

CHAPTER IV

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

In this chapter, the writer will discuss the answer of two problem formulations that the writer has. The first problem formulation how cruelty in war is described in the movie. The second is discussion of the effects of the war suffered by children presented in the movie. The answer of the first problem formulation will show the general effects of war which is associated with cruelty. The answer of the second problem formulation will show more specific effects of war suffered by children in the movie. What is meant by children in are the main characters discussed in this thesis. There are specifically two children in the discussion, Seita and Setsuko. The writer believes that Seita and Setsuko are representation of children in time of war. These two problem formulations will be analyzed using formalistic approach particularly intrinsic elements, such as setting and character of the movie.

4.1 Cruelty in War

In this part, the writer focuses on the movie setting in Japan to explain the theme of cruelty in war. According to Hamalian (1967), setting is not only limited to where and when the story takes place, but can be the very substance of a region, own to its dust-how the people think, how they react, their prejudices, their insanities, their very lifestyle-with all elements suggested indirectly. In another word, setting encompasses not only the usual quantities of time and place, as well as the element

loosely called background, but also aspects of the atmosphere, a series of details, nuances, and gestures, which give a certain shape to theme and plot. By analyzing the setting of the movie, there are four aspects regarding cruelty in war described in the movie; physical presentation, dehumanization, family separation, and egocentrism. These four aspects will answer the first question in problem formulation about cruelty in war described in the movie.

4.1.1 Physical Presentation

By physical presentation the writer means something real which requires at least one of five human senses. In other words, sight, touch, hearing, smell or taste. Presentation means that it will display in the movie. In terms of cruelty in war, physical presentation refers to the cruel effect of war which physically suffered by the character in general in the movie.

In the exposition of the story the basic setting is explained. The main character of the movie is a young boy named Seita. He has a younger sister named Setsuko, a mother who's currently having sickness, and a father who is the captain of Japan Naval army. Apparently the movie starts in the times of the Second World War. The movie reflects the cruel situations of Japan in time of war. Three illustrations can in correspond to the physical presentation of cruelty in the movie. The setting of the movie takes a major role in the analysis of three illustrations in physical presentation.

a. Material Loss

Material loss is one of three illustrations with regard to the physical presentation of cruelty. At the beginning of the movie or the exposition of the movie we can understand that Seita and Setsuko must go to the shelter because America has started attacking Japan. The movie shows that America's airplanes drop fire bombs on citizen house. Chaotic situation can be seen from the way people react when America's airplanes drop the fire bombs. Figure 4.1 shows that house is not a safe place anymore in time of war.



Figure 4.1. Burning house.

Figure 4.1 also shows that fire escalates quickly. The bombs dropped by America's airplane actually contain Oil. Therefore, the flame caused by the bombs escalates quickly and is hard to put off. The story also shows that people are leaving their house, even though they have already prepared countermeasure for the flame.



Figure 4.2. Empty road and houses when the fire bombs dropped.

Figure 4.2 shows tools to counter the fire such as bucket, a tub of water, and a stair. However, the contradiction is that the water tub is still full and the bucket is still dry, which indicate that no one tries to put off the fire. The setting of the place of the tools leads to a hypothesis that people have already known that trying to put off the fire is a useless action. Figure 4.2 shows that everybody has already left their house and go to the safer place when Seita comes out from his house.

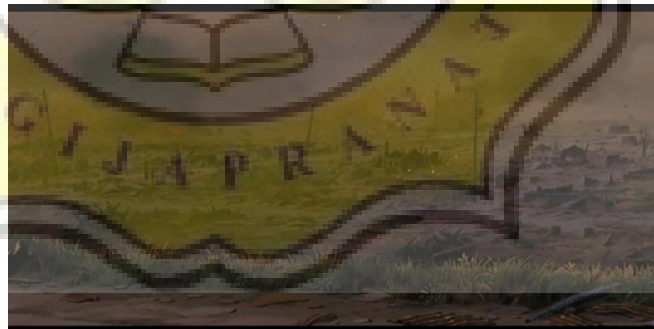


Figure 4.3: No house left, everything is burned to the ground.

As a result of the fire, figure 3 shows that no house is left to stand at the end. Figure 4.3 also explains how horrifying the atmosphere is after

people leave their house during the raid. From the look of the sky, the black smoke, the gloomy background music it is understandable that the situation is unpleasant for anyone. Just by imagining the smell illustrated in figure 4.3 the smell of burn is probably strong enough to harm people in that place.

b. Injury

Injury in here refers to physical pain suffered by people as illustrated in the movie. Injury can be divided into two categories. The first one is minor Injury. Minor injury means that it is not life threatening. However, it is undeniable that minor injury could also be dangerous or worsen if it is not being treated well. In the movie, Setsuko hurt her eyes due to black dusk produced by the fire. This injury can be categorized as a minor injury.



Figure 4.4. School shelter offering first aid for citizens.

Figure 4.4 shows that there are many citizens having minor injuries. It can be seen in figure 4.4, there are long queue of people in the first aid

tent. However, putting more attention to the picture reveals, a person on a stretcher. That person seems to suffer from heavy blow. These injuries can be categorized as major injury. Major injury means that the injury is heavy enough to threaten someone's life.



Figure 4.5. A man is suffering from a heavy blow.

Another example about major injury can be seen in figure 4.5. Figure 4.5 pictured a man lies at bed covered with bandage and blood. The wound in his body can be categorized as heavy because the man seems to be unconscious while he is receiving treatment. Furthermore, figure 4.5 also shows a woman and a child standing beside the man. The writer comes to conclusion that the woman and the child are his family. If we put more attention to their expression, frowning while looking at the man, we can see that his family is sad or worried.



Figure 4.6. War casualties.

In time of war, people cannot avoid getting hurt. However, the probability of suffering major injuries is rather high proven by figure 4.6. In Figure 4.6, it is shown that there are a lot of people suffering major injuries. The victims are also not limited by gender and age. There are women and even children among the people presented in figure 4.6. Furthermore, the situation in figure 4.6 is really heart breaking. It shows that a lot of people are in grief. Some people are crying over their fallen family member and some others are groaning due to pain.

c. Scream and cry

Scream and cry are also physical presentations of cruelty in time of war. The writer believes that screams and cries are a reflection or response to physical and emotional conditions indicated in the human body which can be seen and heard. It is true that emotions can also be a reason behind screams and cries, but the fact that in some cases, physical

condition can also determine this aspect cannot be forgotten. Moreover, screams and cries have already colored the story since the beginning or in the exposition.



Figure 4.7. A woman is screaming when she fell.

Figure 4.7 shows a woman screaming when she fell down to the ground. Her scream can be due to three reasons. The first one is because she is surprised. When someone falls it is natural that the person gets surprised or shocked. As mentioned before, human body presents the shock by screaming. The second reason is because she is afraid. Giving more attention to her gesture, it will be understood that she tries to protect her child when she is falling. She covers the child's head and body with her hands. The scream is an outburst of her fear about the safety of her child. The third reason she screams is the pain of the fall. The writer believes that screams can also be a physical pain reflecting the event.



Figure 4.8. people are crying and hiding in the shelter

Figure 4.8 is showing people is crying and hiding in the shelter. Cry is a physical representation of human physical and emotional conditions. Cries are not only the physical expression of sadness and fear, but also pain. In figure 4.6, we could interpret the cries of people as sadness as they look at their family member fall victim to the war, and they probably fear about what might happen next. Additionally, we can also interpret that people in the shelter are also suffering due to the physical pain. Especially for children, a minor injury can make them cry continuously. The argument is also supported by the previous figures which are showing lots of men, women, and children suffering from injury. The cries of people and even babies shown in entire minutes in the movie illustrate how scary the situation is.

4.1.2 Dehumanization

The second aspect of the cruelty of war is in term of dehumanization.

By dehumanization it means that people are not treated as a human being.

As human, we have right to be treated as we must. Some standards are also established to maintain the behavior of humanization. For example, it is wrong to disrespect someone, it is wrong that we push someone beyond his limit, it is wrong if we murder someone, etc. When the standards of humanization are not fulfilled, it will be called as dehumanization. In the movie, the action of dehumanization can be seen in three illustrations.

a. Corpses

The first illustration of dehumanization can be seen from the pile of corpses. As mentioned before in physical representation about injury, people are vulnerable to injury in time of war. There is no guarantee of safety in time of war. Similarly, the threat of death cannot be avoided. The number of death and the state of the death make the writer draws conclusion that dehumanization is reflected in the movie by the piles of the corpses.



Figure 4.9. Pile of burned corpses.

Figure 4.9 shows a screen shoot piles of burned corpses. The state of the corpses shown in figure 4.9 is really terrible. The burned corpses indicate that those people died due to fire. Different from sudden death by bullets or heart attack, death by fire means they are suffering slowly before they finally die. It is hard to identify the corpse because they are burned to black. Figure 4.9 also shows that the number of dead body is almost uncounted although it is certain that the pile of corpses in figure 4.9 contains more than three people.



Figure 4.10. A man step over a burned corpse.

In figure 4.10 we can see there are three burned corpses. Two of them are adults while one of them is a corpse of a little child. The interesting part of this scene is that there is a man stepping over the burned corpse. By the look of it, the man keeps on walking while staring at the front without paying attention to the burned corpse. The man's overstepping the pile of corpses indicated that the scenery are nothing unusual. Dehumanization is also reflected in figure 4.10. By stepping over the burned corpse, the man is considered disrespecting a human being. It is true that the corpses are dead human beings, but it is still the remaining of a human being. The corpses have the right to be respected and getting proper burial.

b. Corpses Disposal

Continuing the discussion above about the right of having proper burial, we come to another illustration of dehumanization. As a human being the writer believes that proper burial is needed in order to show respect of the human. It is absolutely heartbreaking when we see dead people are not treated properly. In order to understand the irony behind this terrible event we need to consider ourselves in their family position. The writer concludes that improper burial or disposal of human remain is

a cruel action in time of war. However, it is also understandable that in time of war people do not have lot of options.



Figure 4.11. Mass cremation on a place far away from settlement.

In figure 4.11 we can see a lot of people cremated in the same time. Basically, people put them in a hole full of firewood and burn them all together. If we pay more attention, we can also see boxes prepared behind the scene. Those boxes will be used to collect the ashes of those people cremated in there. In the movie, the ashes collected from the dead will be kept by their family member. Seita also brings one box which should be the remaining of his mother. Unfortunately, in figure 4.11 we can see that people are cremated together. Therefore, the ashes left will also be mixed. Even though they collect the remains, it is certain that the ashes in the box do not only belonging of their family.

c. Violence

This illustration shows the reason behind the first illustration on piles of corpses and the second illustration about inappropriate burial or disposal of corpses. According to the League of Nations (1989) attacking citizens in a war has been condemned by every state in the world. The action of violence toward innocent citizens is believed to be a war crime. However, looking at the fact of what happened in the movie, we believe that this action is considered as an action of dehumanization.



Figure 4.12. Citizen under attack.

Being attacked by the army, citizen loses their right to live. As human beings, people should have freedom, at least to breathe the air in the next morning. Figure 4.12 illustrates that citizens of Japan are treated inhumanly by America. By dropping fire bombs to their house, it means that America's army intended to kill citizens of Japan with fire. However, considering different angle of perspective, this action is

probably the best strategy to stop the war as proven by the fact that Japan finally surrenders unconditionally as shown as in the resolution of the movie. By increasing the number of dead, America forced Japan to think twice about continuing the war.

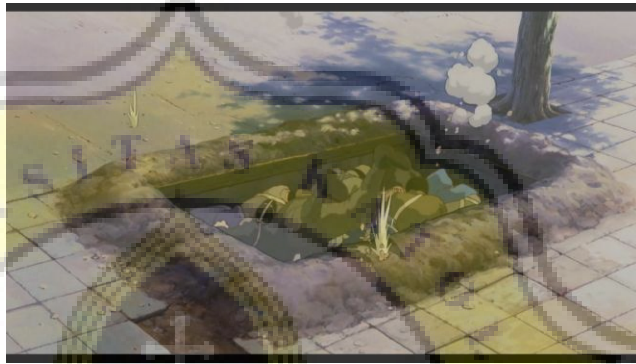


Figure 4.13. Citizen tried to dodge the attack by making a shelter.

Figure 4.13 shows that people are trying to save themselves by making a hole as shelter. However, this action shows that the shelter is not a comfortable place to hide. There are a lot of people trying to fit themselves inside a small hole. In other words, people are treated inhuman if they want to survive the attack.

4.1.3 Family Separation

Cruelty in a war could also be seen in terms of family separation. Family separation means that people tend to lose their family members in time of war. By losing members of their family, their chance to live will be lower. The movie also shows that people relies on a group in

order to survive in time of war. The problem will be bigger if the one who is gone is a father or a mother. In time of war children are very vulnerable. There are three reasons families could be separated.

a. Death

The first reason family could be separated is because of death. In time of war as stated before, the possibility of death always exists. The sudden death in time of war also shocks people.



Figure 4.14. A dead mother on a stretcher.

Figure 4.14 shows us that when a family is separated by death, sadness will follow. It is proven by the fact that children are crying when their mother is on a stretcher looking lifeless in figure 4.14. Separated by death is a cruel reason in time of war.

b. Losing Family Member

Another reason a family can be separated is they can lose their family in the middle of a chaotic situation of war. It is understandable

that while running to save themselves, people are getting lost easily. By not knowing the state of their family, missing at time of war is scarier than separated by death.



Figure 4.15. Someone looking at their missing family member.

Figure 4.15 shows a time when people are trying to look for their family member. In figure 4.15, there is a man saying “No it’s not her!” implying that he has already checked on the body. The fear of death is also huge enough to make people afraid that their missing family could already be dead. However, it is undeniable that hope for the survival of their missing family also exists. Unfortunately, uncertain condition is still terrorizing people.

c. Distance

The last reason a family can be separated is the distance. By living far from one another they will be unreachable at time of war. This reason can be applied to nuclear family and also distance family. It is usual that

someone in the family might work outside of the city, just like Seita's father who is currently working in Naval Army.



Figure 4.16. Seita does not have his family address in Tokyo.

As illustrated in figure 4.16, It is even harder to find someone if they do not have their address. However, even if they have their address it is still uncertain that their family still live in there in time of war. The possibility that they move somewhere else is quite high considering the number of houses bombed. Therefore, by the fact above the writer believes that distance in time of war will lead them to be separated because it is hard to reach them.

4.1.4 Egocentrism

Another aspect of cruelty at time of war is egocentrism. By egocentrism it means that people are starting to put themselves first before the others. In time of war egocentrism can be seen in terms of sharing food. By being egocenter people will think about fulfilling

themselves before the others. However, this action is also considered natural in time of war, as a basic mechanism of survival. It is understandable that this effect can be associated as cruelty of war. There are two illustrations that can be seen in the movie referring to egocentrism at the time of war.

a. The Absence Sympathy

Egocentrism can affect a person's sympathy of others. By thinking about themselves first, people tend to be unsympathetic toward the other. Unsympathetic can also be associated with being ignorance.



Figure 4.17. A farmer does not want to share food.

Figure 4.17 illustrates a farmer who does not want to share food because he did not have any extra food to share. The farmer words imply that actually he has some food. Despite Seita's and Setsuko's hunger, the farmer does not have any empathy toward them. This is illustrating that the farmer has lost sympathy. However, it is also understandable that

people do not want to share their food. A farmer needs food in order to keep himself healthy to produce more food. Therefore, being cold hearted at time of war is a common sense.

b. Reward-driven Motives

Egocentrism also affect how people behave. By being egocentric people will also think about the benefits of doing something, or in other words they tend to think about mutualism. It means that people probably do not want to do something if it is not giving them any benefit.



Figure 4.18. Seita's aunt lets Seita and Setsuko move out of the house.

Figure 4.18 illustrates Seita's aunt letting Seita and Setsuko move out from her house. In the story it is told that Seita and Setsuko did not have anywhere else to go after their house was burned down by America. They decided to stay at their aunt's house. However, as the story goes, Seita and Setsuko are mistreated. They do not get food in

their aunt's house. Therefore, in the end they decide to move out of their aunt's house.

The irony of illustration in figure 4.18 is that their aunt lets them go. At first, Seita's aunt accepted them in her house due to some reasons. The first reason is the wealth of Seita's family. She probably thinks that it will benefit her to accept Seita and Setsuko in her house. The second reason is Seita brought lots of food. By bringing lots of food it is indicating that Seita will not be a burden for her. However, as the story goes, it is learned that Seita's parents have died and soon he runs out of food. Therefore, their aunt lets Seita and Setsuko go because she does not want to carry more burdens. Her action once again is understandable because they faced war at the time.

All of the figures and analysis above show how people think, how they react, their prejudices, their insanities, and their very lifestyle-with all elements suggested indirectly which lead to the conclusion of the cruelty of war. The cruelty of war in the movie is deeply analyzed using setting of the movie.

After the discussion about cruelty of war in general, the writer decides to discuss more specific about children's suffering in the time of

war. In the next discussion, the writer tries to answer the second question about the kind of sufferings as formulated in problem formulations.

4.2 Children Sufferings

In relation to the second problem formulation which talk about children sufferings, in the analysis the writer will focus on the development of the character of the main characters, Seita and Setsuko. The writer believes that Seita and Setsuko are the representation of children at the time of war. What they experience at time of war is probably not exactly the same, but the aspects they experience are mostly similar. By focusing on the characters the writer is certain that what the children experience during the war is terrible. There are two aspects showing the effect of war suffered by the children at time of war.

4.2.1 Children losing rights

The first aspect is children lose their rights. Judging by their physical and mental condition, children are the most vulnerable human beings. They are smaller than adults, mentally unstable, and also inexperienced. Therefore, children do need adults' care more than anything else, especially in time of war. "Care" in this term can be associated to children's rights. There are three rights that will be discussed in this thesis.

a. The Loss of Rights to be Protected

As stated before children need adults' care to protect them from a dangerous world. However, in the movie, it was shown otherwise. Seita and Setsuko are exposed to many dangers. The first danger they faced is when they are on the run, avoiding fire bombs for the first time.

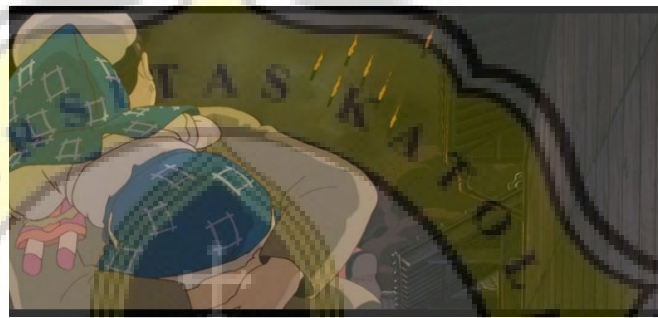


Figure 4.19. Seita and Setsuko are running from fire bombs.

Figure 4.19 shows that Seita and Setsuko are exposed to the danger of fire bombs. However, in the movie, it is shown that nobody seems to care to protect or prioritize them. Everybody is busy to save themselves in the chaotic situation of war. It is understandable that people are acting like that due to the reasons mentioned before in previous discussion. Therefore, children in the movie are treated as equally as the adults. The movie also shows Seita behaving like someone not in his age. He has to take care of Setsuko, pay attention to her, and also protect her from the danger. His action indicates that Seita is a really responsible person.



Figure 4.20. Seita protects Setsuko from airplane attack.

In figure 4.20 we learn that Seita protects Setsuko from danger. If we put attention to his gesture we will understand that he tries to cover Setsuko's head with his body and lift her to protect her from the airplane attack. In this figure Seita also reflects what an adult must do to protect children. Yet, we must remember that Seita is also only a little child himself. Seita has a right to be protected too. However, the movie shows that nobody cares to protect him. Furthermore, when Seita and Setsuko lose their house they are also exposed to danger. It is not only a child's right to have shelter or home for them to rest, but it is also the rights of all humans. Unfortunately, this is also unfulfilled for Seita and Setsuko. They are forced to stay at an abandon bomb shelter near the river by their own. As mentioned before , bomb shelter is not a comfortable place to stay.



Figure 4.21. Seita become homeless.

Moreover, in figure 4.21 we learn that in the end, Seita becomes homeless and stays at the train station. That place is also the last place Seita takes his last breath. In other words, Seita does not have anywhere else to go until he dies. Sadly, rather than help Seita, people avoid him while mock him as the disgrace of Japan. Therefore, regarding the facts above, the conclusion about children losing their right to be protected can be drawn.

b. The Loss of Rights to be Fed

Another right that children should get is a right to be fed. Children cannot work by themselves because they are immature and weak. Therefore, they have rights to be fed by adults. However, in the movie, there is no adult willingly feeding Seita and Setsuko. Moreover, not even their aunt willingly feeds them.



Figure 4.22. Seita's bowl without any rice.

Figure 4.22 is a proof that Seita's aunt is unwilling to feed Seita and Setsuko. If we put more attention to the bowl, her aunt bowl has rice in it unlike Seita's bowl. It is also a proof that Seita and Setsuko also suffer from the cruelty of war, egocentrism. The problem that Seita and Setsuko face are even getting bigger because later on in the movie Setsuko is shown as getting sick due to malnutrition, which is the reason Setsuko cannot survive.

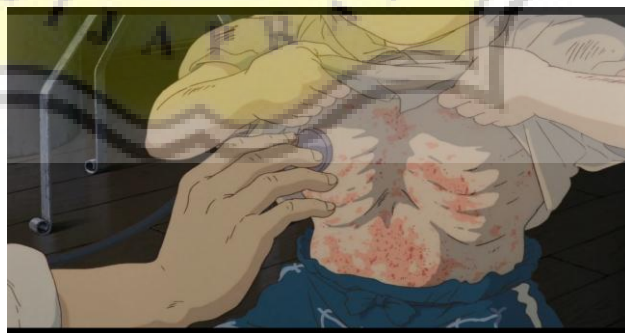


Figure 4.23. Setsuko sickness.

Figure 4.23 shows Setsuko's malnutrition. If we pay attention to the figure, we can see that her body now is full of rash and also skinny. Malnutrition is caused by getting not enough nutrition from food. Despite Seita's hard work to feed Setsuko, he cannot fulfill Setsuko's needs for food which leads to this problem. Seita and Setsuko require adults' help to solve this problem. Unfortunately in time of war, nobody nobody wants to take care of them. Therefore, proved by the facts above, the argument about children have lost their right to be fed is strengthened.

c. The Loss of Rights to be loved

The last and the most important rights of children are to be loved. Children need more attention than adults. In the movie, Setsuko shows that she does not want to be left alone when Seita tries to leave her in order to withdraw money from the bank to feed her. Despite that Seita is also another little kid, he is able to show that Seita loves Setsuko since the beginning of the story. When on the first run avoiding fire bombs, he brought Setsuko on his back. Moreover, when he found out that their mother is dying he tried to hide the fact from Setsuko because he does not want to make Setsuko sad.



Figure 4.24. Seita mother is dying.

Seita found his mother in the school shelter dying and suffering from major injury due to fire. Looking at her terrible condition Seita forced himself to lie to Setsuko about where their mother is when Setsuko asked about her. He said that their mother is all right in Nishinomiya Hospital. He lied to protect Setsuko from the terrible fact. This lie could be called as a “white lie” which means a lie for a good reason. Seita’s white lie indicates how much Seita love his little sister. Despite Seita’s love of Setsuko, she still needs her mother. One night she cries in the middle of the night looking for her mother in her sleep. Her action triggers her aunt to get mad to Seita because she feels disturbed by Setsuko’s cry.

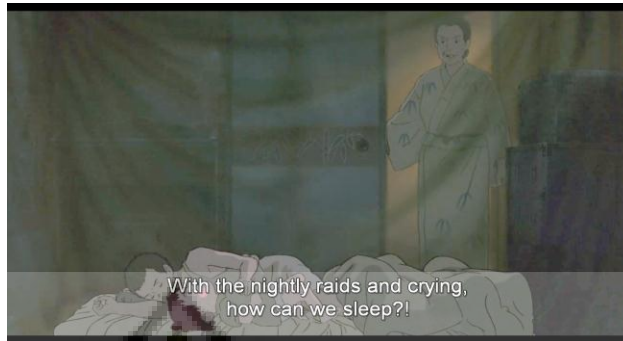


Figure 4.25. Setsuko is crying in the middle of the night.

From figure 4.25 we can see that children need extra care. Apart from their parents, nobody will understand how much love they need. It is a reason Setsuko cries in the middle of the night looking for her mother and also a reason their aunt does not understand about it.

In time of war children are often left by their parents. Seita and Setsuko are an example of that argument. Their father is a soldier and their mother falls victim to the fire bombs. Both of their parents eventually die. This is a reflection of the effect of war experienced by children in time of war.

4.2.2 Emotional effects

Emotional effects also happen to children in time of war. What is meant by emotional effects is an unpleasant feeling they felt due to the cruelty of war. Seita and Setsuko experience a lot of terrible events in

time of war. Because of that they show emotional reaction toward the situation. There are five emotions shown by Seita and Setsuko in the movie.

a. Sadness

Sadness is a feeling Seita and Setsuko feel during the terrible event they face. Crying is the best way to indicate sadness. There are few times Seita and Setsuko crying. The first cry from Setsuko can be seen after Seita tells Setsuko that she cannot meet their mother in Nishinomiya Hospital because it is already late.

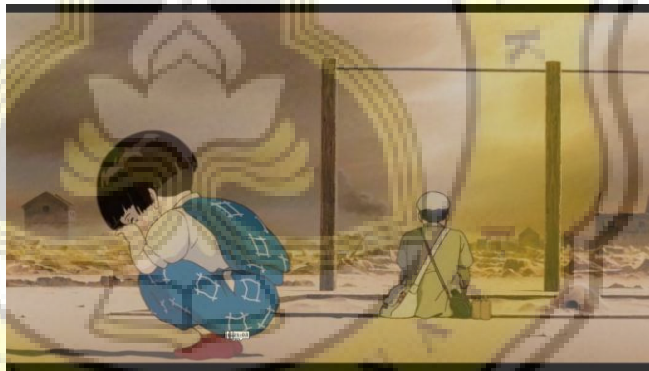


Figure 4.26. Setsuko cry because she cannot meet her mother

Figure 4.26 shows how sad Setsuko is because she cannot meet her mother. She cried because she is worried and misses their mother. On the other hand, we can see that Seita is also sad by the fact that he sits quite far from Setsuko. As mentioned before, Seita lies about their mother terrible state that time. The event about their mother probably

also makes Seita sad. However, Seita tries to be strong and holds his cry for Setsuko's sake. The second cry from Setsuko happens after they live in their aunt's house. In order to get some rice their aunt tells Seita to sell their mother's kimono. Straggled by hunger Seita agrees to trade his mother's kimono with rice. However, Setsuko did not think the same.



Figure 4.27. Setsuko is crying over her mother's kimono

Figure 4.27 shows Setsuko unwillingly lets go her mother's kimono. She cries and says that those kimonos belong to their mother. Her cry is probably triggered by her sense of belonging. She feels that their mother's kimonos are also part of their mother, which she does not want to lose. Different from Setsuko, Seita is able to think logically and lets go of the kimono.



Figure 4.28. Seita is crying because he remembers how his mother dies.

Figure 4.28 shows Seita is crying for the first time because he is unable to hold his emotions any longer. The writer believes that Seita has reached his limit at this point. Despite having to survive against cruel situations at time of war, Seita also should take care of his little sister. The reason he cries is complicated in this figure due to the fact that what makes him remember are Setsuko's words. She says that her mother has already been dead and inside a grave while making a grave for fireflies they captured the day before. Her words make Seita realize that she has already known the truth about the death of their mother. Suddenly the shock also makes Seita remember how their mother is cremated in a mass cremating area similar to the fireflies Setsuko buried. Those facts make Seita unable to bear his tears anymore.

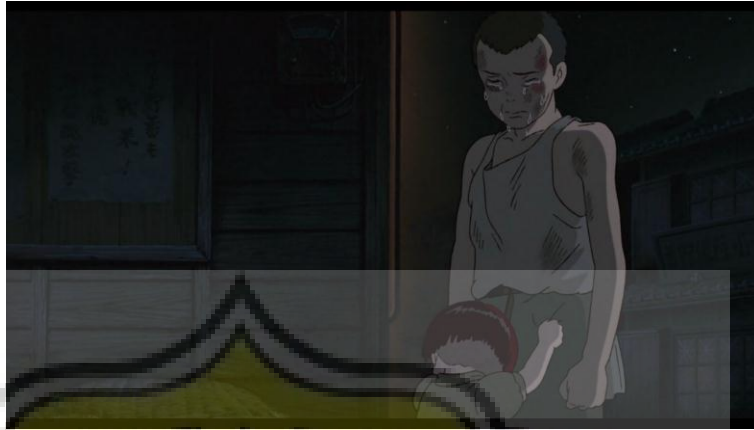


Figure 4.29. Seita is crying in front of the police station.

In figure 4.29 we can see that Seita is crying in front of Setsuko. The situation in figure 4.29 happens after Seita is getting caught stealing by a farmer. Soon he is dragged to the police station by the furious farmer. Fortunately, Seita is pitied by the police officer because he is beaten badly by the farmer. Seita is released by the policeman to find Setsuko waiting for him outside the police station. In figure 4.29 Seita's cry is not only reflecting sadness, but also shame. We can see that Seita is turning away his face from Setsuko when she approaches him before he finally cries. The reason behind this the event of Seita felt a shame showing himself before Setsuko is because his guilty feeling that he has committed thievery and gets caught until he is beaten badly. Despite Seita reason of stealing is to feed his sick sister, in the victim's eyes a crime is a crime which deserves to be punished.



Figure 4.30: Seita is crying after Setsuko convinced him to eat rocks.

Figure 4.30 shows Seita's third and also the last cry. Figure 4.30 happens after Setsuko convinces Seita to eat rocks which she thought was foods. Knowing that his sister is hallucinating about food, Seita cries and prepares foods as soon as possible. However, Setsuko dies before the food is ready due to hunger. Sadness is drawn all over Seita's face as we can see in figure 4.30. His face is telling us that as a brother he can not possibly bear to see his Sister gotten weaker day by day until she is hallucinating about food because she is too hungry. After Seita finds that his sister never opens her eyes again after that he run out of tears. Figure 4.30 is also the last time Seita ever cries. The reason behind that argument is because Seita already breaks his spirit because he is too sad to accept the fact that he lost his sister. Seita's broken spirit also indicates progression of his character of being round character.



Figure 4.31. Seita hold Setsuko's dead body.

Figure 31 shows the climax of the story where Seita is holding her sister's dead body until the next morning. From his eyes and facial expression in figure 4.31 we can see how sad he is. Sadness coloring figure 4.31 as shown in the movie. The dark color used and the silent moment shown in the movie describe how gloomy the situation is. By the next morning, Seita cremates his sister by his own. He prepares the firewood, puts Setsuko in and her belongings in a little container, and sets the fire. He waits for his little sister to get burned to the ashes from morning until the night approached.



Figure 4.32. Seita cremates his sister.

Figure 4.32 shows how sad the situation is by showing Seita sitting in front of burning fire where he cremates his sister. As mentioned before, Seita sits on there from morning until the night approached. Figure 4.32 also shows a lot of fireflies come out when the fire almost out. Fireflies, which are flown from the ground to the sky in figure 4.31 can also be interpreted as Setsuko's soul. Figure 4.32 shows us what kind of sadness experienced by Seita at that time. To have cremated a family alone on a top of the hill and seen it until the end is not an easy thing to do for anyone. In the end, his sadness is reflected in his blank eyes until the day he dies in the train station.



Figure 4.33. Seita is dying at the train station.

Moreover, the fact that after the death of his sister, Seita does not have any more dialogue reflecting that Seita has also lost the will to live. Figure 4.33 shows the last moment of Seita's life. In figure 4.33, we can see that Seita with blank eyes is sitting at the busy train station. His blank eyes in figure 4.33 are showing how sad Seita is. The development of Seita's character from a high spirited boy who does anything to survive to lose his will to live is probably the main reason Seita cannot survive throughout the war. However, with all things Seita experience during the war, it is understandable that Seita's sadness finally breaks him.

b. Fear

The second emotional effect Seita and Setsuko feel during the time of war is fear. Fear is not only experienced by adults in the movie, but also the children. It is truly heartbreaking to know in time of war

children are unprotected from fear of death. The movie shows us how fear controls the Seita and Setsuko's emotions, mostly when the attack comes.



Figure 4.34. Setsuko is trembling.

Figure 4.34 happens at the beginning of the story when Seita and Setsuko on the first run evading fire bombs from America's army. Seita carries Setsuko on his back for the entire run in figure 4.34. However, we can see that Setsuko is trembling due to fear. Tremble is how human physically expresses fear they feel. It is also heartbreaking to know a little child like Setsuko has to experience such terrible feeling when she is so young.



Figure 4.35. Seita is showing fear during the attack.

Figure 4.35 shows how fear control Seita's emotion during the attack. From his expression, we can learn that he is afraid of the attack. Every time the alarm of air raid loudly rings, Seita always looks at the sky and gasps. He looks at the sky to check the position of the airplane which is going to attack so that he can dodge it. As shown in figure 4.21, after looking at the sky and check where the airplane is going to fire he manages to save Setsuko and dodges the attack. However, it does not mean that all of the action is done calmly and smoothly. The fear is expressed judging by how Seita gasps every single time it happens.

c. Anxiety

Anxiety is the third emotional effect Seita and Setsuko feel during the time of war as shown in the movie. It is true that anxiety is also

affected by fear, but anxiety in this part means more into the feeling of uneasiness.

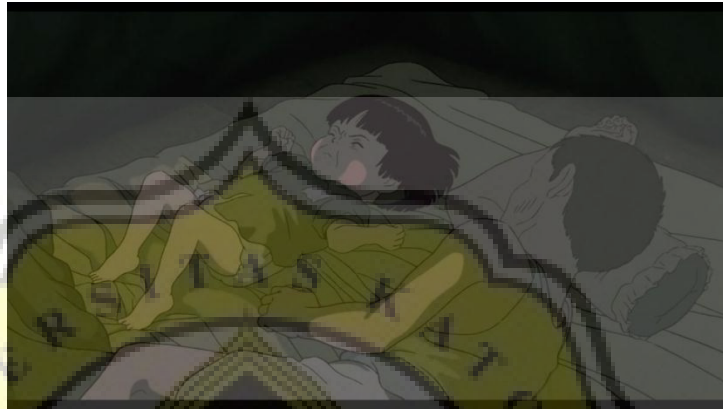


Figure 4.36. Setsuko cries in her sleep looking her mother.

Figure 4.36 shows Setsuko is crying in her sleep because she is looking for her mother. This illustration indicates Setsuko's insecurity in her sleep. If we pay more attention to figure 4.36, we can also see Seita sleeping next to her. Despite Seita accompanies her, Setsuko still demands her mother's presence in order to make her feel safe in her sleep. Setsuko attitude has not changed since the beginning of the story until the end. She remains as an innocent young child until the day she dies due to starvation. Because of that reason, Setsuko can be nominated as a flat character.



Figure 4.37. Seita drops his body as soon as he sees America's airplane.

Figure 4.37 shows how insecure the situation is even after the war ends. From the figure we learn that Seita drops his body on the ground while looking at America's airplane. The writer believes that this figure pointing at Seita's anxiety toward America's airplane. As we can see from the previous discussion about Seita's fear, he is always aware of airplane's presence because he considers America's airplane dangerous. Anxiety is not an easy emotion to forget as proven by Seita's uneasiness about the airplane's presence still exists even though he knows that the war has ended.