EXTERNAL CONFLICT IN IT HAPPENED ONE SUMMER NOVEL BY TESSA BAILEY

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ABSTRACT

The objective of this study is to examine the nature of the conflicts experienced by the main character in Tessa Bailey's novel It Happened One Summer, with a particular focus on external conflicts. Using a qualitative approach, the data was analyzed and presented descriptively based on established literary theories to provide an in-depth understanding of the character's struggles. Data collection involved a thorough reading of the novel, combined with observation and note-taking to identify significant instances of conflict. Through thematic analysis, the study identified two primary types of conflict: internal and external. External conflict, the more dominant type, includes obstacles and challenges in the character's interactions with other people and the outside world. Internal conflict, by contrast, deals with the character's inner emotional and psychological struggles. These findings highlight the complex interplay between the character's external pressures.

Keywords: Conflict, Main character, Novel, It Happened One Summer

I. Introduction

Conflict is a disagreement over something that usually leads to various problems. When individuals are in conflict, they have a serious argument that has not reached a mutual agreement. Conflicts can arise unexpectedly at any time, adding tension to our lives. They occur because of specific causes and result in various outcomes. This is particularly true when conflicts involve people close to us, such as family, relatives, and friends. In literary works, conflict is the mismatch between two or more characters. Everyone has their own character, perspective, behavior, reactions, opinions, and solutions. Therefore, differences often lead to conflicts. Conflicts can be experienced directly when we are involved on indirectly when we are not directly part of the conflict but are still affected by it (Putri, 2020). A novel is a type of poular literary work that contains both instrinsic and extrinsic elements. The core of a literary work is constructed by intrinsic elements, which are essential for its formation. In contrast, extrinsic

elements provide support to the creation of the literary work. The intrinsic elements include themes, messages, plots, settings, points of view, characters, and characterization (Yusuf, 2024).

According to William Kenney (1996), there are three types of external conflict, the first one is man vs. man, the second one man vs. society, and the last one is man vs. nature. Many studies have been conducted on the conflict that the main charater faces. The first thesis was written by Nuraziza (2022) entitled *"External Conflicts Faced by Anne Shirley as The Main Character in Anne of Green Gable Novel by Lucy Montgomery"*. The aims of her study is to analyzing the type of external conflict faced by the main character and to know how the main character resolve the conflict. The method used by the writer is descriptive qualitative method. Her research explains and analyzing the external conflict faced by Anne using William Kenney's theory and how Anne resolve the conflict using Johnson's Theory. The writer found three types of external conflicts faced by Anne, they are man vs. man, man vs. society, and man vs. nature. There are similarities between her study and the recent study in which the similarities are both of this studies used the same data source which is novel. The difference Hana used Johnson's theory in resolve the conflict, otherwise the recent study use Deetz and Stevenson theory to resolve the conflict by the main character.

The second thesis was written by Simanjuntak (2021) entitled *"The Conflict in The Main Character Found in Dolittle Movie"*. The aims of his study is to describes types of conflict and dominant type of conflict found in the main character. The method that writer used for the data collection is documentary method by watching movies and then marking or recording the parts of the film related to research. In his study, technique of analyzing data is data reduction, data display, drawing and verifying conclusion. The writer proposed theory from Robert Stanton to analyse the internal and external conflict. The writer found two causes conflict by the main character are the cause of an internal conflict is a struggle that takes place within the character's mind and the cause of an external conflict is a difference of interest. There are similarities between his study and the recent study in which the similarities are both of these studies is analyze the conflict faced by the main character. The difference he used movie as the data source meanwhile the recent study used novel as the data source.

The third was article written by (Setianingsih & Zuhrotun Nafisah, 2023) entitled *A Conflict Analysis in Lawless Novel by Diana Palmer*. The aims of her study is to find out conflicts that happened in the lawless novel. The objective of this research is to know the types of conflict . The technique used in the data collection procedure was documentation technique. The writer used two theories from Nurgiyantoro (2005: 124-125) for social conflict with family and social conflict with other people and Bangun (2007: 13-17) regarding the types of conflict leads to social conflict with people. The writer found the total of the conflict were 31. There were 2 types pf conflict, internal conflict and external conflict. In internal conflicts that were 7 feeling of emotional, 4 worry and fear, 3 not confident, and 3 feeling of sad. In external conflicts

that were 6 social conflict with family, 4 conflict with people, and 4 conflict with others people. The similarities in this study is used the same data source whichis novel. The difference is Setianingsih used theory from Bangun (2007: 13-17) to analyze the types of conflict. Meanwhile, the recent study use theory from William Kenney to analyze the types of conflict.

The fourth was article written by Lusiana (2017) in her article entitled *The Analysis of Conflict in the Movie "LUCY"*. The aims of her study are identity the kind of conflict faced, source of conflict and the conflict solved by the main character in the movie Lucy. The writer used movie written by Lucy Besson (2014) entitled Lucy as her data. The data were collected and selected using the documentation method. The process was by watching and understanding the content of the movie and related them to the topic. It was followed by listening to dialogue and reading the movie script. The data were analysed based on the conflict theory of literature by William Kenney (1966:5), source of conflict and conflict solution was analyzed using the theory managing interpersonal communication by Deetz & Stevenson (1986). The writer found the conflict faced by the main character are two types of conflict; there are external and internal conflicts. In external conflict, the main character faced three external conflicts. This similarity in this study is used the same theory proposed by Kenney (1996) While the differences on the data source used in Lusiana article was a movie meanwhile the recent study analysed the conflict faced by the main character in novel it happened one summer.

The fifth was article written by Yusuf (2024) in his article entitled *An Analysis of Internal and External Conflicts of The Main Character in Sohn Won Pyung's Almond*. The aims of his study is to explain the conflicts experienced by the main character and how to resolve each conflict in his life. The problem examined in his study is the internal and external conflict of the main character in the novel Almond by Sohn Won Pyung. The writer used novel written by Sohn Won Pyung (2019) entitled Almond as her data. The writer collected several data related to the novel Almond by Sohn Won Pyung, and used two types of sources, namely primary and secondary sources. The novel Almond by Sohn Won Pyung serves as the primary source and the internet, books, journals, ebooks and articles as secondary sources. The data were analysed based on Freud–style literary psychology approach. The writer found the problems experienced by the main character are the Id, attitudes that arise naturally, as a result of encouragement and cooperation, the Id works based on the principle of pleasure. This similarity in this study is used the same data whichis novel, while the differences on the theory used in Yusuf's article was Freud–style literary psychology approach meanwhile the recent study used the theory by Kenney to analyzed the types of conflict.

II. Methods
Data Source

The data focuses on the main character's conflicts in the novel *"It Happened One Summer"* by Tessa Bailey. The novel, published by Harper Collins on July 13, 2021, spans 416 pages. It tells the story of Piper Bellinger, an LA socialite who is sent to manage her late father's bar in Westport, Washington, after a party goes awry. This novel was chosen for its rich conflicts involving the main character, which are ideal for analysis. This research used a qualitative descriptive approach to analyze the conflicts faced by the main character in *It Happened One Summer* by Tessa Bailey. Data collection involved a detailed reading of the novel, identifying internal conflicts like Piper's self-doubt and external conflicts with characters such as Brendan and her stepfather. Conflicts were categorized and analyzed using thematic analysis to explore their impact on Piper's development and transformation throughout the story.

Data Collection

Data Collection involves obtaining information from a source. For this study, data was gathered through observation and note-taking methods, scpecifically by reading the novel. Information on internal and external conflicts, as well as their origins, was collected using note-taking. The data collection process included the following steps :
1. Reading the novel thoroughly and comprehensively.
2. Taking notes on the plot and conflicts .
3. Identifying how the main character attemts to resolve the conflicts around them.

Data Analysis

The data was analyzed qualitatively and presented descriptively according to the adopted theories. The analysis was based on literary theory. The first step involved classifying the conflicts as either internal or external, using Kenney's (1966) theory. The second step involved analyzing how the main character resolves the conflicts, utilizing the theory proposed by Deetz and Stevenson (1987).

III. Findings and Discussion

The study aimed to identify the various types of conflict present in the novel *It Happened one summer*. One of the identified forms of conflict is external. External conflict, on the other hand, results from outside influences, such as interactions with other characters, societal pressures, or environmental factors. The frequency of the conflicts is displayed in Table 1.

Table 1. The Types of Conflict

No	Types of Conflict	Number of Occurrences
1	Man against Man	6
2	Man against Society	-
3	Man against Nature	1
	TOTAL	7

Based on the table 1, shows that Man against Man has the most dominant data. Man against Man was 6 data, Man against Nature was 1 data, Man against Society was 0 data. In the total was 7 data. The details and explanation of the data as below:

Data 1
"Can you really not get him to change his mind, Mom?" *Pipper croacked. Maureen shook her head.* **"I'm sorry, sweetie."** *Her mother fell onto the bed beside her, taking her limp hand. For long moments, she was quiet, clearly gearing up for something.*

The data above show the conflict section revolves around pipper's desire for her stepfather to change his mind about moving her to Westport. However, her mother Maureen expresses doubt and sadness, indicating that changing her father's mind is impossible. This creates external conflict about pipper with her father, who grapples with disappointment and helplessness, and for Maureen, who struggles to comfort her daughter while knowing that she cannot fulfill her wishes. The tension is heightened by Maureen's body language and moment of silence, which suggest that she is preparing to deliver more difficult news or to explain more about her situation. Piper deals with the conflict by expressing a faint hope that her mother can change the situation. When told otherwise, she becomes quiet and passive, showing signs of resignation and emotional processing without outward protest, awaiting her mother's next words.

Data 2
"come on, Pipper." *Adrian laughed, scrutinising her head to toe.* **" You play dress-up and spend your daddy's money. You don't have a reason to learn anything." "Do I need a reason?"** *she asked lightly, lips still tilted at the corners.*

Based on the data above, shows Adrian's perception of Pippeer and her own self-perception. Adrian belittles Pipper, implying she has no need to learn anything because of her privileged lifestyle, wehile Pipper's response suggests she disagrees and is possibly hurt or defensive. The underlying conflict is Adrian's dismissive attitude towards Pipper's life and worth, versus Pipper's attempt to maintain composure and challenge his assumption. Piper

handles the conflict by staying calm and composed. Rather than getting defensive in response to Adrian's belittling comment, she lightly challenges his assumption with a question. Her subtle smile shows that she's not letting his words bother her, confidently maintaining her stance without engaging in a direct argument.

Data 3
"Remembering that whatever happens with Brendan… it's temporary".

Based on the data above, Pipper faces external conflict with Brendan due to their constant disagreements and misunderstandings, which continuously create tension and strain in their relationship. These constant disputes not only exacerbate their personal problems, but also complicate Pepper's ability to maintain perspective and view their situation as temporary. The external of their conflict involves relationship disputes as well as Pepper's constant doubts about the seriousness of their relationship given that it is only temporary, which significantly impacts on how Pepper navigates and copes with their circumstances.

Data 4
The ferns, which he really needed to get around to trimming, grazed her hips as she passed.

The data above show Brendan faces an external conflict with Pipper because he has neglected to prune the ferns, which have now overgrown and are causing discomfort as they scratch her hip when she passes by. This seemingly minor issue highlights the underlying tension between them, as inaction and inattention to maintaining the garden directly impacts her daily life and comfort. The physical presence of the untrimmed ferns becomes a symbol of their interpersonal conflict, where her frustration with the situation is exacerbated by Brendan's negligence and inattention. the thought of pruning it crossed his mind, but he did not act, showing complacency or prioritizing other things over this small task.

Data 5
"Westport," Hannah repeated, as if testing the word on her tongue. **"Mom never told us the name."**

The external conflict in the data above seems to revolve around the lack of information or secrecy about Westport. Hannah and possibly her sister Pipper are dealing with the mystery or unknown aspects of a place their mother never mentioned. This conflict may involve uncovering the reasons behind the secrecy, discovering the significance of Westport, or dealing with

whatever consequences arise from learning about it. The external conflict is therefore driven by the characters' need to understand and confront the hidden truth about Westport.

Data 6

"Mom, you're really going to let him send me away?" She was reeling. **"What am I supposed to do? Like, fish for a living? I don't even know how to make toast."**

The data above show that her father who has decided to send her away. This conflict is rooted in Pipper's resistance to being uprooted from her current life and sent to an unfamiliar place where she feels unprepared to face challenges. The question of fishing for a living and her admission that she doesn't even know how to make toast underscores her feelings of helplessness and frustration. This conflict is external as it involves a real dispute with another person. The character deals with the conflict by reacting with shock and frustration. She questions her mother and makes sarcastic comments, showing she feels unprepared and unsure about what to do. Her reaction reveals that she is scared and overwhelmed by the situation.

Data 7

"Then I'm not paying your legal fees," Daniel said reluctantly. **"I'm shaking,"** Pipper whispered, holding up a flat, quaking hand. **"Look at me."**

Based on the data above, external conflict arises from Daniel's reluctant refusal to pay Pipper's legal fees, which causes significant emotional distress to Pipper, as evidenced by her visibly shaking hands and whispered pleas to acknowledge her distress. This decision was made by Daniel because Pipper refused his order for her to go to Westport. This situation further exacerbates the tension in their relationship, exposing underlying issues of support, trust, and responsibility, as Pipper feels abandoned and vulnerable. Piper handles the conflict by using sarcasm. Instead of being worried by Daniel's threat, she pretends to be scared, holding up a shaking hand to mock him. She uses humor to brush off the situation and avoid showing fear

IV. Conclusion

The novel *It Happened One Summer* takes a close look at a variety of different external conflicts, mainly focusing on the characters and their relationships, as shown through the seven data points analyzed. Piper faces a major conflict with her stepfather, who wants to send her to Westport. This situation highlights Piper's struggle with change and the emotional distress of leaving a familiar life behind. Piper's unstable relationship with Brendan, which is filled with misunderstandings, adds to her external conflict. The secrecy that surrounds Westport also creates tension for Piper and her sister, Hannah, as they try to uncover hidden truths about their

lives and family. Piper's way of coping, shown through her sarcastic comments and moments of vulnerability, reveals her fear and uncertainty about the future. Overall, these external conflicts help explore themes such as feelings of powerlessness, societal expectations, relationship struggles, and personal growth, thus enhancing the reader's understanding of the characters' challenges and development throughout the story.

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