

**NATHANIEL'S AMBITION TO REVENGE ON SIMON LOVELACE  
DESCRIBED IN JONATHAN STROUD'S *THE BARTIMAEUS TRILOGY:  
THE AMULET OF SAMARKAND***

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**Abstract:** *This thesis is entitled Nathaniel's Ambition to Revenge on Simon Lovelace Described in Jonathan Stroud's The Bartimaeus Trilogy: The Amulet of Samarkand has an objective to analyze ambition and motive of Nathaniel alias John Mandrake to revenge on Simon Lovelace as his enemy. The researcher used descriptive qualitative method to find out Ambition and motive of Nathaniel alias John Mandrake after Humiliated by Simon Lovelace. While library research method was used to gain any references dealing with the object of analysis. Technique of analysis is divided into two, there are structural and psychology approach. Structural approach was used to analyze structural elements like general description, conflict, and setting, while psychological approach was used to analyze and describe problems dealing with the object of study. The collected data were analyzed by reading the novel. The researcher presents all the data by the quotation through general description, conflict and setting. The results of this research show that the main character is described as a person who is genius, clever, restless, arrogant, and curious. He belongs to round dynamic character since he has more than one specific traits and he also changes from the beginning till the end of the story. The main character also experiences internal conflict about him admitting the truth about who steal the amulet, to disobey his master, blame himself and also external conflict against his master, Bartimaeus, Maurice Schyler, The Resistance and Simon Lovelace. The setting in this novel is divided into setting of place; Attic room, Sir Underwood house, Boarded-up building, Heddleham Hall, Small library and The hall of Heddleham Hall, setting of time; morning in boarded-up building, 10.15 am and setting of social on high social class. Nathaniel alias John Mandrake's ambition is motivated by humiliation and murder drives him to gain everything that needs to commit revenge. Living as magician which is always surrounded by ambition and domination, losing someone that he loves, humiliated and be degraded by other.*

**Keywords:** *Ambition, Amulet of Samarkand, Jonathan Stroud, Motive, Revenge*

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A literature is a creative process from authors who convey their expression by their work. Usually, an author expresses their feeling and emotion in a literary work whether an author is happy or sad. Literature is a creation of human's instinct that expresses the idea, view, experience, belief, feeling, spirit, in a concrete form through medium of language (Soemardjo and Saini, 1986:3)

Literary works are created from creative writing process, intrinsic and extrinsic aspects. Intrinsic aspects in literature are used as the elements to build literary works itself and the intrinsic elements creates literary works are more interesting. Extrinsic elements are the elements from outside of its literature, but still included in the unit that builds literary works itself. For example, novel, extrinsic elements will make a story very interesting.

The Bartimaeus Trilogy: The Amulet Of Samarkand is the 1st book of The Bartimaeus Trilogy from Jonathan Stroud. This novel tells us about an apprentice magician named Nathaniel alias John mandrake as his official wizard's name who summon a mid-high leveled djinn named Bartimaeus to giving a lesson to Simon Lovelace who humiliated him by stealing his mysterious amulet which called Amulet of Samarkand. His revenge now become too far ahead, Simon track his magic thread and mad at Sir Underwood, suddenly Simon burnt down the house. Nathaniel scared to death, depressed and he mourned to his stepmother who always treated him like her own son. For this moment, he promises to reveal the fact about the Amulet of Samarkand and pay revenge on Simon Lovelace. This research focused on Nathaniel as the main character because of conflicts that lure him into disaster on his family that makes him gain power in order to revenge.

His ambition to revenge drives him to be more powerful, smarter, and mastering more spells to fulfill his goals, to get his honor back, reveal the secret of the amulet and kill Simon Lovelace.

The writer chooses a novel The Bartimaeus Trilogy: The Amulet of Samarkand as the thesis's data source especially in the aspects of psychology from the main character here. The psychology aspects such as ambition and revenge will be analyzed by the writer with some approaches, not only the psychology aspect but also the structures.

Based on the previous explanation, the writer decided to discuss Nathaniel's ambition to take revenge on Simon Lovelace described in Jonathan Stroud's the Bartimaeus trilogy: the amulet of Samarkand as the title of this proposal.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

### **Data and Subject**

The data of this research was Jonathan Stroud's novel *The Bartimaeus Trilogy: The Amulet of Samarkand*.

### **Units of Analysis**

The study focuses on the intrinsic element and extrinsic element. The intrinsic element includes characters, conflicts, settings and the extrinsic elements include Psychology aspects such as motive and ambition.

### **Technique of Data Collection and Analysis**

In getting the data, the researcher needed many materials to strengthen his research. Because of that the researcher took the data from the library which was library research. Library research is a method of collecting data by reading books, related thesis and other references, which are connected to the research topic. The method was used to complete the supporting data for this research. In conducting the research, the researcher went through two steps.

First step the researcher was read the novel. Therefore, the researcher found some interesting topic that he wanted to discussed and analyzed in this thesis.

The second step the researcher collected the data which related to the topic from this novel such as characterization, setting and psychology as well. On this matter, the researcher applied reading book which were related to the topic and browsed for particular theory related to the topic from internet.

The researcher used the structural approach since the researcher analyzed about the general description of Nathaniel alias John Mandrake, conflict such as internal and external conflict and setting. According to Semi, structural approach is the basic assumption that literary work as a creative work has full autonomy, which has to be seen as a figure, which part from the outside of intrinsic element. Structural approach is the basic assumption that literary work as a creative work has full autonomy, which has to be seen as a figure, which part from the outside of intrinsic element.

According to <http://dictionary.reference.com/ambition>, ambition is an earnest desire for some type of achievement or distinction, as power, honor, fame, or wealth, and the willingness to strive for its attainment. The model of ambition developed includes personality, ability, and family background. Ambition manifests itself in human capital investments and work attainments. This last item, which involves income and prestige, relates to life satisfaction and mortality. In this research, the ambition of Nathaniel is used to achieve his goal which is to revenge.

Morris (1988:414) states that a motive is an inner direction that force a need or want that directs behavior toward a goal. All motives are triggered by some kind of stimulus: a physical need, such as hunger or thirst: a cue in the environment, such

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as the peonies in the garden: or a feeling, such as loneliness, guilt, or anger. When one or more stimuli create a motive, the result is good-directed behavior. According to Morris, there are three types of motives such as primary, stimulus and learned motive.

## **FINDING AND DISCUSSION**

### **Finding**

#### **General Description of Nathaniel alias John Mandrake as the Main Character**

##### **Arrogant**

Nathaniel alias John Mandrake is an arrogant apprentice of Mr Underwood. His arrogance grows because Mr Underwood always underestimated him about being a magician and his intelligence but he can prove himself. He also thinks that commoners are weak; they will ruin their country if they rule the government. As a magician who has demon power, he thinks that magician is the one who should rule the world.

##### **Curious**

Nathaniel's sense of curiosity takes his skill better than before. He studies all the rites of summoning, all the incantations to bind himself to prevent attack from his enemy and all words of power to crush disobedient demon. In the other hand, he always collects information about his enemy and the amulet before taking revenge.

##### **Restless**

According to his sketch tutor, Ms Lutyens, Nathaniel's biggest fault is restless, and he cannot be patient anymore to try his first summon. His power is in Bartimaeus, so if he cannot summon Bartimaeus when needed, he panicked. His birth name was discovered by Bartimaeus, it means death to every magician, and he could not think clearly when it happened. This weakness brings him to study more and discover any strategies related with problem occurred by magicians.

##### **Clever**

Nathaniel can be described as a clever person; it can be proved from his effort to plot the things to set up Simon Lovelace and frustrated him by stole the amulet. He also disguised as a waiter to enter the Heddleham Hall by tricked the waiter into the toilet and kicked him. He faced Scyler without Bartimaeus, but Nathaniel killed him by prague cubes; minor conjurer's trick for low-caster magician; combined into one command and exploded. He won't let anyone be an obstacle for his ambition.

## **Genius**

As an apprentice magician, Nathaniel is quiet genius. He summon 14<sup>th</sup> level djinn in age of twelve without his master's help and his official name is yet given while common magician is able to command an imp or lower level demon in age of 14 and should have an official name already. Nathaniel also threat Bartimaeus with binding spell into tobacco tin and drown it into Thames if he betray Nathaniel. His intelligence helps him through hard conditions while chasing Simon Lovelace.

## **Internal Conflict**

### **Nathaniel against himself (admitting the truth)**

Simon Lovelace came to his house to reclaim the amulet, Underwood faced him. Nathaniel stayed hide and ordered to run by Bartimaeus, but he had another plan, he wanted to admit that he was the one who stole the amulet.

### **Nathaniel against himself (blame himself)**

His house was burned down; Mr /Mrs Underwood were unknown. Simon summoned his demon Jabor to destroyed it all. He shocked for what happened, and he couldn't save Mrs Underwood who had nothing to do with this case.

### **Nathaniel against himself (disobey his master)**

Sir Underwood had forfeited his right to Nathaniel's obedience and respect when he failed to protected Nathaniel from Simon Lovelace's jibes and physical assaults. Sir Underwood had fired Ms Lutyens because she had actually tried to hit Mr Lovelace when he attacked Nathaniel. In fact, Ms Lutyens is the only teacher that he likes; He never forgives his master. Simon Lovelace knew that his amulet was in Underwood's house and Nathaniel putted the amulet in his master's work room. At a glance, he thought it probably the best decision, let his master take blame. He wanted to revenge about what he did to him and Ms Lutyens.

## **External Conflict**

### **Nathaniel against Sir Underwood**

Sir Underwood is his master. He taught Nathaniel with hate and cruelty, he never helped Nathaniel with any trouble and developed his intelligence. He thought his master was a powerful and great magician. In his deepest heart, Nathaniel really hated him. His master knew that Nathaniel summoned something without his permission and he was very upset. His master even thought that wouldn't name him in the Almanac.

After Nathaniel admitted that he was the one who stole the amulet of Samarkand, Sir Underwood was mad at him and he swear to banish him from being his apprentice.

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### **Nathaniel against Bartimaeus**

Bartimaeus underestimated Nathaniel because he was twelve years old and impossible to summon such demon like Bartimaeus alone. When he talked about his plan to stole the amulet, Bartimaeus told him that it was dangerous task and it brought disaster into the house. Nathaniel blamed that Bartimaeus was the one who let Simon tracked his thread and visited them.

### **Nathaniel against members of resistance**

Nathaniel faced the resistance when he discovered that the paperboy wasn't brought him to the newspaper distributor but the paperboy brought him into his hideout and interrogated him.

His scrying glass was stolen and Nathaniel fought back, but Nathaniel was beaten. He couldn't summon Bartimaeus at that time.

### **Nathaniel against Maurice Schyler**

After Nathaniel got caught following Simon, He called Maurice, Simon Lovelace's master. Nathaniel facing Maurice, he said that Simon was offered a position in the Government, if Nathaniel wanted to join him because they recognized that Nathaniel have a potential ability to be a great magician someday, but Nathaniel Refused it because his only goal was revenge on Simon Lovelace and ended his evil plan.

Nathaniel couldn't summon Bartimaeus there, there was no time, and then Nathaniel should fight by his own capability to escape from Schyler and chased Simon Lovelace.

### **Nathaniel against Simon Lovelace**

When Nathaniel first met with Simon Lovelace and Mr Underwood's friends at the age of 10<sup>th</sup>, Nathaniel had underestimated by them and Nathaniel felt humiliated by their statement then he proved himself, but Simon Lovelace thought that Nathaniel was as good as a standard apprentice magician. Nathaniel was upset with that statement and he summoned six mites to attacked Simon Lovelace. Simon came to Nathaniel and punished him till unconscious.

Nathaniel stole the amulet of Samarkand from Simon, but he knew it. Simon came to Underwood's house and burned down the house; destroyed everything except Nathaniel and Bartimaeus. In this condition, Nathaniel decides to revenge.

Nathaniel was found Simon Lovelace and chased him in Heddleham Hall. Nathaniel snatched the Amulet of Smarkand from Simon Lovelace and let his own demon banished him. He fulfils his ambition to commit revenge.

### **Setting of Place**

#### **Sir Underwood House**

This is the place where Sir Underwood, Mrs Underwood and Nathaniel live. This is the place where Nathaniel raised as a magician. They live in a tall Georgian house in Highgate.

#### **Attic Room**

The attic room on Sir Underwood house belongs to Nathaniel as his Bedroom. This room is in the fifth floor of the house. This place is also the place used by Nathaniel to summon Bartimaeus first time in a pentacle.

#### **Schoolroom**

When Nathaniel was attacked Simon and all of his friends, he ran off to his schoolroom where his study was continued with Ms Lutyens. The schoolroom is the place where Nathaniel studies non-magic material.

#### **River Thames**

Nathaniel casted the spell of Indefinite Confinement, binding his djinn into tobacco tin and drawn it into river Thames.

#### **The Boarded-up Building**

Bartimaeus took him away from Highgate. They found a building that was abandoned and stayed there for couple of days. Bartimaeus took him away from Highgate. They found a building that was abandoned and stayed there for couple of days.

#### **A narrow alley behind Nag's Head**

When Nathaniel wanted to buy newspaper, the paperboy brought him into his supplier in a narrow alley behind Nag's head. It was the place when Nathaniel faced with the resistance.

#### **Heddleham Hall Kitchen**

Kitchen is the only entrance that both of them can possibly enter without detected. Bartimaeus decided to enter the building by window, then Nathaniel should disguise as a waiter to get in the Heddleham Hall.

#### **Heddleham Hall**

Heddleham Hall is the place that they are looking for. Parliamentary Conference and Ball will arranged. All important people in the government will attend so it means that Simon Lovelace is included.

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### **A small library**

In Heddleham Hall, Simon followed by Nathaniel, But Simon stopped in a place that looked like a library because he knew that he was being followed. This was the place where Nathaniel fought against Schyler.

### **Main Hall/Auditorium**

Nathaniel was tried to make another scrying disk again to find Simon whereabouts; the disc showed a big hall inside the Heddleham Hall; the place where Nathaniel tries to reveal the amulet and pay revenge to Simon.

### **Setting of Time At 10.15 P.M**

The newspaper reported the incident of Sir Underwood house that burned down by Simon Lovelace; the blaze had started at approximately 10:15 P.M.

### **At Evening**

Nathaniel wanted to buy an evening newspaper, but the paperboy said that the newspaper was sold out and he brings Nathaniel to Fred; member of The Resistance.

### **Morning in Heddleham Hall**

Finally, they know how to get through the gate guards, right in the morning they Hijacked Squalls & Son's grocery truck and disguised as them.

### **Setting of Social**

#### **Life as apprentice from the member the ministry of internal**

As an apprentice of Sir Underwood who worked for the ministry of internal affairs, Nathaniel living in a high social class. Sir Underwood house represent elegance. It is slender, simple and dignified countenance to the street. It also has five main floors.

### **Discussion**

#### **Nathaniel's ambition to revenge**

Nathaniel's ambition is the tool to achieve his goal, revenge. His ambition becomes his trait since he was adopted and become the apprentice magician. He always pushed to be a great magician and work in the government. As a magician, he is pride by his intelligence and status; he cannot let anyone humiliate him and ignore him. When he got his pride downed by someone, he gains his intelligence and power to surpass his enemy, he wants his honour back. He does everything to achieve it, so his ambition pushes him to become stronger than before to surpass his enemy, even his master.

### **Motive**

Nathaniel's ambition to revenge of what Simon Lovelace had done to him comes from humiliation, anger and sadness that Simon gives to him become his motive. He gains his power, intelligence and strategy on how to kill Simon Lovelace.

He started to prepare himself with everything to bring down Simon Lovelace; he studied the history about how magician fought each other in any condition and strategy. He learned that there was possibility to win the fight with Simon Lovelace.

At first time he summoned Bartimaeus was to test how well his skill growth. He commanded Bartimaeus to steal the amulet and it all went too far. The amulet was not exactly what Nathaniel wanted; his plan to steal the amulet was the cause. He got beaten even more, his master and his wife killed. Simon Lovelace, the magician who's Nathaniel exactly wanted.

The type of motive that applied in the main character Nathaniel is stimulus motive. The main function extends beyond the bare survival of the organism or species-dealing with the information about environment in general. This type of motive is occurred when someone got driven by something even more on external thing around them.

### **CONCLUSION**

Nathaniel alias John Mandrake is the main character in Jonathan Stroud's The Bartimaeus trilogy: Amulet of Samarkand. He is arrogant boy who always proud to be a magician and always think that he is better enough than other, he is curious about anything that connects with magic, clever and genius, but he also restless as an apprentice magician.

The main character experiences both internal and external conflicts. Nathaniel against himself when he should admit the truth that he steals the amulet, he disobey his master because his master is weak and never protect him but he always blame himself about losing them. Nathaniel also experiences external conflicts against Sir Underwood because of his disobedience; he also has a clash with Bartimaeus when the demon know his name, he end up with members of resistance and steal his scrying disc when he escapes from highgate, Maurice Schyler killed by Nathaniel when he confronts him; Nathaniel against Simon Lovelace because of his treat to Nathaniel in the past and he decided to revenge.

Setting divided into setting of place, setting of time and setting of social. The setting of places are in Sir Underwood House as they live, there is an attic room in the house belongs to Nathaniel to do his practice in summoning and schoolroom where he punished by Simon Lovelace when studying non-magic material. After Bartimaeus knew his name, Nathaniel cast indefinite confinement spell to bind his djinn to tobacco tin and drowns it into river Thames. After he escape from the fire, he found the boarded-up building and he lives there; he met a paperboy that lure him in a narrow alley behind Nag's Head and stole the scrying disc. Nathaniel and

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Bartimaeus found a place named Heddleham Hall where the parliament conference has arranged, Nathaniel enter Heddleham Hall kitchen to gain access to the building. In a small library, Nathaniel met Maurice Schyler and fight with him. He ends Simon's evil plan and ends his life as well in the auditorium of Heddleham Hall.

Nathaniel also has his ambition to help him to achieve what he wants to achieve. His ambition drives him to become stronger and smarter His ambition has formed since he was child and became his trait, he has encouraged gaining his name as magician so when he grown up he can take parts in the house of parliament. He study more from his master's library, he gain more intelligence, but when he met Simon Lovelace he got ignored, humiliated. His pride and his dream was fall. He promised to revenge, he read more, he practice more and gain his power. He stole the amulet of Samarkand but Simon knows it and burned down the house and killed his master and the wife, hatred and anger drives his ambition to revenge. He gains information about Simon Lovelace and approached him in Heddleham hall to fulfill his ambition.

Nathaniel once steals the amulet of Samarkand from Simon Lovelace to test his ability instead of revenge on humiliation that he experienced. His true motive was discovered when Simon kills his family and burned down his house. He does not want the amulet; Simon Lovelace is what he wanted to.

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