The Portrait of Villain in Horror Movie Awaits Further Instructions

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Abstract
This research aims to describe the portrait of the villain in the horror movie Awaits Further Instructions with a formulaic approach by J. G. Cawelti to provide an overview of movie development, especially the villain elements in horror movies. The descriptive-qualitative method was used in this research. The methods used to collect the data for this study included watching, pausing, identifying, classifying, and then analyzing the data by presenting, describing, and interpreting it before concluding the analysis. This research found four villain elements that are the same as horror villains in general (convention) and two different elements of villain (invention) that depict new sources of fear, such as motive antagonists (constructed by the media) and iconic symbols (mass media). The researcher concluded that in the horror movie Awaits Further Instructions; there is a development in the elements of the villain that depict or represent people today being more afraid of mass media power than supernatural or unexplainable powers, such as ghosts, aliens, monsters, serial killers, and others.

Keywords: convention, formula, horror, invention, villain

INTRODUCTION

A movie is one of the best media to convey drama, information, or knowledge, especially in building emotions. It is because the movie can present moving images with a sound that combines technical and artistic skills such as photography, recording, sound, and optics. According to Hornby (2006:950), a movie is a series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tell a story and are shown at a cinema/movie. Movies also have various types, commonly called genres, that can be selected. Therefore, movies have become a popular and influential entertainment medium for the community.

One of the popular movie genres that is entertaining and interesting today is Horror. Horror was confirmed as a movie genre by Hollywood in the early 1930s; the stories in horror movies generally describe the lives of people who are disturbed by monsters who are usually (not always) human; these monsters carry out acts of murder and abuse. According to Annette Kuhn and Guy Westwell in "A Dictionary of Film Studies" (2012), Horror is a genre that tries to evoke
fear and disgust in its audience to entertain. Therefore, it is no wonder that horror movies are often used as spooky "vehicles" that become adrenaline-pumping entertainment. Even so, we also need to know that movies are made not only to entertain. Many things, such as knowledge or information, can be found in a movie, including Horror. According to Wibowo, a movie is a tool to convey various messages to the general public through a story medium.

Await Further Instructions is a British futuristic movie in the horror and science fiction genres. This movie tells of a family gathered for Christmas. The protagonist or villain in the movie Await Further Instructions does not seem to intend to kill or terrorize; he looks like a person defending what he believes. Tony believes in information from the media and follows everything instructed by the media (television), even though he is considered scary because of his personality or trust in the media. It means that what causes terror and fear is not entirely originated or caused by the antagonist (Tony) but by other more influential entities that present fear and terror. It is a substance, or it can be said to be the villain inside the television. According to Vocabulary.com, a villain is a bad person or made up. In books, movies, current events, or history, the villain is the character who does mean, evil things on purpose.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher identifies information, or if there are new elements, especially regarding the antagonist or villain and how the villain carries out his actions. Therefore, the researcher conducted this research on The Portrait of Villain in the Horror Movie "Await Further Instructions" using the theory formula by Cawelti, which is about conventions and inventions.

Theoretically, this research is expected to explain and describe the portrait of the villain represented in the horror movie Await Further Instructions and can help contribute thoughts and knowledge to the academic community. Practically, this research is expected to be useful for providing new knowledge and information about how the villain in a horror movie and how a movie builds a new meaning or knowledge, not only from one side like the protagonist, but from many sides like the antagonist, and other characters that we often do not pay attention to, even though they are always portrayed negatively, such as antagonists and other villains who sometimes describe who we are.
RESEARCH METHOD

This research is descriptive-qualitative. According to Sukardi, descriptive research is a method that tries to describe and interpret an object based on a real-life situation. Descriptive research is generally done to describe the facts and characteristics of the object or subject researched systematically and accurately. On the other hand, according to Bogdan and Taylor in Moleong, qualitative methods are research procedures that produce descriptive data containing spoken or written words from the people and the behavior that can be observed.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

There are two main findings of this study, which can describe the portrait of the villains in the horror movie *Await Further Instructions*. The first is the conventions of villains in horror movies, and the second is the inventions of villains in the movie.

The Conventions of Villains in Horror Movies *Await Further Instructions*

Cawelti (1972) explained conventions are elements that both creators and their audience know beforehand, such as favorite plots, stereotyped characters, accepted ideas, familiar metaphors, and other linguistic devices. Here, the aim of the convention is to see elements of villains that are regular in a genre (Horror).

**Personality (halfway human)**

The villain (antagonist) has several traits that can be considered personality traits with certain disorders (halfway human). For more details, the researcher would display and describe several scenes that represent Tony's characteristics so that he is considered to have a certain personality disorder called NPD.

Data 1
Annji: *I told you. I told you!*  
Tony: *It does not make any sense. It does not……. It does not make any sense.*  
Scott: W. What about the rest of us? I mean, that stuff is in Kate and my baby! You told us it would be okay! You promised!  
Tony: *He was an older man, and the older man died.*  
Anjji: Are you trying to say this was a coincidence?  
Tony: *The same thing could have happened to us if we had not taken it. It just does not work on him.*  
Kate: Maybe it was an allergic reaction?  
Anjji: You have got to be kidding me.  
Tony: *No, but it is possible, is it not? he died because the medicine did not work. I will not have my father's sacrifice undermined. Now, we all took the shot, and only Dad was affected. We do not know why, and that is all we know right now. If we had not taken the drug, we might all have died. So this is… Well, it is an acceptable loss.*

In the picture and conversation above, Tony was seen explaining with a slightly disapproving expression. Tony tries to explain his father's death after carrying out vaccinations ordered by the media (TV), which Tony believes are the government or the military, even though Nick and Annji warned him. Tony's looks are not accepted, and he gets angry after he receives criticism from Annji and Scott, who ask what about those who also got vaccinated. Tony stated that what caused his father's death was not caused by the vaccination they had done, but because he has an older man.  

Based on the conversation and the above, it can be said that Tony is someone who cannot accept criticism from other people, so he is looking for reasons to justify the actions or decisions he made that caused his father to be killed.
Tony: *Scott, come with me.*
Scott: No. You should have helped Kate. You locked yourself away, and you hid from us.
Tony: *I am Kate's father, and don’t you think I have been spending every second trying to find a way to help her? Scott! Be your best on your worst day. Come on.*

The picture above shows Tony urging Scott to act for Nick, which caused the television to issue a warning; however, Scott did not immediately follow him because Tony had not previously noticed or assisted Kate when she fell. Here, Tony reasons that he is Kate's father, so there is no way he would leave his daughter alone.

Based on the picture and the conversation above, it can be seen that when Kate fell and needed help, Tony went away and stayed silent in a room. In this conversation, Tony also looks for excuses to cover up his mistakes. Therefore, Tony is not only a person who cannot accept criticism from others. He has a selfish and cowardly nature, tries to avoid problems, and has no sense of empathy, even for his child. He also does not look like he has a sense of guilt or thinks what he did was right.

**Data 3**

Beth: *Tony! She is dead. My Kate is dead*
Scott: *No... No! She is not!*
Tony: *This changes nothing. In... war, there are always casualties.*
Beth: You fucking arrogant fool! All these years together, you have never listened to anyone else! I hate you!

The picture above shows Tony getting a slap from his wife after saying that Kate's death did not change anything. Tony seems to believe that what is happening or Kate's death is something normal; he considers it a kind of loss that must be borne in order to get something better. It illustrates how Tony's attitude does not feel lost or sad after his daughter's death; he looks like someone who only thinks about goals or something that is not clear, so Beth says Tony is an arrogant fool.

Based on Tony and Beth's conversation, we can also find out how Tony behaves throughout the movie as an arrogant person who only thinks about his interests and that of himself, who seems to be playing a role or struggling to achieve something that only he understands.

**Data 4**

![Figure 4.4. Tony talks to his father's remains. 00:42:30](image)

Tony: *Squelcher. You called me Squelcher. Why? "Because you wet the bed." Just once, when I was little. Why? Because I was scared. I was scared of waking you by flushing the chain after curfew. You heard me crying, and you let me lay there all night.*

*Moreover, in the morning, you battered me blue. "real man can hold it." You see, that there is a greater purpose than myself. Everything happens for a reason, even this.*

In the picture above, Tony is seen talking to his father, who has died. In the conversation, we can find out that Tony was taught strictly from a young age by his father until he was traumatized, but he believes that it has a specific purpose, making him what he is now (feeling perfect). Tony is someone who feels himself to be very important or seems to brag about his talents and achievements, wants to be considered superior even though he does not have a commensurate award, and feels himself to be special and unique and can only be understood or associated with people or institutions who have high status.
The antagonist villain in *Await Further Instructions* is portrayed as someone with a personality disorder that can cause certain fears. He is arrogant, selfish, thinks himself unique and very important, lacks empathy, and is anti-criticism. Therefore, Tony is considered to have a personality disorder called NPD. According to Kristanto (2012), Narcissism is the portrait of a person who loves himself. Within certain limits, self-love can be considered normal, but if it is excessive and disturbing to others or oneself, then it is considered a deviation or personality disorder. On the other hand, According to the American Psychiatric Association (1994), Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD) is a personality disorder in which there is grandiosity, a need to be admired, and a lack of empathy.

**Justified Arrogance and Self-confidence**

In the movie *Await Further Instruction*, the researcher identifies things or reasons why the villain character (the antagonist) is so arrogant or confident that he acts or decides something without listening to the opinions of other characters or the protagonist.

**Data 5**

![Figure 4.5. Tony talking with his father](image)

Tony: **Don't you ever undermine me in front of the others again. You are no longer the head of this family.**

Tony's father: All right

In the picture above, Tony is straightening his father's seat and clothes while talking. In this scene, Tony reveals to his father that he is now the head of the family, so he asks his father not to embarrass him in front of his family. Based on that, Tony has authority as a father or leader in the family in place of his father and has the right to organize and decide things for the family.
Other reasons why Tony is very confident or thinks his decision is the best and does not listen to the opinion of the protagonist can be seen in the following picture.

**Data 6**

![Figure 4.6. Tony spoke to Nick. 00:43:45](image)

Nick: *Dad*

Tony: *You have no idea what it is like to be a father. You are always trying to choose the right path. I feel bothered when you are worried about your children. Even when they vanish for years without calling, he knew. I know. You do not know.*

The picture and conversation above show the relationship between the antagonist (Tony) and the protagonist (Nick) as father and son. Nick is the son of Tony, who left home for years without leaving any words. Then he returned with a girlfriend to celebrate Christmas together.

The above can also be said to represent a reason or something that makes Tony confident. It also makes Tony distrust Nick and even fight him. Nick is considered a child influenced by the outside world after leaving home.

The antagonist villain is a father and a leader in the family. It means that it is appropriate for him to have the confidence to organize and make decisions in the family. According to Santrock (2007), the role of the father in the family is responsible for teaching morals (educator), as a breadwinner (economic provider), being a gender role model (role model), father as a caregiver, disciplining and controlling children, and as a decision-maker. So, the antagonistic villain has a certain authority to regulate his children and make decisions for his family. In another way, a father has traditional authority; according to Max Weber, traditional authority is based on an established belief in the sacredness of ancient traditions and the legitimacy of the status of those who use the authority they have. One of the reasons people obey this authority is because they think that it has always existed and that the rules made by those in authority are regulations that have existed for a long time and are respected at all times for generations.
Motive (Rule the World/Humans)

The villain character who terrorizes or commits murder with motives like in horror movies is the villain inside the television.

Data 7

Figure 4.7. villain (inside the TV) talking with Nick
01:22:24-01:22:37

Villain: Nick
Nick: You are not my Dad.
Villain: Worship me. Now or face your extinction.

In the picture above, Tony's body can be seen rising because it was gnawed by the villain's tentacles from inside the TV. Using Tony's body, the Villain spoke to Nick. The Villain asked Nick to worship him. Based on this conversation, we can find out the motives of the villain inside the TV, namely to dominate the world (humans).

For the sake of his goals the villain inside the television does anything including terrorizing, killing, and exploiting humans. as we already know that villains are evil-motivated characters who are clearly not interested in saving the world. His character is described as an evil figure who has a desire to rule the world by destroying it. In line with that, according to Vocabulary.com, a villain is a bad person-real or made up. In books, movies, current events, or history, the villain is the character who does mean evil things on purpose.

Physically Scary (Beastly/Primal)

The antagonist character is portrayed with a frightening appearance after he dies and disgraced by the villain who is inside the TV.
Data 8

The picture above shows something inside a television screen that looks like a black heart that beats and is covered by many tentacles. It is the physical portrait of the villain that is inside the television. The tentacles covering the heart look like cables, disgustingly depicted with mucus. Therefore, it can be said that the villain inside TV is described as a disgusting and scary entity or has a terrible physical form.

Data 9

The antagonist villain looks physically scary after being gnawed or controlled by a villain from inside the TV screen who also has a scary and disgusting physical appearance. This means that the antagonist villain is depicted with two archetypes, namely the half-way Human and beast/primal, but the main archetypes of the villain antagonist are half-way Humans or someone who has a personality disorder. He has the best/primal archetype. It is caused by the villain inside the TV, so it can be said that the antagonist villain is no longer himself but a part of the villain inside the TV.

The above as explained by GutsNGore (2017) “Horror Villain Archetypes” in Horror. In most situations, a horror villain will have certain features and characteristics about them that make it relatively simple to place them in a specific category. In some situations, these villains could cross into two or more archetypes, but this is usually rare as horror villains are typically
appreciated for the specific traits that make them who they are. This means that what is depicted has a physical scary (beast/primal) villain inside the TV. According to GutsNGore beast/prima is antagonists (villain) offer very little in terms of humanity or human-like characteristics.

The Inventions of Villain in *Await Further Instructions* Movie

According to Cawelti (172), Inventions are elements which are uniquely imagined by the creator such as new kinds of characters, ideas, or linguistic forms. Therefore, here the invention aims to see changes in the elements of the villain in the horror movie. In line with what was explained, researchers found several new things or formulas about the villain in the movie that are related to information media.

*Motive antagonist (Constructed by the Media)*

The villain antagonist has a different motive from the antagonist's or villain's motives in horror movies (generally). The movie depicts the influence of the media on the beliefs or motives of the villain's antagonist.

Data 10

![Figure 4.10. Tony meets Scott. 00:20:01](image)

Tony : *Can I count on you, Scott?*
Scott : Uh, yeah, sure Tony. No worries.
Tony : *You see I need to know you'll back me. We need to be sheperds. Protect the herd, even from themselves... we are men, Scott, and sometimes we are called upon to do things that no one else will. I say to my team at work, be your beast on your worst day.*

In the picture above, Tony is depicted approaching Scott after the television informs them to stay indoors and wait for further instructions. Tony believes that something is going on outside and that the information shown on television is from the government or military. Tony asks Scott to help or support him.
Based on the conversation above, we can find out the motive of the antagonist (Tony) to protect his family. If you look at his personality as explained previously, apart from having a motive to protect his family, he also has a hope or motive to be praised or acknowledged. This causes Tony to do everything he can to protect his family and gain appreciation. So it can be said that the antagonist's motives in this movie are different from those in horror movies in general, such as wanting to rule the world, taking revenge, and having fun by committing murder.

Even though, towards the end of the story, Tony kills Scott, and there is a scene where Tony tortures Nick. It can be seen that Tony did it as if he had a motive and desire to get praise, recognition, and so on. It can be seen in the following scene.

**Data 11**

![Figure 4.11. Tony tortures Nick and kills Scott.](image)

01:04:40/01:17:51

The pictures above show how Tony tortured Nick and killed Scott. In the scene where Tony tortures Nick, this is due to instructions from the television stating that Nick is a spy, or in other words, Nick is an agent regarding what they are experiencing. Tony killed Scott because he wanted to help Nick fight Tony. This was because Nick thought that his father was crazy because he believed or did what the television instructed him to do.

At first, Tony believed that the information or instructions came from the government, but as time went by and the instructions came from television, Tony began to believe that the information and instructions came from God. For greater clarity, the researcher will present some data related to the influence or construction of the media on Tony's beliefs so that they influence his actions.
Nick: You all better come see this, it’s overriding every channel.
Beth: Well, what does it mean?
Tony: it has to be the emergency government broadcast. In the aftermath of 7/7 we learnt that the authorities reserved an emergency frequency that would come into play in the event that the networks were knocked out.

The pictures above show a television that provides information and instructions to the characters in the movie, telling them to stay at home and wait for further instructions. Based on the conversation and picture above, we can also find out what Tony thinks about the information or instructions. Tony believes that it came from the government or was an emergency broadcast made by the government.

Tony: Is this him? Have I been wrong all this time?
Annji: whatever rubber band was holding. Your brain together just snapped.
Nick: Mom is dead. Dad, don’t you care?
Tony: if this you, Lord, show us. Show us your hand truly upon us.
Annji: Kate’s stomach moved!
Nick: don’t so fucking cruel.
Tony: good God.
Nick: *her belly's still warm*
Annji: *The baby's still alive. W-we have to try a C-section!*
Tony: *this is the sign. The innocent is saved. We should give thanks.*
Nick: *I am not worshiping that thing!*
Tony: *don't you see? It is so clear now. We've been guided all along. Tested harshly, yes, but found worthy*

The pictures above show a television that remains on and displays information that he was born and brought change and salvation. Tony thought that it came from God until he asked him to show his gift. In line with this, suddenly Kate's dead stomach moved. This indicates that the baby in her stomach is still alive. From the conversation above, it can also be seen that Nick doesn't care whether it is a sign from God or not until Annji says to immediately try to save the baby in Kate's stomach.

The above means that the villain antagonist's motive does not cause significant terror or fear, such as the desire for revenge and to rule the world by committing murder, but because of information or instructions from television and with his selfish and non-empathetic personality. The villain antagonist does anything to get recognition or praise from other people or people who make information or instructions that he believes are the government or the military, so it can be said that the motive of an antagonist villain becomes something scary and causes terror because it is influenced by information from the media. In line with that, according to McLeod and Reeves in Jahi (1993: 35) in reporting the news, some researchers argue that sometimes the media push information that has the potential to damage. On another hand, Lichtenberg (1991: 219) says that “The metaphysical idealist denies that we can know what the world is like intrinsically, apart from a perspective. The world is our construction in the sense that we inevitably encounter it through our concepts and our categories; we cannot see the world concept or category free.” It means that the information conveyed by a media is not necessarily true or has been reconstructed according to the regulations in the media or related institutions. For the reason and explanations above, it can be said that the beliefs and behavior or motives of the villain antagonist have been constructed by the mass media (Television).

**Iconic Symbol (Mass Media)**
The researcher found that there is a tool or weapon used that is different from the weapon used by villains in horror movies in general, both the villain antagonist and the villain inside the television.
Data 14

![Image](image.png)

Figure 4.14. Tony was waiting for instructions from the TV.
Source: Screenshot scene 01:01:30

Scott: *What now?*
Tony: *um, well, go and see what the television says now.*

In the picture or conversation above, shows Tony and Scott tied Nick and waited for orders or instructions from the TV to get answers about what they should do for Nick, who is considered to have committed an offense for trying to see the situation outside the house. Even though Nick had tried to explain what he saw outside the house using the camera on his cellphone, Tony did not believe it and even destroyed Nick's cellphone, which had footage of the house. Tony seems to believe more in the information presented by the television media, which states that Nick is a spy who needs to be investigated. In other words, Tony uses information from the television to justify his arguments and decisions as actions to fight Nick.

Data 15

![Image](image.png)

Figure 4.15. TV displaying information/instructions.
00:17:48/01:26:48

In the pictures above, we can see a television displaying a picture of words or information that is made by or comes from the villain inside the television screen. In the scenes above, we can also see that television displays information or instructions that are slowly becoming increasingly unreasonable or dominating. At the beginning, television displayed information or instructions that caused a difference of opinion between the characters in the movie, then television began to
instruct or ask to do something that caused fights between several characters, and at the end they were all killed either by fighting or by the villain inside the television screen. The antagonist is depicted as a consumer of a mass media platform, and the villain inside the television is the entity that builds that platform or information. It can be said that the antagonist character is the victim of another villain like the protagonist or other characters in the movie, even so the antagonist character is the main villain in the movie because he retains some of the villain characteristics in general. It also means that the mass media is a symbol or physical representation that can cause fear. This fear can occur because the mass media can control and influence mindsets, like what villains do on television by influencing antagonists or other characters in the movie.

It also explained by Denis McQuail (1987) that the function of the media is the industry that creates jobs, goods and services and revives other industries, a source of power for control, management and community innovation, a forum for displaying community events, a vehicle for cultural development, procedures, fashion, lifestyle, and dominant norms and sources of image creation of society and individuals. According to (Cangara, 2002), mass media is a tool used in conveying messages from sources to audiences (receiving) using mechanical communication tools such as newspapers, movies, radio, TV.

CONCLUSIONS
The researcher concluded that there are several developments in the elements or formula on the portrait of the villain in the horror movie Await Further Instructions. The antagonist character is the victim of or influenced by another villain (inside TV), like the protagonist or other characters in the movie. It can be said that what provides significant terror is the villain behind the television. Even so, the antagonist character is the main villain in the movie because there are several elements of villains that are maintained, like villains in horror movies in general. It also means that the horror movie Await Further Instructions represents that in the current era, people are more afraid of the power of mass media than supernatural or unexplained powers, such as ghosts, aliens, monsters, and serial killers. This can be proven by several elements of villains that were found, and classified, or referred to as conventions and inventions in the movie. The conventions are Personality (half-way human), justified Arrogance and Self-confidence, motive
(rule the world/humans), and Physical scary (beasty/primal). The inventions are motif antagonists (constructed by the media) and iconic symbols (mass media).

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