

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion

This study examined Face Threatening Acts (FTAs) in the film *The Glass Castle* to see how they reflect dysfunctional family communication. Using the theory from Brown and Levinson (1987), Olson's (2000) Circumplex Model, and Cutting and Fordyce's (2020) context theory, the writer find 70 examples of FTAs in the dialogue between family members. From all the data showing types of face-threatening acts, positive face-threatening acts are more dominantly found in the dialogue of *The Glass Castle* movie. The results show that both types of FTAs appear often, showing that the Walls family communication often damages respect and limits personal freedom.

The analysis also showed four strategies used to perform FTAs, which are bald on record, positive politeness, negative politeness, and off record. The most common strategy was bald on record, which shows that the Walls family often speaks directly and bluntly, especially during conflicts. Positive politeness and negative politeness appeared less often, meaning there were fewer efforts to reduce the impact of the words. Off record was the least used, showing that indirect speech is rare in their interactions.

According to Olson (2000), the FTAs in the film match patterns of low cohesion, chaotic flexibility, and poor communication. The family members show emotional distance, inconsistent roles, and a lack of supportive conversation. These findings show that FTAs are not only about language but also reveal deeper problems in relationships. This supports earlier research that links poor communication patterns with ongoing family conflict.

5.2 Suggestion

From the results of this research, there are several suggestions. First, future researchers can study Face Threatening Acts (FTAs) in different films, books, or real-life conversations to compare the patterns found in this study. They can also analyze more data or focus on other aspects, such as how FTAs affect people's feelings. Second, for those studying family communication, it will be helpful to combine language analysis with psychology or sociology. This can give a better picture of how words and speech affect family relationships. Lastly, for everyday life, this research is a reminder to choose words carefully when talking to family members. Avoiding harsh or hurtful speech and using more polite and supportive words can help keep family relationships better.

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APPENDICES

1. Types of Face Threatening Act

No	Dialog / Time Code	Types of Face Threatening Acts	Context	Explanation
1	Rex : Now, sink or swim! (00.24.25 - 00.24.30)	Negative Face Threat	Situational	Rex threw Jeannette into the swimming pool so she could swim.
2	Rex : I knew you could handle yourself. (01.27.12 - 01.27.14)	Positive Face Threat	Situational	Rex sold Jeannette to a man in order to get money, but Jeannette managed to escape.
3	Rose : You get to ride in the back Jeannette : What? Rex : Hey. It's not an ideal scenario for anyone, so we'll just try to make the best of it (00.21.03 - 00.21.09)	Negative Face Threat	Co-textual	The Walls family moved and they told their children to sit in the back of the truck.

4	<p>Jeannette : Maureen, you can't go to California.</p> <p>(01.29.58 - 01.29.59)</p>	<p>Negative Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	Situational	<p>Jeannette prevented Maureen from going far away.</p>
5	<p>Jeannette : I'm getting married</p> <p>Rose : To the accountant?</p> <p>Jeannette : David is a financial analyst.</p> <p>(00.19.38 – 00.19.44)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	Co-textual	<p>Rose underestimated her fiancée Jeannette's work.</p>
6	<p>Jeannette : You really think we'll build it?</p> <p>Rex : Of course.</p> <p>Jeannette : When?</p> <p>Rex : You know, this running around is only temporary. We just need the perfect location, and then we can get to work on our castle.</p> <p>(00.11.43 – 00.11.47)</p>	<p>Negative Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	Co-textual	<p>Rex's response, which did not provide a definite answer to Jeannette's question “when”</p>
7	<p>Jeannette : Dad, why do you think all of us ran away</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	<p>Background</p> <p>Knowledge</p>	<p>Jeannette assured her father that she</p>

	<p>from you? We were drowning.</p> <p>(01.34.39 – 01.34.44)</p>			<p>and her siblings had left home because of his bad behavior.</p>
8	<p>Jeannette : But I'm hungry.</p> <p>Rose : Would you rather me make you some food that'll be gone in an hour, or finish this painting that'll last forever?</p> <p>(00.05.07 – 00.05.12)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	<p>Background</p> <p>Knowledge</p>	<p>Jeannette is hungry and seeks her mother's attention, but Rose is more focused on her painting.</p>
9	<p>Jeannette : Brian made his first arrest.</p> <p>Rex : Got a son in the Gestapo and a daughter who writes gossip.</p> <p>(00.32.55 – 00.33.03)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	<p>Background</p> <p>Knowledge</p>	<p>Rex belittled Jeannette and Brian's work.</p>
10	<p>Rex : Why don't you go get a job instead of wastin' your time on all this crap!</p> <p>(01.08.15 – 01.08.19)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	<p>Situational</p>	<p>Rex belittled Rose's hobby of painting.</p>

11	<p>Brian : Why can't we come with you? I don't wanna stay with Erma.</p> <p>Rose : Your dad hasn't had a drink in two months. I think we deserve a little vacation.</p> <p>(01.02.26 – 01.02.35)</p>	<p>Negative Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	Co-textual	<p>Brian asked them to go with their parents because they didn't want to stay with their grandmother.</p>
12	<p>Jeannette : Maureen, you can't go to California. That's the other side of the country. We have to stick together. We always have.</p> <p>Maureen : That's not true. I gotta go.</p> <p>(01.29.58 – 01.30.13)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	Co-textual	<p>Maureen rejected Jeannette's opinion and words and left as she had intended.</p>
13	<p>Jeannette : I don't care what Erma did to you.</p> <p>(01.27.53 – 01.27.54)</p>	<p>Positive Face</p> <p>Threat</p>	<p>Background</p> <p>Knowledge</p>	<p>Jeannette said that she didn't care about what her grandmother had done to her father in the past.</p>

14	Rex : Jeannette, i'm dying. If you don't get me a drink, I'm gonna die. (00.51.11 – 00.51.19)	Negative Face Threat	Situational	Rex coerced Jeannette and made her feel guilty so that she would comply with his request.
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2. Face Threatening Act Strategies

No	Dialog / Time Code	Strategy	Context	Explanation
1	Rose : We're leaving with or without you. (00.26.39 – 00.26.41)	Bald on Record (non-minimization)	Situational	Rose took her children away and said this dialogue to Rex because Rex initially did not want to go.
2	Rex : Oh, that's good, brave. You are amazing. (00.45.39 – 00.45.43)	Positive Politeness (exaggerate – praise)	Situational	Rex praised Jeannette for having the courage to stitch up Rex's wound.

3	Rose : Rex Rex : Shut up! (01.16.21 – 01.16.22)	Bald on Record (direct imperative)	Situational	Rex's response when Rose tries to calm him down.
4	Rex : Your mom and I did everything we could for you, okay? We looked after you, and it was a happy family! Jeannette : Bullshit! We did it! (01.34.58 – 01.35.00)	Bald on Record (criticism)	Co-textual	Rex tried to explain to Jeannette that he cared about his children, but Jeannette denied it.
5	Rex : You know I'd do anything for you, right? Anything. (00.46.34 – 00.46.42)	Positive Politeness (assert)	Background Knowledge	Rex's expression of affection and concern for Jeannette.
6	Rex : So how long is this phase gonna last? (00.33.22 – 00.33.24)	Off Record (rethorical question, be ironic)	Background Knowledge	Rex insinuated that Jeannette's relationship with her partner was fake.
7	Rex : Go on.	Positive Politeness	Situational	Rex asked Jeannette to

	<p>Jeannette : I can't do it.</p> <p>Sorry.</p> <p>Rex : It's okay. It's all right.</p> <p>We'll do it together. Okay?</p> <p>(00.45.14 – 00.45.19)</p>	<p>(include S and H - support)</p>		<p>stitch up his wound.</p>
8	<p>Rex : Hey, you were swimming. I'm so proud of you.</p> <p>(00.25.38 – 00.25.42)</p>	<p>Positive Politeness (praise)</p>	Situational	<p>Rex praised Jeannette when she ran away after her father threw her into the swimming pool.</p>
9	<p>Jeannette : Do you think Erma ever did something to Dad?</p> <p>(01.19.20 – 01.19.24)</p>	<p>Negative Politeness (question, hedge)</p>	Background Knowledge	<p>Jeannette cautiously asked her mother about Erma's actions toward her father.</p>
10	<p>Jeannette : Lori says you're squatting in an abandoned building. That does not sound safe, Mom.</p> <p>Rose : When did you lose your sense of adventure?</p> <p>(00.19.11 – 00.19.13)</p>	<p>Off Record (be ironic)</p>	Co-textual	<p>Rose subtly criticized Jeannette's attitude.</p>

11	<p>Rex : Let's go, kids! Time to pull up stakes and leave this hell-hole behind!</p> <p>(00.20.45 – 00.20.49)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(direct imperative)</p>	Situational	<p>Rex ordered his children to immediately prepare to move without giving any explanation.</p>
12	<p>Rose : You shouldn't be ashamed of us just 'cause we choose a different lifestyle than you</p> <p>Jeannette : Being homeless in New York City does not count as a lifestyle choice.</p> <p>(00.18.57 – 00.19.00)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(criticism)</p>	Co-textual	<p>Jeannette criticized her mother's opinions and choices.</p>
13	<p>Jeannette : Can't we just get some eggs? Or beans, or something? Nothing fancy.</p> <p>(00.42.36 – 00.42.43)</p>	<p>Negative Politeness</p> <p>(question, hedge)</p>	Situational	<p>Jeannette and her siblings were hungry, but there was no food. Then, she cautiously asked her father about food.</p>
14	<p>Jeannette : What are you doing here?</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p>	Situational	<p>Jeannette saw her father come</p>

	(01.31.40 – 01.31.41)	(direct confrontation)		to her engagement party, even though he had initially refused to accept her engagement.
15	Jeannette : Every time someone leaves, you act like a child. (01.31.47 – 01.31.49)	Bald on Record (criticism)	Background Knowledge	Jeannette criticized Rex's attitude after Maureen (Rex's youngest daughter) left. And her father's attitude has been like this for a long time.
16	Jeannette : We don't need them. They're never going to take care of us, so we have to do it ourselves. We'll all go to school and start saving up so we can move out when we're old enough. If we're	Positive Politeness (include both S and H)	Co-textual	Jeannette encouraged her siblings to leave home once they were old enough because of their parents' bad behavior.

	going to make it out of this, we have to do it together. (00.12.40 – 00.12.42)			
17	Rex : Never forget how beautiful you are , Mountain Goat. (01.54.14 – 01.54.19)	Positive Politeness (give compliments)	Background Knowledge	Rex praised Jeannette and called her by the nickname he had given her since childhood.
18	Jeannette : He's never going to change. You have to leave him. (01.11.42 – 01.11.50)	Bald on Record (direct imperative)	Co-textual	Jeannette told her mother to divorce her father because she couldn't stand seeing his bad behavior.
19	Jeannette : I just saw Mom and Dad digging through the trash downtown. Lori : Did Mom find any new treasures? (00.04.12 – 00.04.16)	Off Record (be ironic)	Co-textual	Lori subtly criticized her mother's behavior to Jeannette.
20	Jeannette : Dad, i'm sorry about Erma.	Positive Politeness	Situational	Jeannette tried to understand

	(00.20.17 – 00.20.20)	(sympathy)		her father's sadness over the death of her grandmother.
21	Jeannette : That money was mine. Why are you doing this to us, Dad? (01.29.10 – 01.29.14)	Bald on Record (criticism)	Situational	Jeannette immediately accused her father of stealing her savings.
22	Rex : If you don't mind, honey... I think I'd like to just it here by myself a while. (00.48.05 – 00.48.16)	Negative Politeness (be conventionally indirect, give deference)	Situational	Rex asked Jeannette for some time alone after she asked him to stop drinking alcohol.
23	Rex : Get back here, castrating whore! (01.08.41 – 01.08.43)	Bald on Record (direct imperative)	Situational	Rex is arguing with his wife and chasing after her as she runs away.

24	<p>Rex : You ain't like me at all, Mountain Goat. You're not afraid.</p> <p>Jeannette : I am like you.</p> <p>(01.54.58 – 01.55.04)</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Politeness</p> <p>(assert comment ground)</p>	Co-textual	<p>Jeannette</p> <p>validates her father's positive words.</p>
25	<p>Jeannette : Why did you push her?</p> <p>(01.09.45 – 01.09.46)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(criticism, confrontation)</p>	Situational	<p>Jeannette</p> <p>accused her father of pushing her mother, who almost fell out of the window, after she saw her parents arguing.</p>
26	<p>Rex : You still believe in your ol' man?</p> <p>(01.20.58 – 01.20.59)</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Politeness</p> <p>(presupposition)</p>	Situational	<p>Rex assured Jeannette of his trustworthiness.</p>
27	<p>Rex : We're finally gonna build it. This is why we are here. It's our chance to start over.</p> <p>(00.37.49 - 00.37.57)</p>	<p>Positive</p> <p>Politeness</p> <p>(include both S and H)</p>	Situational	<p>Rex's words to Jeannette when Jeannette found her father designing their</p>

				dream house by himself at night.
28	Rex : Can you honestly tell me that you're happy right now? (00.33.43 – 00.33.46)	Bald on Record (direct confrontation)	Situational	Rex asked Jeannette directly about her happiness without beating around the bush.
29	Jeannette : When you drink, you can't take care of us. Rex : You must be awfully ashamed of your ol' man. (00.47.26 – 00.47.28)	Off Record	Co-textual	Rex responded to Jeannette's remark about his bad behavior whenever he drank alcohol.
30	Rex : You gonna leave, too? Answer me. Answer me! (01.16.11 – 01.16.19)	Bald on Record (direct imperative)	Situational	Rex rudely demanded that Jeannette answer his question.
31	Rex : Morning, Sunshine. You ready to skedaddle? (00.09.38 – 00.09.42)	Positive Politeness	Situational	Rex's words to Jeannette, who was ill.

		(Use in-group identity markers / be friendly)		
32	Lori : You said things were going to be different. (00.42.31 – 00.42.33)	Off Record (give hints)	Background Knowledge	Lori subtly mocked her father's broken promise.
33	Rose : You shouldn't be ashamed of us just 'cause we choose a different lifestyle than you. (00.18.53 – 00.18.56)	Bald on Record (criticism)	Situational	Rose directly accused Jeannette of being ashamed of her lifestyle choices.
34	Jeannette : You're stronger than anyone. (00.47.50 – 00.47.52)	Positive Politeness (exaggerate – praise)	Situational	Jeannette's words to encourage her father to stop drinking alcohol. She convinced her father that he could do it.

35	Rex : Please get me a drink. (00.50.49 – 00.50.52)	Negative Politeness (hedge)	Situational	Rex begged Jeannette to get him alcohol. Even though he had promised Jeannette that he would not drink alcohol anymore.
36	Jeannette : Do you think... You could maybe stop drinking? (00.46.54 – 00.47.04)	Negative Politeness (hedge)	Background Knowledge	Jeannette asked her father to stop drinking alcohol carefully.
37	Rex : You want me to die. (00.51.27 – 00.51.29)	Bald on Record (criticism)	Situational	Rex directly said that Jeannette didn't care about him.
38	Rose : Now, that you're getting married and you have all these nice things, we were thinking that maybe	Negative Politeness (be conventionally	Background Knowledge	Rose intends to borrow money from Jeannette because she wants to buy an

	we could borrow the money to buy it. (01.33.07 – 01.33.17)	indirect & hedge)		heirloom that her sister is selling.
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3. FTAs Reflects Dysfunctional Family Communication

No	Dialog / Time Code	Face Threatening Act Strategy	Communication Pattern	Context
1	Jeannette : Maureen left because your bullshit drove her crazy. (01.31.56 – 01.32.00)	Bald on Record (without redressive action - direct, harsh, accusatory	Communication (being rude and accusatory and shutting down discussion)	Background Knowledge
2	Rose : Well... I just hope you've got a good plan for telling your dad, because this is gonna kill him. (00.20.16 – 00.20.23)	Off Record (give hint)	Cohesion (enmeshed - overly close emotional bond, blurred boundaries)	Background knowledge
3	Jeannette : I'm gettin' married.	Negative Politeness	Communication	Co-textual

	<p>Rose : To the accountant?</p> <p>Jeannette : David is a financial analyst.</p> <p>Rose : Well, I... I don't mean to be rude, but isn't he a little...</p> <p>(00.19.40 - 00.19.51)</p>	(minimizing imposition)	(absence of openness, clarity and indirect criticism)	
4	<p>Rose : Your dad said he saw you pass by in a cab the other night. You acted like we weren't even there.</p> <p>(00.18.48 – 00.18.52)</p>	<p>Off Record</p> <p>(sarcasm, irony)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(poor communication)</p>	Situational
5	<p>Jeannette : We took care of each other because you were too drunk to! It was your job to protect us, and you didn't even try!</p> <p>(01.35.01 – 01.35.11)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(directly, emphasizing failure)</p>	<p>Flexibility</p> <p>(rigid)</p>	Background Knowledge
6	<p>Rose : You're just like your mother!</p> <p>(01.08.29 – 01.08.31)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(without redressive action - direct emphasizing negative comparison)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(poor communication - lack of empathy)</p>	Background Knowledge

7	<p>Rex : Hey, Mountain Goat!</p> <p>Jeannette : Don't ever call me that again!</p> <p>(01.34.32 – 01.34.33)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(rejection)</p>	<p>Cohesion</p> <p>(disengaged)</p>	<p>Co-textual</p>
8	<p>Jeannette : I don't want you in my life.</p> <p>(01.35.39 – 01.35.40)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(explicit rejection)</p>	<p>Flexibility</p> <p>(rigid)</p>	<p>Situational</p>
9	<p>Rex : Can you honestly tell me that you're happy right now?</p> <p>Jeannette : Yes, I am.</p> <p>Rex : No, you're not.</p> <p>(00.33.44 – 00.33.54)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(contradiction)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(lack of respect for other's opinion)</p>	<p>Co-textual</p>
10	<p>Jeannette : We don't need them. They're never going to take care of us, so we have to do it ourselves.</p> <p>(01.12.25 – 01.12.33)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(self assertion)</p>	<p>Cohesion</p> <p>(disengaged)</p>	<p>Background Knowledge</p>
11	<p>Jeannette : Dad, we were just protecting ourselves. Erma was grabbing his...</p> <p>Rex : Shut up! I don't wanna hear another damn word about whatever did or didn't happen!</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(interruption, commanding)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(interrupting the conversation and lack of listening skill)</p>	<p>Co-textual</p>

	(01.05.46 – 01.05.49)			
12	<p>Jeannette : I am moving to New York and there is nothing you can do about it.</p> <p>(01.28.01 – 01.28.04)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(insistence - (immediately confirming a decision without compromise))</p>	<p>Flexibility</p> <p>(rigid)</p>	Situational
13	<p>Rex : You cannot marry that fool! You're better than him!</p> <p>(01.32.16 – 01.32.18)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(prohibition)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(authoritarian and lack of empathy)</p>	Situational
14	<p>Jeannette : I still don't understand why you followed us here.</p> <p>Rose : We wanted to be a family again.</p> <p>Jeannette : We were never a family, Mom. We were a nightmare.</p> <p>(01.34.49 – 01.34.53)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(blunt rejection)</p>	<p>Cohesion</p> <p>(disengaged)</p>	Co-textual
15	<p>Jeannette : So the only reason why you're being nice to David is because you want his money?</p> <p>(01.33.18 – 01.33.22)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(accusatory question)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(confrontation)</p>	Situational

16	<p>Jeannette : I have a little bit of money now. I can help you if you want.</p> <p>Rose : We're fine. You're the one who needs help. Look at you. Your values are all confused</p> <p>(00.19.21 – 00.19.23)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(demeaning critique)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(lack of empathy and appreciation in interaction)</p>	<p>Co-textual</p>
17	<p>Jeannette : Stop talking! Talking is not trying!</p> <p>(01.35.20 – 01.35.24)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(interruption, commanding)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(lack of emphatic listening skill)</p>	<p>Situational</p>
18	<p>Rex : You're a Walls. You were born to change the world, not just add to the noise.</p> <p>(01.32.06 – 01.32.16)</p>	<p>Bald on Record</p> <p>(assertive claim)</p>	<p>Communication</p> <p>(lacks sensitivity to emotional state)</p>	<p>Background Knowledge</p>