

## CHAPTER 4

### ANALYSIS

In the chapter that discusses conflict in "Mistress", researcher uses Laurence Perrine's theory, which, according to him the fundamental problem of society is the conflict between individuals and social forces, from this the researcher tries to find answers to the problem statements mentioned in chapter I: discussing how exposed conflict in the novel "Mistress" and the struggle of Benjamin Casper to overcome the conflict?

#### A. Conflict in the Novel

##### A. 1. Conflict of Benjamin Casper vs Himself

Conflicts that occur within Ben or commonly called internal conflicts occur mostly because of his confidence in knowing his friend is already very good, it turns out wrong and his desire to know and know his friend as detailed as possible that it has not been fulfilled.

Ben and Diana are good friends even very close, it could be all about Diana Ben knowing about it, but all that is undeniable when Ben sees someone fall from the balcony on the 6th floor where Diana lives. When Ben made sure that the body that fell face down with luminous hair splattered on the crushed face and the blood flowing to the sidewalk was Diana, he immediately weakened not believing how Diana could do this (James Patterson, 2013:13)

The quotation above can be matched with Burhan statement "conflict internal is the conflict occur in his heart and soul the character (2002:124)" and it shows that there is a conflict within Ben who does not believe what he is seeing, namely seeing the tragic death of his girlfriend. According to Ben it's like an act of suicide, so that a conflict emerges within Ben, why can it happen without Ben being able to prevent it before, Ben should know the background or signs why Diana did that, because Ben is her closest friend. Ben's conflict with him self arose because he felt as Diana's close friend, but did not know the reason for his friend's death so he could not prevent it.

When Ben collaborated with detective Ellis to see and observe photographs of Diana's death, he immediately realized the oddity in the photo which explained that the photos of the victim were actually not Diana's friend, this was known from a butterfly tattoo above his left ankle and the woman who died in the photo did not. This is where emotional conflict emerges in Ben, he feels guilty but also has to forgive himself why he just found out about it (James Patterson, 2013:13)

The quotation shows that the conflict emerges because Ben can conclude the fact that the deceased is a different individual not the figure of his friend who has been known so far. As stated by (Perrine, 1974:44) the conflict can include physical, mental, emotional or moral. In the real life people try to solve conflict but they will soon get a conflict.

When Ben met Anne, one of Diana's friends, he got additional information and decided to investigate Liu's house secretly.

In his endeavor, Ben feels that he is someone who is not a person who has no purpose, residence and has no place to hide who only depends on the clothes attached to his current body, even afraid to use his own cellphone and credit card (James Patterson, 2013:174)

From the quotation above Ben did not believe in his situation at the time, he felt that it was not himself a conflict inside him explaining that he was in a difficult position and was almost desperate, this is in according to Crow (1967:236) states that conflict happens because of unsatisfied need or desire, or frustration.

Anne, one of Diana's friend, suddenly contacted Ben to meet him at her home, In Anne's home Ben found her looks under pressure so he tried to calm her down and tried to ask what had happened to her? It seems that Anne is getting a serious threat from unknown people to stop her wish to uncover of Diana's death anymore, this makes Ben need to repeatedly convince Anne that he can protect, save her and so that Anne wants to tell her about the incident. Basically, Ben does not want any more people or friends he

loves to become victims after Ellis Burk (James Patterson, 2013: 248-249)

In the quotation above we can conclude that conflict emerges around Ben guilt, because he has involved his closest friends and people around him, he has felt guilty so this time he does not want to lose Anne and want to protect her, even Ben and Anne seemed to be immediately engulfed in a very close emotional connection even though they had never before been in intense contact, after being involved in the homicides. Kriesberg (1973) states that conflict evoke the deepest emotions and strongest passions and enlist the greatest concentration of attention and effort.

Ben had to go in forcibly and in various ways and at the risk of being face to face with the president to deliver his message directly to him and that made him arrested by the secret service agents and would cause him to be interrogated in the isolation room, he knew that while waiting in the room he would not do a lot of problems and find the best way to turn things around. (James Patterson, 2013: 457)

Through the quotation above conflict exposed when Ben felt he had to choose between two things, was he forced to meet president but had to be jailed or run away so he would not go to jail but he could not deliver his message to the president. It is supported with Perrine (1959:44), he said that dilemma is condition when protagonist must choose two course of action.

The first choice, made by Ben, he will still take the risk of being Imprisoned, even though he actually does not want it, but he can reach his goal to deliver the message, the opposition in choosing can overcome it directly by struggling the conflict and that is Ben's nature that is not easy to surrender and clever. (James Patterson, 2013: 457)

#### **A. 2. Conflict of Benjamin Casper vs Other man**

Ben's conflict with other man around him or commonly called external conflicts occurred basically because the investigators in this case

the police and Diana's family were of different interests with Ben. They all want to know and reveal Diana's murderer. In addition, there is also a conflict between Ben and the parties who want to hide the reasons for Diana's death. They also support the novel's story.

#### **A. 2. 1. Ben vs Police Officer**

After investigating and searching for information secretly from Diana's apartment, on the way home Ben was stopped by a police officer. With questions and attitudes investigating the officer checks Ben's driving license papers and gives an explanation that Ben has broken the road markings several times. Ben tried to avoid dealing longer with the police who stopped him, while the police wanted to try to dig up information about him and try to interrogate him with some questions that bothered Ben (James Patterson, 2013:19)

In literature, it means that conflict is a tension or conflict in a fictional or drama story, namely a conflict between two forces, opposition in one character, conflict between two figures, and so on Alwi (In Kartika, 2008: 22).

The conflict occurred because Ben tried to cover up what he had just done, that is, from the scene of the murder of Diana, while the police had suspected that only the officer could not find the reason for his suspicion.

#### **A. 2. 2. Ben vs George Hotchkiss**

When Ben tells a story that resembles the events experienced by the George family, and tries to convince him with the evidence he has. But Diana's father was angry and disappointed and did not believe everything that Ben had said. (James Patterson, 2013:89-90)

Ben tried to give the information he got about Diana, but it seemed that information didn't make sense to Diana's family. Even though Ben was convinced by the results of his rudimentary investigation. Of course, Diana's father couldn't believe it because he only found out Ben and Diana had never introduced him to his

family. With his background who did not know Ben before, Diana's father did not simply believe Ben's explanation and the explanation of his investigation created conflict between the two of them. It is seems like Laurence Perrine's opinion "The central character in the conflict, whatever a sympathetic or an unsympathetic person, is referred to as the protagonist, the forces arrayed against him, whether persons, things, convention of society or traits of his own character are the antagonist" (1987:42)

#### **A. 2. 3. Ben vs CIA Agent**

Two men, one black and one white, both big and serious, both wearing dark suits and white shirts, gathered at me together. The two men tried to ambush and injure Ben physically and even threatened but did not want to kill him (James Patterson, 2013:89-90).

"The main character may be pitted against some other person or group of person (man against man) : he may be in conflict with some external force-physical nature and society. Perrine (1983:42).

The conflict here emerges because both parties want to maintain their wishes, the CIA people want Ben not to influence the Diana family by providing information that actually happened and stop his investigation, while Ben will continue to do so even continue his investigation.

#### **A. 2. 4. Ben vs Jonathan Liu**

When Ben tried to meet Jonathan Liu in his office to find information about the truth that Diana was still alive. He gave a bad first impression when accusing Liu of having an affair with senior Capitol Hill staff and then killing her. Liu met Ben with two armed guards and put him in a car with an unclear purpose (James Patterson, 2013:95-96)

Once they met and sat together in a car heading to a place unknown to Ben, there were already two armed Liu guards who were always ready to shoot. Seeing this led to Ben's conflict with Liu, Ben

felt threatened by Liu's bodyguard, while Liu also felt threatened by the information Ben had obtained to reveal the murder case involving Liu. Here Ben aims to get clearer information from Liu, while Liu does not want Ben to get information about his friend's death. According to Kriesberg (1973) a social conflict emerges when adversaries define goals which are opposed by the other side.

#### **A. 2. 5. Ben vs Craig Carney**

When Ben met Craig Carney, the number two person at the CIA in the senator's office to inquire about Diana, he was not sure at first because he was invited to an undue place, namely the CIA headquarters, especially when invited to the seat of dialogue not as comfortable as Craig Carney's. (James Patterson, 2013:143)

Conflict as a clash of action, ideas and desires or will between two individuals or among people in the society. The conflict can include physical, mental, emotional or moral. In the real life people try to solve conflict but they will soon get a conflict (Perrine, 1974:44) it can be found in the debate Ben began when asking provocative questions to Carney, as well as conflicts also arose at that time. When Ben mentions Diana's name makes Carney startled and replies with a question that corners Ben and reminds him of Ben's threatened career.

#### **A. 2. 6. Ben vs Alex Kutuzov**

When Ben made an agreement to meet and exchange copies of the country's secret videos in National Park. Ben tried to dictate Alex Kutuzov by determining where, how and what were the conditions in the video submission process, while Kutuzov also had his own plans to get it (James Patterson, 2013:191-192)

from the quote above the conflict arises because they have their own ways to get a copy of the video and they still impose their own way, even though it seems like following the way the enemy will but

they have a hidden way again. Ben tried to dictate Kutuzov but also while avoiding meeting him, for Kutuzov tried to obey Ben but still brought many guards in disguise.

### **A. 3. Conflict of Benjamin Casper vs Society**

Ben conflicts with society often emerged with the CIA because they want to cover up the cases investigated by Ben, and the American government itself it represented by the bank, police, detectives and the secret service agent because they consider Ben to be a person who has many problems with murder cases, as well as Russians who targeted Ben for having evidence to blackmail the American President. And this is elaborated further below:

#### **A. 3. 1. Ben vs Group of People**

As Perrine Said (1983:42) "The main character may be pitted against some other person or group of person (man against man) : he may be in conflict with some external force-physical nature, society, or fate (man against environment)

"When Ben calmed down and returned to his grandfather's log cabin Anna was there at Potomac. It turned out that even there he was followed by a group of people who tried to chase and kill him, but Ben was lucky to realize it soon, so he could immediately try to escape from their pursuit. (James Patterson, 2013:93-94)

Conflict emerged because a society of people targeted Ben's death so that Ben no longer revealed Diana's death, while Ben still wanted to fight to unlock the secret of Diana's death.

#### **A. 3. 2. Ben vs Bank**

After the deeper Ben investigates the case of the death of his friend "Diana", the more the government limits Ben's movement. When Ben tried to continue his investigation with the support of the funds he had, his account at the bank had been blocked so he could not use the ATM at all and take the money himself. Not

only that, even the telephone number is also blocked  
(James Patterson, 2013:191-192)

The conflict arose between Ben and the government, especially the CIA where they froze Ben's account and also deactivated his telephone number, all because Ben's investigative efforts were deepening and the possibility of succeeding in solving the case, while the government still wanted to save conspiracy so they were worried if Ben can dismantle conspiracies that have been carried out by leaders in the government.

#### **A. 3. 3. Ben vs Detectives**

When Ben was fired upon by a group of unknown people he was with a detective in a car, there was also a chase scene between the detective and the gunman's with a black SUV to cause the detective to die. After many police officer came to help Ben was secured by the police and other detectives. (James Patterson, 2013:67)

Conflict with detective Liz Larkin and Ellis Burk emerged when they arrested, handcuffed and treat rudely Ben before he will put him in a police car, because of him they lost one of their members. And the detective suspected Ben of a big problem involving the government.

#### **A. 3. 4. Ben vs Russian People**

Some Russians chase Ben in various ways to capture and attempt to kill him openly when he finds Ben out in public, even though they are not hesitant to shoot Ben in the midst of a crowd at the center of one of the country's capitals to kill him and close the investigated Ben.  
(James Patterson, 2013:221-222)

The conflict was very clear when the Russians saw Ben and immediately carried out the orders they had got to arrest and kill him, no matter how they chased Ben who tried to run and escape from them. The Russians aim to solve the case faced by killing Ben,



opposite with Ben he must be still alive to get his own aim. This conflict can be in accordance with the expression “A person may be in conflict with other persons, with society or nature, and with himself, all at the same time and sometimes he may be involved in conflict without being aware of it” (Perrine, 1988:42).

### **A. 3. 5. Ben vs The Secret Service Agent**

In the Mellon auditorium where there was an award ceremony by the President, Ben was so close to that location, according to his purpose of meeting the President and conveying his messages, even though he avoided chasing the police and passing checks by secret service agents who were guarding the metal detector (James Patterson, 2013:269-270)

From the quote above the conflict emerges because Ben tried to meet the President directly in order to convey his messages, but he knew he had to go through several checks which would make him caught by the police who chased him behind, while Ben thought only time was right to convey his message directly to President and in front of many people

## **B. Ben’s Struggle to Overcome the Conflict**

### **B. 1. Ben’s Struggle to Overcome Conflict with Himself**

His best friend was free fall from her Balcony Plunging head first from 6th floor to the ground. As her best friend Ben was very guilty and big question emerge in Ben “Why would you do this to yourself?” It is really confusing for Ben. (James Patterson, 10-11)

Ben struggle this conflict by avoiding the scene after seeing the corpse of his friend, and convincing his mind that Diana is not suicidal but must have been killed. The next day he investigated Diana's residence for additional information.

When Ben realized that the victim who fell from the 6th floor was not his friend after seeing photos of his death, Ben finally forgave himself for thinking Diana had really died and increasingly convinced

himself that he could still find the truth about the case of Diana's death. This attitude is a form of Ben's resistance in struggling this conflict.

Anne Brennan, one of Diana's friends, helped Ben provide additional information, to make Ben even more convinced to decide to investigate Liu's house secretly.

Ben's struggle in overcoming the turmoil that occurred between his conviction and not to carry out a continuous investigation, Ben decided to keep fighting to Liu's house quietly and ready for all the risks, so he could assume that what he was doing was making amends.

Again Anne contacted Ben, but this time under different circumstances, he was seen under pressure from being seriously threatened by an unknown person and Ben did not want any more people or friends he loved to become victims.

Ben struggle back the conflict by lying to Anne that he would do something, while he was still new to thinking about what to do and trying to provide Anne with comfort in helping her fight the conflict.

Faced with a dilemma when having to do something risky such as being imprisoned or still running away from police pursuit and the case of his friend's death unresolved.

And Ben struggle the conflict or dilemma by forcing him to meet the president with all the risks, although basically he did not like the consequence he would receive, but for him there was no other choice to do it.

## **B. 2. Ben's Struggle to Overcome Conflict with Other Man**

### **B. 2. 1. Ben vs Police Officer**

After investigating and searching for information secretly from Diana's apartment, on the way home Ben was stopped by a police officer. With questions and attitudes investigating the officer checks Ben's driving

license papers and gives an explanation that Ben has broken the road markings several times. Ben tried to avoid dealing longer with the police who stopped him, while the police wanted to try to dig up information about him and try to interrogate him with some questions that bothered Ben (James Patterson, 2013:19)

In this case Ben tries to struggle the conflict by not directly answering the police question, then answers it, but he lies so that he can immediately leave before the police, so that the items he took from the crime scene are unknown, even Ben answered emphatically about his identity as a reporter from the White House and company owner, of course this is to support his status.

### **B 2.2. Ben vs George Hotchkiss**

When Ben tells a story that resembles the events experienced by the George family, and tries to convince him with the evidence he has. But Diana's father was angry and disappointed and did not believe everything that Ben had said. (James Patterson, 2013:89-90)

Ben's struggle in this conflict was to provide an explanation of the results of his investigation and convince the Diana family that the ignorance of the police about the information submitted by Ben because the FBI had taken the case quickly, Ben also tried to revive Diana's family hopes by building their trust in him.

### **B 2.3. Ben vs CIA Agent**

Two men, one black and one white, both big and serious, both wearing dark suits and white shirts, gathered at me together. The two men tried to ambush and injure Ben physically and even threatened but did not want to kill him (James Patterson, 2013:89-90)

Ben's struggle in this conflict was carried out in the form of physical retaliation or blow even though in the end Ben remained defeated, he could still try to guess who told them and still said that he would not stop, then Ben also contacted Diana's father to convince him.

#### **B 2.4. Ben vs Jonathan Liu**

When Ben tried to meet Jonathan Liu in his office to find information about the truth that Diana was still alive. He gave a bad first impression when accusing Liu of having an affair with senior Capitol Hill staff and then killing her. Liu met Ben with two armed guards and put him in a car with an unclear purpose (James Patterson, 2013:95-96)

Ben's form of struggle with the conflict above is by first asking about his status "Are you going to kill me?" this question is like a defense statement from Ben to fight threats indirectly from Liu. In the end Liu did not kill him, but Ben's resistance succeeded in asserting that Ben would still live after getting an explanation in the form of a convincing answer from Liu.

#### **B 2.5. Ben vs Craig Carney**

When Ben met Craig Carney, the number two person at the CIA in the senator's office to inquire about Diana, he was not sure at first because he was invited to an undue place, namely the CIA headquarters, especially when invited to the seat of dialogue not as comfortable as Craig Carney's. (James Patterson, 2013:143)

Ben did not stop there, he opened up confidential information about the relationship between Carney and Diana's affair so as to blackmail the deputy director of the CIA, all that Ben did was a form of conflict with Craig Carney.

#### **B 2.6. Ben vs Alex Kutuzov**

When Ben made an agreement to meet and exchange copies of the country's secret videos in National Park. Ben tried to dictate Alex Kutuzov by determining where, how and what were the conditions in the video submission process, while Kutuzov also had his own plans to get it (James Patterson, 2013:191-192)

Ben's struggle in this conflict was to disguise himself by wearing a wig, fake glasses etc. to observe from a far whether he

was safe enough to meet directly with Kutuzov, he also avoided Kutuzov by taking a taxi and leaving the place. Beside choosing to dodge for the sake of his own safety Ben also threatened Kutuzov that he could sell the video to the other highest buyers

### **B. 3. Ben's Struggle to Overcome Conflict With Society**

#### **B. 3. 1. Ben vs Group of People**

"When Ben calmed down and returned to his grandfather's log cabin Anna was there at Potomac. It turned out that even there he was followed by a group of people who tried to chase and kill him, but Ben was lucky to realize it soon, so he could immediately try to escape from their pursuit. (James Patterson, 2013:93-94)

As his struggle from the conflict Ben could only run as fast as possible to avoid the pursuit of people who wanted to kill him, he also tried not to feel pain in his legs, arms and throughout his body because he ran in a dark forest in the rain and looked for a hiding place with his friend Steve Sykes.

#### **B. 3. 2. Ben vs Bank**

After the deeper Ben investigates the case of the death of his friend "Diana", the more the government limits Ben's movement. When Ben tried to continue his investigation with the support of the funds he had, his account at the bank had been blocked so he could not use the ATM at all and take the money himself. Not only that, even the telephone number is also blocked (James Patterson, 2013:191-192)

Even though he was attacked with various ways, Ben tried to try to struggle it, one of his resistance efforts was to try to contact a customer service bank to ask about his account problems in order to overcome his money needs at that time, until finally he had to borrow from his friend first. Meanwhile he used the other telephone number to get around the blocked number.

### **B. 3. 3. Ben vs Detectives**

When Ben was fired upon by a group of unknown people he was with a detective in a car, there was also a chase scene between the detective and the gunman's with a black SUV to cause the detective to die. After many police officer came to help Ben was secured by the police and other detectives. (James Patterson, 2013:67)

Of course Ben struggled the treatment by asked to detective what was done to him whether he would be arrested and still tried to struggle again by finding out the reason why he should be detained.

### **B. 3. 4. Ben vs Russian People**

Some Russians chase Ben in various ways to capture and attempt to kill him openly when he finds Ben out in public, even though they are not hesitant to shoot Ben in the midst of a crowd at the center of one of the country's capitals to kill him and close the investigated Ben.

(James Patterson, 2013:221-222)

The form of struggle Ben has made in this conflict is to try to escape and avoid their shots to stay safe and alive so that they can convey their messages to the American President to uncover the truth of the case.

### **B. 3. 5. Ben vs The Secret Service Agent**

In the Mellon auditorium where there was an award ceremony by the President, Ben was so close to that location, according to his purpose of meeting the President and conveying his messages, even though he avoided chasing the police and passing checks by secret service agents who were guarding the metal detector (James Patterson, 2013:269-270)

There are many ways that Ben struggles with this conflict. The first Ben tried to show his identity card as a reporter in the hope that he could be more trusted. Second, Ben lie that he was an invited person but came late. Third, tries to push and drop one of the secret service agents. Fourth, when he was arrested, Ben kept shouting

delivering his message to the president and all the people who were there and the latter tried to convince him by shouting that he had the evidence.