

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

This research thesis discusses the reflection of American Individualism in the movie *Anyone But You* (2023) through the theory of Cultural Symbolic. The movie tells the journey of Beatrice that navigates the expectations of family, romantic relationships, and personal identity. Through both intrinsic and extrinsic element, the film effectively highlights the core traits of American Individualism.

The intrinsic elements discussion covers the narrative structure, characters and characterization, conflicts, and setting of the film. Bea is a woman who struggles to balance her own desires with her family's high expectations. She feels pressured to become a lawyer and marry her ex-fiancé, Jonathan, even though that life does not make her happy. Ben, on the other hand, is more emotionally distant and values his freedom, but, over time, he starts to open up and care about others. Their personal journeys show how both characters are learning to make decisions based on what they truly want, not just what others expect. The conflict in the story includes Bea's guilt for dropping out of law school and hiding it from her family, and the tension between her and Ben is caused by misunderstandings and broken trust. The settings of America and Australia also support the story. America represents responsibility, family pressure, and tradition, while Australia symbolizes freedom, self-discovery, and a chance to start fresh. These locations help reflect Bea's journey to find her true identity and follow her own path.

Meanwhile, the extrinsic elements discussion covers the characteristics of American individualism, reflection in Cultural Symbolic, and the effect of American individualism in *Anyone But You* (2023). The film presents the core values of American individualism, such as self-reliance,

freedom of choice, and personal happiness, especially through Bea's decision to follow her own path despite family pressure. The writer uses Cultural Symbolic to explore how Bea forms her identity through interactions, symbols, and social expectations. Her choices, relationships, and self-expression are shaped by how others see her and how she redefines herself over time. Lastly, the effect of individualism is shown in her strained family relationships, her shifting trust with Ben, and how all the characters gradually learn to respect each other's independence. This highlights how personal growth and emotional honesty are central to the story, reflecting modern values of identity and freedom in American culture.

In conclusion, *Anyone But You* (2023) successfully portrays the values of American individualism through its characters, narrative, and extrinsic elements. The movie highlights how personal freedom, self-determination, and the pursuit of happiness often come into conflict with social expectations, especially within family and romantic relationships. By applying Cultural Symbolic, this research thesis reveals how identity is shaped through social interaction and how individuals negotiate their roles and meanings in a modern context. Bea's journey reflects the struggle and empowerment of asserting one's individuality, ultimately emphasizing that personal growth often requires challenging norms and redefining one's path. Through both intrinsic and extrinsic elements, the film becomes a reflection of individualist ideals in contemporary American society.

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