfectionism, calmness, ambition, and elegance in every movement. In addition, here are some character relationships in the script.

Pedro and Juki. Juki is Pedro's personal servant and driver. Juki is 28 years old, 10 years younger than Pedro. Juki has worked for 3 years with Pedro. Juki is very obedient to the orders of his master, Pedro. Projected in the following dialogue:

Pedro: Juki, bring my suitcases into the room. And bring my gun too.
Juki: Ready, sir!

Pedro and Nyoman Wiwi. Wiwi is 25 years old and is the first person Pedro meets when he enters the hotel. Wiwi is a hotel employee and also one of the informants recruited by Pedro to carry out his actions in the hotel. As a result, Wiwi becomes cooperative with Juan Pedro. Projected in the following dialogue:

Pedro: Hi, beautiful! How much did they bribe you? Wiwi: Who, sir?
Pedro: Ah, come on… Don't pretend to eat tofu! Don't pretend you don't know!
Wiwi: Okay… okay… sir. Tyang admitted that she was given one hundred thousand
rupiah. Tyang was unable and powerless to refuse it.
Pedro: Here are two hundred thousand rupiah. Take it! Come on, take it! I won't ask for anything in return, except for these dozen packs of cards (gives the packs of cards to Wiwi). We have to conspire!
Wiwi: Yes, the pole is ready to fight, sir.
Pedro: Good! Good! Hide the cards! Quick! Quick! Quick! (Wiwi goes out.) I will finish them off!

Pedro and Madame Jolly. Jolly is a 50-year-old hotel owner. She already knew Pedro because she heard that Pedro had just won big in gambling, so Jolly was very welcoming and fawned over Pedro a little. This is known from the following dialogue:

Jolly: Wow… Wow…Wow…! It turns out that you are one of our special guests!
Welcome and have fun, sir!
Pedro: Jolly, I am so lucky to play in your hotel! Jolly: Happy-happy, Sir Pedro,
happy-happy!
Pedro: Jolly, where are the other guests? Have they arrived? Jolly: Yes, they are in the lobby, Pedro.
Let me show you.

Pedro and Tobing. Tobing is a 40-year-old man and is part of a gang of con artists. His voice is very loud in vocals. His gesture to carry out the initial plan is to work together with Pedro. This is known from the following dialogue:

Tobing: Bah! How genius Pedro is at playing his cards. Working with you will be very valuable for us. That's why we have to throw away all the formalities!
Pedro: All right! I agree!
Tobing: Let's drink again for our mutual agreement!

Pedro and Raam Hotahot. Hotahot is a 36-year-old man who is part of a gang of con artists originally from India. Hotahot is involved in the plan to get Pedro to work together with his gang. This is known from the following dialogue:

Tobing: I'll explain later! Now come with me quickly! (They approach Pedro.) By the way, we have known your intelligence, Pedro. You are truly a professional! And I would like to propose that we work together.

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Meymey: Yes, combine our capital! Hotahot: Yes, combine our professionalism! Pedro: Excuse me? Why did I believe it?

Pedro and Miss Meymey. Meymey is a 45-year-old woman and is part of a gang of con artists. Unmarried and originally from China, she uses her feminine and elegant role to trap and distract Pedro, who is attracted to her and highly values women. This is known from the following dialogue:

Tobing: Horas! A really warm welcome! Warm! Warm! Bravo, Mr. Pedro! Meymey: Seeing Mr. Pedro reminds me of someone.
Hotahot: Who is that someone, Miss Meymey?
Meymey: Ah, I feel embarrassed, even though I really want to!
Pedro: It's okay, Miss Meymey. Not a problem. I'm so happy to hear your confession. Sometime we can both be more open to discussing this one. Pointing to her chest.

Pedro and Wan Abab. Abab is a 56-year-old man. Abab is a wealthy merchant from Arabia who owns factories. Abab is also one of the additional targets of the fraudster gang. He happened to be staying at the hotel when he met Pedro. Abab was a friendly and open person. This is known from the following dialogue:

Pedro: I have wanted to for a long time…. As an honor, of course... Abab: I am very
happy to be able to meet you. I only regret it when I am about to leave. Pedro: Please sit down, Mr. Abab. Have you lived here for a long time?
Abab: Oh, how bored I am living in this city. Maybe next year I should go home first. I miss my own country.
Pedro: But because of business matters, isn't that right, Wan?
Abab: Yes, that's the reality. Sometimes the hassle of doing business is also necessary.
But business is business, and hassle is women. Pedro: What do you mean, Wan?
Abab: What do you mean? I think you understand what I'm saying. It's like this: I want to marry my daughter, Halimeh, the youngest virgin. Besides that, I came here to pawn my factories, but the bank hasn't paid for it yet. So I have to wait.
Pedro: Wan! At what price did Abab pawn those factories?
Abab: 200 billion. They will pay it later. But I'm tired of waiting. I want to go home soon for Halimah's wedding. I'm really bored! Finally, I decided not to wait any longer.

Pedro, Wan Antum, and Paimin. Antum is a 28-year-old man; he is one of the people hired by the gang to trap Pedro and is also a victim of the gang. When he met Pedro, Antum was the type of person who was careless, forgetful, and thoughtless. While Paimin is a 42-year-old man. He is one of the con gang and acts as if he is a bank employee. At the end of the script, he visits the hotel and admits to Pedro and his gang that he is a bank employee who is in charge of managing Antum's money.

Voice

An actor's voice must have good strength, stamina, and flexibility. Even a good and natural voice still needs to be developed not only for singing but also for speaking (Stanislavski, 2008). Actors can complement it by listening to music. Music here means a combination of frequencies that can be heard (Phetorant, 2020). Knowledge of voice color is an added value for an actor. Pedro's voice must have a distinctive Spanish character. Several Spanish film actors, such as Álvaro Morte and Jaime Lorente, have voices that match the character Pedro. Pedro has a round, sexy voice and typically vibrates on certain letters, such as the letter "R." The difference in Pedro's voice is also needed in certain scenes. Like when seducing and digging for information from Wiwi. Pedro's voice here is soft, but his typical Spanish roundness is not lost.



Figure 1. Pedro is digging for information from Wiwi

Furthermore, in another scene, Pedro's voice tone towards Jolly sounds different, namely more melodious and as if more welcoming, because Pedro is trying to increase his branding to Jolly.

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Figure 2. Pedro and Jolly

Then the difference in Pedro's voice color is heard in his interaction with three con artists, namely Tobing, Hotahot, and Meymey. Pedro's voice color sounds like his real personality with a thick Latin accent. This voice color is also used by Pedro to intimidate his interlocutors during the gamble game.



Figure 3. Pedro and the Gang

Costume

Initially, the author visualized Pedro's costume as a plain white long-sleeved shirt, a blue vest, a blue suit, and various accessories such as a fedora hat, patterned belt, necklace, ring, glasses, and watch. In its development, the author chose a costume of one suit, a fedora hat, glasses, a tie, a watch, and a gold ring. This is because Pedro is upper middle class, stylish, and follows fashion trends. Visually, the resulting effect emphasizes the performative aspect of the story narrative (Wibowo, 2012).



Figure 4. Pedro Costume

Make up

Make-up is used to visualize the age and character of the character. If the make-up used is not appropriate, there will be no harmony (Sari, 2016). Make-up is seen not only on the face but on the entire body of the character. The accuracy of the makeup used must be adjusted to the color and shape so that the character can be seen (Prajastiwi et al., 2020). The author interprets Pedro as having a neat beard and being smart in taking care of himself. The shading that is highlighted on the face is a little thick to visualize his mature age of 38 years.

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Figure 5. Juan Pedro

CONCLUSION

The Gamblers is a sitcom script. The main character is named Pedro, a gambler surrounded by a gang of gamblers. In playing Pedro, it is necessary to know and understand the character's problems by studying the script. The script adapted by Sabur contains many implied messages. Especially in the dialogues issued by the characters. The content of the script The Gamblers is to commit fraud and cheating by means of gamblers for the sake of group lust. In addition, the moral message contained in this script is that if you start something in a bad way, it will produce something bad. Conversely, if you start something well, it will produce something good.

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