# Analysis of the Film "The Story of Loyal Dog Bagong" with Aesthetic Psychology

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## **Abstract**

The film "the story of loyal dog Bagong" is adapted from a true story in Japan in the 20th century. Combined with the social background of the author and his works, this paper makes a brief analysis of this film around the basic elements of aesthetic psychology, namely perception, imagination, emotion and understanding.

# **Keywords**

Social Background; Basic Elements of Aesthetic Psychology; Perception; Imagination; Emotional; Understanding.

### 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Outline of the Film Plot

Parker, the protagonist of the film, is a university professor. One night, he picked up the little Akita dog accidentally lost at the railway station. At first, his wife was opposed to the adoption of the little Akita dog, but she finally adopted the little Akita dog when she saw that her husband and daughter took good care of it and her husband was full of joy when he accompanied the dog. As a new family member, the little Akita dog has a new name - "Hachi".

Time has written a happy chapter between Bagong and his new family, and left traces of growth on Bagong - from a small one to a giant. Sending Parker to work every morning and waiting at the station at 5 p.m. has become an tacit agreement between Parker and Bagong. The enthusiastic peddler selling hot dogs, the enthusiastic landlady of the store next to the street, the stationmaster of the station They are all witnesses to the warm story staged tirelessly every day. However, on the day when Bagong learned to pick up the ball, Parker died of a sudden myocardial infarction while lecturing in the University. Bagong never waited for his master again. Later, instead of continuing to live at Parker's daughter's house, Bagong returned to the station and waited quietly outside the gate of the station at 5 p.m. every day. Bagong continued to do that regardless of wind and rain for nine years until he finally died.

## 1.2. Social Background of the Author and his Works

The film "the story of loyal dog Bagong" is adapted from the true story that took place in Japan in 1925. Director lesser holsdom is known as "the best dog filmmaker in the world". His works are often created with dog elements. His emotions are delicate and sincere, which has also laid a solid foundation for this film with dogs as an important role. Since the 20th century, with the improvement of the economic level of various countries, there has been an unbalanced gap between people's material needs and spiritual needs. Material satisfaction has made more and more people turn their attention to spiritual needs, trying to draw nourishment from opera, film, art and music. The demand and desire for art has led to the blowout development of the art industry. When pursuing the development of an industry too much, it is bound to form some rigid modes. Since the 20th century, the lens of the film industry has focused more on the sense of technology and speed. In the rush of films, if there is no unique innovative elements and

blindly pursue visual satisfaction, it is easy to fall into the nihility quagmire of hedonism. From the perspective of man and dog, the film "the story of loyal dog Bagong" focuses on the warmth in life, which has aroused the emotional resonance of the audience and filled a gap in people's spiritual world under the cross flow of material desires. Roman Roland once said, "the great significance of art is basically that it can show people's real feelings, the mystery of inner life and the world of passion.""The story of a loyal dog" is adapted from a real event, which is warm but not amorous. Director Lasse Hallström commented: "I hope the film is warm but not amorous, so I avoid many pompous passages. Because I hope it is a comedy, which should not emphasize sadness too much, but simply show the friendship between people and dogs."

# 2. Aesthetic Psychology in Films

"Aesthetic psychology refers to people's subjective reflection of the beauty of objective objects. Aesthetic psychology includes many factors such as perception, intuition, association, imagination, experience, emotion, comprehension, resonance, feeling and understanding. Perception, imagination, emotion and understanding are the four elements of aesthetic psychology." different life experiences also affect people's aesthetic psychology, So as to produce different aesthetic experience in the face of aesthetic objects.

# 2.1. Perception

"Perception is a series of processes of awareness, feeling, attention and perception of internal and external information."

For viewers, perception is the most intuitive experience of the film. Good lens effect and unique film soundtrack are indispensable bonus items for film works. Some viewers have said that it is not so terrible after turning off the sound of horror films. As it is said, the film soundtrack helps to render the emotional atmosphere of the film and pave the way for the turning point of the film plot. In the film "the story of loyal dog Bagong", the soundtrack of the film is mainly composed of soothing piano music, which lays the warm tone of the whole film. The film filter is dominated by the warm yellow tone of the dark color system, creating a comfortable and quiet feeling of slow life in the old days in terms of visual effect.

One of the biggest artistic features of the film "the story of loyal dog Bagong" is to shoot from the dual perspectives of characters and Bagong. At the beginning of the film, Bagong's first appearance employs the lens shot from Bagong's perspective, and Bagong's perspective lens also has important details: the dog's eye color perception is weak, so it is processed with gray filter, and shot with different height line of sight according to Bagong's body shape. The shooting of the film from the perspective of Bagong makes viewers more empathetic with the world in the eyes of Bagong, and more truly experience the emotion between Bagong and the Parker. From the two perspectives of characters and dog, it not only shows the loyal emotion between Bagong and Parker, but also reveals the equal relationship between this love.

There are many tearful scenes in the film, but the most intuitive feeling after watching the whole film is that there is a calm but powerful force in the film. The film does not overemphasize sadness, but reveals the pure loyalty between Bagong and Parker in every bit of daily life.

## 2.2. Imagine

If a work of art is the creation of an author based on certain elements, the process of appreciating a work of art is the recreation of the work of art by the viewer. The author uses some artistic techniques to make the viewer produce imagination related to his own life experience. This is not only the unique communication way between the author and the viewer, but also the unique pleasure of appreciating a work of art. No matter what era the author is in,The divergent imagination of your works is to build a communication bridge between you and the author. In the 21st century, you can also pass through the bright moon of Qin Dynasty

and hear the five notes of the ancient Chinese five-tone scale."There are a thousand Hamlets in the eyes of a thousand people", but in my opinion, there is no right or wrong in the imagination generated in front of artistic works, whether rich or plain, black and white or colorful. This is also another pleasure of appreciating artistic works --it has a certain degree of privacy. Without the interference of others, what you see, hear and think is your personal communication with the author.

Imagination is a common technique in art works. The blank space in the painting has a sense of extension of "thousands of mountains and birds fly away, thousands of paths and people disappear". The O'Henry ending in literary works also leaves a mysterious imagination space for readers.

Let's briefly talk about several clips that left me imagination space in the film "the story of loyal dog Bagong". At the beginning of the story, Parker found the accidentally displaced Bagong at the station. After several visits, he failed to find the owner of Bagong. The story of Parker and Bagong really began here. Where does Bagong come from? Was it accidentally lost or abandoned at the station? This is the first segment of my imagination, but it didn't last long. When the plot went to Bagong's warm company with Parker, it was obvious that Bagong's life experience was no longer important. It was a pity and incomplete beauty. Life was like this. For Bagong and Parker, this was the fate given by God. How they had lived in the past was no longer important, cherish the present and enjoy the present is eternal.

The second clip that aroused my imagination left me the most profound impression. Parker found that Bagong never picked up the thrown ball (this is an entertaining activity for many dogs). After many attempts to pick up the ball with Bagong, he stopped this activity. In fact, this foreshadows the plot. So why does Bagong never pick up the ball? Is there something hidden in this process? This is a question in my heart. With this question, I continue to watch. Maybe it will explain later. As the plot goes on, the camera came to Parker's work one morning. Bagong didn't send Parker to work as usual. He was reluctant in the yard. Parker had to go to the station by himself. When he was about to enter the station, Parker saw Bagong with the ball in his mouth. This was the first time Bagong had finished the game of picking up the ball with Parker. Parker was happy to go to work then. Seeing this, viewers may naturally imagine the happy time of Bagong and Parker picking up the ball in the future, but the trend of the plot has changed in this happy morning. On the afternoon of the day Bagong learned to pick up the ball, Parker died of a heart attack in teaching, and Bagong never waited for Parker at the station again. At the end of the film, Bagong meets the imaginary Parker before his death. The film ends with the scene of Parker's little grandson and the pet dog who came to pick him up from school walking by the railway. While crying for the story of Bagong and Parker, it leaves the viewer with room for hopeful Imagination: the story is still going round after round, and the love will never stop.

## 2.3. Emotion

The emotional theme of the film is the loyal relationship between Parker and Bagong. A line at the end of the film also highlights the emotional theme of the film - "he taught me the meaning of loyalty, that is: don't forget all the people you loved."The film also contains rich emotional sidelines: Parker and his wife enjoy and understand each other's love, even if they are no longer young, they are still full of romantic love, a harmonious and happy family, friendship of shops around the station and the kindness of strangers to Parker's donation.

The whole film contains rich emotional lines and creates an overall warm atmosphere. The lens is mostly the daily relationship between Bagong and the Parker family, which can arouse the emotional resonance of the viewer.

#### 2.4. Understand

Understanding is everyone's cognition based on their own experience.

In the film "the story of loyal dog Bagong", there are many details worthy of our deep understanding.Let's talk about my personal understanding of this film. The biggest artistic technique of this film is to add the gray lens from Bagong's perspective. According to common sense of life, it is not difficult for viewers to understand this technique. One of the most striking details in the film is that Bagong wandered to the place waiting for Parker to get off work in the late night of his death. The lens flashed. Bagong saw Parker in the late night and met again in front of the station, This is Bagong's imagination. I noticed that in the imaginary picture, it was late at night, but the clock in front of the station still showed 5 p.m., when Bagong waited for Parker to get off work every day. Perhaps from the day of Parker's death, Bagong's time has always stayed at 5 p.m. Waiting is silence while love can pass through time.

When I watched the second time, I noticed a foreshadowing at the beginning of the film. When Parker talked to his Japanese friend about Bagong never picking up the ball, his friend explained that Akita dogs generally don't pick up the ball: "if you let him pick up things, there must be a special reason."Parker replied, "I'll find out the reason."On the morning of Parker's accident, Bagong did not send Parker to work directly as usual. After seeing Parker leave, he chased him to the station with the ball in his mouth. He finished picking up the ball for the first time. After looking at it again for the second time, I realized that Bagong seemed to be aware of Parker's abnormality and hoped to keep Parker from going to work by picking up the ball, which echoed the foreshadowing of the "special reason" at the beginning.

The film has many intriguing details, and each viewing is a new understanding.

#### 3. Conclusion

Some people are still there because others are still there. Bagong's wordless waiting is because Parker always exists in his heart.Influenced by aesthetic psychology, everyone has different understanding of the film, but our hearts will be moved beyond words."It taught me the meaning of loyalty, that is: you should not forget all the people you loved." I hope we can cherish our love and pass it on.

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