

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION

I have compiled multiple evidences of racism that are present in the “American Fiction” movie script. These evidences are found through the intrinsic and extrinsic approach. Between the two approaches, I came across several materials that are obtained through their usages. Elements such as characterization, plot, and setting are used to accommodate the intrinsic approach. However, the usage of racism, critical race theory, and the white gaze that are experienced by the character of Monk are used to accommodate the extrinsic approach.

The act of racism that is experienced by Monk is caused by the expectations of people around him, that include his publishers, and his own audience. Monk has to cope with the racist treatment that he received from the white people around him whether he wants to or not. The script constantly showcasing the racism that Monk is forced to cope with. Even though his publishers only view him as a ‘cash cow’ that can put the suffering of African-Americans on paper, they do not necessarily view him as an inferior being. However, as time goes by, the publishers kept asking Monk to ridicule his own race even more, and they are not even being subtle about it. They are blatantly asked Monk to write a story about slavery. But due to the audience’s demands, Monk and his publishers have no choice but to comply. On the positive side, Monk’s work manages to bring him enough funds to afford his mother’s care. The publishers are not necessarily evil, they just have their own way to satisfy themselves, and Monk.

Monk’s struggles to afford his mother’s medication, the mockery that he is forced to face on the daily basis, and the publishers’ expectations out of him have all been discussed in this paper. However, Monk and other colored artists in the script did not ask to be treated this way. Another theme of “American Fiction” is how artists are forced to abandon their creativity and innovation for the sake of wealth. Because at the end of the day, money is what brings food to the table.

This research is written with the hope people will realize that racism against anyone, regardless of their color of skin or where they are from, are wrong and should not be treated as a common occurrence. I believe we, as human beings, are capable of being better than this. We should be able to respect people from all around the world regardless of their gender, religion, nation origin, socio-economy status, language, and sexual orientation. “American Fiction” mostly revolves around how the world of entertainment operates in the United States.

“American Fiction” itself emphasized on how most colored creators are treated in the world of filmmaking and literature. The movie script manages to depict Monk’s struggle as a Black artist in his day-to day life in a believable way, instead of treating it cartoonishly and unrealistically. This movie proves that literary and social condition cannot be separated in real life, which proves that fiction and reality may intersect in some way.

