

THE SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN L.A NOIRE (2011)

A THESIS

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements

for S-1 Degree Majoring Literature in the English Department

Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University

Submitted by Wildan Elkaromi Effendi 13020119130094

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG
2023

PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer honestly states that this thesis is written by himself without taking any works from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3 and diploma degrees of any university. The writer also ascertains that he does not take any material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, 3rd August, 2023

Wildan Elkaromi Effendi

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

"How can you say people are free when they're chained up in prisons in this broken
world?"
- Morgana
"I'm a shape shifter, have no face to show. Please don't take off my mask, my disguise."
- Shoji Meguro
"Choosing hope when all hope has seemed lost and believing in the strength of our
friends."
- Nobuo Uematsu

This thesis is dedicated to

My family, friends, and my dreams

APPROVAL

THE SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN L.A NOIRE

(2011)

Written by:

Wildan Elkaromi Effendi

NIM. 13020119130094

is approved by the thesis advisor

on 3rd August 2023

Thesis Advisor

Hadiyanto, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197908222008012013

The Head of English Department

Dr. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum.

NIP. 196710041993031003

VALIDATION

THE SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF THE MAIN CHARACTER IN LA NOIRE

(2011)

Submitted by:

Wildan Elkaromi Effendi

NIM. 13020119130094

Approved by

Sarata I Thesis Examination Committee

Faculties of Humanities Diponegoro University

On 25th September 2023

Chairman

Dr. Sukarni Suryaningsih, S.S., M.Hum

NIP. 197212231998022001

Member

Ritka Pratama, S.Hum., M.A.

NPPU.H.7. 199004282018071001

Member

Hadiyanto, S.S., M.Hum.

NIP. 197908222008012013

Accepted and declared in Semarang on 25th September 2023

Dean of Faculty of Humanities

or, Surhayati, M.Hum.

19661004199001200

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Praise be to Allah SWT, who has given me His blessings so that this thesis entitled "The Social Perception of the Main Character in *LA Noire* (2011)" could come into completion. This part is dedicated to thank all the people who have shown their support to me during my study and thesis completion.

I would like to address the deepest and sincerest gratitude to Mr. Hadiyanto, S.S., M.Hum. as my thesis advisor, who has spared his precious time in giving valuable advice and never-ending guidance, without whom the completion of this thesis might have not been possible.

My deepest gratitude also goes to the following:

- Dr. Nurhayati, M.Hum., as the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.
- 2. Dr. Oktiva Herry Chandra, M.Hum., as the Head of the English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.
- 3. All lecturers of the English Department, who have generously shared their precious knowledge and wisdom.
- 4. My mother Wiwik and my father Endi, for showering me with endless love, prayers, support, and motivation throughout my life.
- 5. My brother, Odi, for being a supportive brother.

- My entire friends especially Acim, Adit, Em, Angga, Dina, Ocin, Charly, Pandu,
 Ahong, Abdu, Danis, for never ending laugh and support.
- 7. My friends, especially the Bocah Cacat Vision crew, for being my friend in the early stage of college.
- 8. My English Department friends from the 2020 batch, Bima, Nico, Raka, and Giras for being my friends in the late stage of college.
- 9. My friends in KKN Mangunharjo, for being my comfort place.
- 10. My hangout friends, Sultan, Rama, Niken, Shania, Athaya, Aya, Luthfi, and Bram for being my friend back in the online college era.
- 11. All my friends who always support me who I can't mention one by one.

I am aware that this thesis is still far from being perfect. Hence, any constructive criticism and suggestions are encouraged to make this thesis better. Finally, I hope that this thesis will be helpful for the readers who wish to learn anything related to the topic discussed in this research thesis.

Semarang, 3rd August 2023

Wildan Elkaromi Effendi

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PRONOUNCE	MENTi	
MOTTO AND DEDICATIONii		
APPROVAL	iii	
VALIDATION	iv	
ACKNOWLED	GEMENTSv	
TABLE OF CO	NTENTSvii	
ABSTRACT	xi	
CHAPTER I IN	TRODUCTION1	
1.1.	Background of Study	
1.2.	Research Questions 3	
1.3.	Objectives of the Study	
1.4.	Scope of Study	
1.5.	Previous Studies	
1.6.	Organization of Study	
CHAPTER II TI	HEORY AND METHOD8	
2.1.	Theoretical Framework	
2.1.1.	Video Game as Literary Texts8	
2.1.2.	Narratology in Video Game	
2.1.3.	Intrinsic Aspect	
2.1.3.1.	Character and Characterization	
2.1.3.2.	Setting	
2.1.3.3.	Conflict	
2.1.4.	Extrinsic Aspect12	
2.1.4.1.	Social Perception	
2.1.4.2.	The Portrayal of Social Perception	
	.1. Stereotype	
2.1.4.2	.2. First Impression	

2.1.4.2.	3. Assumption	13
2.1.4.2.	4. Expectation	14
2.1.4.3.	The Cause of Social Perception	14
2.1.4.3.	1. Situations	14
2.1.4.4.	The Impact of Social Perception.	14
2.1.4.4.	1. To Change Opinions	14
2.1.4.4.	2. To be Aware	15
2.1.4.4.	3. To be Motivated	15
2.1.4.4.	4. To be Self-Doubt	15
2.1.5.	Cinematographic Aspects	16
2.1.5.1.	Camera Distances	16
2.1.5.1.	1. Long Shot	16
2.1.5.1.	2. Medium Shot	17
2.1.5.1.	3. Close-Up Shot	17
2.2.	Research Method	18
2.2.1.	Method of Research	18
2.2.1.1.	Research Approach	18
2.2.1.2.	Method of Data Collection	18
CHAPTER III D	DISCUSSION	20
3.1.	Intrinsic Aspects	20
3.1.1.	Character and Characterization	20
3.1.1.1.	Cole Phelps's Direct Characterization	20
3.1.1.1.1.	Cole Phelps as a Dreamer	20
3.1.1.1.2.	Cole Phelps as a Modest Person	21
3.1.1.2.	Cole Phelps's Indirect Characterization	22
3.1.1.2.1.	Cole Phelps as a Stoic Person	22
3.1.1.2.2.	Cole Phelps as a Hot-Tempered Person	23
3.1.2.	Setting	24
3.1.2.1.	Setting of Place	24
3.1.2.1.1.	Okinawa	24

3.1.2.1.2	2. Los Angeles	25
3.1.3.	Conflicts	26
3.1.3.1.	Internal Conflicts	26
3.1.3.1.1	1. Cole Phelps's Denial over His Past	26
3.1.3.1.2	2. Cole Phelps's Regret	27
3.1.3.1.3	3. Cole Phelps's Self-Doubt	28
3.1.3.2.	Social Conflicts	29
3.1.3.2.1	1. The Conflict between Cole Phelps and Jack Kelso	29
3.1.3.2.2	2. The Conflict between Cole Phelps and Roy Earle	30
3.1.3.2.3	3. The Conflict between Cole Phelps and James Donnelly	31
3.2.	Extrinsic Aspects	32
3.2.1.	The Portrayals of Social Perception on Cole Phelps	32
3.2.1.1.	Assumption that Cole Phelps is the War Hero	32
3.2.1.2.	Expectation that Cole Phelps is a Good Case Man	32
3.2.1.3.	Assumption that Cole Phelps is Someone Who Betrays Amer	ica33
3.2.1.4.	First Impression that Cole Phelps is Someone Who is Incapal Handle a Compliment	
3.2.1.5.	Assumption that Cole Phelps is Someone Who Hungers for C	ilory35
3.2.1.6.	Expectation that Cole Phelps is the Face of the LAPD	36
3.2.2.	The Causes of Social Perception on Cole Phelps	37
3.2.2.1.	Cole Phelps's Prior Experience as a War Veteran	37
3.2.2.2.	Cole Phelps's History as a Detective	38
3.2.2.3.	Cole Phelps's Affair History	39
3.2.2.4.	Cole Phelps's Past Experience of Response to Compliment	40
3.2.2.5.	Cole Phelps's History of Persistence	41
3.2.2.6.	Cole Phelps's History in Approach on the Cases	42
3.2.3.	The Impacts of Social Perception on Cole Phelps	43
3.2.3.1.	Phelps' Self-Doubt as a War Hero	43
3.2.3.2.	Phelps' Motivation to Solve the Arson Cases	44
3.2.3.3.	Phelps' Awareness of the Mistakes Caused by His Affair	45
3.2.3.4.	Phelps' Awareness that He Cannot Handle Compliments	46

3.2.3.5.	Phelps' Change of Opinion in His Ambition	47
3.2.3.6.	Phelps' Motivation to Get Promotions	47
CHAPTER IV C	ONCLUION	49
BIBLIOGRAPH	Y	50

ABSTRACT

The research thesis examines how Brendan McNamara's video game *L.A. Noire* depicts social perception, including portrayals, causes, and impacts of social perception. The objectives of the study are to analyze the portrayals, causes, and impacts of social perception in the game. In writing this research thesis, the writer uses library research and psychological approach with McShane's and Saul Kassin's theory. Through the use of a psychological approach, that is a literary criticism focuses on the psychological elements that can be found in literary works, the analysis is broken down into three primary categories: the game's depiction of portrayals, causes, and impacts of social perception. The result of this research indicates that people's views of Cole Phelps are shaped by society's expectations, assumptions, and first impressions of him. Cole Phelps' social perception is influenced by his background as a detective and a war veteran. This perception affects how people view him, leading to changes in opinions, increases in awareness, increases in motivation, and even moments of self-doubt for Cole Phelps.

Keywords: Portrayal, Cause, Impact, Social Perception, McShane, Saul Kassin